

**James Boyd (Civil Commandant, Port Arthur) - Office letterbook, 1866-1869 from
Tasmanian Papers, 1821-1877**

[Picture of Mr James Boyd]

[Picture of Mr James Boyd with his horse]

[Letter Book from 26th Feby 1866 to 31st July 1869]

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Safety Cove
20th February 1866

Sir

I beg respectfully to bring under your notice, and trust favourable consideration, the circumstance that my horse whenever I come into the Settlement and which I have always left at the Farm Stables has of late been turned out, and in consequence from its heated state has caught a cold.

I believe this accommodation was always afforded to the late Contractor, and I simply ask the favour of the same privilege.

I am Sir
Yours &c
ad. J.N. Propsting

The Civil Commandant

Endorsement

This was done to prevent infection - it having been reported to the Civil Commandant, that certain horses at the Sounds, where the Contractors horses are occasionally put up, had a disease resembling Glanders. If that disease no longer exists at the Sounds – on which point enquiry will be made – there can be no objection to the horses of the Contractor being stabled at the Farm as usual.

.sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
26th February 1866

The Contractors' Agent
Safety Cove.

Immediate.
Memo'

Constable Brennan will report

1. Under what circumstance he gave Prisoner James Conlan 15/- in money and certain articles of private clothing yesterday without the authority of the Civil Commandant.

2. Why he left his Station at Wedge Bay this morning without

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without any person being in charge of the same

3. Under what authority he allowed a boat to touch at Wedge Bay Station last night and a stranger to land therefrom.
4. The name of the said Boat and of the person or persons on board thereof.
5. At what hour the Boat arrived at and left Wedge Bay.

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
26th Feb^y 1866

Constable Brennan in charge of
Wedge Bay Station.

Memo

Under instructions received from the Hon^{ble} the Comptroller General, the Civil Commandant has the honor to request that the Senior Medical Officer will favour him, with his opinion, as regards the expediency of filling up the situation of the third Under Keeper of Insane, vacant by the death of Mr. Allen.

The Commandant would observe that, as the duties have been carried on during the last four weeks with two Under Keepers, and as arrangements have been made for relieving the one formerly in charge of the Hospital at night, it appears to him the third Under Keeper might now be dispensed with – by which a saving to the public of £84.14.0 per annum would be effected.

.sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
22-2-66

The Senior Medical Officer
Port Arthur

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Port Arthur
27th February 1866

My dear Sir

With reference to your letter of the 16th inst. will you have the goodness to inform me whether the 50 posts 11'x7"x7" and the 70 at 11'x7"x7" which you wish to be sent up as soon as possible, comprise the whole of the Timber you now require to be supplied upon existing requisitions. –

The Posts shall be forwarded by the earliest opportunity.

Believe me
My dear Sir
Yours faithfully

*James Boyd (Civil Commandant, Port Arthur) - Office letterbook, 1866-1869 from Tasmanian Papers, 1821-1877
Tas. Papers 315
Mitchell Library, State Library of NSW*

.sd. J. Boyd.

Lieut Colonel Chesney
Commanding Royal Engineers
Hobart Town

Sam Roberts
"Isabella"
5 yrs Imprisd "Indecent assault upon a child under 10 yrs of age."

Memorandum

The Senior Medical Officer is requested to have the goodness to report whether there is any probability of the Prisoner named in the margin who is confined to the Penitentiary, being again fit for labor.

The man has been exempted on the recommendation of Medical Officers, from all work since the 8th inst.

.sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
28.2.66.

The Senior Medical Officer
Port Arthur

[The following 2 pages are not numbered in the text.]

Port Arthur
3rd February 1866.

My dear Sir

With reference to the report of Chief District Constable Jones relative to Mr. Pilcher the Schoolmaster of this Establishment and which you sent me by last post, I lost no time in calling upon him for an explanation which I had taken down in writing & signed by him – that explanation was chiefly the counterpart of the statements contained in Mr Jones' report, there were however certain portions so palpably untrue that on that ground alone I deemed it an imperative duty to suspend him, and have now recommended his immediate dismissal from the service. – He has this morning sent me a letter giving what I believe to be, the true version of the beginning of the matter – and from the moment I read Mr Jones' Report to you, I strongly suspected that Pilcher had in an evil hour, taken the bait offered to him by some designing Prisoner. – his letter confirms that opinion – the Convict being a notoriously bad character named James Netherstreet, convicted of uttering a forged Cheque in December last, the fellow managed to make Pilcher believe that he had a good deal of money in one of the Banks, and the latter expecting no doubt to be well rewarded undertook to,

[next page]

undertook to get some of it out for him. –

The story about the Cows &c was therefore it appears an entire fabrication on Pilcher's part – and for his lying unprincipled conduct he richly deserves dismissal, but on the other hand I think it only right to say, that I do not believe he intended to perpetrate any fraud upon Mr Harris – He certainly thought there were funds available or he would not have been so great

an idiot as to send Cheques to Harris when he must have been fully aware that instant detection would have followed.

Under these circumstances I hope that you will agree with me as he has a Wife & five young children to support – the ends of Justice will be met by turning him adrift without character and penniless as I hear he is.

I have forwarded C.D.C. Jones' report to the Comptroller General with the other papers referring to the case. –

Yours very truly –
sd J. Boyd
Civil Commandant

J. Forster Esq.
Inspector of Police
Hobarton

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The Governor with the advice of the Council has approved of Charles Brown per John Caloins being granted a Free pardon when he is in possession of earnings to the amount of £7.0.0.

.sd. W. Nairn
Comptroller General
24th March 1866

Memorandum

The Civil Commandant has to report that the Prisoner above named has now earned the sum of Six pounds two shillings and five pence, and that a further sum of One pound four shillings has been placed in his hands by subscription of the Constables at Eagle Hawk Neck for whom the Prisoner has been employed as Woodcutter, making in all the sum of Seven pounds six shillings & five pence (£7.6.5).

His Police Record is forwarded herewith, from which it will be seen that he has been free from offence since the 1st of April last; and as he is of very uncertain temper and disposition the Commandant strongly urges the desirability of discharging him.

He has been confined here since the 29th Sept 1853 – longer than any other man at Port Arthur.

.sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
28.2.66

The Hon^{ble}
The Comptroller General.

Port Arthur
28th February 1866

Sir

I have the honor to report for your information that I have furnished Captain Orfeur of the Barque "Norman" with a copy of your Telegram of yesterday, and that Captain Orfeur has stated to me that he cannot proceed to Hobart Town as his absence from the ship would endanger its safety; that he declines to pay any Port Charges, but will pay

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pay light dues if such be demanded – under these circumstances and as I apprehend some difficulty occurring when the vessel is ready for Sea which will probably be about the 7th proximo. I would recommend that an Officer of the Customs be sent to Port Arthur for the purpose of taking such steps as may be necessary.

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your most Obedt Servt
.sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant

Mr Traill Watt Esq.
Collector of Customs.
Hobart Town.

Endorsement on letter from Mr Geo Wilkinson of Launceston respecting Joseph Nathan
"Coromandel"

Mr Wilkinson is informed with regret that Joseph Nathan died in the Hospital at Port Arthur on the 15th Instant.

.sd. J. C. Yapp
pro Acct
Civil Commandant
28.2.66

Mr Wilkinson
William St
Launceston

Memo.'

The Civil Commandant present his compliments to the Manager of the Bank of Australasia, Hobart Town, and begs to enclose herewith list of Cheques which do not appear to have been yet presented or paid at the Bank although issued on the dates specified.

Will the manager be so good as to cause an examination to be made in the Bank Books, to see whether any of those Cheques have possibly been presented and paid, and inform the Civil Commandt the result as soon as possible.

The receipt by Post this

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this evening of No. 5 Pass Book also an explanatory letter from the Manager is acknowledged.

.sd. J. Boyd

Civil Commandant
28.2.66

H.J. Peters Esq.
Actg Manager
Bank of Australasia
Hobart Town.

Peter Mooney
F. L.
"Henrietta"
L'ton L.C. 7/7/66
Horse Stealing
7yrs Impt

Memorandum

The Civil Commandant recommends that the prisoner named in the margin who was tried here on the 7th of June last for "Insubordination" & received a sentence of 12 months hard labor in chains, may now be released therefrom. – he having completed nearly 9 months and shown very, considerable improvement of conduct lately. –

.sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
3rd March 1866

The Hon^{ble}
The Comptroller General.

Port Arthur
3rd March 1866

Sir

Referring to my Memorandum of the 20th of January last relative to the Public Banking Accounts for this Establishment, and in compliance with the requests of the Assistants Commissary General, I now have the honor to transmit a general detailed statement showing the results of the investigation of the Accounts upon which I have been engaged for several months past. –

This result exhibits a deficiency of £61.16.1. to make the amounts of Cheques issued but not yet presented for payments, the said deficiency having occurred chiefly through the late Mr J. Currn, who conducted the Accounts from May

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May 1860 to August 1864, having overdrawn his own salary and also in some slight degree through errors which appear to have been purely clerical. –

In addition to the sum deficient, other clerical errors amounting to £3.4.6. have been rectified by the recovery of this sum.

A further clerical error appears to have occurred in the Cheque No. 1599 transmitted to the Commissariat in March 1861 and which amounts to 12s/6d – this sum will have to be refunded by the Commissariat and added to the credit of the Accounts.

With regard to the net deficiency £61.16.1 I may observe that it is my belief that fully two thirds of the amounts will never be applied for, the Cheques for such having in all probability been lost or carelessly destroyed. –

In this investigation I have been assisted by the Accountants, the Foreman of Works and the Clerks –

Every book and account has been examined most carefully and are still available for reference should further investigation be deemed necessary. –

Under these circumstances I have to request that I may be relieved from the charge of the Accounts with as little delay as possible.

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your most obed^t Serv^t
.sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant

The Hon^{ble}
The Comptroller General

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Memorandum

The Civil Commandant has to report for the information of the Comptroller General that upon the application of the Master of Barque "Norman" he has supplied certain Mechanical labor to enable the Vessel to receive the Cargo of Piles purchased by Mr Robinson of New Zealand.

The labor and all materials expended will be charged to the Master as in former similar cases.

Some Blocks and ropes have also been lent to the Master, upon requisition, as he represented that he required such for shipping the Piles and has undertaken to pay for any damage which the Blocks or Tackling may sustain whilst in his possession.

.sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
3rd March 1866

The Hon^{ble}
The Comptroller General

Port Arthur 3rd March 1866

Dear Sir,

I am in receipt of your letter of yesterday's date and have to thank you for Kindly promising to cause the list of unrepresented Cheques (forwarded to you on the 28th ulto:) to be examined in order to ascertain whether any of them have been paid at the Bank.

With regard to the clerical error of £10. upon the C^r side of the Account and which I printed out in my letter of the 24th ultimo.

I regret that the addition of the disbursements on the other side had not been completed before sending up the Passbook No 5, as the reference to you would then have been unnecessary. –

The sum paid from my private account to meet cheques N^{os} 705.831 & 996 amounts to

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to £11.8.5. – this charge I requested in my letter of the 24th ulto: might be transferred to the Public Account, but as you did not advert to that request in you letter of the 27th ulto: and as there is now a balance of £2.14.8 in my favour to which the sum of £3.4.6 can be added (Cheque herewith) making together £5.19.2, I shall feel much obliged by your having the goodness to deduct that sum from the overdrawn amount £11.8.5 charged to my private account, and shew the balance of £5.9.3 as the amount to which the Public account has been overdrawn – at least to the date of your latest advice – any further Cheques which may be presented upon the same, had better be charged against it for the present, and not mixed up in my private account in any way. – This I consider will be the proper course to adopt pending the final winding up of the Public Account.

I remain
Dear Sir
Yours very faithfully
.sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant

Henry J. Peters Esq
Manager
Bank of Australasia
Hobart Town

Memo'

Before submitting my report upon the Public Banking Account to The Hon^{ble} The Comptroller General, I wish M^r Yapp, as the Accountant of the Establishment, and who has had every opportunity of investigating the Account in question, to report, hereon, whether the detailed statement now presented by him, embraces every error and discrepancy which he has been able to trace during his lengthened examination of the several books and accounts referring to the subject.

.sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
3rd March 1866
Endorsement

M^r J.C. Yapp
Accountant.

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Endorsement on the previous letter

In reply to the Civil Commandant's Memo'. I beg to report that the Statement prepared showing the particulars of the errors and discrepancies found to exist in the Public Banking Accounts of this Establishment, is, to the best of my Knowledge and belief – also, ability in preparing the same, a correct one. –

The greater part of the work has been done under the Civil Commandant's immediate and most careful supervision – I myself have spared neither time, nor trouble in investigating the affair to the utmost – and it is I think, right that I should state that Mr Strutt, (Foreman of Works), Mr Hill, Mr Ahune and especially Mr Connolly, the other Clerks here, have rendered every possible assistance in their power, to completely trace out the various items found in error, and it is hoped that the explanation given in each point will be fully comprehended – Every Account has been gone through from May '60 to March '66, and the affair has been one of great research, and much difficulty.

.sd. J.C. Yapp
Accountant
Port Arthur
3.3.66

The Civil Commandant

Endorsement
Forwarded for the information of the Comptroller General
.sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
3.3.66

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Memorandum

(List in the left-hand margin)

John Brown
"Sy Kennaway"

Jn^o Rogerson
"K. S. Forbes"

Jn^o Brown
"Kinnears"

Rich^d Cobbett
"York"

Jas Swan
"Drd Malcolm"

Tho^h Wilson
"D^d Clarke"

Jn^o Ryan
"Equestrian"

The Civil Commandant has to report for the information of the Comptroller General, that in consequence of an extensive "Bush fire", the postal road between Eagle Hawk Neck, the Sounds and East Bay Neck, has been rendered impassable in many places by the falling of trees. – a bridge also has been burned down between the Sounds and East Bay Neck.

As it is of great importance to have this road Kept in an efficient state, the Commandant requests an authority for the employment of the Prisoners named in the margin upon that work, under the Superintendence of the District Constable Chatfield Eagle Hawk Neck, and in the immediate charge of a Constable. –

None of these Prisoners have more than 5 months to complete their sentences.

The Meat Contractor complains of the road being impassable for cattle.

.sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
Port Arthur
6th March 1866

The Hon^{ble}
The Comptroller General

Hobart Town

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Civil Commandant's Office
Port Arthur
8th March 1866

Sir

Under instructions received from the Head of this Department, I have to request that you will deposit in my hands today, the sum of Forty pounds (£40) as Security for the payment of the Mechanical labor, Material, and Provisions already supplied to you, and for such as you may still require to be issued during the stay of your Ship in this Port. - as also for the return in a proper serviceable state, of the whole of the Dry Stores which have been lent to you.

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your obed^t Serv^t
.sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant

The Master of
Barque "Norman"

Civil Commandant's Office
9th March 1866

Sir

In accordance with the request contained in your letter of this date I enclose the account of the Provisions labor and materials supplied to you to the present date inclusive – I have also given orders for the Accountant to prepare and furnish to you daily, a bill for such labor, materials and Provisions as may in future be issued for you Ship.

The deposit required to be made as security for the Stores lent to you is £20.0.0 which sum I request may be placed in my hands in the course of to day.

I am
Sir
Your Obed^t Serv^t
.sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant

The Master of the
Barque
Norman

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Captain Orfeur
Barque "Norman"

To HM Gov^t D^r

1866

Feb^y 22nd to March 9th

369 14/16 lbs fresh meat @ 33/3 per 100lbs £6.3.0

200 lbs Vegetables @ 4/11 per 100lbs 9.10

Total £6.12.10

Carpenter 16½ days @ 4/- £3.6.0

Blacksmith 2 days @ 4/- 8.0

Coopers 1 do @ 4/- 4.0

Turner ½ do @ 4/0 2.0

10lbs Nails at 5^d 4.2

82ft. 9in Hardwood @ 7/0 per 100ft 5.9. ¼

55lbs Iron @ 12/0 per cwt 5.10¾

2ft. 8in. suppl of ¾ in Lightwood @ 5^d 1.1 ¼

6.8 suppl 1¼" Do @ 7^d 3.10½

1 Shipwrights Maul lost in Water by one of the Crew 2.0

£5.2.9¾ - £5.2.9¾

£11.15.7¾

Memorandum

Under instructions from the Collector of Her Majesty's Customs for the Colony of Tasmania I hereby notify to the Master of the Barque "Norman" that the shipping of Cargo on board that Vessel will be stopped, unless the Master forthwith signs the Declaration for entrance inwards and pays the sum of £19.10.6 for Light dues

.sd. J. Boyd

Civil Commandant

For the Collector of Her Majesty's

Customs

10.3.66

The Master of the

Barque

"Norman"

Port Arthur

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Port Arthur

10th March 1866

Dear Sir

I beg to acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated 6th inst. enclosing list of unpaid Cheques. As there are yet several of the Cheques which cannot be traced as having been paid although issued a very long time, I have returned the list again with remarks in each item

One Cheque No 594 has however been corrected on the list as paid.

With regard to my request that you would be good enough to pay the outstanding Public Cheques and place them against that account – I am not desirous of giving the least inconvenience to the Bank in the matter, and as you represent in your last communication that it would suit your Books better if such arrangement could be avoided – the former arrangement may be continued vizt that the present unpaid Cheques when presented may be honoured from my private account

I shall however be glad that you continue to advise me of any Cheques so honored.

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Tas. Papers 315*

Mitchell Library, State Library of NSW

I remain
Dear Sir
Yours truly
.sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant

H.J. Peters Esq.
Manager
Bank of Australasia
Hobart Town

Endorsement on List of Unpaid Public Cheques

No 249(a) Cheque for £3.11.8 dated 31/3/64 & paid 26/4/64 is not the one on which the query is raised.

The Cheque alluded to is No 249 dated 25 May 1860 - £3.0.0 No 400(a) Cheque for £3.1.2 dated 14/4/64 & paid 30/6/64 like the foregoing is not the Cheque in question – Cheque No 400 for £3.2.0 & dated 18th June 1860 is the one that cannot be traced in the Bank Books as having yet been paid.

No 5046 dated 1/5/63 Cheque for 10s/4 – The Pass Books do not show this Cheque as having been paid on the date specified vizt 25/11/63 – there is a Cheque No 5067 for 10s/4 paid but that is not the one in question.

Cheque No 594 is correct – in the Pass Books the

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the No of the Cheque was mistaken for 394 – the figure 5 having been imperfectly made.

.sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
9/3/66

The Manager
Bank of Australasia
Hobart Town

Certified the Mr John Griffin was appointed a Constable at Port Arthur on the 11th November 1858 and promoted to Corporal of the Armed Guard at Eagle Hawk Neck on 26th May 1864.

His conduct and attention to his duties have at all times been most satisfactory.

He now leaves at his own request in consequence of the illness of his Wife.

.sd.
J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
10.3.66

Memorandum

Patrick Kavanagh
Free to Colony

Height 5ft 11 inches
Aged 35 yrs

The Civil Commandant has the honor to recommend that the individual named in the margin, who has for several years performed the responsible duties of Constable and Horse-post Messenger between Eagle Hawk Neck and the Carlton Post Office, may be promoted to the Settlement Civil Guard, vid Stephen Nolan resigned.

Kavanagh has always been free and is a steady and trustworthy person.

.sd. J Boyd
Civil Commandant
9.3.66

The Hon^{ble}
The Comptroller General

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Port Arthur
10th March 1866

Sir

I have the honor to recommend that Mr Francis Baker and his Wife Agnes may be appointed Master and Mistress of the Free School, in succession to Mr & Mrs Pilcher, the former of whom was dismissed on the 2nd ulto:

Mr Baker has been employed as Constable and Assistant Schoolmaster at this Establishment since August 1863.

Mr & Mrs Baker are well qualified for the situations for which I now recommend them, they possess testimonials, herewith enclosed, and which it is requested may be returned. (5 in numbers)

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your most Obedt Servt
.sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant

The Honble
The Comptroller General

Hobart Town

Endorsement on letter from Mr Baker to the Civil Commandant

Submitted and recommended

.sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
10.3.66

The Honble
The Comptroller General

Memorandum

With reference to my Telegram of this date, informing the Comptroller General, that under instructions from the Collector of Customs, the shipping of Piles and Posts and Rails on board the "Norman" had been stopped; I beg to inform the Comptroller General, that such stoppage was in consequence of the Master of the Barque having refused to sign the required declaration of

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of "Entry inwards", and to pay the amount of light dues as directed by the Collector.

I have now however to report that the master having since signed the declaration, and paid the light dues, the trading of the vessel will be resumed on Monday next the 12th inst.

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
10th March 1866

The Honble
The Comptroller General

John Fay Always free age 40 Height 5ft. 10 ¼ in.

Memorandum

The Civil Commandant has the honour to recommend that the constable named in the margin may be promoted to the Settlement Guard vice Edward Daly transferred at his own request, to Corporal of the Guard at Eagle Hawk Neck.

Fay is a pensioner from H.M. 31ST Foot, and has been employed as Constable at Port Arthur since the 15th December last.

sd. J Boyd
Civil Commandant
10th March, 1866

The Honble
The Comptroller General

Memo

I have to report for the information of the Comptroller General & the Deputy Supert. of Stores that the 1 1/8 inch chain included in the list of stores intended to be reserved for the 5 years service of the Establishment, will not be required at Port Arthur.

At the time the list was before me I had no information as to the size of the chain in question which I have since learnt will be unsuitable for the requirements of this Establishment.

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
10/3/66

The Honble
The Comptroller General

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Protest herewith
Cheque for £9.10.6 and declaration in duplicate

Civil Commandants Office

Port Arthur 10th March 1866

Sir

Since telegraphing to you this afternoon that the Master of the "Norman" refused to make the required declaration of entering his vessel inwards and that according to your instructions I had stopped the shipping of cargo on board the "Norman". The Master has signed, under protest, the Declaration and paid the light dues amounting to £9.10.6 specified in your Telegram of yesterday which sum and Declaration in duplicate I herewith enclose.

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your most obdt Servt
sg J. Boyd

J. Boyd Esq
Civil Commandant
Port Arthur

Port Arthur
10 March 1866

Sir,

In reply to your communication of to day I beg to state that circumstanced as I am with the Charterers of the Norman I am necessity obliged to comply with your present demands but believing that the Collector of Customs at Hobart Town is under a wrong impression respecting the dues to be levied upon my vessel. I pay the pounds 9.10.6 demanded and sign the papers submitted under protest.

I am Sir
Your Obedt Servt
Francis Orfeur
Master Norman

Submitted to the
Collector of Customs
sg. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
10/6/66

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Memo

Requisitions have been forwarded for Blue Stone for pickling Wheat, and Urine Balls for Horses, and the Civil Commandant has to request that these articles be procured and sent down by the return of Schooner, as they are urgently required by the Superintendent of Agriculture.

sg. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
12 March 1866

The Honble
The Comptroller General

Commissariat Tasmania
Hobart Town 2nd March 1866

(Dno. 629)

Sir,

I have the honor to acquaint you that having received a supply of Salt Beef from Sydney to be issued occasionally at Port Arthur in lieu of fresh meat, I communicated with the Messrs Propsting on the subject, who in reply request that the issue of Salt Beef may be deferred until the termination of the present month, as they have just made large purchases of Beef and Mutton.

This request I consider to be reasonable, and I beg that the Civil Commandant may be called upon to state on what days of the week, after the 1st proximo he would recommend the issue of the Salt Beef ration, in order that the Contractors may regulate their days of killing fresh meat.

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your most obedt Servt
sd. V.C. Hawkins
adj.

The Comptroller General

Endorsement

Referred to the Commandant to name the days on which Salt Beef shall be issued

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issued after the 1st proximo.

A.M. Nairn
Comptroller General
3rd March 1866

Endorsement on the preceding

Tuesdays and Fridays would suit all parties concerned – Contractor included – after the 1st proximo.

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
15th March 1866

The Honble
The Comp. General

Endorsement on application for increase of forage allowance to Benjamin Pugh.

Submitted for the consideration of the Honble the Comptroller General the Horse Post Messenger is a Constable of this Establishment and receives 6^d a day from the Imperial and 2s/0d per diem from the Colonial Government, in aid of the maintenance of one horse employed in Postal Service.

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
17th March 1866

The Honble
The Comp. General

Memo'

With reference to Mr. Robinson's application to purchase Palings the Civil Commandant has to intimate that the 6 feet Palings are well worth 9/- a hundred and the 5 feet 8/- a hundred.

Will Mr. Robinson be good enough to inform the Commandant if he requires any and if so the number of each sort and should he consider the rates too high, he is requested to state the prices he is willing to give.

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
17.3.66

Mr. Robinson
Port Arthur

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Memorandum

Captain Orfeur's a/c "Barque Norman"

My Deposits

8/2/66 – For use of Gov Stores & Labour -- £20-0-0

“ -- Per Provisions -- 8-4-4

19/2/66 – for 1000 odd Posts & Nails -- 10-0-0

Total Deposits -- 38-4-4

My Payments

£. s. d.
8/3/66 – For labour 7 materials – 5-2-10
to date

" -- Provisions ----- 6-12-10

" -- for 1000 posts & nails 10-0-0

Total £21- 15-8

My Payments

22/3/66 – Labour & Materials a/c 7-1-6

Provisions - 9-2-5

16-3-11 ----- 16-3-11

Total returned to Cpt Orfeur £21-0-5
22/3/66

£ s d

Total paid for Labour & Material	12-4-4	
" Provisions	15-15-3	
1000 Posts & Nails	10-0-0	
		————— £37-19-7

[indecipherable] 23/3/66

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Civil Commandant's Office
Port Arthur 23rd March 1866

Memo

With reference to the Protestant Chaplain's letter of yesterday's date received at 10 o'clock last evening, the Civil Commandant has to observe, that no person is allowed to destroy or remove any of the Deer on Tasman's Peninsular without his permission, which can only be granted, as regards such Deer as may be found in or about the cultivated lands. Any so destroyed must however be delivered into the nearest public store, and the case reported to the Commandant who will give directions for the disposal of the Venison.

In the present instance a young breeding Doe, almost unfit for human food, has been shot at Salt Water River and removed to the Quarters of the Chaplain without any authority whatsoever. The Commandant acceding however to Mr. Eastman's request, ~~the Commandant~~ has directed the Storekeeper to allow him to retain and pay for the Carcase, but he will feel obliged by the Chaplain conforming, in future, to the general rule as expressed above, and thereby avoiding the recurrence of unpleasantness.

sd J. Boyd
Civil Commandant

The Protestant
Chaplain
Port Arthur

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Memorandum

The Civil Commandant presents herewith the sum of £10 paid by Captain Orfeur of the Barque "Norman" for 1000 posts & nails supplied to him at Port Arthur and for which the necessary supporting vouchers are enclosed.

The further sum of £12-4-4 is also forwarded being the amount received from the same and ordered for Labour and material supplied - particulars of which will be shown in the usual [indecipherable] Returns of labour & Materials paid for at the Establishment -

per J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
Port Arthur
24th March 1866

The Asst. Comp.General in Charge
Hobart Town

Sir

I have the honor to enclose herewith the Clearance Outwards of the Barque "Norman", Frances Orfeur master, which vessel sailed for Auckland on Friday 23rd inst.

I also enclose copys of the Master's discharge of one of his Seamen and the Medical Officer's certificate that the man was able to proceed to Hobart Town.

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your most Obedt Servant
sd. J. Boyd
March 24th 1866

The Collector of Customs
Hobart Town

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Endorsement on Memo' respecting certain cases of men asked for by Telegram

"John Healey" was passed by the Signalman in error for George Neale. The information requested would not have been applied for by Telegraph on the 17th inst. had I not understood that His Excellency The Governor would visit Port Arthur on the 20th.

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
22.3.66

The Honble
The Comptroller General

Endorsement on application of John George Wheatley as Meat Inspector

There is not any "Inspector of meat" at port Arthur.

A Constable named McGregor has resigned.

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
22/3/66

The Honble
The Comptroller General

Memo'

On the Estimate for the ensuing year commencing tomorrow the 1st April 1866. Mr Chatfield is shown as the Dist. Comd in charge at E H Neck. His salary will continue as at present but he will draw a police Rations for his use instead of a [indecipherable].

The Provision Storekeeper for will please peruse this Memo' and herewith it to J. M. Chatfield for his information as soon as possible.

[indecipherable]
per J C Peple Act
Port Arthur
21 March 1866

To
The Prov Storekeeper PA

and Mr D.C. Chatfield
E H Neck

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Memorandum

Charles Brown
John Calvin

Whilst at Port Arthur lately, the Comptroller General stated that the prisoner named in the margin was to be discharged to freedom

It is requested that an order to that effect may be forwarded.

.sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
March 31st 1866

The Honble
The Comptroller General.

Memorandum

John McCann
"R. Castle"

The Prisoner named in the margin states that the annexed Police Record is not his.

He admits that he came to this Colony in the "Roslyn Castle" from Sydney but states that he arrived in Sydney free and had not been tried at Lancaster, alleging that he never was in England, but was born Dublin.

An examination of his person does not shew the marks stated to be on his right arm, and his height is but 5ft 4in.

.sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
31st March 1866

The Honble
The Comptroller General

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Memorandum

Urgent

John Shackleton
M. of Hastings

Wm Porle
Eden

Jas. Morgan
Hydrabad

George Neale

Asia 5.

Jas. Padfield
Theresa

Required the Police Records of the Prisoners named in the margin to enable the Civil Commandant to prepare the special report in each case, ordered by His Excellency, The Governor on his late visit to Port Arthur.

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
31st March 1866

The Honble
The Comptroller General.

Port Arthur
4th April 1866

Dear Sir

Will you do me the favor to furnish me, when quite convenient, with a Memorandum shewing the aggregate amount deposited in the Bank to the credit of my Public Account, the total sum paid therefrom, and the balance, if any, remaining, as also the amount of several Public Cheques which have been paid and charged to my Private accounts, owing to the insufficiency of Funds in the Public Accounts.

I remain
Dear Sir
Your's very truly
sd. ZJ. Boyd
Civil Commandant

Henry J. Peters Esq.
Manager
Bank of Australasia
Hobart Town

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Memorandum

The Superintendent of Timber begs most respectfully to inform the Civil Commandant that the residue of the Timber required for Pontville and Bagdad Bridges on requisition of Public Works Department dated 30th December 1864, as also that for the Commissariat Wharf Hobart Town, on requisition dated 1st February 1865 is now ready for Shipment as per annexed Return. The piles for the Commissariat Wharf, that were procured, have been used on the Station, they can be replaced in about three weeks if necessary.

sd. K. McKenzie
Supt of Timber
Port Arthur
4/4/66

The Civil Commandant

Endorsement

Forwarded for the information of the Director of Public Works with the Civil Commandant's compliments.

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
4th April 1866

William Sye or Sice
a Native

Tried Launceston Q.S. 15/9/63 Horse Stealing 4 yrs P.S.

"To be granted a Free Pardon at the expiration of 6 months from the 13th inst provided his conduct is good in the meantime.

sd. W. Nairn
Comptroller General
19th October 1865

Memorandum

The Civil Commandant has to report that the Prisoner above named will complete on the 12th inst the period of detention ordered him. His

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Dear Sir

I beg to transmit herewith by post Bank pass Book No 7 and hence to request you will be good enough to cause the same to be balanced. Since the Cash entry made it appears that the several sums shown have to be placed to the Cr side

viz.

£2-0-0

£3-4-6

Total £5-4-6

no acct of un-uttered Cheques

Cash transmitted

And on the D-side to show as paid –

Cheque – 552 £0-5-0

729 0-8-8

831 3-2-0

705 2-15-8

6-11-4

These ~~amts~~ when into a/c with the £1-8-4 on hand at the ~~close of the~~ present of the pass Book, will give the Net balance of 8/6 as ~~mentioned~~ shown in given statement of 22 ulto.

I shall be glad to receive the pass Book if possible by return of post.

I remain
D. [indecipherable]

The Management
[indecipherable]
4/4/66

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Blank page.

[Page 30]

His conduct hitherto has been very satisfactory.

It is requested that an order for his discharge may be forwarded.

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
4/4/66

The Honble
The Comp. General

Charles Brown
"John Calvin"

No order has yet been received for this man's discharge.

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
4th April 1866

The Honble
The Comp. General.

Civil Commandant's Office
Port Arthur 6th April 1866

Sir

Thos Cheetam
a free Pauper.

I have the honor to enclose herewith the sum of Ten shillings being the amount of Fine inflicted upon the man named in the margin on the 24th ulto: for being drunk and disorderly at this Establishment.

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your most Obedt Servt
sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant

The Honble
The Colonial Treasurer

Hobart Town.

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Memorandum

The Civil Commandant presents his compliments to Assistant Commissary General Hawkins, and requests that he will be good enough to cause a receipt to be furnished to him for the £22.4.4 enclosed in a letter addressed to the Assistant Commissary General and forwarded by post on the 24th ulto:

The money transmitted was in payment for Timber, Labor, and Stores, supplied to the Master of the Barque "Norman" at Port Arthur.

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
6th April 1866

The Asst Commissary
General in charge
Hobart Town.

Memo.

Enclosed are two cheques to defray the charges against the Master of the barque "Norman" (£15.15.3) and the officers on H.M. Steamer "Falcon" £1.7.3 for provisions supplied to them during last month.

The above amount of £15.15.3 together with the £12.4.4 for labor and material already paid by the Master of the "Norman" completes the whole of the charges against him so far as the Stores (Dry provisions) are concerned.

(Signed)
J.C. Tapp
Accountant
P. Arthur 7/4/66

(£12.4.4 provided on the 24th ulto.)

The Asst. Commissary General

Hobart Town

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Extract from Civil Commandants Memorandum of the 23rd March 1866 to the Protestant Chaplain Port Arthur

No person is allowed to destroy or remove any of the Deer on Tasman's Peninsula without the permission of the Civil Commandant which can only be granted as regards such Deer as may be found in or about the cultivated lands.

Any so destroyed must however be delivered into the nearest public Store, and the case reported to the Commandant who will give instructions as to the disposal of the Venison.

Forwarded to the Superintendent of Agriculture for his information and guidance and that of the Overseers of Impression Bay and Cascade Stations.

By order
(ass) J. Hill
Clerk
5/4/66

The Superintendent of Agriculture having informed the Civil Commandant that he had heard Guns fired at the Mines after dark, is instructed to see the Agent or those persons in charge of

*James Boyd (Civil Commandant, Port Arthur) - Office letterbook, 1866-1869 from Tasmanian Papers, 1821-1877
Tas. Papers 315*

Mitchell Library, State Library of NSW

that establishment and request that he will be good enough not to allow any of the Deer or Pheasants on the Peninsula to be killed or disturbed by any of the people belonging to the Mines.

Signed
J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
Port Arthur
9 April 1866

The Superintendent of
Agriculture

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Memo

The Civil Commandant has to acknowledge the receipt of the Protestant Chaplain's Memorandum of this date, in which he requests the Commandant to make provision for the performance of his duties during his proposed and unauthorised absence from his Station; in reply the Civil Commandant intimates, that having regard to the present large number of sick and other persons who stand in great need of religious comfort and visitation, as also to the due celebration of Divine Service as required by the Regulations, he regrets being unable to make suitable provision for the performance of the Chaplain's duties, and therefore declines to sanction his absence unless replaced by another Clergyman.

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
Port Arthur
9th April 1866

The Protestant
Chaplain
Port Arthur.

Memo

With reference to the enquiry received from Philip T. Smith Esq. through The Honble the Comptroller General on the 4th Inst. respecting Invalid David Kerr's health and the £1 sent for his use – The Civil Commandant has to intimate that the money was received correctly, and handed to Kerr on the 12th Decr 1864, who at once deposited the same for safe Keeping in this Office. He has expended 5s/0d only out of it.

He states that his health is now pretty good considering the infirmities of his age, and when asked, why he did not expend the money in the purchase of comforts, as suggested by Mr. Smith, he replied that he was desirous of retaining as much as possible of it, to enable him to return to his former place again at Mr Smiths' – The

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The old man appears to be very thankful for so kind a present, and has now been persuaded to expend the remainder of the £1. in such comforts as he may feel inclined to purchase – He respectfully desires to be most Kindly remembered to Mr. Smith, and also to this friend Widow Smith who resides at Tyndal.

The Civil Commandant begs to remark that the receipt of the £1. was duly acknowledged by Kerr through the Comptroller General in December 1864.

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
Port Arthur
6th April 1866

The Honble
The Comp. General.

Memo.

Since receiving and replying to the Protestant Chaplain's Memo' of this afternoon, I have received this evening his Memo and accompanying opinion of the Junior Medical Officer representing that change of air and Scene would be necessary and beneficial to the Chaplain's health – I have also just received Mr Eastman's "Private" Telegram addressed to the Comptroller General in which he reports that he is suffering from "oppression of blood to the brain" – Under these circumstances I am bound to assume that the Chaplain is unfit for duty and therefore can offer no objection to his proceeding to Hobart Town on sick leave per Schooner Harriet which will sail at 7 o'clock to-morrow morning.

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
9th April 1866

The Protestant
Chaplain
Port Arthur.

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Memo

I have to report for the information of the Comptroller General that the Protestant Chaplain has been allowed to proceed to Hobart Town on sick leave, he having represented himself to be dangerously ill – The circumstances of the case are however of so extraordinary and conflicting a character, that I shall consider it my duty to bring them under notice by the next mail. In the meantime, arrangements will be made for the performance of a portion of the Chaplain's duties, but the remainder, and by far the principal part, must be unavoidably omitted, a matter which I regret to observe, has evidently received very little of his own consideration

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
10/4/66

The Honble
The Comptroller General

Port Arthur
10th April 1866

Memorandum

At the Comptroller General's late visit, I mentioned to him the great inconvenience arising from the short stay, of late, of the Steamer at Port Arthur.

I now beg to remind the Comptroller General of the matter, and to request that arrangements may be made for the Vessel to remain here 4 hours, as near as possible, i.e. to arrive at or

*James Boyd (Civil Commandant, Port Arthur) - Office letterbook, 1866-1869 from Tasmanian Papers, 1821-1877
Tas. Papers 315*

Mitchell Library, State Library of NSW

shortly after 12 o'clock and to leave at 4 punctually. – This would enable visitors to have reasonable time to inspect the several departments without that hurry and confusion which has been unavoidable for some time past, and would also permit the Officers and Constables to perform their duties in reference to the safe custody of the Prisoners, and otherwise, in a much more regular and satisfactory

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satisfactory manner than when everything around them is bustle and noise.

I would further suggest, that the first warning bell for departure, be rung at ½ past 3 o'clock, the whistle be blown at ¼ to 4, and the bell rung at 5 minutes to 4.

If these arrangements were adopted, it would be a great improvement, and conduce materially to the maintenance of that order and quiet regularity which are essentially necessary at an Establishment of this character.

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
Port Arthur
10th April 1866

The Honble
The Comptroller General

Endorsement on inquiry respecting a petition sent to England
by Mrs. Mary Rogers concerning her husband's sentence.

Memo

The petitioner Mary Rogers is the wife of Isaac Rogers "H. L. Forbes" C.C.O. now at Port Arthur, who is under sentence of 5 years Hd. Labour in Chains passed on him at the P.O. Hbt. on the 10th July 1862 for breaking and entering the store of J. M. Wilson and stealing a bag of sugar.

Mrs. Rogers address is to the care of Mrs. Young no.126 Argyle St Hobt Town.

sd J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
Port Arthur
10th April 1866

The Honble
The Comp General

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Civil Commandant's Office
Port Arthur
11th April 1866

Geo Welch
"Theresa"

Sir,

With reference to the prisoner named in the margin, who saw the Governor on the 28th ulto: and whom regarding his Excellency directed that I should consider and report upon the case, I have the honour to observe, that the convict Welch was ordered by the Governor in Council

on the 7th November 1862, to be kept in the Separate Prison as long as the Medical Officer should not see reason to regard a change of treatment necessary on medical grounds.

That decision was given immediately after the conviction of Welch at the Supreme Court at Hobart Town of having assaulted with intent to murder a fellow prisoner at Port Arthur, for which crime he was sentenced to Penal servitude for Life.

The circumstances of the case showed the Convict Welch to be of a most violent and treacherous character, the man who was assaulted having given no provocation whatsoever, but was quietly performing his work, when Welch picked up a bar of iron, came behind, and struck him a murderous blow upon the head, from the effects of which, the man became an imbecile, and was discharged by pardon on my recommendation.

Welch before being tried, fully expected to be executed for that Offence. He was at the time under a sentence of Life Penal Servitude, which was a commutation, he having been sentenced to be hanged in October 1856 for Robbery under Arms.

He is the only convict at Port Arthur who

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who has been twice sentenced or ordered Penal Servitude for Life, since the discontinuance of passing sentences of "Transportation" in August 1855, and on the whole, looking at his bad Police Record, together with my daily observation of his conduct during the last nine years and upwards; I cannot but regard the prisoner, as one of the most dangerous and murderously disposed characters at Port Arthur, although for some time past he has been quiet.

Under these circumstances, I consider his detention in the Separate Prison to be absolutely necessary, in order to prevent him perpetrating some deed of perhaps fatal violence; for, it will be seen, that he is one of that extreme class, who in all probability will never be suffered to be at large, hence, there is no hopeful influence to restrain him from the commission of some desperate act – had he any opportunity of doing so – and if permitted to associate with the other Convicts, such opportunity would be unavoidable presented to him daily.

In order, however, to modify his present treatment, as far as may now be desirable, and also as far as I consider would be safe, I recommend, that he and another Prisoner of similar character viz Edward Mooney per ship "Earl Grey" who has been ordered never to be allowed again at large, be placed upon an equal footing, namely granted full rations with tea & tobacco; to work at picking Oakum in Prison Yards under covered sheds, and, alternately permitted under the charge of a vigilant constable to work and take exercise in an open pallisaded yard to be formed outside the Prison walls, fronting the adjacent houses & gardens, also that Welch be kept in light irons for safe custody as is now the case with Mooney.

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I may remark that the Medical Officer who visits both Prisoners daily has not considered it necessary to recommend any change in their treatment.

Herewith I enclose sketch of the proposed open yard, for approval, and Welch's Police Record.

I have the honour to be
Sir
Your most obedt Servt
(signed) J. Boyd
Civil Commandant

The Honble

*James Boyd (Civil Commandant, Port Arthur) - Office letterbook, 1866-1869 from Tasmanian Papers, 1821-1877
Tas. Papers 315
Mitchell Library, State Library of NSW*

The Comp General

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Memorandum

The Superintendent of Timber begs most respectfully to inform the Civil Commandant in reference to the application of the Director of Public Works for two or three Lightwood planks, that no requisition has been received for the same in accordance with Colonial Secretary's memo dated 8th March 1866.

sd K. McKenzie
Suport of Timber
Port Arthur
11th April 1866

The Civil Commandant

Endorsement on the above

Will the Director of Public Works have the goodness to obtain the necessary approval for the planks to be forwarded and furnish me with the same, as stringent orders have been received in reference to not supplying material from this Establishment unless approved of by the Honble the Colonial Secretary or the Treasurer.

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
Port Arthur
11th April 1866

W.R. Falconer Esq.
Director of
Public Works

The prisoner herein referred to (Michael McGuire "Gilbert Henderson") was moved on the 22nd of October 1862 to be charged upon Imperial funds and no instruction of change has been since received until now

sd. J. Sayles
C.C.
14/4/66

The Honble
The Comptroller

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Memo

The Civil Commandant has to intimate to the Commissariat Storekeeper that 30 Government sheep will be slaughtered next week, and the mutton which will probably weigh about 1500 tons will be delivered into Store on the 21st inst.

sd J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
12th April 1866

The Commissariat
Storekeeper
Port Arthur

Memorandum

With reference to the orders received at Port Arthur from time to time authorizing the maintenance of certain Prisoners to be transferred from Imperial to Colonial funds and vice versa.

The Civil Commandant has the honour to request information as to whether such orders are intended to take effect from the dates thereof, or from the date of arrival at Port Arthur of the man or men named in such orders.

sd J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
14th April 1866

The Honble
The Comptroller General

Endorsement on Memo respecting the Funds on which Michael McGuire "Gilbert Henderson" was held at Port Arthur.

The Prisoner herein referred to was ordered on the 22nd October 1852 to be charged upon Imperial funds and no intimation of change in his case has been since received until now.

sd J. Boyd
Civil Commandant 14/4/66

The Honble
The Comp General

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Endorsement on Convicts Earning Abstracts dated 7 April 1866 returned for correction quoting the authority of the 8th Feb 1865 - for 1/0 per Week as a Maximum -

The authority servicing the Maximum state of Convict earnings from 1/6 to 1/0 per week came into operation in February 1865 - This authority [indecipherable] not take a retrospective Effect in any case - The abstracts are therefore correct and returned in package.

sd J. Boyd
C Cd 18/4/66

The Honble Comptroller General

Reply to apn of Henry Roberts for a situation

"No vacancy at present

J. Boyd
C Cd 18/4/66

Reply to appt. - of Catherine Hurley [indecipherable] quarters at Port Arthur with husband John Hurley

There are not any quarters available at present

sd J. Boyd
16/4/66

The Honble the Compt General

Memorandum

The Civil Commandant reports having been furnished by the Tasmanian Commissioners for the Intercolonial Exhibition to be held at Melbourne with a Circular inviting his assistance in the matter.

Will the Comptroller General be so good as to inform the Commandant whether convict labour may be expended, as in former similar cases for the purpose of procuring specimens of timber suitable for transmission to the Exhibition.

sd J. Boyd
Civil Commt
18/4/66

The Honble the Comp. General

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James Donaller - margin note
"Waterloo"

Memo'

The Civil Commandant presents his compliments to the Senior Assistant Magistrate and requests that he will be good enough to try the Prisoner named in the margin for making false statements against Mr Coxswain Horlock and Constable Weeks of Woody Island.

In order to avoid taking the Crew of the Guard-boat and other witnesses away from their duties, it will be desirable to have the case investigated at Norfolk Bay station on Tuesday or Wednesday next as may be most convenient to Mr Dinham.

sd J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
20th April 1866

George Joseph Dinham Esq.
Assistant Magistrate.

Memorandum

It being now understood that the transfers of Prisoners from Imperial to Colonial Funds and vice-versa as the cases may have required- are to take a retrospective effect except when otherwise ordered. The Civil Commandant has to point out that such a course (if it be deemed necessary for the Station accounts to be also altered retrospectively) will throw the whole of the Books into confusion.

In the first place, the Nominal Ration Register which contains the Colonial and Imperial lists separately, both of which are entered from Authorities received from time to time with the men, will, from these after corrections be rendered from erasures and cancellings of names and diets, unfit to be seen or regarded as a record upon which confidence can be placed- this record is at all times

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*James Boyd (Civil Commandant, Port Arthur) - Office letterbook, 1866-1869 from Tasmanian Papers, 1821-1877
Tas. Papers 315
Mitchell Library, State Library of NSW*

(* Margin note: This was adopted by the order of the Comptroller General for the purpose of preserving an authentic record of every Ration issued and charged in the Commissariat accounts, as also to provide for the discontinuance of the Monthly Nominal Ration Returns which were formerly furnished to the Comptroller General's Office.)

times kept up to date, and it sometimes happens that the Officers of the Commissariat Department require to examine it in accordance with Regulations. All these Ration Accounts are balanced monthly, * and it must appear evident that if a retrospective effect were to be given, such a course would alter every total both in the Imperial and Colonial lists or accounts already furnished in various forms.

2nd. The retrospective effect would render every half yearly or other periodical Return of prisoners (Impl. or Coll.) that has been transmitted to the Comptroller General for many years past, erroneous, and every record of past transactions in this Office to be also in the same incorrect condition.

3rd. Without adverting to every case, The Commandant, will point out two that are now under notice- vizt. that of Benjamin Melbourne per "Post. Born. [indecipherable]" and of Michael Mc Guire per "Gilbert Henderson"- Melbourne was approved to Colonial Funds on 15th Decr. 1865 – Maguire to Imperial funds in October 1862. On the 10th January last Melbourne was ordered to be transferred to Imperial funds- in the interim the half yearly Returns for 31st Decr. 1865 had been closed, and the transfer by taking a retrospective effect throws the strength return for 31st Decr. into error.

Maguire arrived at Port Arthur in Novr. 1862- approved chargeable to Imperial funds and was discharged from

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from Port Arthur on the 10th inst. On the 14th inst. a notice was received at this Office to the effect that he should have been charged to Colonial funds- this latter order at once, (were there no other similar cases) throws all the accounts and Returns into error from November '62 to the present time.

4th. In some cases the names of men have been ordered to be transferred from one fund to the other 3 or 4 times. It will therefore be a difficult matter to give a retrospective effect to such cases because some of them would extend back many years.

Under these circumstances The Civil Commandant recommends that the Station Accounts remain as they are- the transfers taking effect from the receipt of the various orders. The Nominal Return furnished to the Colonial Government could of course be corrected so as to admit of no Imperial charge being included therein.

The Civil Commandant will be glad to receive the Comptroller General's instructions in these matters as early as possible.

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
20th April 1866

The Honble.
The Comp. General

Endorset. on memo' from J.B. Facey respectg. clothing left at Jn. Barr [indecipherable].

Memo.

Will Mr. Reidy be good enough to cause the Clothing belonging to John Benjn. Facey per "Marion" lately discharged from detention here, to be forwarded to Port Arthur by first opportunity.

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
20th April 1866

The Supt.
Prisnrs. Barrks.
Hob. Town.

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Extract

Comptroller General's Office
6th April 1866

Memorandum

" The Return of Colonial prisoners maintained at Port Arthur during 1864 is returned to the Civil Commt. for correction, the periods for which the men named in the margin are therein stated to have been maintained being incorrect.

Margin note:
Samuel Mosely
"Cornwall"
Thos. Liddy
"Halcyon"
Michael Hasset
"Rodney .3."
Wm. Lancaster
"Great Britain"
Ricd. Nelson
"Ro. Webb"
John Coulson
"Lt. Lyndoch"

The Return should also be thoroughly examined with a view to prevent any further inaccuracies.

The name of Edward Wallace per "Blenheim" which has been altogether omitted is to be shewn for the period for which he was maintained.

sd. C.Y. Belstead
for the Comptr. General

James Boyd Esq.
Civil Commandant.
(Initials J L H)

Endorsement

I respectfully beg to remark for the Civil Commandant's information that the Return of the Colonial Prisoners referred to in the 1st paragraph of this memorandum, was prepared in the Comptroller General's Office, and the names and number of days shewn in the cases of the men named in the margin, appear to have been entered in that Office.

In certain cases, information was given from this office when the Return was being compiled, but none was sought after from the Comptroller General's Office for the men in question. It is right I think to state that a few weeks ago when the rough of the Return for 1865 was required to be copied from the Return of 1864, I observed several men's names thereon shewn

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shewn as having been maintained at Port Arthur to the close of 1864 and knowing that such was erroneous, I noted in pencil in the margin of the Return that they had been discharged, with the dates thereof, for reference, opposite each name. The errors were therefore observed and attention drawn to them from this Office, and not from any Office in town.

(2nd Paragraph) I will do my best to thoroughly examine the Return for 1864 & any further errors which I may discover- will point them out.

(3rd paragraph.) The name of Edward Wallace per "Blenheim" not having been inserted in the Return in the Comptroller General's Office, of course, it would not be presumed to be done here without instruction- this however will now be attended to, and a nominal alphabetical Return of the Colonial Prisoners maintained at Port Arthur prepared for transmission to the Honble. the Comptroller General according to your directions with replies to each of the queries received in other men's cases as soon as possible. A separate nominal Return of Colonial Prisoners has been kept at the office for several years, and were it not for the repeated alterations made in some of the men's cases which renders it almost doubtful as to which fund they are really chargeable- the Register would be a most useful book for reference. It has, nevertheless been kept corrected to date.

sd. J. C. Yapp
Chief Clerk & Accountant
Port Arthur 26/4/66

The Civil Commandant

Endorsement on the above,
Forwarded for the information of the Comptroller General.
sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
21/4/66

The Honble
The Comptroller General
*see page 49 respectg. similar correspondence on this subject.

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Margin note: Hugh Waldron
"St. Vincent"
F.P.
Borne upon Colonl. Funds.

Port Arthur
21st April 1866

Sir

I have the honor to recommend that the Colonial Pauper named in the margin may be transferred from Port Arthur to the Brickfield Pauper Establishment, Hobart Town.

Waldron has been an inmate of the Pauper's Depot here for some years - he is of exceedingly irritable temper-always dissatisfied and very troublesome although every reasonable indulgence has been conceded to him.
This recommendation is made with the hope that the change, if approved of may greatly benefit him both mentally & physically

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your most obedt. servt.
sd J. Boyd
Civil Commandant

The Honble.
The Comp. General
Initials J.L.H. and M.O.A.

Memo
Will the Comptroller General have the goodness to cause the Return of Indian Convicts alluded to in the enclosed papers to be forwarded to Port Arthur as soon as convenient for the purpose of further examining the same and retaining a copy thereof for future reference.

The document shall be immediately returned to the Comptroller General's Office.

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
21/4/66

The Honble.
The Comp. General.

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Endorsement on Memo respectg. money sent by Mr Reidy to J.B. Facey "Marion".

Returned to the Superintendent of the House of Correction for Males at Hob. Town- the money has been paid to Facey & an acknowledgement obtained for the same hereon.

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
21/4/66

The Supt.
House Correctn for Males
Hobart Town

Port Arthur
25th April 1866

Sir

I have the honor to recommend that Mr Maurice McCarthy, may be promoted to the situation of Assistant Overseer vid Mr. Ford resigned.

Mr McCarthy has been employed in the Armed Civil Guard since October 1865 and has conducted himself to my entire satisfaction.

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your most Obedient Servt.
sd. J. Boyd

Civil Commandant

The Honble.
The Comptroller General.
Initials: JLH and MOA

Intercolonial Exhibition Commission
20th April 1866

Sir

The Commissioners are anxious that you should furnish Samples of everything that you exhibited before, except the large timbers;- and that you should have Tressels and Boards ready prepared, on which the various articles might be

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be placed.

The Commissioners rely on your warm support and co-operation.
I have the honor to be

Sir
Your most obedt. Servt.
sd. Hugh M. Hull
Secty.

Endorsement.

Will Mr Hull be so good as to favor me with a memorandum shewing the dimensions of the largest planks required and the name of the timber in each case -

Mr Hull will also oblige me by informing the Commissioners that it will afford me great pleasure to co-operate with them in having the productions of the Colony fully and satisfactorily represented at the intended Exhibition in Melbourne. I have to state however, that the necessary authority for expending labor in procuring articles for exhibition, has not yet been received, and without such, I shall be unable to proceed in the matter.

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
25th April 1866

Hugh Hull Esq.
Secretary to
Intercolonial Exhibition
Commission
Hobart Town.

Endorsement on Query respecting Thos. Wilson's ("David Clarke") Convict Earnings dated 20th April 1866.

Wilson was granted 2/0 one week under the Governor's authority dated 15th July 1864 - other Prisoners employed upon the Hobson's Bay Contract

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Contract for Timber have been returned for earnings as high as 3/0 a week- but the ordinary maximum rate was 1/6 weekly.

Wilson received no groceries on a/c of his earnings. Abstract returned herewith

*James Boyd (Civil Commandant, Port Arthur) - Office letterbook, 1866-1869 from Tasmanian Papers, 1821-1877
Tas. Papers 315*

Mitchell Library, State Library of NSW

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
25/4/66

The Honble
The Comptroller General
Initialed.

Certified that Daniel O'Connell served at Port Arthur as Constable in the Separate Prison for six weeks, and that his conduct was satisfactory.

The Commandant regrets that he cannot supply a Copy of the Rules of this Establishment as he is precluded by the Regulations from doing so.

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant.
Port Arthur
25th April 1866.

Memo'

The Civil Commandant has to report to the Honble. Attorney General that every inquiry has been made for George Seymour, but no person of that name is at Port Arthur, nor can any information be obtained respecting him.

The letter left by Mr Miller is herewith returned.

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
25/4/66

The Hon^{ble}. The Attorney General
Hobart Town.

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I will feel obliged by the Civil Commandant informing the prisoner

Gladhill that the Government have no wish to proceed for the penalty incurred by withholding the Register of the Blanche provided he immediately gives such information as will enable me to procure the possession – but his failing to do so will cause a penalty of £100

sd. Thomas T. Watt

Perhaps the prisoner Morrison may be able to say something about it. -

Endorsement on the above

The statement of Prisoners Gladhill & Morrison are herewith transmitted for the information of the Collector of Customs with the Civil Commandant's compliments

sd J. Boyd
28th April 1866

With reference to the Register of the Schooner "Blanche" - the statement of Chas Gladhill under sentence at Port Arthur.

About 14 or 15 months ago I gave it to Thos Hawkins who was then the master. he was then going to the Lighthouses in the Straits – Hawkins is now employed at King`s Island Lighthouse – I have never seen the Register since I gave it to Hawkins. Mr Crisp the Solicitor may have it as I gave him some papers connected with the “ Blanche”

sd. Charles Gladhill

Taken before me at Port Arthur this 28th day April 1866
sd J.Boyd
Civil Commandant

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Written sideways in margin :-
indecipherable Document recd 2/5/66 which shows that this document did pass through this Office – acp – to Cgo 2/5/66

Copy X See page 42

Return of Colonial Convicts maintained in Imperial Establishment during the year 1864

This Return is forwarded to the Civil Commandant in order that the periods the prisons have been maintained at Port Arthur may be inserted in the column under that head where it has not already been done.- unless a man was discharged from sentence at Port Arthur the date under column “To” is not to be give, but if actually released at Port Arthur the date to be given and disposal shewn in column of remarks.

The Returns generally should be checked as far as practicable at Port Arthur and any omission or discrepancies reported to this Office

The Civil Commandant
sd. W.Nairn
Comptroller General
1st June 1865

Endorsement

I forward the within copy of memorandum forwarded to the Commandant with the Rough return for 1864.

sd. W. Nairn
Comptroller Gens Office
24th April 1866

Endorsement

Referred to the Chief Clerk for his remarks as regards those portions of his memorandum dated the 16th inst which I have underlined

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underlined and which do not appear to be in accordance with the instructions contained in the Comptroller General`s minute of the 1st of June 1865.

sd. J.Boyd
28/4/66

The Chief Clerk
Port Arthur

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Draft

Memo

In reply to the Civil Commandant's reference, I respectfully beg to state that the draft of the Colonial Return for 1864 received at Port Arthur in June last, for the periods for which certain men were maintained at Port Arthur during that year to be filled, was attended to - my own figures appear in every case left blank for that information - all other periods were entered in indec.

After having filled in the blanks and carefully checked the dates and computations, I considered the work as done - I did not think there could have been errors in that portion of the Return which had been compiled in the Comptroller General's Office and especially in the cases of the names which I have since pointed out vizt those of Samuel Moseley - Thos Liddy- Michl Hassett- Wm Lancaster - Richd Nelson- and John Coulson - ~~and especially as~~ because it has always been considered that every Return which has passed through this ~~the Comptroller General's Office~~ has been perfected in in every particular - I, nevertheless, now assert that those names

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names, although not pointed out at the time, have been since done so by me, and the memo dated 1st June 1865, said to have been sent here with the Return, has ultimately been fully carried into effect in those cases.

With regard to the name of Lord Wallace Jn Blenheim having been omitted such omission took place in the Comptroller General's Office. It is true, I regret to say that I did not discover that error with the others, or it would have been brought under notice, but I assure the Civil Commandant that it is not an easy matter to ~~check~~-dispose of a return of names & to the mystified and confusedly put together, utterly devoid of regularity or order for proving itself, or for being checked, with any degree of accuracy - It is not unusual to find authorities in this office for some men to be charged to Imperial funds & afterward to find those identical names entered in Town upon the Colonial lists - I will quote the case of Michael McGuire Jn WG H indecipherable already reported - & others I have since found such as Edwd Baker per Ausen &c &c all of whose cases will be duly pointed out on completion of the Colonial Return now in hand.

I will here remark that I do not recollect having seen the original memo of 1/6/65 touching the Return in question I cannot trace anything of

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it amongst the papers here, nor does either of the other clerks remember having seen such documents - I am not prepared to state that such never arrived here, in as much as the indecipherable ~~who~~ in the early part of June last had the work in hand and might have received the said indecipherable but he having left the Establishment with the Return undone - I, in July last took it in hand ~~myself~~ and completed what appeared to be wanting, after which it was returned to the Comptroller General's Office.

I assure the Civil Commandant that I have done my best at all times with these description of assets - I am not infallible - but I indecipherable to keep them correctly and I hope that the Colonial Return now in hand will, when completed the numerous queries which will be submitted for consideration disposed of indecipherable itself to all concerned

J.C. indecipherable
Chief Clerk
28/4/66

Note at end of page :-
see page 42 for further correspondence on this subject.

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With reference to the Register of the Schooner "Blanche" – the statements of Samuel Morrison under Sentence at Port Arthur.

I was Master of the Schooner "Blanche" for 2 or 3. months prior to the Vessel being lost –

I never had the Register of the Vessel in my possession, I never saw it, I don't know who had it, I never heard who had it – I never enquired, Gladhill the Owner never spoke to me about it

sd. Samuel Morrison

Taken before me
at Port Arthur
this 28th day of April 1866
sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant

Memorandum

Will the Comptroller General have the goodness to refer to the Collector of H.M. Customs, Hobart Town, for information whether a person named James James arrived per Convict Ship "Blenheim" in February 1849 as one of the crew or free passengers.

The Civil Commandant's object in making this request is to ascertain, if possible, whether a Convict lately received at Port Arthur, and who calls himself James James, has always heretofore been free – the man having stated that he was one of the Crew on board the "Blenheim" whereas the Commandant strongly suspects that he is a reconvicted Prisoner.

.sd. J Boyd
Civil Commandant
2nd May 1866

The Hon^{ble}
The Comp. General
&c &c

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Endorsement on Memo' from Comptroller General as to the capability of Jas. Sands per "Isabella" for effective labor

I have examined the prisoner James Sands per "Isabella" and consider him well able to perform 3rd Class effective labor.

sd. Geo Denham
S.M.O.
May 2nd 1866

The Civil Commandant

Returned to the Comptroller General with the report of the Senior Medical Officer.

sd. J. Boyd.
2/5/66

Civil Commandant's Office
Port Arthur 2nd May 1866

Memorandum

The Civil Commandant has to report that in consequence of the large amount of public live stock now on Tasman's Peninsula, he has deemed it necessary to employ a Constable as general herd and Keeper of the same – and as it is of much importance to retain the services of a person in this capacity who has had experience in the management of Sheep and Cattle, and is therefore competent to conduct such duties efficiently, the Commandant recommends that one of the 2s/6d a day rates allowed to Constables may be increased to 3s/6d for the Constable employed as general Herd and Stock Keeper.

This arrangement of approved will only add the sum of £18.5.0 a year to the present authorized expense of the Constabulary

sd. J Boyd
Civil Commandant

The Hon^{ble}
The Comp. General.

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Civil Commandant's Office
Port Arthur 2nd May 1866

Memo'

The Civil Commandant has to report that in consequence of certain repairs and alterations of the Steam Saw Mill having been found absolutely necessary and there being no paid Engineer at the Establishment, he has obtained the assistance of Mr George Whittington – Keeper of the Separate Prison in directing such work; but as this is an additional labor imposed upon Mr Whittington, who is an Engineer by trade and will be required to exercise a general superintendence over the Machinery generally so long as the situation of Engineer remains vacant.

The Civil Commandant recommends that Mr Whittington may be granted an allowance of £20 per annum from the 1st ulto: as Acting Engineer.

It may be remarked that the late Engineer received £100 per annum with rations, which salary and rations have been provided for by the Estimates of the current year.

The Honble
The Comptroller General

JB
Civil Commandant

Civil Commandant's Office
Port Arthur 2nd May 1866

Memorandum

The Civil Commandant recommends that Constable William George Frost may be appointed to the Civil Guard vice McCarthy recommended to be promoted to Assistant Overseer.

Frost has always been free – is 5 feet 9½ inches high, and every way suitable for the Guard.

*James Boyd (Civil Commandant, Port Arthur) - Office letterbook, 1866-1869 from Tasmanian Papers, 1821-1877
Tas. Papers 315*

Mitchell Library, State Library of NSW

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant

The Hon^{ble}
The Comp. General.

Memo

Will the Assistant Colonial Treasurer have the goodness to include on the annexed Receipt the sum of 7s/6d (forwarded at the same time with the 3s/1) money given up by Prisoner George Rowe for safekeeping.

sd. J Boyd
Civil Commandant
3rd May 1866

The Asst
Colonial Treasurer

Memo'

The Civil Commandant acknowledges the receipt of the Commissariat Storekeeper's letter of yesterday's date referring to the deficiency of Commissariat Sacks – and intimates in reply, that he has issued a Circular instruction on the subject – copy of which is herewith enclosed for the Commissariat Storekeeper's information

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
4/5/66

The Commissariat
Storekeeper
Port Arthur

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Memorandum

The Civil Commandant has to report for the information of the Comptroller General that he has granted Mr Yapp leave of absence to enable him to attend the funeral of his relative the late Mr Ball Clerk at the Prisoners' Barracks Hobarton.

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
4th May 1866

The Hon^{ble}
The Comp. General.

Memorandum,

Will the Comptroller General have the goodness to inform the Civil Commandant what steps ought to be taken where persons do not keep their live stock upon their own premises according to the Regulations, and through which considerable damage has been done to public property. –

It would be of advantage in enforcing the rule were a Pound to be authorized and a fine imposed upon all who allow their poultry and other live stock to be running about the roads or thoroughfares of the Settlement

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
5th May 1866

Memorandum,

The Civil Commandant transmits by the present mail a Return, with queries of certain Prisoners respecting whom it is requested that instructions may be furnished as to the funds upon which their maintenance in 1865 is to be charged

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
5/5/66

The Hon^{ble}
The Comp. General.

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Endorsement on Memo' from Colonial Secretary respecting George Guy "Post Bomangee" 2nd

George Guy "Post Bom." 2nd was treated for sprained ankle in the Hospital at Port Arthur in October 1860.

It does not appear from the Medical Registers that he was ever treated for Ophthalmia either at Impression Bay or Port Arthur – the above is the only entry concerning him that is to be found in the Medical Registers. –

He was employed as Wardsman and afterwards as Cook in 1862.

sd. Geo Dinham
S.M.O.
Port Arthur 5/5/66

The Civil Commandant

Forwarded for the information of the Honble the Colonial Secretary

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
5/5/66

8/5/66

Memorandum

S.T.
Alexander Murphy
"Maitland"
Life

With reference to the accompanying document in which the Convict named in the margin has been recommended by the Medical Officers to be invalided, I beg to draw attention to the man's very bad character as shown by his police record herewith forwarded. –

*James Boyd (Civil Commandant, Port Arthur) - Office letterbook, 1866-1869 from Tasmanian Papers, 1821-1877
Tas. Papers 315*

Mitchell Library, State Library of NSW

Murphy is held under a sentence of Transportation for Life, passed at Oswestry on the 14th October 1842 for Burglary. On the 21st September 1865 he was ordered by the Governor in Council to

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to be detained under his original sentence.

He is in my opinion quite unfit to be released from strict supervision, and as there are already six invalided Convicts belonging to the Separate Treatment class lodged either in the Depôt or the Hospital, five of whom have been invalided lately.

I submit for the consideration of the Comptroller General whether it be expedient to remove any more of such characters from the general Prison where they can be closely watched. –

As the case now stands I consider it necessary that another Warder should be appointed for the Invalid Depôt, in order that the Convicts under Separate Treatment restrictions may be properly supervised and thereby prevented from committing crime.

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
12th May 1866

The Honble
The Comp. General

Memo'

In consequence of several Convicts who are under "Separate Treatment" restrictions having been lately Invalided and removed from the general Prison – I beg to recommend that an additional Warder for the Depot at a salary of 2s/0 per diem and rations may be authorised in order that men of this class may be kept under strict supervision and thereby prevented from committing Crime.

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
12th May 1866

The Hon^{ble}
The Comp. General

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Endorsement on Memo' from Asst Commisy General respecting a Certificate accounting for losses as found by the Board of Survey held at P.A. on 1/2/66. –

I beg to inform the Civil Commandant that the Certificate referred to was handed by me to Mr Pringle on Friday last and forwarded by him to the Ass.t Commissary General by Saturday night's Post.

.sd. Thos Todd
P.S.
11/5/66
Returned to the Comptroller General
sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
11/5/66

Endorsement on Memo' from the Attorney General respecting the conduct of Francis Harris a Native

The Prisoner Harris' police record herewith – His conduct from the time of his arrival at Port Arthur in June 1863 until August 1865, was very indifferent, but since the latter date it has been good – the death of his mother which I understand occurred about 6 months ago, appears to have led him to serious reflection and amendment of behaviour

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
16th May 1866

The Hon^{ble}
The Attorney General

Hobart Town.

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Port Arthur
16th May 1866

My dear Smith

The bill of delivery of the Stores per "Harronby" sent to you for signature on the 5th inst. has not been returned – at least it has not yet reached this Office – In your reply to my Telegram of yesterday you state that you forwarded the bill to Port Arthur on the day it was received by you. What can have become of the document and what is to be done without it? The original bill was sent to you with the copy – so that I now possess neither – I presume the only course open will be to forward another copy to you for signature.

I send you by this evening's post a copy of a query received from Home respecting 12 packing casks received from you on 12th May 1864 but not included in your bill of delivery which referred to the Boots that the Casks in question contained. –

Be good enough to send me the necessary Voucher by return of mail and inform me whether the missing bill of delivery has been found. –

Believe me
My dear Smith
Yours very sincerely
sd. J. Boyd

Henry Smith
D.A.S.S.
Hobart Town

Endorsement on Memo' from Comp General respecting money stated to be left in this Office by George Taylor as indecipherable "Mary Ann" –

15th Jan '66 – Geo Taylor "M Anne" & "Titania" – Money given up for safe custody 8s/0 Money found improperly in his possession & forfeited 2s/6d

The above is the only entry in

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in our books in which Taylor's name appears as having given up money for safe keeping

*James Boyd (Civil Commandant, Port Arthur) - Office letterbook, 1866-1869 from Tasmanian Papers, 1821-1877
Tas. Papers 315
Mitchell Library, State Library of NSW*

These sums 8s/- & 2s/6d are forwarded with the Colonial Return of Forfeited monies & monies given up for safe custody to the Honble the Colonial Treasurer per Schooner Harriet on the 20th February last.

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
16th May 1866

The Hon^{ble}
The Comp. General.

Immediate Memorandum,

Will the Deputy Assistant Superintendent of Stores be good enough to forward a special Delivery Voucher for 12 Packing Casks omitted in the Voucher sent to Port Arthur on the 12th May 1864 (copy enclosed) upon which a query has been raised by the Commissioners of Audit copy herewith. –

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
16th May 1866

Henry Smith Esq
D.A.S.S.
Hobart Town

Suppression Bay Station
May 16th 1866

To The Civil Commandant
Honored Sir

I beg most respectfully to ask your permission to remain where we are until after Mrs Alvarez' confinement, she is very ill and cannot with any degree of safety be removed, fearing as we do a premature birth. She is now in expectation of Dr Denham who has promised to visit her this early part of the week. I must also state that not a word by way of contention has ever passed between Mr Bowden or myself since he has been here, indeed only

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only last night he told me that he had no charge whatever against me only that I had reported the state of his Stores and I do think it very hard that for doing my duty I am to be charged with misconduct. Waiting your kind reply,

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your obedt Servt
sd. John Alvarez
Constable

The Civil Commandant

Endorsement on the above

Constable Alvarez will relieve Constable Wade at Cascade Station as soon as Mrs Alvarez's health will admit of her going there –

I have had a very great deal of trouble in investigating disputes between Constable Alvarez and the Officers in charge of the Station at Impression Bay, and will now try whether he can agree with Mr Cassidy at Cascade – As regards the state of the Commissariat Stores at Impression Bay no blame whatever can be attached to Constable Alvarez for reporting any irregularity connected with such – as it is the duty of every Constable to watch all public property at his Station and immediately acquaint the Civil Commandant of any deficiency therein, or other irregularity which he may have detected.

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
17th May 1866

Constable Alvarez
Impression Bay

Endorsement on Return of Prisoners recommended to be Invalidated.

Returned to the Civil Commandant with the Senior Medical Officer's compliments

sd. Geo Denham
S.M.O
May 15th 1866

The Civil Commandant

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Endorsement on the preceding

The accompanying papers have been referred to the Senior Medical Officer who has reported on the case of James Dennphy.

sd. J. Boyd
17/5/66

The Hon^{ble}
The Comptroller General.

Memo'

The Civil Commandant presents his compliments to the Asst Commissary General and has to remark, with regard to the annexed Memo', that there does not appear to have been any Calf Skin sent from Port Arthur to Hobart Town during the entire quarter ended 31st March 1866. – further, the Calf Skin shewn on hand on 31/3/66 was actually in Store at that time – a Deer Skin was forwarded to Town in January last, but that was duly struck off the Accounts.

The annexed Memo', it is observed, refers to the Quarters' Return ended 31st March 1865 the particulars of which document appear upon re-examination to have been correctly shewn.

The Civil Commandant will feel obliged by receiving as soon as possible any information which may serve to clear up the point in question – at present the Station & Commissary Accounts prove the Quarterly Returns adverted to, to have been correctly rendered

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
May 19th 1866

The Asst Commissary General
in charge
Hobart Town.

Memo

With reference to the Return of Expenditure for the year 1865, the Civil Commandant reports that he will be ready on

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on receipt of the Commissariat Return shewing the cost of Provisions, Fuel, Light – Value of Station produce raised and applied in aid of rations &c at this Establishment, to proceed with the completion of the same.

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
19th May 1866

The Hon^{ble}
The Comptroller General

Ninian Baptiste
"M. Soames"

Memorandum,

Will the Superintendent Prisoners' Barracks have the goodness to cause to be forwarded by first trip of the Schooner "Harriet" to Port Arthur, the sum of 8s/- and 2 Bundles Clothing stated to have been given up for safe keeping by the man named in the margin upon his reception into the Barracks. –

Baptiste has been recently discharged from detention and is now employed as paid Attendant in the Insane Depôt here.

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
17th May 866

The Superintendent
Prisoners' Barracks
Hobart Town

Memorandum

I do not observe that any provision has been made in the accompanying form of Contract for the Stipendiaries of the Establishment being supplied with fresh meat as in former Agreements – the usual condition, I submit, ought to be inserted. –

The standard quality viz. "best marketable", ought, in my opinion, to be retained, as is the case with all other existing

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existing Contract in the Colony.

The Members of the Board ought, I think, to be the Commissariat Storekeeper, a Medical Officer and one of the principle subordinate Officers. I conceive it to be objectionable always to have the Senior Medical Officer and the Station Office acting as Members of the Board to the exclusion of others.

Boards constituted as I have suggested ought to be convened by the Civil Commandant, their proceedings be duly noted, and approved of by that Officer, as the Chief authority on the Peninsular – this is in strict accordance with the recognized principle governing the action of other Boards in the various branches of the public service – at least such is my belief.

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
18th May 1866

P.S.

There is not now any Government wharf at Safety Cove – nor could one be rebuilt there without the expenditure of much labour and material.

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant

The Hon^{ble}
The Comptroller General

Memo'

The Civil Commandant has to acknowledge the receipt of Mr. Hurst's letter of the 18th inst. in reference to the charges against Charles Brown for ill using his boy. Mr. Hurst's statement in favour of the accused with the good character given him by the Overseer Mr. Bertrand has been duly considered and Brown fined in the mitigated penalty

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penalty of five shillings – which it is hoped may have the effect of restraining his violence in future.

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
21st May, 1866

Mr. James Hurst
Coal Miner

H.M. Hospital
Port Arthur May 21st 1866

Sir,

I have the honour to bring under your notice the very long period – extending from the month of August 1865 to January 1866 - during which the whole of the medical duties of the Peninsular devolved upon myself.

In consequence of the various changes that have taken place in the Medical Department of this Establishment since I have been connected with it, I have had to undertake the whole on several occasions and therefore under these circumstances I trust that my extra services may meet with your formal consideration.

I have the honour to be
Sir
Your most obedient servant
sgd. Geo Dinham
Senior Medial Officer

The Hon^{ble}
The Comp General

Endorsement on the above

Forwarded – Dr. Dinham performed the whole of the Medical Assistant Magistrate's duties on Tasman's Peninsular from the 31/12/64 to the 2/2/65 – i.e. from the date of Dr. Eckford's retirement to that on which Doctor Bone commenced duties – and again, from 28/8/85, when Doctor Bone ceased to act, until 11/1/66 when his successor arrived – The Medical and Magisterial

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magisterial pay and the medical forage money not drawn during the above mentioned periods amounted to £124.13.9 and therefore under these circumstances I strongly recommend that Dr. Dinham may be granted a gratuity of at least £52.0.0 or one half of the sum saved to the Public, as a fair and reasonable allowance for the extra duties imposed upon him

sd. J Boyd
Civil Commandant
22nd May 1866

The Honble
The Comp. General

Port Arthur
23rd May 1866

Dear Sir,

With reference to the statement shewing the deposits to , and the payments from, my Public a/c for which I have already applied to you. I shall feel much obliged by your having the goodness to favour me with the same at your earliest convenience, as the Assistant Commissary General, is desirous that such statement should be obtained from the Bank.

I remain
Dear Sir
Yours very truly
sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant

Henry J Peters Esq
Manager
Bank of Australia
Hobart Town.

Port Arthur 23rd May 1866

My dear Sir,

I should be glad to meet your views in reference to the firewood which you contemplate applying for to be supplied from this establishment, but it would be quite impossible

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Nothing intelligible

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impossible to furnish the very large quantity you mention - However the best course would be for you to see the Comptroller General on the subject and should the application be entertained, I could furnish the fullest information as regards the number of tons which might be supplied annually

I remain
My Dear Sir
Yours very truly
sd. J. Boyd

Alfred Nicholas Esq
Wine Merchant
Hobt Town

Memorandum,

The Civil Commandant has to report that the Revd Alfred Maguire Roman Catholic Chaplain, received his permission to proceed to Hobart Town by Schooner "Harriet" to day on leave of absence, Mr Maguire having been replaced by the Revd O'Mara.

sd. J Boyd
Civil Commandant
25th May 1866

The Honble
The Comptroller General.

Endorsement on correspondence respecting a Calf skin.

The information requested by the Civil Commandant in regard to a Calf Skin and hides forwarded to Hobart Town during the month of January last is herewith furnished, by which it will be perceived that no calf skin was received into these Stores during that Month

sd. James J Pringle
Commissariat
26th May 1866

The Civil Commandant

Forwarded to Commissariat

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Forwarded to Commissariat
Hobart Town

1866
January 20th Cattle Hides (3) three

January 20th Deer Skins (1) one
January 20th Sheep Skins (20) twenty
January 27th Cattle Hides (2) two

sd. James J Pringle
Commissariat Port Arthur
26 May 1866

Endorsement on the above.

Annual hereunto is the statement from the Resident Commissariat storekeeper which it is hoped will show, satisfactorily, that no Calf Skin was sent to Town from Port Arthur in January last nor any received into store – The Station and Commissariat accounts at Port Arthur perfectly agree in this point – No Govt Calf was killed or died at that time

sd. J Boyd
Civil Commandant
26/5/66

The Asst Commissary
General
Hobart Town

Memorandum

In left margin
Jas McCormick
"SI Boddington"
Free Pauper

The invalid named in the margin states that he gave up the sum of one shilling and nine pence for safe keeping upon admission to the Prisoners' Barracks Hobart Town –

Will Mr Reidy be good enough to forward the amount of the man's statement is correct.

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
26/5/66

The Sap
Prisoners' Barracks
Hobt Town

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Port Arthur
26th May 1866

Dear Sir

With reference to your letter of the 5th instant intimating that the Tressels are to be of Myrtle or Lightwood, will you have the goodness to inform me whether tops will required with them for the purpose of forming tables, and if so, I shall feel further obliged by your furnishing me with the following particulars viz

Number of tops, length of each, width, thickness, and how formed, ie. whether ploughed, & tongued, damped at both ends and ledged, or only ledged – also the height and length of the tressels, the substance o f the legs and how to be formed with the number required.

I remain
Dear Sir
Yours very truly
sd J. Boyd
Civil Commandant

Hugh Hull Esq
Secretary to the
International Exhibition
Commissioner of Tasmania

In reference to application of Californian Circus Company to His Excellency the Governor to give a performance at Port Arthur.

Memo'

I have to express my thanks to His Excellency, the Governor for kindly entertaining the application of the Californian Circus Company to visit Port Arthur but, as will be seen by the annexed copies of telegrams passed on the subject, there would not I regret be sufficient inducement for them to undertake the proposed performances –

sd. J. Boyd
26th May 1866

The Honble
The Comp. General

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Endorsement on Mr Todds report respecting deficiencies at Impression Bay Station

The Provision Storekeeper being responsible for all Commissarial Stores at Impression Bay, will take immediate steps for making good all deficiencies therein and report on the 31st instant whether this has been done – It appears that Mr. Todd holds sufficient guarantees for maintaining himself for any outlay he may think proper to make in this matter on Mr Bowden's account

(Signed)
J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
28th May

The Provision Storekeeper
Port Arthur.

(Sideways in margin)
" Thos Atkinson Rodney 2nd"

Memo,

The Civil Commandant desires to draw the special attention of the Protestant Chaplain to the religious instruction of the Prisoner named in the margin who has this day been sentenced to 10 days solitary Confinement for disobedience of orders and making use of grossly profane language as will be seen by the enclosed extract of evidence taken in the case.

sd J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
28th May 1866

The Protestant Chaplain
Port Arthur

Endorsement on Petition of Isaac Rogers per K. S. Forbes.

Forwarded - my opinion of this matter is, that the Prisoner Isaac Rogers who is a shrewd old hand, induced the man Brown, who is weakly & paralytic, to make, or rather to assent to the statement witnessed by Mr Markham. Mr Griffiths the Storekeeper referred to by Brown, may however, be able to afford some information on the subject.

sd J. Boyd
30th May 1866

The Honble
The Comptroller General

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Endorsement in Memo' from Mr Hawkins respecting Flour losses.

The authority in question is the estimate for the current year which provides 100 allowances of extra Flour for Sawyers &c &c at 3oz each

sd. J Boyd
Civil Commandant
2nd June 1866

The Honbl
The Comptroller General

Original papers from Home connected with Diet Scale for prisoners – forwarded to Senr M. Officer for his Report. - 12/6/66

Memorandum,

Referring to the Comptroller General's Memo of the 22nd May last relative to the Report called for by His Excellency the Governor on the subject of Rations, the Civil Commandant requests information as to the prices at which the undermentioned articles could be supplied in large quantities, if required, for the use of this Establishment

Shins of Beef
Suet
Indian Meal
Scotch Oatmeal (coarse)
Cheese
Cocoa
Molasses
Ginger (ground)
Pimento

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
9th June 1866

The Honble
The Comptroller General

Endorsement respectg enquiry as to the funds of Edwd Perkins of “[indecipherable]”

Colonial Funds as per authority of the Asst Col Secretary dated 6th July 1865 (herewith)
sd J Boyd
Civil Commandant
9th June 1866

The Hon
The Comptroller General

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Memorandum,

The Civil Commandant recommends that Mr Michael J Aherne the Junior clerk at this Establishment may be appointed Assistant Master for conducting the Prisoners' Evening School at the authorized salary of 5/- per diem vice Constable Baker promoted to be Master of the Free School in succession to Mr Pilcher dismissed.

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
9th June 1866

The Honble
The Comptroller General

The Civil Commandant presents his compliments to Mr Bromfield and in reply to his letter of the 4th inst enclosing another for Francis Harris, has much pleasure in informing him that Harris has been pardoned and proceeded to Hobart Town on Thursday last – the letter for him is herewith returned.-

Mr Boyd cordially reciprocates the kindly sentiments expressed in Mr Bromfield's letter; and in reference to Mr Strutt is happy to say that he is quite well.

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
9th June 1866

Mr. J.H. Bromfield
Upper Murray St
Hobart Town.

The Civil Commandant presents his compliments to Messrs Overell & McMillan and has to acknowledge the receipt of their letter of the 2nd inst in reference to obtaining a supply of Black Wattle Bark from Tasman's Peninsula – in reply Mr Boyd begs to intimate that there is not very much of the bark in question to be found at Port Arthur, but still he would be glad to meet

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meet their wishes as far as may be in his power, and suggests an application to the Comptroller General of the Convict Department

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
9th June 1866

Messrs Overell & McMillan
Hobart Town

Endorsement on Memo respectg Abraham Crabtree "H.S. Forbes"

Memo'

The accompanying document explains the circumstances of the case of Abraham Crabtree which were before the Governor when His Excellency gave his decision on the 27th March last.-

No reference was made to any charge of murder against Crabtree – nor is there any entry of such a crime in the Man's record (herewith enclosed) – The only Knowledge I ever had of the accusation in question, was obtained from the Newspapers and during the few minutes the Prisoner was before the Governor. I certainly did not recollect the case. – There were other persons I believe, also accused of committing the same murder; and in fact there have been so many individuals mentioned in newspaper reports as having been arrested on suspicion of committing Murders in this Colony, that I should probably not remember them all were they to be sent here for other offences.-

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
9th June 1866

The Honble
The Comptroller General

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Extract from Decisions of His Excellency The Governor at Port Arthur 27th March 1866

Name & particulars as read to His Excellency
Crabtree Abraham
"K. S. Forbes"
York 5/1/32 Stg Money
[indecipherable] S. Cv 15/10/46 Stg notes 7 yrs
[indecipherable] Q.S. 19/9/54 Housebreakg 14 yrs
C.C.S 4/9/50
Hobart P.O. 17/8/55 Larceny 15 mos H.T.

Request
About his condition

Division
When he has done half his time to be released.

Prisoner's statement

That he had received a Conditional Pardon in this Colony in 1860 – left here and went to Melbourne in 1862 – that he remained away until apprehended at Sandhurst in 1865 under the Victorian "Convicts Prevention Act" as being illegally at large - that he was sent back in custody to Hobart Town, but upon being brought up at the Police office was immediately discharged. That he then went to Bridgewater and was in the service of Mr Andrews there for 3 or 4 weeks, when he came to Hobart Town and committed the offence for which he is now at Port Arthur viz stole a Cheese being hungry and not having any money. That as he had paid his own expenses out of the Colony and it was no fault of his coming back he hoped the Government would pay his expenses out of the Colony now

sd. J. Boyd

*James Boyd (Civil Commandant, Port Arthur) - Office letterbook, 1866-1869 from Tasmanian Papers, 1821-1877
Tas. Papers 315
Mitchell Library, State Library of NSW*

Civil Commandant

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Memo,

In reply to Mr F. N. Luttrell's application of the 28th ulto for employment in the Convict Department on Tasman's Peninsula the Civil commandant has to intimate that the only situation at present vacant is that of Constable – pay 2/- per diem with rations and quarters –

The quarters are small however but the Commandant would be happy to provide better as soon as practicable as also to advance – Mr Luttrell in the service should he be found to merit promotion.

Mr Luttrell may if convenient to himself proceed to Salt Water River via the Coal Mines any time before the 1st July next.

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
9th June 1866

Mr. F. N. Luttrell
Bagdad

Endorsement on replies to queries from the Commissioners of Audit at Tasmania last Ap. 1865 C

Returned to the Asst Commissary General with the last Commandants Compts. The replies have been entered against each query brought under notice.

sd J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
Port Arthur
9/6/66

The Asst Comy General

[Page 84]

Memo

In compliance with the commands of His Excellency the Governor contained in the Comptroller General's Memorandum of the 22nd ulto: herewith transmitted I have the honor to request the early consideration of the Medical Officers of the Establishment to the subject of Diet, as explained, in the accompanying papers (which it is requested may be returned) and to invite their opinion as regards the quantity and description of the articles composing the several kinds of rations now issued at Port Arthur; and which they consider that any reductions or change could with advantage be made therein.

The annexed table (A) shews the various scales of rations now in force upon Tasman's Peninsula

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
12th June 1866.

The Senior
Medical Officer
Port Arthur

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Memo'

With reference to the 199th Section of the Port Arthur Regulations, the Civil Commandant has to recommend that in consequence of the large number of Effective Convicts (320) now allowed to wear flannels out of 452, and owing to the dampness of the climate of Tasman's Peninsula the rule in question may be annulled – and every prisoner on arrival furnished with a flannel shirt or Vest. – Drawers being only allowed upon the recommendation of a Surgeon.
–

The Commandant has to observe that the Senior Medical Officer concurs in this opinion.

sd, J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
13th June 1866

Honble
The Comp.General

Port Arthur
13th June 1866

Sir

I have the honor to enclose herewith Caption of an Inquest held by me at Port Arthur on Monday the 11th inst: on view of the body of John Shaw per "Wm Jardine" late a Free Pauper of this Establishment, who died in the Hospital here on Saturday the 9th inst of "Disease of the Heart" accelerated by having accidentally swallowed a piece of bone which stuck in his throat.

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your obedt Servt
sd. J. Boyd
Coroner and Civil Commandant

John Aston Watkins Esq
Registrar of Supreme Court

Hobart Town.

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(In margin)
John Shaw
"W. Jardine" Y.S.
Imp Pauper

Memorandum,

The Civil Commandant has to report that an inquest was held at Port Arthur on Monday the 11th inst before him as coroner and a Jury of Seven of the Stipendiaries of the Establishment upon view of the body of the man named in the margin - who died in the Hospital here on Saturday the 9th inst and a Verdict returned of "died of disease of the heart, accelerated by having accidentally swallowed a piece of bone. - ~~which stuck in his throat.~~

sd. J> Boyd
Civil Commandant
13th June 1866

The Honble
The Comp. General.

Endorsement on Contract prices of Flour – sent to the Civil Commandt

Memo'

It is requested that the accompanying copy of authority, presumed to have been transmitted by the Commissariat Storekeeper, may be authenticated in the usual manner.

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
15/6/66

The Commissariat Storekeeper
Port Arthur

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Board assembled at the request of the Commisst Storekeeper

(sd) J Boyd
Civil Commdt
15/6/66

Proceedings of a Board assembled this day at the Commisst Stores by order of the Civil Commandant to inspect and report upon certain Meat deposited into the Stores at Port Arthur.

Members
The Junior Medical Officer President
The Commissariat Storekeeper
The Station Officer

The Board having met and having duly and carefully inspected the Ox meat in question viz: one carcass and a half, find that the quality of the Beef, though sound and wholesome, is so lean & at such variance to the Governor's instructions "that there should be a fair proportion of bone to flesh", that they therefore with every consideration for the difficulties the Meat a Contractor has to contend with from the want of better pasturage, they nevertheless feel bound to reject it –

(sd.) John Kenwick Lewis Senior Medical Offi:
James J Pringle Commissariat Storekeeper
James Aylett Station Officer

Report received 15/6/66
(sd.) J. B.

Immediate

The Civil Commandant is most respectfully requested for a copy of the Report of the Board of Survey convened yesterday, to go to Town per Schooner

sd J. N. (Looks like "Propsting")

J. Boyd Esq
Civil Commdt

Endorsement

Copy herewith
(sd) J. Boyd
16/6/66

Mr Propsting

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Memo'

With reference to the fencing required for the grounds at Government House, the Foreman of Works being in doubt as to the desired form of the top of the posts which point it appears is not very clearly shewn by the sketch furnished, The Civil Commandant has forwarded by the present trip of the Schooner two posts marked A & B of different patterns and will feel much obliged to the Private Secretary for information as to which of them is of the form intended.

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
16th June 1866

The Private Secretary

Government House
Hobart Town

Endorsement on Query respecting John Irwin per "Lady Franklin"

Extract from Register of the Lunatic Hospital Port Arthur –

John Irwin per "Lady Franklin" or "Governor Philip" admitted into New Norfolk asylum on the 9th September 1845 – Received from New Norfolk 22nd June 1859.

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
16th June 1866

The Honble
The Comp. General

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Papers referring to a Board held upon some fresh Beef received from Contractor on the 15th June 1866 -

1. Copy of [indecipherable] P.A. Board
2. Copy of [indecipherable] of a Board held upon the [indecipherable] beef in Hobart Town -
3. Certificates from [indecipherable] Griffiths & Dolly Ryland as to identity of Meat -
4. Letter from [indecipherable] to the Comptr Genl forwarding the above papers.
5. Minutes of A.E. the Governor [indecipherable] to the conflicting opinions of the two Boards suggesting

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suggesting that proof be obtained as to the identity of the Beef & that the C. Commdt be requested to refer the matter to the Port Arthur Board for their explanation –

Foregoing papers (5 in number) received by post on Saturday evening the 23rd inst and forwarded immediately to the President [indecipherable] for the explanation called for by the Governor –

Explanation (adhering to former decision & requesting instruction for guidance in future) recd. on the evening of 24th & with [indecipherable] papers transmitted without comment to Compt General by that nights mail –

J E
25/6/66

File

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Port Arthur
23rd June 1866

Memo'

With reference to the accompanying papers relative to the rates at which the [indecipherable] and other materials supplied to the several Departments from Port Arthur during the year 1865 are to be charged, I have the honor to draw the attention of the Comptroller General to the fact that rates have already ~~here~~ been fixed by the Director of Public Works for the same, and that those rates were strictly observed when compiling the true half yearly accounts which it is presumed have been transmitted to the Commissioners of Audit.

The prices now proposed by the Director of Public Works are

The Honble.
The Comptroller General

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are so widely different from those previously ~~given~~ adopted that before proceeding with the reconstruction of the Returns I think it necessary to submit the matter for further consideration.

Former amended scale of prices herewith, and requested to be returned.

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant

[page 93]

Memorandum,

I am of opinion that much sickness might be prevented among the Prisoners if each man was allowed a Flannel Shirt; at the present time the majority of the men have Flannels- issued to them by order of the Medical Officer- I would strongly recommend that every prisoner be provided with a Flannel Shirt. –

sd. Geo Dinham
Senior Medical Officer
June 18th 1866

The Civil Commandant

Endorsement

The Senior Medical Officer will observe from the enclosed Copy of recommendation that I have already brought this subject under the notice of the Comptroller General.

sd. J. Boyd
19th June 1866
C.C's Memo of 13th inst. to the Comptroller General.

The Senior Medical Officer

My dear Sir,

Under the circumstances as stated in your letter just received, I can have no objection to your proceeding to town to day on leave of absence.

Yours respectfully
(sd) J. Boyd
21/6/66

George Dinham Esq.

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Extract from Decisions of His Excellency, the Governor at Port Arthur 27th March 1866.

Invalids
Phillips Benjn - Request - Granted a Free Pardon.
"Isabella"

John Grace - ditto - ditto
"Egyptian" .2.

Memorandum

The Paupers above named are very anxious to receive the Instruments of the Pardons granted to them by His Excellency the Governor upon his late visit to Port Arthur.

The Civil Commandant requests that they may be forwarded to Port Arthur as soon as convenient.

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
26th June 1866

The Honble. Comptroller General

Memorandum

(margin note)
Thos. Bennett
Rodney, 1,

Hobt. S.C. 1/9/63

Perjury 4yrs G.S.

G.A. 30/10/65- Absent without leave from his Station & found at the Coal Mines drunk- 9 mos.

H. L. in chains

The Prisoner named in the margin requests permission to address a Petition to the Governor for remission of sentence. –

Bennett forwarded a Petition in 1864 the reply to which was, that the Governor in Council declined to interfere. C.G's Memo' 3/6/64

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
26th June 1866

The Honble
The Comp. General

(Initialled)

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Expenditure Return for 1865

Observations-

The Commissariat Abstract (dated 23-2-66) of Miscellaneous Payments made on account of Port Arthur, during 1865 shews as follows-
Jany '65 Advertizing £5-4-5

The monthly Returns of Miscells. Payments, forwarded from the Commt. in Feby 1865 shews "Advertizing" in two items for Jany
one £2-4-5 the other £ 2-0-0.
Total £4-4-5 or making a total difference of £1 -
Information as requested as to which of these totals is correct?

Transport

In the Return dated 23-2-66 this item appears - £8-7-3 as having been paid in March 1865 - the Return (Monthly) for that month, does not shew that payment - [indecipherable] Which Return shall be taken as the correct one?

(Signature indecipherable)

The Asst Commissary General.

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Medicines - Payments shewn in Return dated 20-2-66-

Jany. 1865- £0-18-6 pounds
June " £6-18-4 pounds
" £15-12-11 pounds
August " £1-3-4 pounds

Information is requested whether these Medicines were for cattle- or for Hospital use. If for both purposes – the cost of each.

Bedsteads

*James Boyd (Civil Commandant, Port Arthur) - Office letterbook, 1866-1869 from Tasmanian Papers, 1821-1877
Tas. Papers 315
Mitchell Library, State Library of NSW*

The Abstract of 23-2-66 shews £8-8-0 to have been paid in June 1865 for Bedsteads- The Monthly Return for that period does not contain that item. ~~Explanation~~ Information is so requested as to which of these returns is correct.

Civil Commandant
Port Arthur
26/6/66

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24192
(Copy)
Murray Street Hobart Town
6th June 1866

The Honble W. E. Nairn Esq.

Sir

I beg to be informed at what rate per Ton I could be supplied with a quantity of fire wood from Port Arthur in four feet lengths, and of a Diameter of about 12 inches. Any description of Wood would suit, and I shall be prepared to take from 5 to 10,000 Tons per annum of 3, or 5 years, provided I could get supplied at say about 20 to 25 per cent less than I can have done by free labour.

I would take it from any shipping place on the Peninsula, and would pay in Cash for every 500 Tons when ready or in any way to meet the requirements of your Department.

Permit me to point out the great advantage the Crown would derive from such an arrangement in clearing land and thus rendering land now useless- valuable.

I will be happy to wait upon Mr. Nairn if he should wish further information from

His most obedt. Servt.
Alfd. Nicholas

Endorsement

The Commandant is requested to report at what price per ton he could supply this wood at per ton at the Wharf Port Arthur.

sd. W. Nairn
19th June '66

The Commandant

- Endorsement -

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Endorsement on the preceding Letter

Firewood has never been sold for less than five shillings (5/-) per ton at Port Arthur, and I cannot recommend that any reduction in that price should now be made.

sd. J. Boyd
27th June 1866

The Honble.

The Comp. General.

Endorsement on Memo' from Comp. General respecting application of Messrs Overell & McMillan as to price of Black Wattle Bark.

Only a very limited quantity of black wattle bark could be supplied at Port Arthur and less than £6 per ton would not be remunerative.

sd. J. Boyd
27th June 1866

The Honble
The Comp. General

Endorsement on Query from Asst. Coll. Secretary respecting Peter Hutchison re Woods-
"China".-

Referred to the Senior Medical Officer

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
20 June 1866

With reference to the case of Peter Hutchinson as Woods, the Medical Officer in charge begs to state, that he was under the Bone's care for Stricture on the 30th March 1865 in Hospital and discharged April 9th and also that he was under Dr. Dinham's care, on the 26th September 1864 & afterwards for disease of his eyes.

sd. J. Kenrick Lewis
Junr. Medical Officer
in charge in the absence
of the S.M.O. 29/6/66

Jsames boyd Esq. J.P.
Civil Commandant

Returned to the Honble. the Col. Secretary with the report of the J.M.O.
sd. J. Boyd 30/ 6/66.

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Port Arthur
18th June 1866.

Gentlemen

Some time ago I did myself the pleasure of writing to you respecting the appointment of a Medical Referee at Port Arthur for the Australian Mutual Provident Society of which you are the Agents. I then recommended the Senior Medical Officer, Dr Dinham as successor to the late Dr. Seccombe, but not yet having heard the result of that recommendation, I venture to again urge the expediency of appointing Dr. Dinham, or some other person, in order to enable intending Assurers to join the Society of which there are already several members residing on this Peninsula.

I am
Gentlemen
Your obedt. Servt.
(sd)J. Boyd

*James Boyd (Civil Commandant, Port Arthur) - Office letterbook, 1866-1869 from Tasmanian Papers, 1821-1877
Tas. Papers 315
Mitchell Library, State Library of NSW*

Messrs H. Knight & Co
Agents to the A.M.P. Society
Hobart Town

Endorsement on Memo' from Asst. Commissy. General respecting Lamp Glasses.

A Burner of each of the sizes within mentioned (5/8th inch) is herewith forwarded and requested to be returned as soon as convenient

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
30th June 1866

The Asst. Commissy. General.

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Memo

There being considerably more young pigs at the several farms on this Peninsular than can be fattened, I recommend that any of the Stipendiaries who may desire to purchase such, may be allowed to do so paying for the gross and full weight of the live animal at the contract prices. This would be a source of income to the public and a convenience to the Officers.

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
30/6/66

The Hon^{ble}
The Comptroller General

2419/4

Memorandum,

Dr. Bone received pay as Junior Medical Officer at Port Arthur from the 2nd February to the 7th October 1865 inclusive.

Dr. Lewis received pay in the above capacity from the 5th January 1866 inclusive.

As these dates, taken from the pay abstracts, do not correspond with those in the enclosed Authority, explanation of the discrepancy is requested for the information of the Commissioners of Audit.

Commissariat Office,
Hobart Town 27th June 1866
sd. V.C. Hawkin
A.C.G.

The Comptroller General

Endorsement

Referred to the Commandant with reference to the date as quoted in his minute of 22nd Instant.

sd. C.T. Belstead
for the CG
29th June '66

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Endorsement on the preceding Memo'

Memo'

The dates quoted in my Memo' of the 22nd ulto: only refer, as will be seen, to the period when Mr Dinham performed the whole of the Medical and the Assistant Magisterial duties. They do not govern the amount of pay &c which was saved to the Public by the vacancies adverted to.

The enclosed statement shows the particulars of the amount not drawn from the Treasury.

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
30th June, 1866

The Hon^{ble}
The Comp. General

Endorsement respecting repairs ordered to be effected on the fencing of land occupied by the Meat Contractor. -

Will the Comptroller General have the goodness to inform me whether the fencing of the run used by the Contractor on Forester's Peninsular is to be repaired, if so, it will be necessary to detach a party of prisoners under an Overseer and Constable for the purpose.

sd. J. Boyd
30th June 1866

The Hon^{ble}
The Comp. General

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Copy of Mr. Keith's report concerning the Meat received into the Cookhouse, forwarded to the Commissariat Storekeeper with the Civil Commandts compliments 4/7/66.

Memo'

Assistant Overseer Carroll's resignation for the 31st inst has been received and will be forwarded to the Honble the Comptroller General.

Mr. Carroll may have leave of absence for the remainder of the month after the first trip of the Schooner to Hobart Town by which opportunity he with his wife and baggage can leave the Peninsular.

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
Port Arthur
4th July 1866
Ass^t Overseer Carroll

Port Arthur
31st July 1866

Hon^d Sir

I beg respectfully to tender my resignation of the position of Assistant Overseer at present held by me from the above date.

sd. A Carroll
Ass^t Overseer

The Civil Commandant

Memorandum

The accompanying resignation of Assistant Overseer Carroll's situation is forwarded and recommended to be accepted.

Mr. Carroll's conduct has of late been so unsatisfactory chiefly on account of the very unreliable character of his evidence and statements that had he not resigned I would have felt it necessary to

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to recommend his removal from the Department.

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
5th July 1866

The Hon^{ble}
Comp Gen.

Endorsement on Constable W^m Y. McTilly's application for Asst. Overseership vice Carroll resigned.

I recommend that constable McTilly be appointed Assistant Overseer vice Carroll resigned.

sd. J. Boyd
5th July 1866

The Hon^{ble}
The Comp. Gen^l

Memorandum – (Relating to the Civil Commandants
(Statement of errors & discrepancies in his
(Public Banking a/c

In substantiation of Mr. Boyd's Statement, which is hereby returned, it appears to me to be very desirable that the Manager of the Bank of Australasia should be requested to furnish an account showing the totals of receipts and disbursements during the full period embraced in this Account.

There is no doubt that Mr. Boyd should be called upon to pay into the Treasury Chest £56.6.10 the amount of his outstanding cheques; and that he should also be held liable to the Bank of Australasia for the £5.9.3 the extent to which his Public Account has been overdrawn.

Submit also that Mr. Boyd should be called upon to pay such portion of the sum of £18.13.8 as may be due to individuals (other than the Executors of the late Mr

Margin note:

These outstanding Cheques will then be paid by the Commissioner on presentation at the Treasury Chest.

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Mr Kerr) who may have been under-paid; for this purpose it will be necessary that Mr. Boyd should furnish a list of the cheques, showing at the same time the names of those persons, and the amounts so underpaid.

As regards the alleged over and under payments to Mr. Kerr, Mr. Boyd as Accountant is clearly responsible for these sums, and for any loss he may have sustained thereby.

Note

The following note overwrites this paragraph:

The over and under payments referred to in this paragraph are asserted as facts which have been established beyond all doubt.

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant

With reference to the sum of 12/6 claimed from this Department by Mr. Boyd, I find that this sum was paid by Mr. Luxford at Port Arthur to Mr. Kerr whose acknowledgement is attached to a voucher in my office, which sets forth the transaction. I have referred to Mr. Kerr's letter of the 8th March and 1st April 1861 relating to the February stoppages, and as Mr. Luxford's name is not mentioned in the list of those of persons from whom stoppages should be made in Hobart Town, he (Mr. Luxford) was paid the full amount of his Salary as was clearly his due. Mr. Boyd then can have no claim against this Department.

Commissariat Tasmania
Hobart Town 7th March 1866
sd. T.C. Hawkins
ACG

The Comptroller General

Endorsement

Forwarded to Mr. Boyd

sd. W. Nairn
23rd March 1866

Endorsement

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Port Arthur
7 July 1866

Sir,

Referring to my letter of 5th Inst. relative to the Public Banking Account, I have the honour to inform you that every cheque was prepared during the late Mr. Kerr's time, by Mr. Kerr himself, who also countersigned them and without such countersignature they were not recognizable at the Bank – the same practice being ~~observed~~ continued by his successor Mr.

*James Boyd (Civil Commandant, Port Arthur) - Office letterbook, 1866-1869 from Tasmanian Papers, 1821-1877
Tas. Papers 315
Mitchell Library, State Library of NSW*

Tapp.–I beg likewise to state that the whole of the cheques presented and paid have been forwarded to me by the Manager of the Bank and were submitted to the examining officers whose report will be found attached to the general statement of the Amount.

I have the honour
etc. etc.
sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant

The Hon^{ble}
The Comptroller General

(Margin note)

It is requested that this letter may be attached to the one referred to dated 5th March.

J.B.

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Endorsement on the preceding Memo

Report herewith

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant

The Hon^{ble}
The Comptroller General

Endorsement on Queries respect of Timber

The original returns are herewith are herewith forwarded package – it has been decided that the former prices shall remain.

With regard to the charge for freight the Civil Commandant has to request it to be furnished with the rate per 1,000 feet to be changed in order to enable him to prepare the half yearly returns now due.

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
7th July 1866

The Hon^{ble}
The Comp General

The following was written over the last paragraph:

The prices for 1865 were fixed prior to the last sales at Port Arthur, and as those prices have been sent to the Commissioner of Audit it is proposed as regards to the charges on the 1865 desirable to adhere to them. In future I submit that the sales be fixed according to the latest Public Sales made of Port Arthur timber.

sd. W.R. Falconer
Dr. of P. Works

The Comp General

Forwarded for the information of the Civil Commandant – with regard to the future the charge for freight should certainly be included.

sd. M. Marks
29th June 1866

End of overwriting

Memo,

A sample of the Wattle Bark procurable in moderate quantities near to Port Arthur and which is understood to be the silver or white description, is forwarded by the present trip of the schooner in order that it may be submitted to Messrs Overell & McMillan for inspection. If approved of, this bark could be furnished in Hobart Town dry & cut up at £4 per ton.

The Black sort is very scarce at Port Arthur.

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
6th July 1866

The Hon^{ble}
The Comp. General

[Page 107]

Port Arthur
6th July 1866

Sir

As requested by the Asst Commissary General in his Memorandum dated the 7th March 1866, I have the honor to transmit herewith a statement received from the Manager of the Bank of Australia in reference to the amount paid into that Establishment to the credit of the Port Arthur Public Account, and also the sum disbursed therefrom, with the balance and other particulars relating to the said Account.

The sum of 12/6 which appears by the Commissary General's memo to have been paid to the late Mr Kerr by Mr Luxford- although such payment cannot be traced in the books here- will have to be charged against the Account as a loss.

The total sum to which the Account has been overdrawn is £83.5.2; -but after giving credit for the amount underdrawn and from the accumulation of fractional parts of a penny not included in the Cheques during 5 years, and credit having been given by the Bank for the amount of a forgery upon the account, the net balance to be made good in order to meet all Cheques not yet paid from the Public account is £60:7:7.

The greater part of this deficiency has arisen, as will be seen on reference to the general account and supported by vouchers, from the many irregularities of the late Accountant Mr Kerr, and the fact has been established beyond all doubt by the searching investigations which I have caused to be made- vide-report of Officers herewith.

The Asst Commissary General has, I conceive, taken an erroneous view of my duties and first responsibilities in regard to the Accounts in question, and I submit for consideration the following statement of facts referring

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referring to the subject.

From the time I assumed the charge of this Establishment- i.e. in November 1853 until April 1860- the Accountant and Storekeeper

*James Boyd (Civil Commandant, Port Arthur) - Office letterbook, 1866-1869 from Tasmanian Papers, 1821-1877
Tas. Papers 315*

Mitchell Library, State Library of NSW

Mr A.H. Boyd paid the salaries, and all monies were deposited in the Bank of the Commissariat to his credit, and by him alone were all Public Cheques drawn. When he left Port Arthur, in April 1860, he was succeeded by Mr Austin Kerr, and at this time you expressed to me a desire that I should undertake the payment of the Salaries. I was most unwilling to do this, but when the matter was pressed upon me I acceded to your wish, especially as it was arranged that Mr Kerr was to prepare the Cheques and keep the accounts and that a balance sheet was to be furnished to me monthly by him showing the amount deposited and how disbursed- these arrangements have been strictly observed and every precaution taken on my part to guard against error or irregularity; and although I had the Books frequently scrutinised by the present Senior Medical Officer, the Chief Clerk and other Clerks, nothing wrong beyond clerical error was found to exist. It was not until the whole of the Accounts from March 1860 to the close of February 1865 (when, at my request, I was relieved from paying the Salaries by the Commissariat) had been subjected to a minute and persevering examination and that a consecutive Return of 9226 Cheques varying in amount from 1/0 to £196 had been completed and checked, a labor which occupied several months, that the deficiencies I have reported were discovered.

I have also to point out that in as much as Mr Kerr was in immediate communication with the Commissariat monthly upon this very money business, and that, too without reference to me, as will be seen from the last

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last paragraph of the Asst Commissary General's Memo dated 7th March 1866 (marked thus #) as also from other documents it would clearly appear that he was recognised as the actual Accountant by that Department, which he really was; and to this fact and practice which was continued by Mr Kerr's successor, may be chiefly attributed the very great difficulty I have experienced in tracing the discrepancies between the intricacies of the Cash Books and the balance sheets presented to me ~~every~~ monthly; for as will be seen on examining the general statement, nearly the whole of the deficiencies arose through Mr Kerr mixing up his own monthly salary when preparing the Cheques, with the monies he was in the habit of collecting for the Commissariat for provision and labor, from the Military and private persons over whose pay and money matters I had of course, no control whatever, and of transmitting the Charges with Explanatory statements respecting the Accounts to the Commissariat direct.

The duty of paying the Salaries I would venture to observe was unquestionably one which properly devolved upon the Commissariat Department, and as I received no remuneration whatever for performing it, in addition to my own multifarious responsibilities for a period of 5 years; and as moreover I adopted every means to keep the Accounts correct, I trust that I may not be held liable for the deficiency which has been discovered.

Mr Kerr died very soon after leaving Port Arthur and therefore the pension which had been granted him has been saved to the Public.

Under the circumstances and having

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having regard to the fact that I alone am legally responsible to the persons holding all unrepresented cheques bearing my signature whenever they may think proper to demand payment, although as stated in a former report on this subject, I am of opinion that most of the Cheques now remaining unpaid have long been lost and will therefore never be presented- still I am the only person who could be compelled in a Court of Law to meet such demands if ever made, and consequently I respectfully submit that as the deficiency has not arisen through any neglect or fault of mine- I shall be fairly and justly entitled to reimbursement from the Treasury for the amount of any of the unrepresented Cheques which may hereafter be paid at the Bank; as I also undoubtedly am for those amounting to £20:14:10 which have already been honored from my friends temporarily.

I have the honor to be

*James Boyd (Civil Commandant, Port Arthur) - Office letterbook, 1866-1869 from Tasmanian Papers, 1821-1877
Tas. Papers 315
Mitchell Library, State Library of NSW*

Sir
Your most obedt. Servt.
sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
Port Arthur
5th July 1866

The Honble
The Comp. General

Hobart Town

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Endorsement on Memo' of Comptroller General respecting Timber required by Mr Bower of South Australia

The prices of the Timber last sold viz: that purchased and removed by Messrs Belbin & Llundell were as follows: 3/6 per 100 feet for sawn timber (hardwood) & 4/- per 100 foot for boards.

These rates would not be remunerative to the Public for the description of timber required by Mr Bower of South Australia, but irrespective of the price, so large a quantity as 40,000 feet per month for two years could not be supplied from Port Arthur where the beds of good timber are almost exhausted as reported in my letter of the 29th March 1865 of which I annex an extract.

If any such contract as that proposed by the accompanying circular were to be undertaken it would be necessary to form a timber cutting establishment including saw-mill at Impression Bay; and to withdraw the greater part of the effective Prisoners from Agricultural and other works- the Convicts in general now at Port Arthur being either so old, worn out, diseased or of such bad character as to be precluded from working in the bush at so great a distance from Head Quarters in Impression Bay.

sd. J Boyd
Civil Commandant
Port Arthur
14th July 1866

The Honble
The Comptroller General

Hobart Town

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Port Arthur
14th July 1866

Sir

With reference to my telegram of the 12th inst. suggesting that certain men recently discharged from Port Arthur and suspected of having committed a robbery at Salt Water River Farm should be closely watched if about Hobart Town, I beg to inform you that the principal articles stolen were 30 Blankets, 6 Rugs & 8 Sheets all bearing the Govnt. brand.

The thieves affected an entrance into the building in which the articles were kept, during the night of the 10th inst. and there is some suspicion that they landed from a boat between the Coal Mines & Salt Water River, but on this point I am not quite decided.

A Man named James Weeks alias John Bogan per "Hydrabad" who has not long left the Peninsula, and who is a boatman, is also a very suspicious character.

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your most Obedt. Servt.
sd. J.A.Boyd
Civil Commandant

The Inspector of Police

Hobt. Town

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Port Arthur
14th July 1866

Sir,

I have the honor to report that during the night of the 10th inst. one of the buildings at Salt Water River Farm was entered by some person or persons and the following Govmt. property stolen therefrom viz: 30 Blankets, 6 Rugs & 8 Sheets.

Every means have been adopted to discover the perpetrators of the robbery and the articles stolen but as yet without effect- there is some suspicion that the thieves landed from a boat between the Station and the Coal Mines but I am of the opinion that the Night Watchman, who had two dogs with him and who is now in confinement awaiting trial was concerned in the matter and that the stolen property has either been removed to the Mines or concealed in the bush.

I have telegraphed to the Inspector of Police to have certain suspicious persons supposed to be about Hobart Town as also the Coal barge "Shannon" closely watched.

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your most obedt. Servt.
(sd) J Boyd
Civil Commandant

The Honble
The Comptroller General etc.
Hobt. Town

[page 114]

Immediate

Memo'

It having been reported to the Civil Commandant this morning that the Senior Medical Officer has stated that nearly all the constables and several of the Officers of the Establishment have been recently suffering from at Port Arthur from the disgusting and highly infectious disease known as the "Itch". The Commandant has to request that the names of the Officers and Constables referred to as being or having been so diseased may be communicated to him as soon as possible in order that enquiry may be instituted as to the introduction of the alleged disease amongst the stipendiaries.

sd J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
Port Arthur

17 July 1866.

The Senior Medical Officer

Memo'

The Prisoner James Clarke per "Earl Grey" is to be placed in one of the Dumb Cells- all the door of which are to be kept open during the day & only the outer one locked at night. He is stated by the S.M. Officer to be suffering from the "Itch" and must therefore be isolated as much as possible from every other person. When cured his clothing and bedding are to be burnt- and the man's person thoroughly cleansed with soap and warm water.

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
17th July 1866

The Keeper
of the Separate Prison
P.S. To be copied and returned at once- copy to be shewn to the Medical Officer.

sd. J.B.

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Memo'

With regard to the new form of annual demand for Dry Stores, will the Comptroller General have the goodness to inform the Civil Commandant whether the articles marked off upon the list (furnished some time ago from Hobart Town) as being likely to be required during the next 5 years and which articles are presumed to be still in the Military Stores of this Colony, are to be included in the new form of demand under the head of "required from England"- or to be shewn upon a separate and distinct Requisition which may be regarded as supplementary to the form and similar to it in form.

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
21st July 1866

The Honble
The Comptroller General

Memo'

With reference to the authorised proposed extension of the Invalid Depot at Port Arthur for the accommodation of the increasing number of Paupers, I beg to inform the Comptroller General that looking at the fact that only about one half of the large dormitory in the Penitentiary is now required for the accommodation of Prisoners, it appears to me that a portion of the apartment, say a third of it, might with advantage be devoted to the formation of a Ward for Invalid Convicts, at present about 30 in number, whose transfer from the Depot would make room for an equal number of additional Paupers, and thus save expense and delay in erecting new buildings

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Hospital
July 17- 1866

The man named in the margin who arrived last night from Hobart Town is suffering from the Itch- I recommend that he sleep in a Cell & be kept apart from the other prisoners for the present.

(Sd) Geo. Dinham
S.M.O.

Margin Name James Clarke. "Earl Grey" .

Forwarded for the information of the Superintendent of the Prisoner Barracks with the Civil Commandant's compliments. The Commandant would suggest that all persons immediately before being forwarded to Tasman's Peninsula should be examined by the medical Officer in order to prevent the introduction at Port Arthur of so disgusting a disease as that mentioned by Dr Dinham.

(sd) J Boyd
18th July 1866

Thos. Reidy Esq. etc.

[page 117]

Immediate

Memo

The Civil Commandant has received The Senior Medical Officer's reply to his communication of yesterday in reference to the Senior Medical Officer's Statement that the disease known as the "Itch" had recently been prevalent amongst the Stipendiaries at Port Arthur.

The Commandant has made enquiry respecting the Constable who, the Senior Medical Officer states introduced the disease upon the Settlement and regrets that he cannot discover who the person could have been as the Senior Medical Officer has not given any name. It is certain however that "no Constable with a family who had been a few weeks at Port Arthur as stated by the Senior Medical Officer, has left

Senior Medical Officer
Port Arthur

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left the Station for many months prior to the period mentioned by the Senior Medical Officer- from which fact it would appear that there must be some mistake in the matter.

The Senior Medical Officer also states that a good many cases of the disease in question existed amongst the residents about 3 or 4 months ago, but he has not given a single name although the Commandant requested him to do so. The Commandant has therefore made enquiry amongst the stipendiaries as to whether they or their families have had such disease at Port Arthur and not only do they deny having been so afflicted but (2 lines of crossed out notes) assert that they never even heard of any person in Tasman's Peninsula having been so diseased until yesterday.

Under these circumstances the Senior Medical Officer will, it

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it is hoped, see the desirability of at once giving the names of the persons to whom he alludes in order that the stigma of having been suffering from so disgusting a malady may be removed from the general body of the stipendiaries and then families who now labor indiscriminately under so unjust and degrading an aspersion

Sd J Boyd
Civil Commandant
Port Arthur
18 July 1866

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Blan.

[page 121]

Memo

I have received The Senior Medical Officer's Memo of yesterday's date in which he declines to give the names of any of the persons whom he stated had recently suffered from the disease known as "Itch" at Port Arthur.

It is not my desire to pursue any further this most disagreeable topic, as I conceive the sooner it is consigned to utter oblivion the better; but there are a few points on which I deem it to be my duty to draw the attention of Mr Dinham.

If professional etiquette prevents the Senior Medical Officer from disclosing the name of any of the persons to whom he has alluded, it is clear that feelings of delicacy ought also to have prevented

The Senior Medical Officer. etc.

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prevented him from stating to three different Officers that a great portion of the Stipendiaries and their families had been recently afflicted with a disease, the low and revolting nature of which must, as Mr Dinham very well knows, have brought reproach upon the whole Establishment.

Professional Etiquette ought surely to have been a bar to such a wholesale reflection. But what are the facts? The Senior Medical officer officially made and reiterated an assertion which directly and unequivocally calumniates the great body of the free residents here- that assertion rests entirely upon his own unsupported statements and has been repudiated with feelings of astonishment and indignation by all who have heard it.

If any such contagious disease as that referred to existed amongst the Stipendiaries, even in a single instance, it was undoubtedly the duty of the Senior Surgeon if he knew of it, to have reported

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reported the matter to myself in order that steps might have been at once adopted for isolating the afflicted individual from the other members of the community and thereby preventing the disease from spreading to the large extent which the statements of the Senior Medical Officer would indicate.

This duty is clearly law and now in all the Regulations of the Establishment and indeed is only consistent with reason and common sense, for in a population so constituted as that in Tasman's Peninsula, where Prisoners and Invalids are employed as servants and in other capacities in almost every family the imminent danger of general infection must be obvious, but perhaps the fact that no such disease has ever been known or alleged to have existed amongst either Prisoners or Invalids may be regarded as affording strong grounds for doubt on the subject.

sd J. Boyd

*James Boyd (Civil Commandant, Port Arthur) - Office letterbook, 1866-1869 from Tasmanian Papers, 1821-1877
Tas. Papers 315*

Mitchell Library, State Library of NSW

Civil Commandant
Port Arthur
19 July 1866

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(there appears to be something missing here)

buildings. The present berths could be removed and Iron Bedsteads substituted for the use of the Invalids.

I may observe, also, that it appears to me, very desirable that Convicts should be kept separate from the free Paupers, and this indeed is provided for by the spirit of the Regulations for the Invalid Depot, but it has been found impossible to maintain such separation where both classes are lodged in the same buildings.

sd. J Boyd.
Civil Commandant.
21st July 1866

The Comp. General

Memo'

The Civil Commandant has the honor to report that in order to provide Iron Bedsteads for the increased number of Paupers, Invalids and Lunatics, as also for the Police at the Establishment, it has been found necessary to repair and complete several damaged and imperfect Bedsteads with pieces from others by which arrangements the Stock on hand has been reduced 12 in number. The Commandant therefore requests authority to strike off from the Dry Store Accounts for the half yearly ended 30th [indecipherable]- 12 iron Bedsteads

sd .J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
21st July 1866

The Honble
The Comp. General

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Memorandum,

Will the Comptroller General have the goodness to inform the Civil Commandant whether the Medical Officers are to be required to give their opinion respecting alleged diseased or unwholesome meat when complaints arise on that point as has always been the practice heretofore, or is a Board to be assembled whenever any such complaint shall be made irrespective of the question of the quality of the said meat.

sd J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
25th July 1866

The Honble
The Comp General

Memorandum

The civil Commandant recommends that the bones offered for sale, as per letter annexed, may be purchased for the Government, at the same price as was granted to the former meat contractor- Mr Mansfield – i.e. £1 per ton.

The estimated quantity of bones offered by Mr Propsting for disposal is about 2½ Tons

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
25th July 1866

The Honble
The Comp. General

Endorsement on Memo Covering Copy of New Meat Contract.

The Civil Commandant thanks the Commissariat Storekeeper for the perusal of the copy of New, Meat Contract which document he will return as soon as it has been copied.

(sd) J Boyd 26/7/66

The Commissariat Storekeeper

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Memo

The Senior Medical Officer is requested to afford D.A.C.G. Ryland such assistance as he may require in surveying the Commissariat stores upon Tasman Peninsula – D.A.C.G Ryland is expected to arrive at Port Arthur today for the performance of his duty –

Sd J Boyd
Civil Commandant
30th July 1866

The Senior Medical Officer
Port Arthur

Colonial Secretary's Office

Memo

The Colonial Secretary requests the Comptroller General will be good enough to cause the accompanying printed forms to be [indecipherable] in the [indecipherable] of the [indecipherable] names in the margin included in the returns of prisoners under sentence at Port Arthur during the year 1865 and all others in the return who have been in hospital or invalided at Port Arthur

sd B Francis Linley
18th July 1866

The Comptroller General

Written sideways appears to be a list of 6 names.

Most are indecipherable except for :-
Thos. S Oliver [indecipherable] Hastings
David Rickerby
[indecipherable] Rooke

Rest of page written vertically and superimposed on other text and indecipherable.

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Bank of Australia
Hobt Town
31 July 1866

James Boyd Esq
Civil Commandant
Port Arthur

Dear Sir

I beg to enclose cheque drawn by you No 982 for £6.1.5 favor of Carroll which was yesterday paid & charged to your private, a/c in terms of your letter of 10th March last.

Yours very truly
(sd) H.J. Peters
Acting Manager

Since writing the foregoing your cheque No 928 in favour of Brown for 5s/4d has been paid and likewise charged to your private a/c – The cheque is enclosed

Yours very truly
Sd H.J. Peters
Actg Manager

Endorsement on Memo respecting new forms of Annual Demand for Dry Stores.-
The demand should include all articles likely to be required for the year it should be so stated in the column under that head and the balance bought out to the column "Required from England".

sd. N. Nairn
Comptroller General
27th July 1866

Endorset on the above

Will the Comptroller General have the goodness to inform me whether the articles marked off upon the " 5 years list "herein referred to, are still available in the military

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Military Stores

and is so, whether such of them as may be required at Port Arthur are to be included in the same Column with those in Store at Port Arthur, or shewn upon a separate return – I fear that my memo of the 21st inst did not express the nature of my request sufficiently.

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
1st August 1866

The Honble
The Comp. General

Memorandum,

*James Boyd (Civil Commandant, Port Arthur) - Office letterbook, 1866-1869 from Tasmanian Papers, 1821-1877
Tas. Papers 315
Mitchell Library, State Library of NSW*

The enclosed Draft of Half Yearly Return of Timber &co is forwarded to the Cmptrroller General and the Civil Commandant request that prices may be fixed thereon, in order to determine the value of the material- Supplied to the several Departments.

Particular attention is called to the very large descriptions of Sawn Timber marked thus X which were all cut to order.

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
1st August 1866

The Honble
The Comp. General

Port Arthur
1st August 1866

Sir

I have the honor to transmit herewith a letter received by this evening's post from the Manager of the Bank of Australia Hobart Town notifying that the undermentioned cheque drawn by me upon the Public Account had been presented and paid - viz No. 982 for £6.1.5. drawn on the 31st March 1865 in favour of Henry Carroll and NO 928 for 5s/4d drawn on the 6th March 1865 in favour of James Brown these

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these two cheques, which I enclose herewith, will be found included in the list (of those remaining unrepresented) forwarded with Account and Report to you on the 7th ulto. They amount together to £6.6.9 making the sum which has now been paid from my private account to meet Public Cheques £27.1.7.

I cannot but again express my earnest request that these monies may be refunded to me and with as little delay as possible.

I have the Honor to be Sir
Your most obedt Servt
sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant

The Honble
The Comp. General

Comptroller General's Office
26th July 1866

Return of clothing sold to Constabulary Tasman's Peninsula for year ended 30th June '66. The prices charged for this clothing are not in accordance with the Governor's authority of 13th October 1863, quoted in heading of Returns – Explanation is requested

sd W. Nairn
Comptroller General

The Civil Commandant

Endorst

The Governor's authority dated 13th October 1863 as quoted - sanctions the sale of certain articles of clothing to the Constabulary at the following prices.-

Trousers 3s/4d per pair - Large Shirts or Jumpers 4s/6d - each - Caps - (Blue Cloth 1s/6d each which rates were priced according to the then

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then existing price – lists received from Home of the articles in question have been altered as follows – under instructions received from England and transmitted to the Civil Commandant for his guidance –vizt.

Trousers 5s/5d & 5s/7d per pair – list dated 1/7/65 on average price per pair 5s/6d
Large Shirts or Jumpers 3s/11d each list dated 1/7/65 – caps 1s/2d each list recd 17/6/64
The current prices for the year have to be adopted in the preparation of the annual Expenditure Returns, and if different rates were to be charged to the Police, discrepancies would unavoidably occur in the accounts by the alteration in the prices.

The Public has been benefited to the extent of £3.2.0 & the accounts kept correct.-

sd J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
1st August 1866

The Honble
The Comp. General

Edorsemt on Supt of Timber's Report respecting the state of the Roads at the Out Stations & repairs required to Bridges &c.

Forwarded for the information of the Comptroller General in order that he may be aware of the large amount of labor and materials which will have to be expended in repairing the main line of road at Cascade & other places.

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
1/8/66

The Honble
The Comp. General.

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Endorsement on Memo of the Commandant's dated the 25th July 1866

Referred for the opinion of the Assistant Commissary General

sd W. Nairn
27th July 1866

Diseased Meat is of course not marketable a Medical Officer in on the Board and doubtless the Board will pay due attention to his opinion.

The following is extracted from the Contract which provides that as with Military Contracts, all disputed cases should be brought before a Board.-

“Provided always and it is hereby expressly agreed between the parties hereto that in case a Board of Officers duly appointed by the Civil Commandant shall be of opinion that any Meat supplied or delivered for the Convict Service as aforesaid shall be of a quality as ~~herebefore~~ inferior to the “best marketable quality” as hereinbefore provided or shall be in a feverish or unhealthy state when killed, the said Board with the approval of the Civil Commandant shall have the power to reject all such meat and the decision of such Board duly approved shall be final, the said Board whenever practicable shall be composed of a Medical Officer, a Commissariat Officer or Storekeeper or other person representing the Commissariat at Port Arthur and the Convict Station Officer or one of the principal subordinates of the Convict Department, and in case a board cannot in the opinion of the Civil Commandant be assembled composed as above stated in consequence of sickness or absence from the Station of any of the afore mentioned Officers then the Civil Commandant of Port Arthur shall be at liberty to depute some other person or

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or persons to form such Board for the purposes aforesaid.

sd. V.C. Hawkins
ACG

Forwarded to the Commandant with the opinion of the Assistant Commissary General.

sd W. Nairn
Comptroller General
30th July 1866

Endorsement on the foregoing.

The information which I requested does not appear to have been given –

What I am desirous of knowing is whether the Medical Officers may be called upon in their capacity as Medical Officers, and not when acting as Members of Boards to give their opinion as to Meat being wholesome or unwholesome.

Prisoners and others have occasionally alleged that the meat supplied to them was not wholesome and unless the Medical Officers will give their opinion on the subject, a Board will be necessary in every such case, when the matter may be of such a trivial character, or in fact groundless, that it appears to me undesirable to convene Boards and draw up reports when the simple professional opinion of the surgeon would determine whether the complaint – perhaps of an individual prisoner – were groundless or not.

sd J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
3rd August 1866

The Honble
The Comp. General

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Comptroller General's Office
3rd August 1866

Memorandum,

The Governor with the concurrence of his ministers has approved of the maximum rate of money earnings to be granted to Convicts under sentence short of Life being reduced to sixpence per week.

With regard to convicts under sentence of Life the system is to be altogether discontinued. This scale is to be adopted from the 15th of the present month.

sd W. Nairn
Comptroller General

Endorsement to the above.

Will the Comptroller General have the goodness to inform me whether the same mode of classification of the prisoners that is now, and has been in force from the commencement of the system of earnings, is to be continued under the reduced maximum rate, if so I beg to point out that, the third Class men will only be allowed 3d per week, even when found to be deserving of the highest reward, while according to the graduated scale now in operation they, i.e. the 3rd class, would be liable to have their earnings reduced so low as 1d½ (three half pence) per week or 6s/6d per annum should their industry not have been satisfactory.

From the 1st of July 1865 the earnings have been returned in the Imperial abstracts in monthly amounts, and this course has been found much more simple for computation than by giving the weekly sums earned - I would

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would recommend that the same practice may be continued and a monthly maximum instead of a weekly rate be authorized.

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
6th August 1866

The Comptroller General

Copy

John Donohoe – “Constant” - states that there is two pounds in the hands of the Commandant belonging to him.

Sd C.J.Helstead
for the CG
7th Augt 1866

The Civil Commandant
Referred to the Accountant
JB 8/8/66

The Civil Commandant has no money in hand belonging to John Donohoe per “Constant” that I know of – In June 1864, the sum of £7 was sent to the comptroller General’s Office for safe keeping for this man – and in July 1865 the sum of £5 was transmitted to the Ass Commissary General also for him – perhaps this latter sum is the amount allowed to & for which a receipt is filed in this Office.

sd J.C. [indecipherable]
Accountant
8/8/66

The Civil Commandant

There is no money in my hand belonging to John Donohoe per "Constant".

Sd J. Boyd
8/8/66

The Honble
The Comptroller General

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Port Arthur
8th August 1866.

Dear Sir

I have to acknowledge the receipt of the French Polish - Spirits of Wine, oil, sandpaper and Glue for which I applied but the clear glass jars have not yet reached me.

I shall therefore feel much obliged by your causing them to be forwarded by the first opportunity.

The printed labels have also been received and will be affixed to the woods as requested. One gross of ½ inch and another of 2 inch screws will be necessary for securing the various cases containing articles from Port Arthur for the Exhibition as it will be much better to use screws than nails which would damage the lids very much.

Will you kindly inform me whether any decision has been arrived at as regards the dimensions of the Tressels and table tops which the Commissioners expressed a desire some time ago should be made here for the Exhibition – I should also wish to know the number of such tables that will be required.

I remain
Dear Sir
Yours very truly
sd J. Boyd
Civil Commandant

Hugh M. Hull Esq
Secretary Victoria Exhibition
Commission &c &c
Hobart Town

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Lee Edwd
Aboukir

The man named in the margin is not in a fit state to leave the house owing to serious illness.

Sgd J. K. Jervis
[Indecipherable]
11/8/86

The
Civil Commandant

The Junior Medical Officer is requested to report how long the man Lee has been under treatment for his present attack of illness.

Sgd J. Boyd

C Comdt
11/8/66

The
Junior Mdl. Offr.

Edward Lee
Aboukir

Memo

With reference to the Memo of the Junior Medical Officer dated 10th August 1866 – 10 o'clock P.M. reporting that "the prisoner named in the margin was confined to his bed for a severe bilious attack" – the Civil Commandant has to request that the Junior Medical Officer will have the goodness to direct that the convict Lee if still sick and unfit for work may be removed to the Hospital at once if it be safe to do so, as according to the Regulations no prisoner can be allowed to remain at any Officers' Quarters when so ill as Lee appears to been last night

Sd J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
Port Arthur
11th August 1866

The
Junior Medical Officer
Port Arthur

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Memo

Taking into consideration the Comptroller General's Memo of the 3rd Inst with that of the 27th Ult to it appears to the Civil Commandant that the best method to be adopted for purchasing the Annual Demand for Stores, will be to specify such articles as may be likely to be required [those already in store at Port Arthur, of course, excepted] in the column given for that purpose in the new form supplied.

Should any of the articles demanded be found to be in Store at Hobart Town such information could be entered in Town in the column left blank, and the balance brought out showing the net quantity and description of Stores necessarily required from home.

The Commandant has to remark that it would be better for the Stores in Town to be carefully examined as to their fitness and condition before entering them on the Demand as being in Store and ready for use; and in that account submit that it would be preferable for the column "In store" to be fitted up in the Town than from any list at Port Arthur.

sgd J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
11th August 1866

The
Honble the Comptroller General
Endorsement on Memo respecting Anthony McCann

Anthony McCann was treated in the Hospital for Stricture of the Urethra from Dec 29th 1863 to Jan 1st 1864. He was afterwards treated as an out Patient for the same complaint up to the time of his leaving Port Arthur with regard to his statement I know nothing whatever of any such circumstances.

sd Geo Durham
S.M.O. 11TH Augst 66

Returned to the Civil Commandant

Fwd to the Comp. General

sd J. Boyd 11/8/66

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Hobt. Town
[Indecipherable]
7th Augt 66

Dear Sir,

I beg to inform you that a great portion of the Fence at the Sound paddock has been destroyed by fire, shall I make application to you for its repair or to the Commissariat? Be kind enough to let me know as it is very necessary that it should be put in order –meantime

I remain
Dear Sir
Yours Truly
sgd H. Mansfield

Dear Sir

I regret being quite unable to cause any repairs to be made in the fencing at the Sound without the authority of the Comptroller General.

I remain
Dear Sir
Yours truly
sgd J. Boyd
Civil Commdt
8/8/66

Mr. H.Mansfield

I have to report for the information of the Civil Commandant that bread made from 20 per cent flour is being issued from the bake house to the Hospital which ought to be made from 30 per cent flour.

sd.
D. [Indecipherable]
Aug 10 1866

The Civil Commandant
etc etc etc

[Endorsement]

Referred to the Commissariat Storekeeper Port Arthur

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Comt
10/8/66

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Endorsement on the Statement showing the sums recoverable from the Treasury on a/c of the Convict Department Tasmania

Copied, and returned as requested. The Civil Commandant would, however, remark that these Stores have not yet been received at Port Arthur.

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
11th August 1866

The Honle
The Comptroller General

Notification to Director of Public Works that the only chart of Tasmans Peninsular including Eagle Hawk and East Bay Heads with the surveyors remarks upon it will be forwarded by the Schooner "Harriet" to him on Monday the 13th inst.

Port Arthur
11th August 66

Observations on Estimates of Rations Rd. for 1867 to 68

465 Convicts or 170,190 Rations

No Vinegar appears to have been estimated for the Salt Beef provided under this head for Rations – 1511 ¼ pints required by scale.

201 [Indecipherable] or 73,566 Rations
No vinegar estimated for under this head – 653 ¼ Pints required by scale.

9 [Indecipherable] or 3294 Rations
Oatmeal 235 ¼ Pints at 2 ¾ amounts to £2.13.0 not £1.17.11 as stated

194 Hospital or 71,004 rations. There appear to be two errors under this

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this head – as under shown right.

Flour fine 56,083 lbs at 17/2 ½ per 100 lbs amounts to £482.10.11 and not £488.14.10 as shown
Difference £6.3.11

Salt – 2219lbs at 4/8 per 100lbs comes to £5.3.6 ½ not £5.13.0½ as given in the Estimates
Difference 10/-

Hospital Extras
Porter 1860 Bottles at 8/3 per dozen amounts to £63.18.9 not £63.12.9 as shown
Difference 6/-

As it is likely that there may be other errors in the Estimates than those pointed out, it is submitted that it may be rechecked in every particular.

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
18/8/66

The Honble
The Comptroller General

Memo

The Medical Officer having reported to the Civil Commandant that two of Constable Simpson's Children as also Constable Ward and family "are suffering from some skin affection undoubtedly of an infectious character" and having recommended the "removal of Constable Simpson's family from Woody Island to Norfolk Bay Station" – The Commandant directs that Simpson and his family shall be removed at once to Norfolk Bay and lodged in the house occupied by Constable Ward or some other premises where they can be treated for the disease in question.

No intercourse whatever must be

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be allowed between the families of Constables Simpson and Ward and any other person until the Medical Officer has reported that they are free from any infectious malady.

Constable Ashton will in particular in not allowing any of the members of the two families to enter the Quarters occupied by himself or the Prisoners at the Station Office.

sd J. B oyd
Civil Commandant
20th Augst 1866

Constable Ashton
in charge
Norfolk Bay Station

Memo

Showing the value of an old working Bullock slaughtered at the Settlement Farm on the 9th August 1866.

Weight 940 lbs at 5½ per lb	£21.10.10
Hide	14.0
Offal for [Indecipherable]	<u>10.0</u>
Total	£22.14.10

The above Bullock was purchased for the Pile	
Contract in 1862 for	£10.0.0
Expenses about	<u>1.0.0</u>
Profit to the public	£11.14.10

Forwarded for the information of the Comptroller General with a request that the Assistant Commissary General may be allowed to peruse this Memo as it will no doubt be satisfactory to that Officer

sd. J.Boyd
Civil Commandant
18th August 1866

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Immediate

Expenditure Return for 1865

Memo

With regard for the charge for Medicines, the Civil Commandant requests to be informed as to which of the two orders herewith annexed, shall be carried into effect.

Medicines, like other similar Stores, received from Home have been charged according to their actual issue as authorised by Memo dated 22/6/85. If, however, the whole cost of the Medicines to be taken into the Expenditure of 1865 – viz £170.5.1 as directed by Memo dated 27th February last – it is evident that upwards of two years cost will be charged in one and that the year 1865 will bear the charge of 1866.

A portion of the Medicines received from Home is included in the annexed Estimate of Medicines expended and it appears to the Civil Commandant that the Comptroller General's memo dated 22nd August 1865 is the best to adopt to govern this item of expenditure.

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
20TH August 66

Memo

[indecipherable] Forms of Monthly Returns of Prisoners' money given up for safe custody
[25th No]

Do. monies found forfeited
25th No.

Two [2] [indecipherable] of Ruled paper of the same quality & size of the sheet annexed – for State Ret

sd. the Hon Comp General

The Comptroller General is requested to be good enough to cause the quantity of the printed forms specified in the margin – also the ruled paper – to be furnished to this office as soon as possible – such forms and paper being urgently required.

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
20/8/66

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Memo

The Civil Commandant transmits herewith the Annual Demand of Dry Stores, prepared in accordance with the new Form- The first quarterly demand will, in compliance with instructions be forwarded by the next post so as to be in Town on the date specified viz 1st September next

Sd J Boyd
Civil Commandant
22nd August 1866

The Honbl
The Comp General

Memorandum

The Medical Officers visited Hardy Island yesterday and found that two children of Constable Simpson were suffering from some skin affection undoubtedly of an infectious character.

Constable Hard and family are suffering from the same disease.

Recommended that Constable Simpson's family be removed from Hardy Island and located for the present at Norfolk Bay Station.

Sd. Jas. Dinham SMO
Sd J. Kenrick Lewis JMO
Aug 20th 1866

The Civil Commandant

The recommendation of the Medical Officer has been carried into effect and the Civil Commandant requests that the Senior Medical Officer will have the goodness to report whether the skin affection herein referred to is that usually known as "The Itch" or one which has probably arisen from similar causes

Sd, J Boyd
Civil Commandant
Port Arthur
23rd August 1866

The Senior Medical Officer
Port Arthur

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Memorandum

The Accompanying letter received from Overseer Gibbens Safety Cove is forwarded for the information of His Excellency The Governor as requested by Mr Gibbens .

Sd J Boyd
Civil Commandant
25th August 1866

The Honbl
The Comp General

The above Memo has reference to a memo from Mr Gibbens respecting certain information as the Gold being at the Macquarie River.

Port Arthur
25th August 1866

Sir

I have the honor to report for your information that I have suspended Mr Baker the Schoolmaster at this Establishment for irregular conduct the particulars of which are as follow.

On Sunday forenoon last the 19th inst the Constable named in the margin,(John Robinson) who had been placed upon sentry at the rear of the General Prison and was armed with a Carbine, loaded and capped, was found drunk for which offence he has been dismissed and sent off the Peninsula.

*James Boyd (Civil Commandant, Port Arthur) - Office letterbook, 1866-1869 from Tasmanian Papers, 1821-1877
Tas. Papers 315*

Mitchell Library, State Library of NSW

Upon enquiring into the case, it was proved, that Constable Robinson had left his post and gone to Baker's quarters, immediately opposite, on three several occasions between 8 & ½ past 10 o'clock that morning.

Mr Baker himself stated that Robinson had been twice there and that on one of the occasions he had himself admitted him as he asked for a glass of Water. He also stated that

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that he left Robinson and his wife (Mrs Baker) in the front room together while he went into his bedroom to dress for Church – although it transpired that he had not attended Divine Service that forenoon He also declared that Robinson only remained in his Quarters about 5 minutes as he heard him go out. Mrs Baker in her evidence stated that her husband had no personal knowledge of Robinson having been in their quarters that morning, it is therefore perfectly clear that one of them has stated that which is altogether untrue.

Robinson himself declined telling where he had obtained the intoxicating drink indeed he went so far as to state that he had not got it at Mr Bakers.

It came out, however, during the enquiry that the Constable had been absent from his room on the previous evening at the usual hour for muster, and on search being made for him he was found in Mr Bakers quarters at 10 o'clock. This was contrary to the Rules of the Establishment as Constables are not allowed to frequent the quarters of Officers. The Schooner had arrived from Town that evening and I have no doubt that Baker obtained a supply of liquor from some of the crew and that Robinson was in his house for the purpose of drinking.

Mr Baker it appears went to Mr Peppard the Senior Constable on the evening of the day on which Robinson was found drunk upon his Post, and informed him that Robinson had brought two bottles of Rum to his (Baker's) quarters that morning - Baker when questioned about this, stated that, Robinson told him he had two bottles of Rum in his own box but denies having told Mr Peppard that Robinson brought the rum to his (Baker's) quarters – strange to say however, he did not mention this circumstance when giving

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giving his evidence, as if it was true, that Robinson had told him that he had two bottles of Rum in his box, it may reasonable be supposed that he would have at once mentioned so important a fact in his own favour when he was accused in the Public Office of having supplied Robinson with drink.

The Committee of Officers before whom I brought Mr Baker having heard and carefully weighed the evidence and Mr Bakers statements in his defence, handed me the accompanying Memorandum in which they express " Their belief that Constable Robinson got the intoxicating drink at Mr Bakers` quarter`s & that Mr Baker was cognizant of the same " – In that belief I fully concur, but independant of the question of the drink – which was no doubt sold to the Constable by Baker or his wife – I informed Mr Baker, that the fact of the contradictory evidence given by himself & his wife, and from the strong expressions used by him i.e.that "If I ~~wished he might be struck dead & that he was ready to take his Bible oath.~~ was on my death bed this minute I could kiss this Bible & swear that Robinson never had a drop of liquor in my place" I considered them quite unfit to be retained as Teachers of youth. I annex copy of the evidence taken in the case, and under all the circumstances have no alternative but to recommend that the services of Mr & Mrs Baker may be at once dispensed with. The more especially as this is not the first irregularity Mr Baker has been guilty of while at Port Arthur; Having been fined 30/s for introducing spirits on the Settlement in June 1864, without authority

I have the honor to be sir

*James Boyd (Civil Commandant, Port Arthur) - Office letterbook, 1866-1869 from Tasmanian Papers, 1821-1877
Tas. Papers 315*

Mitchell Library, State Library of NSW

Your most obedient Servt

Sd. J Boyd
Civil Commandant

The Honbl
The Comp. General

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“ We believe from the evidence adduced that Robinson got the intoxicating drink at Mr Baker’s quarters and that Mr Baker was cognizant of the same

sd. James Aylett
George Street
J.C.Tapp
G. Whittington
22/8/66
All members of Committee

Memo.

With regard to the estimate of cost for 180 & 60, The Civil Commandant has to inform The Comptroller General that immediately the information required upon the Commissariat Return of Rations, Fuel & Light, is furnished the document shall be compiled without delay.

The Commissariat estimate above referred to , was returned to the Comptroller General with certain observations as to omissions etc per Steamer on the 231st inst and has not yet been received again

Sd. J Boyd
Civil Commandant
26th August 1866

The Honbl
The Comp. General

Port Arthur
27th August 1866

Dear Sir,

I enclose herewith list of Articles forwarded by the present trip of the Government Schooner for the Intercolonial Exhibition at Melbourne.

The Blocks of ornamental Wood have been faced and frequently rubbed with linseed oil, which operation I would suggest should either be repeated before the Woods are placed in the

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the Exhibition building or they might be fresh polished as may be considered best.

You will find a case containing veneers of our best woods mounted upon pine and French polished, an arrangement not adopted in any of the former expositions at least as far as I know of.

By the next trip of the Harriet which will be about the 7th proxima, I shall send up the tressels and table – tops to the extent of about 100 feet in length, which may perhaps be sufficient, if not be good enough to inform me of the additional length required,

Other articles will also then be forwarded and I hope the contribution from Port Arthur may be regarded as satisfactory and meet with the approval of the Commisioners.

I remain Dear Sir
Yours truly
Sd. J Boyd
Civil Commandant

Hugh M. Hull Esq
Secretary to the Intercolonial Exhibition
Commissioners of Tasmania

Port Arthur
28th August 1866

Sir,
Owing to the scarcity of last years` crop of potatoes, and other causes of which I shall report to you I beg most respectfully to state for your information that the present stock in hand of rations potatoes will be exhausted between the 1st & 20th proximo.

I have the honor to be Sir,
Your most obedient servt
Sd. J.H.Luttrell
Supt of Agriculture
The Civil Commandant

Endorsement on the preceding letter.

Forwarded for the information of the Commissariat Storekeeper who is requested to have the goodness to obtain a supply of potatoes from Hobart Town until the next year`s crop may be available.

Sd J Boyd
Civil Commandant
28th August 1866

The Commissariat Storekeeper
Port Arthur

Endorsement on the above.

Forwarded for the information of the assistant Commissary General in charge

Sd. James J. Pringle
Commissariat Poart Arathur
28th August 1866

The Assistant
Commissary General in charge
Hobart Town.

Endorsement on Mrs Mc Gough`s Bill against Assistant Overseer Bowden.

Mrs McGough has made a complaint to me against Mr Bowden for non payment of the debt herein specified.

I wish toknow from Mr Bowden when the amount will be paid, as I cannot allow any person under my authority to evade the liquidation of his debts. This paper to be returned on or before the 1st proximo

Sd. J Boyd
Civil Commandant
28/8/66

Mr Bowden
Impression Bay

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Memo

The Senior Medical Officer having reported to the Civil Commandant that Constable Ward and family are affected with the disease known as " Itch" he will make arrangements for proceeding to Hobart Town with his family per Government Schooner on or before the 28th prox to which date he will be returned for pays

Sd J Boyd
Civil Commandant
28th Augst 1866

Constable Ward
Norfolk Bay

Memo

The Senior Medical Officer having reported to the Civil Commandant that Constable Simpsons` children are affected with the disease know as " Itch" he will make arrangements for removing them from Tasman`s Peninsula by the next trip of the Government Schooner which will be about the 9th prox.

The services of Constable Simpson will not be required after the 28th proximo before which date he may leave the Peninsula if so disposed.

He will be allowed pay to the 28th of Sept next.

Sd.J Boyd
Civil Commandant
28th Augst 1866

Constable Simpson
Norfolk Bay

Immediate 12.20 PM

Memo

Referring to my memo of the 13 June last relative to the question of dist & Rations Will the Senior medical Officer have the goodness to favour the Civil Commandant with the opinion therein requested as His Excellency The Governor has, by the post received last evening desired that the report of the subject may be furnished with as little further delay as possible

J Boyd
Civil Commandant
Port Arthur
30 Augst 1866

The Senior Medical Officer
Port Arthur

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Endorsement on Mrs McGoughs` account against Alvarez for £1.5/-

Constabel Alvarez is requested to have this debt paid as soon as possible

Sd J Boyd
CC 30/8/66

Memo

The Civil Commandant has to report for the information of the Honbl Colonial Secretary that he has examined the prisoner calling himself Elijah Elton per "Canton" and from his statements – relative to the incidents of the voyage of that ship from England compared with descriptions given by several men at Port Arthur named in the margin (Constable Tattersell, Prisoner Mr Summers, Prisoner Mr Williams, Prisoner Henry Miller.) who undoubtedly arrived by the "Canton" , The Commandant is clearly of opinion that the prisoner did not arrive by that vessel, for he has stated circumstances which never occurred, and events which would be known to all on board he knew nothing of - further none of the persons above mentioned recognize him as a shipmate.

The prisoner has also been confronted with the persons named in the margin (Constable Jno Buckley, Prisoner Mr Burdett, Prisoner Mr Blake) who arrived by the ship Emily .1.

Burdett states he recognizes him as coming out with him in the Emily ,1, but he does not remember his name nor does he remember any shipmate by the name of Elisha Nelmes.

Constable Buckley states his belief that the prisoner came out with him in the Emily ,1, but would not like to swear it

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it. Blake states that he knows the prisoners features well but he does not remember where he has seen him before.

In the course of the enquiry it was elicited that Mr Geo. Hadley last Inspector of City Police Hobart Toown came to this Colony by the Ship Emily.1. The Commandant would therefore suggest the desirability of Mr Hadley being sent to Port Arthur by the next trip of the Steamer for the purpose of seeing if he can identify the prisoner.

The Papers forwarded are herewith returned and it will be seen from the red ink marks on the personal description of Elisha Nelmes per Emily 1. that the prisoner bears most of the marks answering to the description. Other marks are perceptible but owing to their indistinctness are not recognizable.

Sd J Boy
Civil Commandant
Port Arthur
1st September 1866

The Honbl
The Colonial Secretary

Settlement Farm
3/9/66

For the information of the Civil Commandant

I have to report that Dr Lewis has not yet returned 100 lbs of hay which he had from the Settlement Farm on loan on the 17th of March last

Sd E Christie
Overseer in charge

The Civil Commandant

Will Dr Lewis be so good as to return the 100lbs of hay lent to him from the Farm in March last

Sd J Boyd
3/9/66

The Junior Medical Officer.

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Memo

The Civil Commandant presents his compliments to the Stipendiary Magistrate at Hobart Town and has to thank him for his communication of the 24th ult in reference to a Prisoner calling himself Aaron or George Jones per "Hyderabad" who has recently been received at this Establishment

Jones is well known at Port Arthur by his proper name viz "Thos. Walters" per "Asiatic" having been discharged from Tasman's Peninsula on completion of three cumulative Police Office sentences so recently as the 21st December 1864

Sd. J Boyd
Civil Commandant
3rd September 1866

A.B. Jones Esq
Stipendiary Magistrate
Hobart Town

Memorandum

The Prisoner who was received here by the last trip of the Steamer as Aaron or George Jones per "Hyderabad" having been identified as "Thomas Walters" per "Asiatic", it is requested that his proper Police Character may be forwarded to Port Arthur as soon as possible.

Sd. J Boyd
Civil Commandant
3rd September 1866

The Honbl
The Comp. General (M.G.A.)

Memorandum

Margin Note
(John Power
S`ton S.Co 25/4/65
Uttering 1 yrs Impt
Hobt. P.O.28/7/66
Escaping
2yrs Impt [indecipherable])

The Prisoner named in the margin, who was received here by the last trip of the Steamer as John Power – Free to Colony by “Yarra” has been discovered to be John Power per “Saml Boddington”

It is requested that his Police Character may be forwarded as soon as possible – Power admits having arrived by the “Saml Boddington”

Sd J Boyd
Civil Commandant
4th Sept. 1866\

The Honbl
He Comp.General.

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Lunatic Hospital
Port Arthur
4th September 1866

Sir

I beg leave most respectfully to apply for an increase to my pay as Head Keeper of the Lunatic establishments at Port Arthur upon the following grounds.

1st Length of Service. My appointment as Head Keeper dating from 1st February 1853

2nd Increased duties since the 1st April 1861 when my salary was fixed at £100 per annum, A branch depot has been formed at Safety Cove which necessitates considerable additional duty to myself causing me to visit that Station very frequently. Also since the death of Under Keeper Allen at Safety Cove on the 1st February last the situation held by him has been reduced, involving the transfer of an Under Keeper from the Depot Port Arthur and leaving but one Under Keeper to assist me with the two Divisions of Insane at the Settlement and which has also the effect of making my visits at night more frequent than before.

3rd Management I venture to hope that the manner in which I have carried out my duties since my appointment and the care I have taken that the Under Keepers and Attendants should also perform theirs. My constant desire being to give satisfaction to you, Sir, and the Medical Officers of the Establishment.

Under all these circumstances I respectfully trust that I may be deemed worthy of your recommendations for my salary to be increased

I am Sir
With great respect
Your most obedt Servt
sd J. Lawson

*James Boyd (Civil Commandant, Port Arthur) - Office letterbook, 1866-1869 from Tasmanian Papers, 1821-1877
Tas. Papers 315
Mitchell Library, State Library of NSW*

Hd Keeper of Insane

The Civil Commandant

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Endorsement on the preceding letter

I have much pleasure in recommending Mr Head Keeper Lawson for an increase of pay as I have always found him to be an efficient Officer. I strongly recommend that his salary be increased to £150 per annum

Sd. J Boyd
4th Sept 1866

The Honble
The Comp.General

Memo.

With reference to the question of diet & rations at this Establishment upon which subject the Medical Officers have furnished a report dated 1st inst. The Civil Commandant is of opinion that, in order to give effect to the commands of His Excellency the Governor, it will be expedient for him to confer personally with the Medical Officers upon this important matter. The Commandant will therefore feel obliged by their meeting him at his Office at 11 o'clock tomorrow forenoon

Sd J Boyd
Civil Commandant
Port Arthur
5th Sept 1866

The Senior Medical Officer

Memo

With reference to the Government wheat which is now ready for shipment to the Commissariat magazines at Hobart Town, The Civil Commandant begs to draw the Comptroller General's attention to the annexed correspondence which took place on a similar subject in December last. It appears

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it appears that 1152 lbs value £9.0.0 were deducted for cleansing, smutting, and carting- also in reference to the expenditure Return for 1865, that the sum of £3.9.1 was paid for cleansing making a loss to the Public of £12..9.1.

The Superintendent of Agriculture, who has also had large experience as a miller, reported that the said wheat would have produced an excellent sample of flour, and has complained of the character unjustly given to it in Hobart Town.

Under these circumstances the Commandant recommends that before the wheat of this year be removed from the Peninsula, it may be closely and carefully inspected by the Commissariat Storekeeper

Sd J Boyd
Civil Commandant
5th Sept 1866

*James Boyd (Civil Commandant, Port Arthur) - Office letterbook, 1866-1869 from Tasmanian Papers, 1821-1877
Tas. Papers 315*

Mitchell Library, State Library of NSW

The Honbl
The Comp.General

Port Arthur
5th sept. 1866

Dear Sir

Kavanagh left here for Sorell on Sunday last . I hope the change may be to his advantage.

With regard to holding inquests at the Sounds it has been decided that such must devolve upon the Coroners of your district, the place being in the Sorell municipality with which part of the Territory I, of course, can have nothing to do

I remain Dear Sir
Yours very truly
Sd J Boyd
Civil Commandant

Robert Blythe Esq
Warden

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Certified that Mr Thomas Griffin acted under my order as Clerk in 1864 & '65 and that I always found him very intelligent and efficient in the performance of his duties.

sd. J Boyd
Civil Commandant
Port Arthur
5th Sepr. 1866.

Port Arthur
7th September 1866

Dear Sir,

Constable Kavanagh lost no time in proceeding to his port of duty at Sorell and I am sure will be found to be an acquisition to your staff.

As regards the duties of Coroner, I can only say that, it would be most inconvenient and imprudent, for me to go to the Sounds or any other part of Forestier's Peninsula for the purpose of holding Inquests. I therefore trust that you may be successful in inducing the Government to appoint a Coroner for that division of your Municipality where there is now a very considerable population.

Yours very truly
sd. J Boyd
Civil Commandant

Robert Blythe Esq
Warden
Sorell

Endorsement on Certificate of Health respecting Wm. Rigby per "Moffatt". 6th Sept 1866.

Not able to earn his own livelihood

sd Geo. Dinham
Medical Officer

The Civil Commandant
Endorsement

*James Boyd (Civil Commandant, Port Arthur) - Office letterbook, 1866-1869 from Tasmanian Papers, 1821-1877
Tas. Papers 315*

Mitchell Library, State Library of NSW

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Endorsement on the preceding

Will the Senior Medical Officer be good enough to state the nature of the disease from which the man Rigby is suffering with the date when he was first treated for it so far as he can ascertain.

sd.J Boyd
Civil Commandant
7th Sepr. 1866

The Senior Medical Officer
Port Arthur
Endorsement on the above.

Recommended to be Invalided as he suffers severely from chronic Bronchitis rendering him unfit to perform any kind of labor- his disease commenced in April 1865

sd Geo Dinham
Medical officer

The Civil Commandant
Endorsement on Annual Demand of Dry Stores

The Commandant is requested to report for what purpose the Gutta-percha tubing demanded for 1867-'68 is required. The Library books, earthenware articles and looking glasses have been struck out of the Demand, if the articles for the cottage are urgently required at any time, a special Demand for them to be purchased on the spot can be made. 12 Enfeild Rifles can no doubt be obtained in the Colony from the supplies on hand for Military service and have been therefore struck out.

The Military Store Officer reports that there is Square Iron 3 and 7/8 inch in Store, information is requested as to whether this will answer instead of the 4 inch demanded

Sd C.J. Belstead
for CG
7 Sepr. 1866

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I am directed by the Civil Commandant to request that you will be good enough to furnish him with the proof that the Captain & Mate of the Government Schooner Harriet "have continuously trafficked with persons at Port Arthur" as stated in your letter of the 5th inst.

sd. Joseph L. Hill
Clerk
8/9/66

Mr Joseph Bennett
25 Campbell St
Hobt. Town

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Endorsement on the preceding

Books are very much required for the Prisoners' Library.

sd. J Boyd
8/9/66

Endorsement on the above-

Will Mr. Strutt be good enough to state for what purpose the Gutta-percha tubing is required- also whether the 3 and 7/8 inch Square Iron in the Military Store in Hobart Town will answer instead of the 4 inch demanded.

sd J.L. Hill
Clerk
8/9/66/

The Foreman of Works

The Gutta-percha tubing is for laying on water to the new Insane Building. The 3 and 7/8 Iron will do in place of the 4 inch

sd Geo. Strutt
F.W.

Forwarded for the information of the Comptroller General

sd J. Boyd
8/9/66

Memo

Will the Comptroller General have the goodness to cause a supply of the printed forms of "Bill heads" in use for claims on the Commissariat, to be furnished as soon as possible, in order that Mr Propsting's account may be prepared thereon for liquidation

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
Port Arthur
8th Septr. 1866

The Honble.
The Comp. General.

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Endorsement on Telegram from Mr Reidy respecting the Warrant of Geo Brown per "Alexander Wharton"

Memo

The Warrant under which George Brown pr. "Alexander Wharton" was held at Port Arthur was forwarded to Mr Reidy when Wharton was sent to the Prisoners' Barracks Hobt. Town viz on the 16th of January last per Harriet.

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
Port Arthur
15th Septr. 1866

The Superintendent
House of Correction for Males
Hobart Town

Margin Note: Thos. Reynolds ps. of Northumberland, recently discharged from detention at Port Arthur.

Memorandum

The man named in the margin has applied for employment in the Police at Port Arthur for which he is by antecedents ineligible and as he is unfit for the duties of Constable having the use of but one of his arms, and appears to be in destitute circumstances, will the Senior Medical Officer have the goodness to inform the Civil Commandant if he considers him a fit person for admission to the Pauper Depot here?

sd J. Boyd
Civil Commandant

*James Boyd (Civil Commandant, Port Arthur) - Office letterbook, 1866-1869 from Tasmanian Papers, 1821-1877
Tas. Papers 315*

Mitchell Library, State Library of NSW

18th Sept. 1866
The Senior medical Officer
Port Arthur.

Endorsement on the above

This person appears to be unable to perform any kind of labor- he has lost the use of his right arm & his left arm is becoming feeble. I consider him a fit case for admission to the Pauper Depot.

Att. Geo Dinham
S.M.O.
Sepr. 18th 1866

Overwritten note: Endorsement Submitted for approval-
Sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
19-9-66
The Honble.
The Comp. General
Hobart Town.

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Memorandum,

On the Dry Store Account of this Establishment there is an item of "Beds - flock No 264 – The cases of these beds are in Store, but during the many years the flocks have been in use – vizt since 1852, they have gradually become reduced in quantity through the frequent cleansing of the cases, after being in many instances used by afflicted persons, and now the whole have been expended – The Civil Commandant therefore requests authority to strike off from the Accounts, "264, Beds – flock" and to bring on 264 Bed – ticks in lieu thereof. –

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
Port Arthur
23rd Sept 1866

The Honble The Comp. General

Memo'

Will the Assistant Commissary General have the goodness to furnish the Civil Commandant with a supply of printed forms for claiming Rebate of Income Tax during the year 1865 & '66 – also Forms of Exemption from payment of the Income Tax.

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
20th Sept 1866

The Asst
Commissary General
Hobart Town.

Endorsement on correspondence respecting wheat.

The wheat has been weighed and carefully examined by the Commissariat Storekeeper, the Superintendent of Agriculture and the Accountant, the two latter having, as I understand, a practical knowledge

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knowledge of flour milling –

The wheat is reported to be of a superior quality, and should any board be held upon it in Hobart Town, as intended by the Assistant Commissary General, I submit that the Superintendent of Agriculture may be ordered to be present as an act of justice to himself and as representing that branch of the public service entrusted to his charges

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
Port Arthur
22nd Sept 1866

The Honble
The Comp. General

Certificate of Martin Conroy's pay for 23 days £2.6.0 – to Asst. Commissary General

Referred to Constable McGuire – the money must be paid in the manner proposed by Colonel Chesney or at once if Mr McGuire prefers doing so. –

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
24/9/66

Constable McGuire
Port Arthur

Civil Commandant's Office Port Arthur
26th Sepr 1866

Sir,

With reference to your letter of the 21st inst relative to Constable Bernard McGuire of this Establishment & late of H. M. 77th Regiment – I have the honor to inform you that, in accordance with your

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your request I called upon McGuire to liquidate the sum due to Captain Tillery and that he proposed to do so by instalments of £1.0.0 per month which amount I would suggest should be deducted by the Commissariat Department from his salary as it becomes payable, and for this purpose I return the papers you were – good enough to send me, as one of them contains the man's engagement to pay off the debt in the manner stated. –

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your most obedient Servt.
sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant

The Commandant
of the Garrison

Hobt Town. –

Port Arthur
26th Sept 1866

Memo'

The Civil Commandant has the honor to report that in consequence of the recent dismissal of the Master & Mistress of the Free School, he considered it necessary to keep the School open until the new applicants Mr & Miss McVilly enter upon their duties and in order to prevent the children from roaming about the Settlement in idleness and probably communicating with the Convicts. –

The temporary arrangements made for conducting the School have been as follows

Mr Jeremiah Connolly one of the Clerks attends to the boys and Miss Todd daughter of the Provision Storekeeper to the Girls – Mr Connolly having to work extra hours for the purpose of keeping up his own clerical duties.

Under these circumstances the Commandant recommends that Mr Connolly & Miss Todd may be allowed the respective salaries attached to the situations from the date on which the late Master and Mistress were struck off pay until Mr & Miss McVilly

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McVilly enter upon their duties – which will be on the 1st proximo – Miss McVilly not having yet arrived from her father's residence at Bridgewater. –

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant

The Honble
The Comp. General

Memo'

Mr Daniel Devine of Hobart Town has represented to me that Constable Alvarez contracted a debt with him to the amount of £2.10.0 for Groceries &c in December last and complains that he cannot obtain payment of the same. –

Constable Alvarez is requested to report to me what arrangement he proposes for the liquidation of this debt as I cannot allow any Stipendiaries under my command to keep tradespeople or others out of the money justly due to them.

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
28.9.66

Constable Alvarez
Salt Water River

Memo'

The Civil Commandant has to report that he allowed the Senior Medical Officer to proceed to Hobart Town on the 23rd Inst. upon urgent private business as stated by Dr Dinham

sd. J. Boyd

*James Boyd (Civil Commandant, Port Arthur) - Office letterbook, 1866-1869 from Tasmanian Papers, 1821-1877
Tas. Papers 315*

Mitchell Library, State Library of NSW

Civil Commandant
28th Sept 1866

The Honble
The Comp. General

(Potatoes)

Memo'

The estimated quantity of Ration Potatoes required for Station use & for Sale is 28 Tons

Seed 12

Total 40

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
29.9.66

The Commissariat Storekeeper
Port Arthur

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Port Arthur
3rd October 1866.

Dear Sir,

With regard to the Meteorological reports to which Mr Abbott has taken exception, I can only say that it has always been my wish that they should be rendered in a satisfactory state, but as changes in the persons who take the readings and prepare the Tables have been, and will continue to be frequent, I would suggest that Mr Abbott should occasionally visit Port Arthur in order to instruct the local Registrar and look into the matter generally – I should therefore be glad if he could come down by next trip of the Schooner.

At the present time we require two more Thermometers, a requisition for which I enclose and shall feel obliged by your causing them to be supplied as soon as convenient.

Yours very truly
sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant

Dr Agnew
Hony Secretary
Royal Society
Hobart Town

Endorsement on letter of Attendant Samuel Smith respecting money alleged to be due to a Mr J. O.Brien Hobart Town.

This letter containing S. Smith's reply to the question of debt alleged by Mr O.Brien to be due to him from the said S. Smith – is forwarded by direction of the Civil Commandant to Mr O.Brien for his information – I am also to inform Mr O.Brien that the Civil Commandant cannot interfere with private affairs of this sort further. – If Smith is in debt to Mr O.Brien as asserted there is a proper course provided by law for recovery of the same.

sd. J. C. Yapp

*James Boyd (Civil Commandant, Port Arthur) - Office letterbook, 1866-1869 from Tasmanian Papers, 1821-1877
Tas. Papers 315*

Mitchell Library, State Library of NSW

Chief Clerk
3/10/66

Mr J. O'Brien

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Port Arthur
3rd October 1866

Dear Sir

With reference to the disposal of the Articles which I have been enabled to forward for the Intercolonial Exhibition at Melbourne, I have decided upon handing the whole of them over to the Tasmanian Commissioners who may sell or otherwise dispose of them and apply the proceeds (if any) in such manner as they consider will be most advantageous to the interests of the Colony.

I remain
Dear Sir
Yours faithfully
sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant

Hugh. M. Hull Esq.
Secretary to
Intercolonial
Exhibition Commissioners

Endorsement on Librarian's Report respecting Books recd by the Schooner Harriet

Will the Comptroller General be good enough to cause the accompanying Way Bill to be corrected to 185 Library Books

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
5/10/66

The Comptroller General.

Port Arthur
4th October 1866

My dear Sir,

I shall be very happy to do what I can for your friend Mr Devlin who may come down by the first trip of the Steamer for appointment to the Constabulary – pay 2s/0 a day & rations – If found to be efficient he will have a chance of promotion as vacancies occur. Mrs Boyd unites with me in kind regards.

Believe me
My dear Sir
Yours faithfully
sd. J. Boyd

J. D. Balfe Esq.
Public Works Office

Hobt. Town

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Certified that Mr James Ruttledge has been employed as a member of the Civil Guard at this Establishment since the 20th March 1865 and that he has discharged his duties to my entire satisfaction –

Mr Ruttledge now resigns his situation for the purpose of proceeding to one of the neighbouring colonies and carries with him my best wishes for his future welfare. –

(sd) J. Boyd
Civil Commandant

Penal Establishment
Port Arthur
Tasmania
5th October 1866.

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Port Arthur
Oct 6th 1866

I would respectfully beg to bring under notice of the Civil Commandant that the man Haywood (who for some time past has been performing the Tinman's & Plumber's work on the Peninsula) has been discharged to his freedom; and as there is no other man here capable of doing the above named work, I would respectfully suggest that he be retained on pay for the above purpose, as there is quite sufficient work of that description, to keep him fully employed.

sd. Geo. Strutt
Foreman of Works

Endorsement on the above.

It will be absolutely necessary to obtain the services of a Tinman and Plumber, and as the man Haywood is the only mechanic of the kind at Port Arthur, I recommend that he be hired at the rate of 2s/4d a day & rations (Constables) until a Prisoner can be found capable of performing the work required. – John Haywood per "Layton" F. S. is the man referred to, and he has just been ordered for discharge but will remain at Port Arthur until an answer is obtained.

sd. J. Boyd
6th October 1866

The Honble
The Comp. General

Memo'

Patrick Yorley
Age 52
Height 5ft 8½ in

The Civil Commandant has the honor to recommend that the Constable named in the margin may be promoted to the Settlement Guard vice James Ruttledge resigned.

Yorley is a Pensioner from

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from H. M. 63rd Yoot and has been employed as Constable at Port Arthur since the 16th February last.

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
6th October 1866

The Honble
The Comp. General.

Memorandum,

The Civil Commandant has the honor to recommend that Mr Fredk Napoleon Lutterrell who has been employed as Constable at Port Arthur may be promoted to Assistant Overseer vice Thos Bowden resigned

Mr Luttrell is a practical farmer and is a brother of the Superintendent of Agriculture.

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
6th October 1866

The Honble
The Comp. General

Endorsement on Query respecting Expenditure Return for the year 1865. –

The monies in question were paid to Imperial Prisoners of specially bad character to enable them to fulfil the obligations of their Conditional Pardons. – Had they been engaged as “Laborers or Mechanics necessarily employed to carry on the public Works” here, the amount of their wages would have been shown on the Expenditure Return, but such was not the case – A reference to the Return of Prisoners' Earnings and Special Money allowances dated 20/2/66 and forwarded to the Comptroller General will shew the sums carried into account, except that of 7s/6d paid to Neil Gow Fogo which will be brought forward in this year's a/c when prepared. –

It would be erroneous, according

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according to the Comptroller General's instructions, to have entered these payments on the Expenditure of 1865 for the reasons stated – and it seems that the Commissariat is not aware of the nature of these money allowances to Imperial Convicts. – perhaps the Comptroller General will have the goodness to cause the matter to be explained to that Department.

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
8th October 1866

The Honble
The Comp. General

Port Arthur

10th October 1866

Sir,

Having now rendered an account in detail of the disbursement of the public monies deposited to my credit in the Bank of Australasia by the Commissariat in payment of Salaries and Wages of all classes from March 1860 till March 1865 – vizt £45,986-15-0. – I have the honor to submit this my request for an allowance in consideration of the extra and responsible duty which I was called upon to perform during a period of five years in reference to the charge and disbursement of the large sum above mentioned.

In the latter part of 1864, finding that the payment of the various salaries was more than I could possibly continue to carry on in addition to my duties as head of the several Establishments on this Peninsula; and knowing that such payments properly devolved upon the Commissariat Department, I requested that I might be relieved therefrom as soon as possible – in reply you were pleased to inform me that when the Imperial Convict Establishments in Hobart Town were transferred to the Colonial Government which would be on the

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the 1st January 1865, the Commissariat would undertake the payments as there would then be a Clerk of that Department available for the duty – accordingly in April 1865, I was relieved –

Since that time I have been actively engaged in examining the banking accounts and in preparing final returns and reports on the subject.

The salary received by the Superior Commissariat Clerk who now attends to the payment of the salaries is I believe, at least £200 per annum; so that for the five years during which I performed this duty the public saved £1000 by the Commissariat not having to employ an extra Clerk for that purpose which expense, it is clear would have been unavoidable.

I may also bring to your recollection the fact that the sum of £10 a year, or upwards of 5 per cent, was offered to any Officer of the Convict Department who would undertake the payment of the Pauper laborers alone, whose wages only amounted to about £15 per month -

This duty is now performed by a Commissariat Clerk who it is understood receives the allowance referred to in addition to his ordinary pay. –

The sum, however, which I had to pay monthly amounted on an average to not less than £760; and the number of Cheques drawn for which averaged as many as 154 – varying in amount from 1s/- to £196. –

The great responsibility and anxiety of mind inseparable from the charge of such extensive and detailed money transactions will be obvious; and when it is considered that this important work was imposed upon me in addition to my own multifarious obligations as Civil Commandant and Superintendent of these concentrated Establishments the onerous and

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and difficult nature of which duties has been so frequently recorded by His Excellency The Governor and yourself – I submit that I have an undoubted claim to some pecuniary allowance for the discharge of the important trust and labor to which I have adverted; and in applying for £1- upon every £100 paid away, I am sure that such will not be regarded as otherwise than moderate and reasonable. –

I may remark that some years ago when in charge of the principal Convict Establishments in Hobart Town, I was granted 2 per cent upon all monies disbursed by me to Prisoners for Home Earnings which had been forwarded to the Commissariat Department; and I would

*James Boyd (Civil Commandant, Port Arthur) - Office letterbook, 1866-1869 from Tasmanian Papers, 1821-1877
Tas. Papers 315*

Mitchell Library, State Library of NSW

further beg to remind you that only very recently the discharge of additional public labor has been substantially recognized by the allowance made to the Senior Medical Officer on your recommendation for performing the duties of the Junior Surgeon in addition to his own during temporary vacancies, and for which one half of the Junior Medical Officer's salary has been received by the Senior Surgeon.

Other cases have also occurred in which the performance of additional duties has been remunerated. –

Therefore under all these circumstances I respectfully lay this application before you confiding, as I do, in the Justice of the claim for its favourable recognition.

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your most obedt. Servt.
sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant

The Honble
The Comptroller General

[page 174]

Memo'

The Civil Commandant will be glad to receive as soon as possible, the return of Timber supplied from Port Arthur during the half year ended 30th June last to the Colonial Government, completed with prices to be charged for the same.

The Return was forwarded to the Comptroller General's Office on 1st August last for that information

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
13th Oct 1866

The Honble
The Comp. General

(Note in margin)

Existing authority
Trousers 5s/6 per pair
Shirts 3/11¼ each

Memo'

With reference to certain articles of clothing authorized to be sold from the Public Store on this Peninsula, The Civil Commandant has to point out that the latest price list received from England (dated 15th February 1866) charges –

Trousers – blue cloth – at 6s/0 per pair
Shirts blue flannel @ 5s/5 each

In order to prevent any confusion in the accounts, an authority is requested to obtain payment for those articles in accordance with the rates given. –

Blue cloth caps remaining as before at 1/2¼ each. – To take effect upon the current half year.

–

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
13th October 1866

The Honble
The Comp. General

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Port Arthur
13th Oct. 1866

Sir

I have the honor to enclose herewith Caption of an Inquest held by me at Port Arthur on Friday the 12th inst: on view of the body of Joseph Belcher per Ship “John Calvin”, late a prisoner under sentence at this Establishment, who died suddenly on the night of Thursday the 11th inst. of “Disease of the heart and lungs.” –

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your most obedt Servt.
sd J. Boyd
Coroner

John Aston Watkins Esq
Registrar of the
Supreme Court Tasmania
Hobart town

Port Arthur
16th October 1866

Dear Sir

I have the pleasure to acknowledge the receipt of your polite letter of the 9th inst conveying to me certain resolutions passed by the Hebrew Congregation of Hobart Town relative to the manner in which their co-religionists have been treated at Port Arthur – in reply I can only say that the unfortunate men referred to have by their good conduct at Port Arthur merited every proper consideration and I beg that you will be good enough to inform the Congregation that I feel much obliged for the kind terms in which their resolutions have been couched.

Cordially reciprocating the good wishes of yourself -

I remain
Dear Sir
Your's very faithfully
sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant

Leo Susman Esq.
Secretary Hebrew Congregation
Hobart Town

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Endorsement on Colonial Secretary's Memo' respecting Timber asked for the erection of a Pavilion in the Domain Hobarton

The work herein referred to could not be executed at Port Arthur for several months unless the erection and repair of buildings on Tasman's Peninsula were suspended; and as the wooden rooms in which the Insane are now lodged have become much decayed, it has been found necessary to prop them up, a fact which renders the early completion of the new Asylum most desirable – the authorized extension of the Invalid Depôt will also have to be effected as soon as possible; and the repair of the large number of buildings on the Peninsula requires a considerable amount of Carpenters' labor. Besides, there is a quantity of dressed fencing to be prepared for the Queen's Domain. –

I append a Report furnished by the Foreman of Works on the subject and return the correspondence, drawings and specifications herewith.

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
17th Oct 1866

The Honble
The Comp. General

Memorandum,

The Civil Commandant has the honor to recommend that Mr George Ashton Constable at Port Arthur may be promoted to Assistant Overseer vice W. Y. McVilly appointed Schoolmaster since the 18th July last and has always been free.

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
17th Oct 866

The Honble
The Comp. General

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Endorsement on Memo' respecting Coal

The Coal was issued for the use of the General Boat crew at Woody Island as there was not any fuel available on the Island.

A punt has been placed at that Station by which firewood is now conveyed from the adjacent coasts of the Peninsula

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
18/10/66

The
Comptroller General

Port Arthur
20th Oct 1866

Memorandum,

The accompanying letter* is submitted to the Comptroller General. –

New buildings are very much required for the accommodation of the Insane and Pauper Classes – those in which the majority of the former are at present lodged being so far decayed as to require props for their support – some of them are, in fact, in a dangerous state.

The completion of the new Asylum now in course of erection is consequently most desirable, while, the paupers are so much crowded that the Medical Officers have expressed their opinion in such strong terms on the subject as to render the authorized extension of the present Depôt absolutely necessary – I therefore recommend that the services of six competent paid Carpenters* be obtained in Hobart Town with as little delay as possible for the works herein referred to.

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant

* at 6s/- per diem (Sunday excepted) & to be allowed a Police Ration

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Port Arthur
Oct 20th 1866

Sir

With reference to the new Building for the Insane, to which you have called my attention, and requesting to know how long it will take to complete the same ready for occupation.

I most respectfully beg to state that with the small number of Effective Carpenters here now, it would be very difficult to state anything like an appropriate time; indeed with the present number of Carpenters the actual necessary repairs of the Building at Port Arthur and the Out Stations would keep them constantly employed without touching any new Buildings [which are much required] to replace those which are so dilapidated and almost dangerous for occupation.

There is also at the present time an order for Fencing, for Hobart Town to be prepared which will take up a considerable portion of the Carpenters' time for the next two months.

At the present time there are only five competent Carpenters here and two, if not more of these, will be away by the end of the year, so that, if the repairs to the present buildings are to be attended to, it will require some further assistance to go on with the new Buildings. If four good Carpenters were constantly employed at the new Building for the Insane it might be finished in about fifteen months.

Your very obdt. Servant
sd. Geo Sturt
Foreman of Works

The
Civil Commandant

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Endorsement on [indecipherable] letter to Civil Commandant respecting a debt alleged to be due him by Constable Alvarez.

Referred to Constable Alvarez who is requested to have this matter arranged as soon as possible. It is extremely inconvenient for the Commandant to be made the medium of these demands.

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
20th Octbr 1866

Constable Alvarez

Memo

I have to report that a Cow the property of the Protestant Chaplain was twice found trespassing in the grounds attached to the Government Cottage yesterday.

The frequent occurrence of similar trespass and the destruction of Government fencing by the Chaplain's cattle horses compel me to adopt the present course in order to check if possible the utter disregard of my repeated remonstrations on this subject.

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
22nd October 1866

The Honble
The Comptroller General

Certified that Mr. George Harrison was originally appointed a Constable at Tasman's Peninsular on the 27th January, 1864, promoted to the Armed Civil Guard of this Establishment on the 23rd February 1864 and further promoted to Corporal of the Guard on

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on the 23rd December 1864.

In the performance of his duties he has given me entire satisfaction.

He now leaves at his own request having obtained an appointment in the Police Force of the Fingal Municipality.

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant

Tasman's Peninsular

[Note in margin]

Michael Ward
Height 5ft. 9in.
Age 22

Timothy Phelan
late of H.M. 70th Regt.
Height 5ft. 7in.
Age 45

Memorandum

The Civil Commandant has the honour to recommend that the individuals named in the margin may be promoted the Civil Guard vice Turner dismissed and Harrison resigned.

They have always been free and have been employed on the Peninsular for some time past as ordinary Constables.

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
24th Octr. 1866

The Honble
The Comp. General

Port Arthur
24th Oct 1866

Sir

I beg most respectfully to bring under your notice that I joined the Service in February 1847 and shall have completed 20 years in February next. That I am now in receipt of pay as an Overseer at 5s/6p per diem with a temporary increase of 2s/- per diem, but as on retiring from the service I shall receive no

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no benefit for compensation for the latter allowance. I would most respectfully solicit your recommendation that I be place upon an annual fixed salary of £100.

Trusting that my long service will influence the granting of this request.

I am
Sir
Your obedt humble Servt
sd. W. Morley
Overseer

J. Boyd Esq
Civil Commandant
Port Arthur

Endorsement

Submitted and recommended

sd. J. Boyd
15/10/66

The Honble
The Comp. General

Port Arthur
Oct. 16th 1866

[Note written over above}

Endorsed

I regret that I cannot recommend any alteration.

sd. W. Nairn
30th Oct. 1866

Memo

I respectfully request that the Civil Commandant will be good enough to ascertain whether the fence required for Hobart Town for the Queen's Domain, near the Macquarie St. Bridge, is to be executed according to the original drawing, as per pattern furnished.

The original drawing shows three arras rails to each post, whereas the pattern is only for two rails 4x2 beveled on top and lower edges. Also as to the current numbers and sizes of Posts, Rails, Battens and Sleepers, as the two lists for the Timber which has been forwarded here, do not agree in either.

sd. Geo Sturt
Foreman of Works

Endorsement on the above

Referred to the Director of Public Works – Original papers and drawings herewith.

sd. J. Boyd
18/10/66

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Endorsement on letter S. Smith's appointment for leave of absence to go to Hobart Town

Not approved – Attendant Smith has given me a great deal of trouble in this matter. He is in my opinion endeavouring to evade the payment of his debts and as the public service must not be inconvenienced by any such absence from his duties, as he now applies for, he is informed that his services will not be required after the 27th [indecipherable]

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
27th Octbr 1866

Attendant Samuel Smith
Port Arthur

Endorsement on Medl. Off's recommendation that prisoner William Curtis pr. "Anson" be employed at light later.

This man is a bricklayer & his services are urgently required in that capacity. If the Junior Medl. Officer considers it necessary the man may have the lighter description of Bricklayer's work for a short time but I must decline to remove him from his trade altogether unless such removal be certified by the J.M.O. as absolutely necessary for the man's health.

sd. J. Boyd
C.C.
27TH Octbr 1866

The
Senior Medl Officer

Commissariat General
Hobart Town
26th Octbr 1866

Sir

Request you will be good enough to give directions that I may be furnished with the Station Account Current and

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and supporting vouchers of all kinds from Port Arthur, immediately after the end of the month to enable me to compile and transmit the account to England by the following month's mail.

The enclosed correspondence will show that unnecessary delay has taken place at Port Arthur, and even up to this date the Returns therein referred to, have not been received by me

I have the honour to be
Sir
Your most obedt Servt
sd P.C. Hawkins
Act.

The
Comptroller General

Forwarded to the Civil Commandant who is requested to take the necessary steps to ensure these returns being furnished as requested by the Assistant Commissary.

sd. C.Y. Belstead
for the [indecipherable]
Comptroller Generals Office
26th Oct. 1866

Endorsement on the above.

These returns were delivered to the Commissariat Storekeeper for transmission to Head Quarters on the 14th inst. i.e. 12 days before the date of this complaint of the Assistant Commissary General.

The Hospital Returns are not signed or rendered by me but by the Senior Medical Officer.

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
27/10/66

The Honble
The Comp. General

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Commissariat Port Arthur
13th Oct. 1866

Sir

I have the honour to inform you that my last month's Account Current with the Civil Commandant's are delayed in consequence of the inattention and apparent apathy of the Medical Dispenser in furnishing the Hospital Monthly Account vouchers.

I beg leave to enclose copies of communication I have thought necessary to address to the Civil Commandant and the Medical Officer in charge upon the subject.

I have the honour to be
Sir
Y our most Obedt Servt
sd. James J. Pringle

The Asst.
Commissary General
in charge
Hobart Town

[Note in the margin]

The Dispenser is a most attentive, diligent officer, but not an expert Accountant

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Comt

Commissariat Port Arthur
13th Octr 1866

Sir

I have again the honour to again address you, with much repugnance, upon the conduct of the Dispenser & Clerk of this Establishment, in not furnishing the preceding month's accounts in such time to complete those of the Commissariat for transmission to the Asst Commissary General accompanied by others already received from your own Office for the Peninsula.

I need not observe that in consequence of the absence of this necessary Hospital Voucher the Accounts for September are delayed and cannot be received in

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in Hobart Town until the 19th instant.

I have etc.
sigd. James I Pringle

The Civil Commandant

Commissariat Port Arthur
13th Oct 1866

Sir,

I beg leave to report that I am unable to complete my preceding months' accounts for transmission to the Asst. Commissary General owing to the absence of your Hospital Account current for that month and to request that this necessary Return may be furnished without any further delay.

I would take this opportunity of observing that I had frequent occasions to reflect upon the apparent indifference and neglect of the Hospital Dispenser in furnishing this Office with so very a requisite voucher.

I have etc.
sd James J Pringle

Margin note: September 1866.

The Medical Officer in charge
Port Arthur.

Endorsement on Memo respecting Leg Irons.

My dear Mr Reidy,

You will see from the remarks of my Station Officer that the leg irons have been sent back. I will however, attend to the matter in future and endeavour to secure the punctual return of the chains.

*James Boyd (Civil Commandant, Port Arthur) - Office letterbook, 1866-1869 from Tasmanian Papers, 1821-1877
Tas. Papers 315*

Mitchell Library, State Library of NSW

Yours very sincerely
sd J Boyd
27.10.66

Thos. Reidy Esq.

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Memo
Margin note: John Heyward Abstract forwarded on 6th inst.

The man named in the margin, who had lately been discharged from Penal Servitude at Port Arthur, and engaged on pay as a Mechanic, has applied for the amount of Earnings £9.5.11 due to him.

Will the Assistant Commissary General have the goodness to cause the amount to be forwarded to the pay Officer here as soon as convenient.

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
31st Oct. 1866

The Asst Commissary General
Hobart Town

Memo
A supply of printed forms of returns for Prisoners' forfeited monies is required at this Office. Will the Comptroller General have the goodness to cause such to be forwarded by the first opportunity.

J Boyd
Civil Commandant
31st Oct. 1866

The Honble.
The Comp. General.

Endorsement on Memo from Asst. Colonial Treasurer respecting Dog Tax.

All the licenses have been issued from the book sent to Port Arthur. Another book of blank licenses & receipts is requested to be forwarded as soon as possible.

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant

The Honble.
The Comp. General

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Endorsement on Separate Prison Return of 27th Oct. 1866.

I do not see Aherne's name in this List.

sd. W Nairn
30th Oct '66

Aherne was released from the Separate Prison on the 22nd inst. in consequence of his promise of good behaviour made to the Comptroller General when visiting the Prison; he has, however, been again confined therein owing to his idle and unsatisfactory conduct.

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
31st Oct. '66.

The Honble.
The Comptroller General

Endorsement on application of Constable Alvarez for employment to Inspector of Police,
Hobart Town.

The Inspector has no employment in his department to offer Mr Alvarez.
Forwarded through the Commandant

sd. J. Forster
Oct 6th 1866

Forwarded
sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant

Constable Alvarez

Endorset. on Petition of John Pickthall Indus

Forwarded- conduct of the petitioner has been good whilst he has been at Port Arthur

sd. J. Boyd
3.11.66

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Memo
In consequence of the very limited supplies in many items of Stationery during the last 2 years- the whole of the articles specified on the annexed requisition are absolutely required to carry on the duties of the Public Offices efficiently.

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant

The Honble.
The Comp. General

Port Arthur
7th Nov. 1866

Dear Sir,
I am glad to learn that our contributions to the Melbourne Exhibition have been so favorably noticed.
The exhibits for Paris are being completed and will be forwarded to you about the 21st. inst.
The cabinet woods, I would suggest, should be well french polished in Hobart Town and again on arrival at Paris.

Yours very truly
sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant

Hugh M. Hall Esq.
Secretary to
Exhibition Commissioner
Hobart Town.

Memorandum,

The Civil Commandant has to request that the sum of One pound seventeen shillings & six pence (£1.17.6) belonging to the Invalid Pass Holder named in the margin, which was forwarded to the Assistant Commissary General for safe keeping on the 13th August last, may be transmitted to this Office.

Margin Note: Tho. Blake
Argyle.

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Office for the man's use- the Comptroller General upon his last visit to Port Arthur having sanctioned the prisoners' expending the same.

J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
7th Novr. 1866

The Honble.
The Comp. General.

Memorandum,

The Civil Commandant has to report for the information of the Comptroller General that in consequence of the recent decease of Henry Downer, Colonial Pauper (who had formerly been a Stipendiary of the Convict Department) his widow, Anne Downer, will proceed to Hobart Town by the next trip of the Schooner.
Mrs Downer, who has also been maintained here as a Colonial pauper for several years is an aged and most respectable person, and is desirous of being received into the Pauper Infirmary at Hobart Town
Will the Comptroller General therefore have the goodness to obtain the necessary authority for her admission as an inmate of that Institution.

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
7th Novr. 1866

The Honble.
The Comp. General.

Certified that Mrs Agnes Susan Baker was employed as Mistress of the Free School at Port Arthur from the 21st March to the 22nd August 1866 during which time I had every reason to be satisfied with her abilities as a Teacher, and with the progress the children made under her tuition.

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
7th Novr. 1866

Port Arthur
Tasman's Peninsula

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Memo

The Convict named in the margin who was received from Hobart Town last night appears to the Civil Commandant to be of unsound mind, and in order to prevent him from committing violence, to which he is evidently disposed, the Commandant requests that the Prisoner may be placed under observation, until the Medical Officer shall be able to pronounce upon his mental condition.

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
8/11/66

The Senior Medical Officer
Port Arthur.

Margin note: John Moore
"Blenheim"

Cascades 9th Novr. 1866

Sir,

I regret to report that the old building known as the Superintendent's house at this Station has been burnt down accidentally this afternoon. Mr Tapp who was here can explain all particulars.

I have the honor to remain, Sir
Your obedt. servt.
sd. John Cassidy
in charge

The Civil Commandant
Port Arthur

Port Arthur
9th Novr. 1866 9.15 P.M.

Sir,

I am sorry to have to report that my intended jovial holiday has turned out to be a fiery one.

On arriving at Cascades we concluded to have one repast under a bush, one side of the ruin known as the Superintendent's quarters- after perambulating the house, about 1 o'clock I went and picked up a few sticks and leaves to kindle a fire in one of the fire places to boil some water to make coffee- this

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this was scarcely done and the coffee being made use of, when looking up we perceived the roof of the house in flames. Every man belonging to the Station was in a few minutes on the spot for the Prisoners in the Square saw the fire burst out amongst the shingles on the roof- and ran at once over to us- every possible attempt was made to extinguish the fire but in vain- the old shingles like match wood- blazed away and bade defiance to all our endeavours-

*James Boyd (Civil Commandant, Port Arthur) - Office letterbook, 1866-1869 from Tasmanian Papers, 1821-1877
Tas. Papers 315*

Mitchell Library, State Library of NSW

every door belonging to the interior of the building was however saved- several of the men worked until their clothing ignited, endeavouring to arrest the progress of the fire but of no avail- that portion of the building which constituted the house was in less than $\frac{3}{4}$ of an hour roofless and the verandah fallen in- the outhouses were however saved and the fences also. It appears that a hole had fallen out in the brickwork of the chimney through which some sparks of fire passed from below and commenced their devastating work in the interior of the roof, and a strong breeze blowing from the bay increased the fury of the fire and rendered it impossible for us to stop its course.

Myself, Mr Cassidy & Constable Wade and all the men did our best to save all we could & put out the fire- using water on the roof- beating the flames with long green bushes- stripping off shingles etc. but of no avail- between 3 and 4 o'clock the men began to gather up the nails from among the burned pieces of wood & continued until $\frac{1}{2}$ past 4- when we left for home- sorrowful & sad enough for what had transpired.

I beg to remain, Sir
in great haste
Your most obedt. Servt.
sd. J.C. Yapp

The Civil Commandant,

Endorsement.

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Endorsement on the preceding letter

Forwarded for the information of the Comptroller General. The building referred to herein, like many others at the old probation Stations, was in a ruinous state – a considerable part of the woodwork having been removed to Port Arthur by the Royal Engineer Department 10 years ago.

The accident appears to have been attributable to some of the dry decayed shingles taking fire through an opening in one of the falling down chimnies in the fire place of which Mr Tapp and his family were preparing some refreshment- he having obtained permission to take his family as far as Cascade Station for change on the Prince of Wales' Birthday.

sd. J. Boyd
10/11/66

The Honble.
The Comp. General

Memo

Will the Comptroller General have the goodness to direct that the Envelopes and note paper which he informed me, at his recent visit of inspection, had been ordered to be sent down for my use, may be forwarded by return of the Schooner. I had hoped that this would have been ~~down~~ done by the last trip, but the matter appears to have been lost sight of and meanwhile I have no suitable stationery for my own public use.

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
10th Novr. 1866.

The Honble
W. Nairn Esq.
Comptroller General.

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Memo

Will the Assistant Commissary General have the goodness to furnish the Civil Commandant with a supply of printed forms of Imprest for the Public Postal service, as soon as possible.

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant 10th Novr. 1866

The Asst. Commiss. Genl.
Hobarton.

Memo (Timber Materials etc.)

The enclosed Return in Duplicate, is forwarded to accompany the half yearly Dry Stove account prepared to 30th June last.

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
10th Novr. 1866

The Honble.
The Comp. General

Endorsement on application from Henry Vallentine per "John Renwick" to be allowed to be discharged at Port Arthur.

Submitted & recommended that Vallentine be discharged direct from Port Arthur as was allowed in the case of Henry Hardinge a short time ago.

sd. J. Boyd
10th Novr. 1866

The Honble.
The Comp. General.

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Mr Irwin D. Malcolin- T.L.
Immediate

Will the Comptroller General have the goodness to inform the Civil Commandant whether this man is still a Ticket of Leave holder or otherwise.

Sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
Port Arthur 12/11/66

The Honble.
The Comptroller General

Memo

The accompanying forms are forwarded to the Comptroller General for the purpose of being submitted to the Governments of the neighbouring Colonies with the request that they may be filled up and returned.

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant

Port Arthur
14 Novr. 1866.

Endorsement

The cheque for Colin Blake has been received, and this document returned with the Civil Commandant's compliments

sd. J. Boyd
15/11/66

Blake's receipt enclosed

The Commissariat Storekeeper

Endorsement on approval of Mr Geo. Ashton as Asst. Overseer

Returned for correction- Ashton was recommended in the place of Mc Villy promoted to Schoolmaster.

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
15th Novr. 1866

The Honble.
The Comp. General.

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(Copy)

24 20 6
2

Comptroller General's Office
12th Nov 1866

Memorandum,

In accordance with the recommendation submitted in the Commandant's Memorandum of the 24th October 1866, the Governor has approved of six mechanics being employed in the completion of the new Lunatic Depot at Port Arthur.

These mechanics are to be employed exclusively on this work, and are to be dispensed with immediately the work is completed.

They will receive pay at the rate of six shillings per working day and a police ration, & the expense will be charged to the Lunatics.

C.Y. Belstead
for the Comptroller General

The Civil Commandant

Port Arthur

Endorsed on the above.

The mechanics required are Carpenters & Joiners and as such men cannot be hired at port Arthur it is requested that they may be engaged in Hobart Town as soon as possible, their services being urgently required. It will be necessary that they bring their tools and are given to understand that they will have to work the same number of hours that similar mechanics are employed in Hobart Town – that they must conform to the regulations of the Establishment & give a month's notice of their intention to leave.

sd. J. Boyd
15/11/66
Comp. General

[The following is overwriting on the above]

C.B.

The carpenters will work for 12 months – there are no quarters available for married men – these points had better be made known to the Mechanics – only five will be required at present as the Foreman of Works informs me he can obtain the services of a sixth.

sd. J. Boyd

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Endorsement on Memo from Principle of the Queen's Orphan School New Town respecting 12 pieces of quartering being deficient.

Referred to the Coxswain commanding Schooner Harriet – who will make enquires about the missing timber & report result.

Sd.
J. Boyd
16/11/66

Mr. Griffiths

In continuation of certain returns required by application from the Colonial Secretary's office - vide 31st [indecipherable] – in the cases of paupers in Hospital &

[indecipherable] a memo calling again for the Returns to be [indecipherable]-finished costs 15/11/66.

Forwarded to the Senior Medical Officer whose particular attention is called to the within memo – two further communications on this subject have been transmitted to the Senior Medical Officer.

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
Rd. 17/11/66

The Senior Medical Officer

Hospital Port Arthur
Nov. 18th 1866

Memorandum,

The Senior Medical Officer was struck in the face by a prisoner named I.N. McDonald, during the inspection of the sick at the Penitentiary this morning.

*James Boyd (Civil Commandant, Port Arthur) - Office letterbook, 1866-1869 from Tasmanian Papers, 1821-1877
Tas. Papers 315*

Mitchell Library, State Library of NSW

The injuries Dr. Lewis has received will render him quite unfit to

[the following overwritten on the above]

The Medical Report in the case of Colonial paupers referred to were received from the Medical Officer on 24th November 1866 & transmitted to the Comptroller General's office on the same date.

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to perform his duties at present.

sd. Geo Dinham
J.M.O.

Endorsement

Submitted for the information of the Comptroller General & requested to be returned. The convict McDonald was at once confined in the Separate Prison.

sd. J. Boyd
18/11/66

The Comp. General

Memorandum

The sum of four shillings and six pence is forwarded herewith to be given to the prisoner named in the margin who was sent to the Prisoners Barrks by last trip of the Govnt Schooner.

A receipt for the same is requested to be returned.

sd. J. Hill
Clerk
for the Civil Commandant
17/11/66

The Superinted
Pris. & Barrs.
Hobt. Town

[Margin]

Ins. Porter
England

Money given up for
safe keeping
4s/6d

[End of margin]

Endsd on Comp. General's Memo dated 23rd October 66, respecting Edward Foster.

There are two men in the Invalid yard named Foster & Foster. Charles Foster made application to the Comptroller General to go to Hobart Town . Charles Foster is quite blind, infirm and unable to earn his livelihood. Edward Foster states that he did not make application.

sd. Geo. Dinham
J.M.O.
Novr 17TH 1866

The Civil Commandant

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Endorsement on Comp. General's Memo 9 (dated 26th Oct 66) respectg John Hayes.

John Hayes is blind, almost bedridden & quite unable to earn his livelihood. I consider that he is not in a fit state of health to go to Town.

sd. Geo Dinham
J.M.O.
Nov 17th 1866

The Civil Commandant

Endorsement on List of Stores for condemnation.

It is requested that the stores be surveyed as soon as possible in order that, if condemned, they may be struck off the accounts during the present half year.

sd. J. Boyd
17/11/6

The Comptroller General

Endorsement on correspondence respecting 12 pieces of quartering being deficient as stated by the Principle of Queens Asylum.

These papers are submitted for the information and instruction of the Comptroller General as regards the missing timber referred to by the Principle of the Queen's Asylum.

sd. J. Boyd
20/11/66

The
Comptroller General

Memo to the Superintendent Prsn barracks requesting him not to discharge the prisoners sent to the Barracks by the schooner until such time as he receives further instructions from the Comptroller General.

21/11/66

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Memorandum

The prisoners named in the margin are forwarded to the Prisoners Barrack in accordance with instructions received from the Comptroller General.

They are not to be discharged until such time as the Superintendent receives instructions from the Comptroller General.

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
Port Arthur

The Superintendent
Prison Barracks

[Margin]

Hugh Joshuar
" by Montague"

Thos. Riley
J. Matson

Mr. Wheeler as Allum
"Anson"

Richd Cobbett
"York"

John Rooke
"Comm Hayes"

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Port Arthur 21st Novr 1866

Memo

By an order dated 3rd August 1866 the system of allowing money earnings for prisoners under sentence of life was to be altogether discontinued from the 15th of that month.

As, however, the money named in the margin, who had been discharged by the present trip of the schooner to the Prisoner Barracks, Hobart Town, has considered himself most satisfactory in every respect at the [indecipherable], I beg to strongly recommend that the maximum rate of earnings allowed to other convicts from the date specified (15/8/66) to the present may be limited to [indecipherable] – a supplementary [indecipherable] has been prepared for the [indecipherable] and forwarded herewith.

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant

The Honable
The Comptroller General

The Commissariat Storekeeper presents his compliments to the Civil Commandant and trusts he will order the schooner direct to Hobart Town.

The Board of Survey having condemned today the quality of the tobacco, leaves therefore the Commissariat Storekeeper only 20 pounds of a former stock for issue. From this being a serious matter, Mr. Pringle makes this application. There are also many other Commissariat Stores which are required to supply the Commissariat's command.

sd. James J. Pringle
Commissariat Port Arthur
20th Nov 1866

The Civil Commandant

Memo

The Civil Commandant presents his compliments to the Commissariat Storekeeper and in compliance with his request of last evening has to inform Mr. Pringle that the schooner will proceed direct to Hobart Town tomorrow morning weather permitting.

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
21st Novr 1866

The Commisst. Storekeeper

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Civil Commandant's Office
Port Arthur
21st Novr. 1866

John Doherty as McDonald (margin note)
"Lord Dalhousie"

Memo

The Convict named in the margin has been placed in confinement for having assaulted Dr Lewis, the Junior Medical Officer, on the 18th inst. by striking him a violent blow with his clenched fist on the face while he was sitting writing- the Prisoner having reported himself sick and was at the time of the Assault standing before the Junior Medical Officer.

Dr Lewis was much bruised and bled considerably from the effects of the blow which the Prisoner attempted to repeat but was restrained by the Station Officer assisted by some Prisoners who were standing near.

The Junior Medical Officer is recovering and has today been able to leave his quarters.

The Prisoner Doherty, as will be seen on reference to his police record (herewith) is free by servitude, but at present laboring under Magisterial Sentences, and will, I apprehend, have to be tried under the "Offenders' Control Act" 19 Vict. No 6, by the 15th section of which I shall however be precluded from sitting as a Justice. It will therefore be necessary to keep the man in confinement, until a second Magistrate can be obtained from Hobart Town to assist Dr Dinham- unless the Comptroller General considers that under the special circumstances of the case I might act. Will the Comptroller General have the goodness to favor me with instructions on the subject.

sd J. Boyd
Civil Commandant

The Honble
The Comp. General.

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Port Arthur
Novr. 23rd 1866

Sir,

I beg most respectfully to bring under your notice the man Thomas Irwin who is employed as a painter and glazier, and who has work to perform which no other man at Port Arthur can do. He is a very industrious and useful man, and being at the present time in receipt of only 3d per day, I strongly recommend that his pay be increased to 6d per day.

Your very obedt. Servt.
sd. Geo. Strutt

Civil Commandant,
Endorsement on the above.

Submitted & recommended, Irwin is the man who was formerly a Lunatic and ordered to be detained during the Queen's pleasure. He is most industrious and deserves the small rate of pay now recommended.

sd J Boyd
24/11/66

The Comp. General

Endorsement on Petition of Israel Hoare per "Theresa" for mitigation of sentence. Forwarded- medical report herewith. The Petitioner is a hard working man so far as his improved strength admits- and his general conduct at Port Arthur has been quite satisfactory. I beg to recommend his case for favorable consideration.

sd, J Boyd
24 Novr. 1866.

The Honble.
The Comp. General.

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(margin note: Jas. Hutchins)

Memorandum

The Civil Commandant reports to the Comptroller General that the Free Pauper named in the margin has complained that a man named Samuel Smith lately employed as an Attendant of Insane at Port Arthur refused to pay him the sum of £2 which he, the pauper, recently lent to the Attendant's wife.

Smith, upon being questioned stated that he had asked his wife whether she had borrowed the sum referred to and that she admitted having done so- the Commandant then requested him to pay the man either in cash or to give him a procuration to draw his pay to the amount of the debt- this Smith positively refused to do, alleging that he never gave his wife authority to borrow the money.

The Commandant therefore dismissed him last evening, the more especially, as he had reason to know that Smith, who is an old Convict, was endeavoring to dishonestly evade the payment of a debt to a person in Hobart Town who had sued him in the Court of Requests. The Commandant now recommends that the sum of £2 may be stopped by the Commissariat from the pay due to Smith and forwarded to the Free Pauper Hutchins who is blind.

sd. J. Boyd.
Civil Commandant

The Honble.
The Comp. Genl.

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Endorsement on the Separate Prison return of 10th Nov '66 respecting John Barnes "Mayda"
The Senior Medical Officer is requested to report as to the condition of this man- & whether any, & if so, what change is needed

sd W Nairn 14th Novr. 1866

The Civil Commandant.

Forwarded to the Senior Medical Officer

sd. J. Boyd
20/11/66

Endorsement to the above

Margin note: John Barnes
"Mayda"

Hospital
Nov. 21st 1866.

The man named in the margin, at present confined in the Separate prison is in good bodily health and his mental condition appears to me to be somewhat improved, so far as his health is concerned there is no change needed.

sd. Geo. Dinham
S.M.O.

The Civil Commandant

Returned the Comptroller General
sd. J. Boyd.
22/11/66

Memorandum,
Margin note: Wm. Irvine
Dr. Malcolm

The Civil Commandant has to report that no tidings have yet been heard of the Pauper named in the margin who was reported in last week's return of Receipts and Discharges as having absented himself from the Pauper Depot at Port Arthur on the 9th inst. Irvine has very frequently been guilty of similar conduct before, absenting himself for several days at a time, but never for so long a period as on the present occasion. The last time he was brought back, on the 31st March 1865, he was tried here for being "Absent without leave" he being at that time a

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a Ticket of Leave Holder, and received a sentence of 6 months imprisonment & hard labor. Several scouring parties have been sent out in all directions in the bush in search of the Pauper who is supposed to be living in some hollow tree and subsisting on native game which abounds at the present season in all parts of the bush. A Report will be forwarded as soon as his whereabouts are discovered.

sd. J. Boyd.
Civil Commandant
24th Nov. 1866.

The Honble.
The Comp. General.

Crabtree Abraham T of L "K. T. Forbes"

The Governor approves of the man above named being released from Port Arthur on his Colonial Conditional Pardon when he is in a position to leave the Colony.

sd. W Nairn
Comptroller General
29th/6/66

Will consider his case
C G's Decision at Port Arthur 22/11/66

Memorandum

The Prisoner above named saw the Comptroller General on his late visit to Port Arthur with a view to being placed on pay as a Laborer at 1/- or 2/- per diem in order to enable him to fulfil the conditions of his Colonial Conditional Pardon which arrangement the Comptroller General would not sanction but he informed the Prisoner that he would consider the case.
Crabtree's

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Crabtree's earnings to the present time amount to £2.0.0 and as it would be a very long time at the present authorized rates before the prisoner could gain sufficient money to leave the Colony the Civil Commandant recommends that he may be granted an increase rate of earnings say 1/- per diem.

sd. J. Boyd.
Civil Commandant
24/11/66

The Honble.
The Comp. General

Endorsement on application from Jane Qusted in reference to a debt of £3.12.6 due to her by Constable Keeper.

Forwarded to Constable Keeper who is directed to settle this account without delay, otherwise his services will be dispensed with at Port Arthur as the Civil Commandant will not retain in the Public Service here anyone who does not pay his first debts.

By order
J.L. Hill
Clerk
Civil Commdt's Office
26/11/66

Constable Keeper
Port Arthur.

Memo
Will the Comptroller General have the goodness to inform the Civil Commandant what is to be done with the Cabinet-Woods collected for the Paris Exhibition to which it appears that no contributions are now to be sent from Tasmania.

The Woods would realise a considerable sum if sold by public auction which the Civil Commandant recommends should be done at Hobart Town, and advertised in the Hobart Town & Launceston Newspapers a fortnight at least before the day

(The letter is overwritten vertically:
I recommend that the woods be sold at auction by the Government Auctioneer

sd W Nairn
1st Dec. '66

The Honble.
Col. Secretary

Approved- & the Comp. Genl. is requested to obtain an Inventory of the Timber to be sold.

sd. Richard Dry
4/12/66

The Commandant is requested to forward an Inventory of the Timber

sd. C. T. Belstead for C.G.
5/12/66

Inventory of Timber herewith to which a list of the skins collected for the Paris Exhibition has been added

sd. J. Boyd.
8/12/66

The Comp. Genl.

I would suggest that the whole be sold in lots

sd. J.B.)

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day of sale
sd J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
28th Novr. 1866.

The Honble
The Comptroller General

John Heyward
(Tinman & Plumber)

Memo

The mechanic above named states that some error exists in the amount of his pay Cheque of last month. The amount of Cheque received was £1.19.10 whereas the pay due to him as a Paid Warder-Pauper's Depot from 3rd to 24th Octr. was £2.2.0 and as Tinman and Plumber from 25th to 31st Oct £0.14.0 - Total £2.16.0 less 2/2 charges shewn on list forwarded to the Commissariat on 12th inst.

It seems that his salary as a Paid Mechanic has been overlooked.

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
28/11/66

The Asst. Commissary General in charge
Hobart Town

Endorsement on memo' respectg. Wm. Tidey in Chambers per "Ratcliffe 2"

From an examination of this prisoner with the Police Record of Wm. Tidey per "Ratcliffe 2", it is found that he agrees with the personal description given therein, except that he is lame of the left leg the foot of which leg is also deformed. He, however, admits himself that he arrived by the ship Ratcliffe 2 as William Tidey which has also been confirmed by another prisoner who came out in the same Ship.

sd. J. Boyd.
Civil Commandant
28/11/66.

The Honble.
The Comp. General.

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Civil Commandant's Office
Port Arthur. 27 November 1866.

Sir,

With reference to the proposed resumption of the Military Guard at Port Arthur, to which subject you have directed my attention, I have the honor to submit the following remarks for consideration.

1st. A guard of military is, in my opinion objectionable and unsuitable for the Establishment so composed as this, which is not strictly penal but consists of Prisoners, free paupers, Invalids and Lunatics. When the Military were stationed at Port Arthur in former years, there was a very large body of dangerous prisoners on Tasman's Peninsula. The approaches by land to which viz. Eagle Hawk neck and East Bay necks, were guarded by detachments of soldiers. Those detachments have long since been replaced by Constables without weakening in any degree the security of the peninsula; and on the occasion of the troops being withdrawn from Port Arthur in August 1863 for active service in New Zealand- a guard of constables was also substituted for them and has continued to the present time with perfect success.

The number of Convicts now requiring the presence of an armed force for the purpose of overcoming them in any attempt at outbreak, is extremely small. I am therefore convinced that a body of trained disciplined troops kept here in partial idleness would be most undesirable in every point of view, both as regards the injurious effects which would be produced upon the soldiers themselves and by disturbing the present order and regularity of the station.

Much trouble and annoyance were experienced while the Military were here through the frequent irregularities arising from the intercourse with the lower grades of the stipendiaries and the paupers, of which latter class there is now a larger number than formerly, and as the detachments were regularly supplied with Beer, the Barracks were often visited by Civilians in the evening for the purpose of procuring drink, a practice which led to great evils.

Since the departure of the Military nothing could be more quiet and orderly than the state of the Establishment. As

The Honble
The Comptroller General

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(This page cross-hatched completely)

As an evidence of the unsuitableness of troops for this service, I may mention that some years ago, when several prisoners absconded from one of the settlement gangs, and when it was found necessary to despatch every Constable possible in pursuit of them, I applied to the Officer commanding the detachment for a few of his men to guard the chain gang and was refused that [indecipherable]. The matter was referred to Hobart and when the Colonial Commissioner decided that soldiers cannot be employed in the manner requested but might be called out by me in my capacity as a Magistrate thus shewing that they were mainly a force reserve for quelling extremely riotous proceedings – a state of things to which, I am happy to say today, has never occurred at any Establishment that I have had the honour to command – nor is there the least grounds to anticipate that anything of the kind will [indecipherable] take place here.

[indecipherable] I acquire in [indecipherable] an efficient Constabulary force which being under my exclusive control can be promptly in any manner that the exigencies of the service may call for, and I believe a similar practice is now in general use at the [indecipherable] of establishments in Great Britain.

The question of [indecipherable] [indecipherable] [indecipherable] to be considered – the present [indecipherable] Guard costs [indecipherable] to £1240 per [indecipherable] including rations - the force being - 1 Sergeant at 5/6; 1 Corporal at 4/6 and 10 Constables at 4/6 per diem each – I propose to discontinue their services and to appoint 1 Sergeant at 5/0

*James Boyd (Civil Commandant, Port Arthur) - Office letterbook, 1866-1869 from Tasmanian Papers, 1821-1877
Tas. Papers 315*

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and 7 Constables at 3/6 a day with rations and these men could easily be obtained from the present 12 the whole of whom have expressed their willingness to [indcipherable] upon the [indcipherable] of pay – viz. 2/6. To the 8 Constables proposed I should be able to add by a re-arrangement of [indcipherable] the [indcipherable] from the General Constabulary so that the same [indcipherable] force would be at the guard room as at present – viz. 12 by night and 6 by day.

This [indcipherable] I consider to be necessary as the arms of the [indcipherable] and [indcipherable] [indcipherable] placed in the guard house for safety and in [indcipherable] to be kept at all times clean and [indcipherable] for immediate use consequently – it is there alone, and not here at so distant a position as the Military Barracks, where the [indcipherable] force [indcipherable] [indcipherable].

These arrangements would only cost £492 a year or £708 less than the charge for the present guard – I therefore strongly advise their adoption. I also recommend that Ma [indcipherable] be requested to make only 4 trips a year instead of 6 as at present by which change a saving of 450 £ per annum would be effected, thereby reducing the charge for the proposed guard to £592 yearly a saving of £850

3rd It may be observed that the Barracks heretofore occupied by the Military and now used as storerooms for which purpose they have been fitted up and the [indcipherable] of the stores therefore would cause much inconvenience and confusion In addition to this objection considerable expense would have to be wasted as a number of mechanics would have to be [indcipherable] for the purpose of rendering the buildings fit for the reception of the troops. I may [indcipherable] you [indcipherable] [indcipherable] [indcipherable] great fault was found with the defective state and construction of these. [indcipherable] as also [indcipherable] the [indcipherable] of a proper Hospital and the [indcipherable] [indcipherable]. (Sauthey said [indcipherable][indcipherable]) which [indcipherable] [indcipherable] into Military Establishments and taxation of late [indcipherable] which [indcipherable] to [indcipherable] [indcipherable] their [indcipherable] and I fear that the [indcipherable] to solicit changes and improvements has been carried out and described in the accounts as for [indcipherable] in the settled quarters [indcipherable] [indcipherable] the [indcipherable] of the troops from Port Arthur. I would also make the officials see deficiencies formerly complained of [indcipherable] to the [indcipherable] [indcipherable] authorities.

I have the honour to be
Your most obedient Servant
S.(gd.) J Boyd
Civil Commandant

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[indcipherable] on Hosp/l A/C of cost of Rations and Light for Octr – Decr from Commissariat Storekeeper

According to contract prices known at this Office, this account appears to be in error in many of the – The [indcipherable] issue of flour was 6665 lb and not 7064 lb – the total cost of Rations is £ 188-19-5 not £178-10-11/2 – Extras £65-5-21/4 exclusive of a Bottle of Sherry the price of which is not known here, and not to 64-13-4 as shown herein. Light should be £7-11-21/2 and not £7-9-11 – A corrected account is required as soon as possible.

For J Boyd
Civil Commandant Port Arthur
The [indcipherable] Storekeeper

(12 Breech loading Carbines)

Memo

Certificates of the receipt of the articles mentioned in the annexed accounts have been endorsed on the documents – It is requested that a delivery voucher to accompany the Dry Store accounts in support of these Stores may be transmitted as soon as possible.\sd. J.

Boyd
Civil Commandant
The Honble.
The Compr. General

Endorsed on Petition of John Day “Hydrabad”.

Forwarded
Sd. J Boyd
5/12/66
The Honble
The Comp. General

[page 211]

Hospital Port Arthur
Decr 3rd 1866

The man named in the margin [Wm. Childs “Maitland”] is at present in Hospital suffering from Disease of the Liver, he is unfit to be discharged and some time will elapse before he will be able to gain his livelihood

Sd. Geo Dinham
S. M. O.
The Civil Commandant

Endorsed on the above

Forwarded for the information of the Comptroller General.

It is requested that an order may be sent for this man’s maintenance at Port Arthur as a Colonial Pauper, he having completed on the 3rd inst. the sentence of 6 years Penal Servitude passed upon him at the Supreme Court Hobart Town on the 4th Decr. 1866 for an “Indecent Assault upon a girl”, during which time he was chargeable as a Colonial Effective

sd. J Boyd
Civil Commandant
3rd Decr. 1866

The Honble
The Comp. General

Port Arthur
5th Decr 1866

Sir

I have the honor to enclose herewith a Cheque for the sum of £11.10.0 in payment of 46 Dog licences issued on Tasman’s Peninsula as specified on the other side.

The licence book has

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Memorandum,

In applying for 150 Store Wethers for the purpose of being fattened upon the Stubble and thereby greatly improving the land under Cultivation, I think it desirable to submit the annexed

*James Boyd (Civil Commandant, Port Arthur) - Office letterbook, 1866-1869 from Tasmanian Papers, 1821-1877
Tas. Papers 315*

Mitchell Library, State Library of NSW

report shewing the result of the last purchase, which it will be observed gives a profit of £19.4.11½d, on the 99 Slaughtered. – besides cleaning and fertilizing the land to an extent which adds materially to its Condition and productiveness.

As regards the Ewes purchased, these were placed upon Slipen Island and the result has been also most satisfactory. An increase of 96 per Cent having taken place, which is unusually high, and the lambs are reported by the Superintendent of Agriculture and the Herd to be of a very superior description.- the Wool of these Ewes and Lambs will further realize a considerable Amount this season.

Signed J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
Port Arthur
5th December 1866

The Honble
The Comptroller General

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Wethers purchased in 1865, at 16/- each	79.4.0
Expenses	1.0.0
Total	£80.4.0

(100 were stated to have been purchased but one turned out to be a Ewe.)

The Whole Slaughtered and realised as follows,

3.843 8. lbs at 33/3 per 100lbs	63.17.11½
1.173 4 lbs at 45s/10 per 100 lbs	26.17.9
99 Skins supposed to have brought 1/3 each	6.3.9
Offal for [indecipherable] estimated at 6d per Sheep	2.9.6
	£99.8.11½
Deduct	£80.4.0
Profit	£19.4.11½

Signed J. Boyd
Civil Commandant

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has been transmitted to the Colonial Auditor by this post. A receipt is requested for the amount.

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your most Obedt Servt
sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant

The Honble
The Colonial Treasurer

Memo'

The Civil Commandant begs to inform the Colonial Auditor that he has transmitted for his examination two Dog licence books which will show that 46 licences have been issued during the current year to sundry persons keeping Dogs on Tasman's Peninsula.

The sum of £11.10.0 has also been, by this post, forwarded for those licences, to the Honble the Colonial Treasurer.

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
5th Decr 1866

The Colonial Auditor

(Trice List of Convict Stores)

Endorset on List.

Copied at Port Arthur returned to the Comptroller General

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
7/12/66

The Honble
The Comp. Genl.

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Memorandum,

(Joseph Belcher
"[indecipherable] Calvin"
Colonial Funds.)

The Civil Commandant presents his compliments to the Colonial Auditor and begs to inform him that he has not received the Coroners' fee for holding an Inquest on the body of the Prisoner named in the margin on the 12th Oct last, accounts for which were forwarded to the Colonial Secretary's Office on the 13th of October last.

(John Shaw
"[indecipherable] Jardine"
Colonial Funds)

The Commandant would also be glad to learn if the fee for holding an Inquest on the body of the Pauper named in the Margin on the 11th June last, accounts for which were forwarded to the Colonial Secretary's Office on the 4th of July last, has been forwarded?

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
and Coroner
dated 8/12/66

The Colonial Auditor
Hobart Town

Memorandum

Names in margin:
Wm Mann

“(indecipherable Kennaway”
Campbell P.O. 30/9/64
Obt goods by false [indecipherable]

6 mths Impt & HL.
L'ton P.O. 15/12/64
Escaping
3 yrs Impt & H.L in chains

Robt. Fletcher
“China”
Westbury P.O. 4/10/64
Larceny 6mths Impt & HL
L'ton P.O. 15/10/64
Escaping
3 yrs H.L in Chains

The Prisoners named in the margin having completed almost two years in chains of the sentences of 3 years hard labor in chains passed upon them at the police Office Launceston on the 15th December, '66 for Escaping, - the Civil Commandant recommends that they may now be released therefrom. –

Their conduct since their arrival at Port Arthur has been satisfactory

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
8th Decr. 1866

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Memorandum,

Note in margin:
Stephen Larkins
Ldy Franklin
Conditl Pardon

The man named in the margin having been employed as Instructor of Tailors in the Separate Prison for the last two years and upwards, in which capacity he gave every satisfaction, has now been directed to be discharged from detention on completion of the term of Probation which he was ordered to serve. –

There are several men now employed in the Separate Prison as Tailors – a trade which is found not only one of the best adapted to the discipline of the Establishment, but is fairly remunerative, as the prisoners make and repair a large quantity of Clothing. –

Nearly the whole of these men are learners and have made much progress under the careful instruction of Larkins. –

I may also observe that it is absolutely necessary that the Trade Instructor should be a man whose good conduct and prudent reserve may be relied upon for although an Officer or Constable is always present during his visits, an evil disposed person might effect much mischief in his communication with the inmates – therefore such a man as is required, is most difficult to find. –

Under these circumstances, I recommend that Stephen Larkins be hired as Instructor of Tailors at the rate of 2s/0d per diem with a Constable's rations. –

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant

*James Boyd (Civil Commandant, Port Arthur) - Office letterbook, 1866-1869 from Tasmanian Papers, 1821-1877
Tas. Papers 315*

Mitchell Library, State Library of NSW

8th Decr 1866

The Honble
The Comp. General

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Port Arthur
8th December 1866

Sir

I have the honor to enclose herewith Caption of an Inquest held by me on Thursday the 6th inst. on view of the body of James Forbes per Ship "Sir George Seymour" a prisoner under sentence at this Establishment, who was accidentally killed by the falling of a tree at Long Bay Tasman's Peninsula, where he was employed at work on Wednesday the 5th inst.

I have the honor to be
Sir,
Your most Obedt Servt
sd. J. Boyd
Coroner

P. J. Buckland Esq
Registrar
Supreme Court

Hobart Town

Memorandum,

Names in margin:

Thos. Burke
"Scotia"
8/10/66

Allan McNamara
"M. Soames"
17.11.66

Geo. Sidebottom
"Equestrian"
30/11/66

The Prisoners named in the margin who have been serving Probation, are very anxious to receive decisions in their cases.

They were reported on the dates specified under their respective names.

sd. J. Boyd
Port Arthur
8th Decr 1866

The Honble
The Comp General

Endorset on Mrs Bennett's Petition for a mitigation of sentence in favor of her husband
Thomas Bennett per "Rodney"

The Commandant is requested to report when this man will be eligible for

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for his discharge.

sd. W Nairn
1st Decr 1866

This man will be recommended for a remission of 4 months of the sentence of 9 months passed upon him at Port Arthur, which if approved of, will admit of his being discharged at the latter end of April next.

He has been informed of this before.

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
8th Decr 1866

The Honble
The Comp General

Memo'

The accompanying statement is forwarded to the Protestant Chaplain for his perusal and such remarks as he may think desirable to make thereon.

The matter to which the statement refers is currently spoken of at the Settlement, and the Civil Commandant considers it due to the Revd Mr Eastman, the Prisoner Rogers, and the Public Service, that the Chaplain should be made acquainted with it. – If the Convict Rogers has stated that which is false, as regards the conversation he alleges to have had with the Chaplain, he will be punished for gross misconduct, but if Mr Eastman holds or has held any money received from the late Prisoner Thomas Sawyer (as stated by Rogers) it ought to be at once handed over to the Civil Commandant for transmission to the Assistant Commissary General as having been improperly in Sawyer's possession.

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
11th Decr 1866

The Revd
George Eastman
Protestant Chaplain
Port Arthur

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Before J. K. Lewis Esq. Assistant Magistrate

Port Arthur
12th Decr 1866

The statement of John Blake per [indecipherable] a Prisoner under sentence at Port Arthur who saith as follows. –

In 1862 I was living at Mr Cox's Public House in Hobart Town called the London Wine Vaults. I saw a disturbance and went down the Street and saw a Female the worse for drink breaking

*James Boyd (Civil Commandant, Port Arthur) - Office letterbook, 1866-1869 from Tasmanian Papers, 1821-1877
Tas. Papers 315*

Mitchell Library, State Library of NSW

windows, she was completely smothered in blood. I asked her who did it, and she said Blare – I could see that her arms, hands and body were cut by the glass.

I visited her at the hospital and she told me that she was very sorry for what she said against Blare at the Court.

sd. John Blake

Declared before me
at Port Arthur
this twelfth day of December 1866.

sd. J. Kenrick Lewis J.P.

Endorset on the above

Statement made by John Blake per [indecipherable], a Prisoner under sentence at Port Arthur is herewith forwarded.

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
12th Decr 1866

The Honble
The Comp. General

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Memo'

The Civil Commandant presents his compliments to the Protestant Chaplain and with reference to Prisoner Isaac Rogers has to inform him that Rogers has been ordered into confinement charged with gross misconduct in making certain false statements reflecting upon the Revd George Eastman – for which misconduct he will be placed upon trial at noon on Saturday next the 15th inst. when the Chaplain is requested to have the goodness to be in attendance at the Public Office to give evidence in the case.

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
13th Decr 1866

The Protestant Chaplain
Port Arthur.

The Civil Commandant presents his compliments to the Commissariat Storekeeper and in reply to his note of last evening respecting the strip of grass in front of Mr Pringle's Quarters, has to inform him, that it does not form any part of the garden or grounds allotted to either of the Chaplains.

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
15/12/66.

The Commissariat Storekeeper
Port Arthur

Port Arthur
17th Decr 1866

To The Civil Commandant

Honored Sir

I beg most respectfully to apply to you for leave of absence for 14 days to enable me to procure a Situation, and I much regret

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Memo'

The annexed Medical Reports in the cases of Isaac Rogers per "K.S. Forbes" and John Robinson per "Hydrabad" are forwarded to the Senior Medical Officer with the Civil Commandant's compliments – An authority for each of these men begin Invalided is filed in this Office – the authorities were received in Novr 1866.

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
15th Decr 1866

The Senior Medical Officer

Invalid papers of the undermentioned men returned to the Comptroller General's Office.

John Rooke "C. Hayes"	_ Samuel Harris "Theresa"
James Cox "Argyle"	_ John Jones "Blundell"
Thomas J. Oliver "M. of Hastings"	_ John Brown " S. Regent"
James Moss "M. Soames"	_ Chas Ramsden " Blundell"
David Davis " Caledonia"	_ John Conville " S. Aukland"

Endorsd. on the above

Returned to the Comptroller General with the dates when these men were transferred from the Effective Class.

sgd J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
15th December 1866

The Honble
The Comp General

Port Arthur 17th Decr 1866

My dear Sir,

My health being far from good and requiring change I shall be glad to avail myself of the Steamer today to proceed in her to Hobart Town, provided you have no objection to my leaving the Settlement.

Dr. Dinham will undertake

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undertake my duty during my absence.

Believe me

My Dear Sir
Yours faithfully
sd. J. Kerrick Lewis

J. Boyd Esq.

Endorsed on the preceding.

Submitted for approval – Dr. Lewis has been allowed to proceed to Town per Steamer today.

sd. J. Boyd
17/12/66

The Honble
The Comp. General

Port Arthur
17th Decr 1866

To The
Civil Commandant,

Honoured Sir,

I beg most respectfully to apply to you for leave of absence for 14 Days to enable me to procure a Situation, and I much regret that circumstance has so happened to compel you to dispense with my services.

Your most Obedt Servt

ad. John Aharg

Constable Aharg may have leave of absence for 14 days from this date at the expiration of which period his services will no longer be required.

sd. J. Boyd
17/12/66

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Memo

The Civil Commandant has requested me to [indecipherable] the [indecipherable] Storekeeper, Port Arthur, that he is desirous of having the Hospital [indecipherable] as soon as possible – 2 months [indecipherable].

sd. J. C, Tapp
[indecipherable]
19/12/66

The Commissariat Storekeeper
Port Arthur

Will the Assistant Commissary General have the goodness to forward to me for James Frampton the sum of £5 which was transmitted to the Commissariat for safe keeping for Frampton on the 26th July 1865.

Frampton has now completed his sentence & wishes to receive the money through my hands.

(sd) J. Boyd

Civil Commandant
Port Arthur
20th Dec. 1866

The Assistant Commissary General

James Ashcroft "Duncan"

This man was transferred from Effective Class to that of Invalid [indecipherable] on the 20th Decr 65 and removed to Imperial [indecipherable] on the 12th inst.

(sd.) J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
Port Arthur
19th Decr 1866

The Honble
The Comptroller General

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Port Arthur
20th Decr 1866

Sir

I most respectfully beg to remind you that when I had applied for leave of absence you then said you required me on the two following days which are now past.

Perhaps you can now spare me for 5 or 6 days.

I have the honour to be
Sir
Your most obedt. Servt
9sd) K. McKenzie
Supt. Timber

James Boyd Esq. J.P.
Civil Commandant

Mr. McKenzie cannot be spared now nor probably for some time in the future.

sd. J. Boyd
20/12/66

The Supt of Timber

[Margin – Mr. Kennedy 'Blenheim']

Memo

The Civil Commandant presents his compliments to the Lessee of Coal Mines, Tasman's Peninsular, and has to draw his attention to the fact that a person in Mr. Hurst's employ named Harrold had the Prisoner named in the margin in his quarters at the Mines on the night of the 1st where the said Prisoner was found by a Constable sent from Salt Water River. Harrold and his wife being present and in the Prisoner's company at the time.

The Commandant considers it necessary to point out to Mr. Hurst that Harrold has rendered himself liable to a heavy penalty and therefore trusts that he will be removed from the Peninsular in order to deter other persons at the Mines from harbouring Prisoners – a practice which if not checked, is almost certain to occasion very fresh evils.

(sd.) J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
20th Decr 1866

Mr. Jas Hurst
Lessee Coal Mines
Tasman's Peninsular

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Endorsement on application for compensation of George Friend late a Constable at P.A.

Certified that George Friend served as a Constable on Tasman's Peninsular from the 28th June 1865 to 1st Feby 1866 when his services were dispensed with in consequence of his representing himself to be physically unable to proceed to Sloper Island for the purposes of being employed as one of the Crew in the Guard Boat there. He states that he has been ruptured by falling across a thwart in the Woody Island Punt while removing hay from Salt Water River to Eagle Hawk Neck on the 23rd Ocbr 1865 and the Coxswain who was present at the time in charge of the said Punt confirms his statement. I am therefore bound to believe that Friend was injured in the manner stated by him – viz while upon public duty.

(sd) J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
Port Arthu 21st Decr 1866

The Honble
The Comptroller General

[The following was written over the above para.]

I further certify that George Friend discharged his duties to my satisfaction during the period he was employed as a Constable at this Establishment.

(sd) J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
Port Arthur

The Money Earnings pr (Life) sentenced Convicts

Memo

By the latest order on the subject of Convict Earnings which came into operation on the 15th August last – prisoners under sentence of Life were altogether excluded from the advantages thereof.

In the cases, however, of the 3 Life Convicts (Mr. Poole- John Shackleton & J.W. Padfield) already departed on a period of Probation fixed for them to serve for pardons – it is presumed that they will be allowed their savings continuously according to the rates authorized for other men?

Sd J. Boyd
Civil Commandant

Port Arthur
21/12/66

Honble
The Comptroller General

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Respectd Copy of Money Advice to Mr Pringle from Hobart Town

Memo

I have had two hours search for the copy of the enclosed which I made out myself – Pollock being so unwell that he could not hold up his head. I am certain that I sent it to the Civil Commandant as usual with the cheques and pay list and put in accidentally the original as well, which was returned. The copy is never so of course, and that shews that there was no occasion to return both. I would now however put you right in regard to this document coming into your office, that I had no occasion to furnish it at all, I did so at first upon my own feelings of courtesy to the Civil Commandant, not officially but for his private information as regards the Forage allowance chiefly and which I have ever since continued to do upon my own [indecipherable], you will therefore be pleased not to regard the enclosed first copy as an official document to your office.

The Memo.d is such from Head quarters entirely for my own information and guidance.

Dr James I Pringle
Commissariat
21/12/66

Mr Papp Endorsements

I did not know but that this was strictly an official arrangement. When the letter was opened by the Civil Commandant I saw only the original documents and two cheques taken from the envelope by him. Mr Pringle is undoubtedly mistaken in the matter.

The original document was of course returned by the Civil Commandant himself, as it was believed that Mr Pringle intended for the Commandant to peruse the pencil remarks thereon for his confirmation as to a certain intended visitor per Steamer.

P. J. Tapp
C.Clerk
21/12/66

Mr J.I Pringle Comm. Storekeeper

The Commissariat Storekeeper is mistaken in stating so emphatically that the document to which he refers was sent to me.

The envelope contained two cheques and an original paper addressed to Mr Pringle by Mr Honey & did not contain the copy of that paper. The said envelope was opened in the public office in presence of Mr Tapp.

As regards the Commissariat Storekeeper's courtesy in furnishing such papers monthly in his private responsibility I am of course much obliged to him but it might perhaps be better in future to adhere to what is strictly official in this, as well as in other public matters.

Signed J Boyd
C.C. 21/12/66

The Commissariat Storekeeper

Overwritten vertically: Mr Pringle's Memo with these endorsements therein transmitted to his office this day 10 A.M.

J.Tapp

*James Boyd (Civil Commandant, Port Arthur) - Office letterbook, 1866-1869 from Tasmanian Papers, 1821-1877
Tas. Papers 315*

Mitchell Library, State Library of NSW

22nd Dec 1866

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Memorandum

The Civil Commandant has to acknowledge the receipt of Mr Hurst's letter of the 22nd inst. & in compliance with his wishes, and as the man Harrold has faithfully promised never to harbor prisoners any more, also to report immediately to Mr Hurst the fact of any prisoners being on the mines; the Commandant has no objection in this instant to Harrold remaining. The Commandant would however request Mr Hurst to impress upon his men, that this is the only instance in which he will sanction any man's remaining who is known to harbor a prisoner, and also to point out to them the many dangers that are likely to ensue if prisoners are allowed to visit their houses.

sd J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
Port Arthur
24th Decr. 1866

The [indecipherable]
Coal Mines
Tasman's Peninsula

Endorsement on Ration of Meat, Fish, Butter. Eggs & Milk issued to Pauper Depot for the week ending 24/12/66.

Submitted for the perusal of the Comptroller General as the information herein contained may not be uninteresting to him.

sd J. Boyd
24/12/66

The Honble
The Comptroller General.

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Memo

Will the Comptroller General have the goodness to cause an approval to be sent to me for Dr Lewis' present leave of absence and shewing when it will expire.

sd J Boyd.
29 Decr. 1866

The Honble.
The Comptroller General

Memorandum,

Margin note: Edwd. Lee, "Aboukir"

Upon the expiration of the Penal Sentence of the man named in the margin, the Commissariat Storekeeper would feel obliged to the Civil Commandant to allow his discharge to Mr Pringle's private service.

sd. Jas. J. Pringle
Commissariat Port Arthur
31st. Decb. 1866

The Civil Commandant

*James Boyd (Civil Commandant, Port Arthur) - Office letterbook, 1866-1869 from Tasmanian Papers, 1821-1877
Tas. Papers 315
Mitchell Library, State Library of NSW*

It is not desirable that the Prisoner Lee, should remain at Port Arthur after completing his period of detention, I therefore regret being unable to accede to Mr Pringle's request.

sd J Boyd
C.C.
31/12/66.

The Commissariat Storekeeper
Port Arthur.

Memo
The Comptroller General is requested to be good enough to furnish the Civil Commandant with the original police record of Thomas Woods per "Lt. Franklin" shewing the particulars

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particulars of his Life sentence from Home to Sydney and 7 years from Sydney to Norfolk Island.

It is most necessary for keeping old Convicted prisoners under proper control- that any possible information as regards their former career should be afforded. Woods' present record annexed and requested to be returned.

sd J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
31st Decr. 1866

The Honble
The Comp. General.

A.M. Hospital
Port Arthur
Jany. 2nd 1867.

Sir,

I have the honor to place before you for your consideration a few remarks relative to an allowance for extra medical services performed by me on Tasman's Peninsula during the years 1865 & 1866.

In reply to my application for remuneration for those services, His Excellency the Governor was pleased to approve of my receiving the sum of £70.5.5 and a warrant for that amount was signed by me and forwarded through the Civil Commandant's Office. After some time I received notice that a smaller sum had been substituted for the amount previously granted- on the ground I have reason to believe that I had agreed with Dr Bones to perform his part of the medical duties during his absence from Port Arthur.

I wish to state that no such arrangement was entered into by Dr. Bones and

(margin note as per memo June 22nd 1866 and July 6th 1866)

(Overwritten horizontally:

Endorsement-

The rate of remuneration granted was strictly in accordance with regulation namely half the salary of the Junior Medical Officer for the period named from the 1st of January 1865 to 1st Feb '66

sd W. Nairn
4th Decr. 1867

Returned the Senior Medical Officer with the Civil Commandant's compliments

sd J. Boyd
7/1/67

The S.M.O.
Port Arthur.)

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and myself and the public service only was benefitted by my exertions from the time that Officer left Port Arthur in August 1865 until the arrival of his successor in January 1866. I trust after taking these matters into consideration together with the fact that a considerable sum has been saved to the Public wholly by my exertions, and a most onerous and responsible undertaking satisfactorily performed, that I may be allowed to receive the original grant of £70.5.5 as a more adequate recompense for the additional labors imposed upon me during so long a period.

I have the honor to be,
Sir
Your most Obedt. Servant
sd. Geo. Dinham
Senior Medical Officer

The Honble
The Comp. General.

Forwarded to the Civil Commandant for transmission with the Senior Medical Officer's compliments.

sd Geo. Dinham
S.M.O.
2/1/67/

The Civil Commandant

Transmitted and recommended for favorable consideration.

sd. J.Boyd
2/1/67

The Honble
The Comp. General

Endorset. on application for fishing licence to Robert Mclvor.

No objection
sd.J.Boyd
2/1/67

The Honble
The Comp. Genl.

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Endorsement on Memo. from Mr Belstead requesting the Commandant to arrange for the Schooner being in Hobart Town by the 5th inst.
The Schooner proceeded to Hobart Town on the morning of the 1st inst.

sd. J. Boyd
2/1/67

The Honble
The Comp.General

Certified that Mr John Alvares served as constable at Port Arthur from 3rd August 1865 to the 31st December 1866- and left this Establishment in consequence of his services being no longer required. At Mr Alvarez' request I have no objection to state that he conducted himself soberly and honestly whilst under my command.

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
2/1/67

(Margin Note: Wm. Webster "Rodney")

Memo

The Police Record of the prisoner named in the margin is herewith returned to the Comptroller General's Office as it does not appear to be the one which was at Port Arthur when Webster was undergoing a 6 yrs sentence in 1862 & '63.

Webster is a separate treatment character and that most particular point of information does not appear on the document enclosed.

His original Record is requested as soon as possible.

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
28/1/67

The Honble
The Comp. General.

[page 232]

Transmitted to the Asst. Commissary Genl. Hobart Town 5/1/67. The Half Yearly Return of Clothing sold to Constables with cheques

No 296	1.17.4	"Garrett"
46	8.19.7	W. Whittington
1002	3.15.11	O. Fleming
Cash	3.4	
Total	£14.14.2	

Clothing A/c to 21/12/66 (over written)

Memo

The Government printer is requested to be good enough to furnish the particulars specified within, in order to render the "Crime Reports" complete for 1866.

sd J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
9th January

The Government Printer
Hobart Town

Missing from Crime Reports of 1866:

Title Page for 1866
Index " "

No 252 Jan 26th 1866.

Memo

Will the Comptroller General have the goodness to cause a supply of Sheet Almanacs for 1867 to be furnished as soon as possible.

sd J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
9th Jany. 1867.

The Honble.
The Comp. General.

[page 233]

Correspondence respecting Timber required by the Roman Catholic Bishop for the building in Hobart Town – forwarded to the Comptroller General's Office (copy of the same filed in this office)

9th January 1867.

Memorandum,

It is understood that some Elastic Stockings have quite lately been sent to Port Arthur from the Military Store Department, are these now requisitioned for still required, and if so how many? as they appear in two places on the demand, first for 3 and again for 2 .

sd W. Nairn
Comptroller General
Jany. 1867

The Commandant

The stockings sent to Port Arthur are not elastic although the package is marked "elastic hose"- they are merely common cotton stockings and have been submitted to the Senior Medical Officer's inspection, who states that they are altogether unsuitable for the purposes for which elastic stockings are used. 3 elastic stockings are required the particulars of which are given and the Requisition corrected by the Senior Medical Officer.

sd J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
8th January 1867

The Honble
The Comp. General

Memo

The Civil Commandant presents his compliments to the Assistant Commissary General in charge, and in order to enable him to complete certain returns required, has to request that he will

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will have the goodness to cause information on the points stated on the other side to be furnished as soon as possible.

*James Boyd (Civil Commandant, Port Arthur) - Office letterbook, 1866-1869 from Tasmanian Papers, 1821-1877
Tas. Papers 315
Mitchell Library, State Library of NSW*

sd J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
12th January, 1867.

The Asst
Commissary General
Hobart Town.

Value of the Wheat- Station produce- sent from Tasman's Peninsula to the Commissariat in
September last -lbs.58, 680 net wt.

also

Value of the wool forwarded last month- lbs 733 Gross wt.

Margin note: David Cleary "Ratcliffe" 11/1/67 F.T.
Hobt. T.C. 25/11/59
10 yrs P.S. Manslaughter
sd I.L.H.

Sir,

I beg most respectfully to remind you of an application I made to you some short time ago,
soliciting your interest and assistance in obtaining for me some mitigation of sentence on the
grounds of bodily injuries received whilst employed in Mr. Christy's Gang on the 28th July
1864. Any assistance you may be pleased to render me in the matter I shall always
remember with gratitude.

And beg to subscribe myself
Your most Obedt. & humble Servant

sd David Cleary.

The Civil Commandant
Port Arthur.

Endorsements.

[page 235]

Endorsement on the preceding

Will the Senior Medical Officer have the goodness to inform the Civil Commandant the nature
of the injuries sustained by the Prisoner Cleary on the 28th July 1864.

The
Senior Medical Officer

Sd. J Boyd
Civil Commandant
Port Arthur
12th Jany. 1867

Extract from Medical Register No. 1 Ward

"1864 July 28th

David Cleary Ratcliffe 2. This man while employed in moving a heavy piece of timber, slipped and the log struck him directly on the shoulder, fracturing the right clavicle and severely bruising the muscle around the shoulder joint. The seat of fracture is close to the acromial extremity of the bone and the displacement is considerable.”

The Civil commandant

Sd. Geo Dinham
Jany. 14th 1867

Endorsed

Port Arthur
15th Jany. 1867

Memorandum,
I beg respectfully to report for the information of the Civil Commandant that the accident to Prisoner Cleary on the 28th July 1864 occurred in the following manner.
The Gang was engaged bringing a heavy log from the bush to a sawpit – the ground was sloping and there was a large stump hole in the way which I had covered over with skids. Cleary was standing in the hole pushing the

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log onwards with his shoulder and as the log cleared the hole it got a sudden impetus which caused the end of one of the skids to rise and in again coming to the ground the skid struck Cleary on the shoulder. – I had the man immediately removed to the Hospital
sd. E. Christie
Overseer

Submitted + recommended for favourable consideration
Sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
15/1/67

The
Honble
The Comp. General

(Return of Colonial Prisoners)

Memo
The Civil Commandant requests to be informed whether the remission of task credit is to be taken into consideration in compiling this Return, or whether the “free by servitude” is intended to mean the effluence by time of the Prisoners’ sentences respectively without reference to task credit whatever.

Sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
16/1/67

The Honble.
The Comp. General

½ yearly Return of Materials to be supplied to the Colonial Government

Memo
The annexed Draft of Return is forwarded to the Comptroller General for the necessary information as to prices of

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the articles specified therein in order to complete the annual Return now due.

Sd. J. Boyd Civil Commandant

16th January 1867

The Honble.

The Comptroller General

Impression Bay

15th Jany. 1867

Memo

The Officer at Impression Bay begs to inform the Civil Commandant of the state of an old bullock (Paddy) on this Station.

He is unable to walk or even to rise without assistance, appears to be affected in the kidneys, is in tolerable condition. –

A report has been made to the Superintendent of Agriculture, who refers the matter to the Civil Commandant. –

Sd. F. Luttrell

In charge

The Civil Commandant

Endorsement

Is the Bullock fit for slaughter. If so kill him, and send the Carcase to Store.

Sd. J Boyd

Civil Commandant

16th Jany. 1867

The

Superintendent of Agriculture

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Separate Prison

Thursday night

17/1/67

Sir

I regret being obliged to report Constable McGuire to you, for unbecoming and disrespectful conduct towards me as his Superior Officer.

This Constable since the 9th instant, has been on night duty with me, up to last night he has ignited the Lamps with my assistance, but on the occasion referred to, turned round on the stool on which he was standing and addressing me in a most insolent tone said "Its your duty to light the Lamps, and I won't do so any more, Mr Hardy used to light the Lamps for the Constables and you will have to do the same". I replied "do you refuse to light the Lamps?" whereupon he did so in a most ungracious manner accompanying the operation with insolent mutterings. Within the last two or three days his general demeanour and deportment, and mode of addressing me has been pointedly offensive, and

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disrespectful and as I have always treated him with civil courtesy I am at a loss to account for his strange behaviour. This evening (addressing Mr. McGough in my presence) he said "I wish to know who is to light the lamps, this man (turning a contemptuous glance at me) or myself" &c &c in a similar strain. I have at all times treated my official Superiors with that obedience and respect so essential to the maintenance of discipline, and as you have considered me worthy of promotion to my present grade, respectfully trust I shall not be

*James Boyd (Civil Commandant, Port Arthur) - Office letterbook, 1866-1869 from Tasmanian Papers, 1821-1877
Tas. Papers 315*

Mitchell Library, State Library of NSW

deemed unreasonable in expecting and exacting the same, when on duty from my Superiors in office.

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your most obedient Servant
Sd. George Ashton
Asst Overseer

The
Civil Commandant

Endorsement

I have spoken to Constable McGuire on this subject and pointed out to him that he must on no account be disrespectful to Mr Ashton or any other Officer of the Establishment. The practice has always been for the Assistant Overseer on duty to aid the constable in lighting the Prison lamps.

Sd. J Boyd
Civil Comandant
Port Arthur
18th Jany. 1867

Asst.
Overseer Ashton

[indecipherable] be returned

[Note: pages 238 and 239 appear to have been inserted into the original and may be front and back of the same sheet.]

[page 240]

Memo

Will the Rev'd Mr Eastman have the goodness to report whether from his visits to the Free School he considers the present Master and Mistress qualified for the situations they hold. This information is required for transmission to the Comptroller General. Mr & Miss McVilly having been appointed on trial for 3 months which period has expired.

Sd. J Boyd
Civil Commandant
19th Jany. 1867

The Revd. Geo. Eastman
Protestant Chaplain

Very Revd. Dean Maguire
Catholic Chaplain
Port Arthur

Submitted with the reports of the Chaplains for the information of the Comp. General & recommend that Mr & Miss McVilly be confirmed in their present situations as they appear to be qualified to act as Master & Mistress of the childrens' school.

Sd J Boyd
Civil Comt.
19/1/67

The Honble

*James Boyd (Civil Commandant, Port Arthur) - Office letterbook, 1866-1869 from Tasmanian Papers, 1821-1877
Tas. Papers 315
Mitchell Library, State Library of NSW*

The Comp. General

Forms (Superannuation)

A supply of the annexed form is much required.

Sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant

The Honble.
The Comp. General

These Forms will be supplied as cases occur requiring them.

Sd. W Nairn
Comptroller General
11th Jany. 1867

One case has occurred viz. Coxswain Thompson

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who has applied to be superannuated.

Sd. J Boyd
18/1/67

The Honble
Comptroller General

Endorsement on Mr T Oldham's application for Timber.

I annex the report of the Superintendent of Timber for the perusal of the Comptroller General and regret that I am unable to advise that Mr Oldham's offer should be entertained.

sd J. Boyd
19/1/67

The Honble
The Comp. General

Memorandum

[In margin] Thos. Mitchell
indecipherable
Freed Port Arthur 14/1/67
Larceny under £5
1 month Impt, at H. T.
Again tried P. A. 16/1/67
Receiving &c under £
6 mth. Impt & H Accumulation
[end margin text]

The Prisoner named in the margin is forwarded to the House of Correction for Males Hobart Town by this trip of the Schooner "Harriet" in the charge of Constable Keefe of this Establishment.

The sum of one pound sixteen shillings and six pence given up for safe keeping by the Prisoner is enclosed & for which a receipt is requested to be returned.

Warrants (2) and Police Record herewith.

sd. J Boyd
Civil Commandant
19th Jany. 1867

The Superintendent
House of Correction for Males
Hobart Town

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Copy

Vide Page 208

Port Arthur
21st January 1867

Sir

With reference to the recent Authority (herewith) for the reorganization of the Civil Guard I have the honor to recommend that for the purpose of preserving good discipline in that body, One of the 12 Constables may be appointed Corporal with an allowance of 3d per diem extra – making his pay 2/9 instead of 2/6 – the present rate received by the Acting Corporal.

I also recommend that, in order to place the whole of the 10 ordinary Constables of the Guard upon

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an equal status (a point which I consider essential to retaining the services of sufficient men and to prevent dissatisfaction) the four (4) who have been approved to receive only 2/0 a day may be allowed 2/6 each. The Guard will then be as follows

1 Sergeant at 3/0 per diem
1 Corporal at 2/9 per diem
10 Constables at 2/6 per diem

These changes will not entail any additional outlay to the public as I propose to discontinue the extra Warden of Invalided Convicts who was approved of in June last, having made such arrangements as will enable me to do so.

I therefore recommend that the situation referred to may be abolished – the

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pay allowed for which is 2/0 a day and rations valued at £13-1-7 making £49-11-7 per annum – so that the additional pay to the Corporal and four men of the Guard – viz. £41-1-3 will be less by £8-10-4 than the pay and rations of the Warden and a saving effected to that extent.

I have the honor to be

Sir

Your Most Obedient Servant
Sd J Boyd
Civil Commandant

*James Boyd (Civil Commandant, Port Arthur) - Office letterbook, 1866-1869 from Tasmanian Papers, 1821-1877
Tas. Papers 315*

Mitchell Library, State Library of NSW

[page 245]

Memorandum

With reference to my Memo of the 27th October last requesting the opinion of the Law Officers of Crown upon certain points connected with any attempt to escape on the part of any Prisoners on the Peninsula, I shall be glad to receive an answer to my queries as soon as possible in order that the Officers and Constables in charge of Convicts at this Establishment, may be duly instructed on this important subject.

sd. J Boyd
Civil Commandant
19th Jany. 1867

The Honble
The Comptroller General

Endorsement on Petition of Mark Jeffries (Pauper)

Forwarded with copy of evidence – Jeffries is the very worst-conducted Pauper at Port Arthur. He is a notoriously idle and violent man and has been repeatedly punished for Assaults.
Sd J Boyd
23/1/67

The Honble
The Comp. General

Observation on Return of Colonial Prisoners maintained at Port Arthur during 1865 returned to Comptroller General's Office – copy filed in this Office. 23/1/67

Supplied to Port Arthur Sheep 149 – One hundred and forty nine in No 2 at 14/5 each
£107.8.1

Certified that the above have been duly received and will be found credited in the

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Port Arthur Live Stock Returns for the Quarter ending 31st March 1867.

sd. J Boyd
Civil Commandant
23/1/67

The Asst. Commissary General Hobart Town

Henry Valentine
Discharged 26/1/67

Memo

The man above named having completed his sentence and authorised to be discharged to Freedom direct from Port Arthur has been paid the amount of his Prisoners' Earnings (£8.12.8) by Mr Tapp will Mr Reedy have the goodness to forward the cash to me for Mr Tapp or deposit it in the Bank of Van Dieman's Land to his credit, sending a Bank Receipt for the same – Either course will do – as soon as convenient

*James Boyd (Civil Commandant, Port Arthur) - Office letterbook, 1866-1869 from Tasmanian Papers, 1821-1877
Tas. Papers 315
Mitchell Library, State Library of NSW*

Sd. J Boyd

T. P. Reidy Esq.
Sopt. Home of Correction for Males
Hobart Town

Endorsement on application for Timber – required by the Royal Engineers Dept.

Information is requested as to whether 2,000 Boards or 2,000 feet (rung. or Superfl.) of such are required.

Sd. J Boyle
Civil Commandant
26/1/67

The Honble
The Comp. Genl.

[page 247]

Memo

The Civil Commandant has to acknowledge the receipt of Mr Maule's letter of the 22nd inst. applying for a Situation in the Convict Department, and in reply regrets to intimate that he has no employment to offer him.

sd J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
26/1/67

Mr Fredk. H. Maule
Care of
Asst. Overseer Luttrell
Impression Bay
Tasman's Peninsula

Memo

The Drawing paper supplied for the returns appeared too small, consequently I had the forms ruled in Cartridge, believing that such would be preferable, especially as the latter paper was quite as good quality as the former.

The Drawing paper is herewith returned

sd. J.T. Tapp
Chief Clerk
26/1/67

C. Belstead Esq.
Comp. Gen.'s Office
Hobart Town

Memo

Names in margin:

Thos Mitchell
P. Born:
Under Magisterial
sentences

Referring to my Telegram of this day's date – Will the Superintendent have the goodness to report whether the Prisoner named in the Margin, who was forwarded in the charge of Constable Keefe per Schooner on the 22nd. inst, has been received in the House of Correction Hobart Town. –

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
26/1/67

The Superintendent
House of Collection
for Males
Hobart Town

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Endorsement on Constable Newall's application to withdraw his resignation

Constable Newall's resignation has been accepted, and arrangements made for replacing him.

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
26/1/67

Constable Newall
Jlopen Island

Memo'

Will the Comptroller General have the goodness to inform the Civil Commandant whether it is still intended that the new scales of Beef and Rations shall take effect from the 1st of April next.

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
Port Arthur
30th Jany 1867

The Honble
The Comp General

Memorandum (written across previous Memo)

Momorandum

With reference to the Commandant's Memo' of the 30th ulto, as to the commencement of the new scales of rations I am not aware that anything has occurred toalter the decision conveyed in my Memorandum of the 29th of October 1866.

sd. W. Nairn
Comptroller General

J. Boyd Esq.
Civil Commandant

Comptroller General's Office
25th January 1867

Memorandum

With reference to the Commandant's letter of the 21st Instant recommending certain changes in the Civil Guard, as recently constituted, I have been directed by the Governor to refer the Commandant to the suggestions contained in his letter of the 27th of November last which were forwarded to the Secretary of State by His Excellency, and strongly recommended as reasons why the Trooper should not be sent to Port Arthur. His

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Memo

Will the Assistant General have the goodness to cause the sum of £5.10.8 to be forwarded as soon as convenient for Stephen Larkins per "Ldy Franklin" – Prisoner's Earnings – as per abstract dated 8 Decr 1866.

Larkins is employed at Port Arthur as Tailor's Instructor.

Sd J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
Port Arthur
30 Jany 1867

The Assistant Commissary Genl

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His Excellency cannot therefore sanction the additions now proposed by the Commandant

sd. W. Nairn
Comptroller General

James Boyd Esquire

Civil Commandant

Endorsement of the preceding

Memorandum,

Upon referring to my letter of the 27th of November last, the Comptroller General will observe that I did not suggest that 4 Constables at 2/- per diem should be added to the proposed Guard from the general Constabulary.

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
30th Jany 1867

The Honble
The Comp. General

Memo'

Referring to my Memo: of the 28th Nov last, will the Comptroller General have the goodness to inform me whether any decision has been arrived at respecting the disposal of the Woods &c collected for the Paris Exhibition.

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
30th Jany 1867

The Honble
The Comp. General

Acknowledgement of a cheque for £14.8s.8d – Earnings for H. Valentino ~~8-12-8~~ and W. Reith Shaw £5-16-0 – ~~returned~~ with 2 – indecipherable to W. Reidy – Ho of Correct H Town

20/1/67

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Endorset on Observations of Return of Colonial Prisoners maintained at P. A. during 1865 – forwarded to Comp. General's Office (copy filed in this Office). –

2/2/67

Memo'

With reference to Dog Tax, will the Comptroller General have the goodness to inform the Civil Commandant whether any return of the Government Dogs kept on this Peninsula will be required.

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
2nd Feby 1867

The Honble
The Comp. Gen.

Endorset on Chief Clerk's list of Police Records not yet received at this Office.

Edmond de Tremereuc. "Derwent"
Jas Conway as Leary – "Neptune"
Jas Logue "Ratcliffe"
Jas Todd "Nile"

Will the Comptroller General have the goodness to cause the 4 police Records referred to herein to be furnished.

sd. J. Boyd
2/2/67

Endorset. on Observations made by the Asst. Commissary General upon the Port Arthur Quarterly Agricultural Returns for Decr 1866. –

The quantity of Hay bought on the annexed Return – vizt 901 lbs is correct according to the Commissariat Way Bills from time

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to time furnished – vide – documents attached authenticated by the resident Commissariat Office – and the Civil Commandant is prepared to give a further receipt for 176lbs, balance on former receipt for 6838lbs of Hay received.

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
2nd Feby 1867

The Asst.
Commissary General

Forwarded to Comp General

Papers claiming compensation from W Jas Johnson Smith – under keeper of Lunatics – indecipherable

6/2/67

Certified that W James Johnson Smith has served in the Convict Department as an Attendant and Under Keeper of Insane since 1st Oct 1858 and there has discharged his duties with diligence & fidelity.

Sd J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
Port Arthur [indecipherable]
6 Feby 1867

Endorsement on application of Prisoner J.N. Roberts for recommendation for the unexpired period of this sentence to be remitted. –

The applicant Roberts is the Son in law of Under Keeper Smith, who now lies in a hopeless state at this Establishment as certified by the Senior Medical Officer – Mr Smith has no relative in Tasmania except Roberts' Wife who resides in Hobart Town – Roberts will complete the minimum period of detention on the 18th proxo. – His conduct at Port Arthur has been most satisfactory & under these circumstances I strongly advise the remission of the unexpired part of his sentence – police Record herewith

(sd) J. Boyd
C.C.
6th Feby 1867

The Honble
The Comptroller General

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Endorsement on Query respecting Numerical Returns for 31st Decbr. 1866. -

An error in the printed return in having shown, James Cressy a prisoner invalid who has been ordered to be detained under his life sentence of Penal Servitude as one of the 2 Invalids under special order of detention – The return has been corrected and is forwarded herewith.

The Civil Commandant regrets that the Comptroller General should have been obliged to send back these papers thro' an error of judgement on the part of one of the Clerks in this Office.

(sd) J Boyd

*James Boyd (Civil Commandant, Port Arthur) - Office letterbook, 1866-1869 from Tasmanian Papers, 1821-1877
Tas. Papers 315
Mitchell Library, State Library of NSW*

Civil Commandt.
Port Arthur
6th Feby 1867

The Honble
The Compr. General

Notes in margin:

Jas Dickinson
"Aboukir"

Under sentence of 10 yrs imp. Confined in the Separate Prison on arrival at Port Arthur 10/4/66 according to the general Rule for a period of 305 Days of which 294 days are completed

Age 58 years

Geo: Storey.
"Govr Phillip"

P.A. Magist recommendation 19.11.66, 9 months, strict Separate treatment of which period 56 days are completed.

Age 60 years

Memorandum

The Civil Commandant recommends that the prisoners named in the margin who are confined in the Separate Prison under the circumstances specified below their respective names, may, from their advanced age, be now released therefrom, Conduct of both since in the Prison has been satisfactory.

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
Port Arthur
7th February 1867

The Honble
The Comp. General

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Endorsement on Return of Provisions issued to the Pauper Depôt for the week ending 4th Feby 1867.

Submitted for the information of the Comptroller General as regards the Station produce issued in aid of ration meat to the Pauper class. –

(sd) J. Boyd
4/2/67

The Comptroller General

Memorandum

Notes in margin:

Mr Bishop
"Agincourt"
CP

Hobt. P.O. 22/8/65

Larceny 12 [indecipherable] Impt & HL

*James Boyd (Civil Commandant, Port Arthur) - Office letterbook, 1866-1869 from Tasmanian Papers, 1821-1877
Tas. Papers 315*

Mitchell Library, State Library of NSW

Hobt P.O. 16/9/65
Escaping. 3 yrs HL in chains

The Prisoner named in the margin having completed upwards of one half – by lapse of time and task worth credit – of the sentence of hard labor in chains passed upon him at the Police Office Hobart Town, on the 16th Sept 1865 for “Escaping”, the Civil Commandant recommends that he may now be released therefrom.

His conduct since his arrival at Port Arthur has been satisfactory. -

(sd) J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
Port Arthur 4th Feby 1867

The Honble
Comptroller General

Police list of Timber & supplied to Public Dept Treasury [indecipherable] dated 21/12/66 – returned to [indecipherable] with observations as to the very low rates indecipherable &c &c 6/2/67

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Endorsement on Prisoner H. Pooles application to the Chief Justice. –

Adverting to the severity of the original sentence, which was rendered necessary by the extreme prevalence of the crime at the time, I am prepared to recommend a remission, of one half of the the three years probation, provided the Commandant gives a favorable report of this prisoner.

(sd) V. Fleming
Chief Justice
Jany 31st 1867

The enclosed letter from William pole and the Chief Justice's recommendation are forwarded to the Comptroller General for his consideration.

(sd) D.L. Dobson
Attorney General
31st Jany 1867

Forwarded to the Commandant for report

(sd) C.J. Belstead
for C.J.
31st January 1867

I regret that I am unable to report favorably of the Prisoner Poole whose conduct has not been satisfactory of late nor has he been industrious.

(sd) J. Boyd
C.C.
6/2/67

The Honble
The Comptroller General

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Civil Commandant's Office
Port Arthur
6th Feby 1867

Note in margin:

Date of W McKenzie: (the present Supdt of Timber) first apprenticed at P.A. – 25/5/60

Sir

In consequence of the small quantity of timber now required to be cut at Port Arthur, and having regard also to the fact that, owing to the great distance at which good beds of the same material can only now be found, a comparatively small number of men are at present employed in this branch of industry – clearing land and agricultural operations being found more profitable – I have the honor to recommend that the Office

The Honble
The Comptroller General

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of Superintendent of Timber may be abolished the salary of which is £100 per annum.

In order however to maintain proper supervision over the few sawyers and splitters employed in the bush – I recommend that Constable Bartley who is a Sawyer by trade, may be allowed 1/0 per diem in addition to his present pay of 2/0- and placed in charge of such men – the Book Keeping duties now devolving upon Superintendent of Timber I propose transferring to the junior Clerk –

By these arrangements a saving of £81-15-0 per Annum will be effected besides a quarter and as [indcipherable] – [indcipherable] &c

I have the honor to be Sir
Your most obedt Servant
sd J. Boyd
Civil Commandant

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Port Arthur
Feb 5th 1869

Sir,

Having been informed by Mr Larson that a vacancy is likely to occur in the insane Department, I beg most respectfully to apply for the same, and should you be pleased to appoint me it would be my constant study to merit your approbation.

I am Sir
Your Obedt Servt
.sd. N.G. Frost
Civil Guest

J. Boyd Esq J.P.
Civil Commandant

Endorset

The Applicant is most respectably connected – has always been Free and of years eligible for the situation, now vacant through the retirement of Under Keeper of Insane J.J. Smith. Has the Senior Medical Officer any objection to offer.-

.sd. J. Boyd
7.2.67

The Senior M. Officer
Port Arthur

I believe Frost to be well suited to have the care of Insane people, he has the reputation of being good tempered and of a kindly disposition.

sd. Geo Dinham
S.M.O.
Feb 8th 1867

The Civil Commandant

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Memo'

I have the honor to recommend that Constable Frost of the Civil Guard may be appointed Under Keeper of Insane vid J.J. Smith who is unfit for further Service as certified by the Senior Medical Officer – owing to his having been recently attacked with Paralysis.

Frost has, of course, always been free, and is in every respect eligible for the vacant situation.

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
9/2/67

The Honble
The Comp. Genl

Endorset on Petition of Eliza Burrows on behalf of her husband John Burrows as Mr Prichard per "Waterlily".

The proper name of the man herein referred to, is William Pritchard per "Waterlily" who is still laboring under a sentence of Transportation for Life, passed at Sydney in July 1844 – He will, it is presumed, have to serve Probation for a Pardon. Police record herewith. –

sd. J. Boyd
7.2.67

The Honble
The Comp. Genl

Memo'

I have the honor to report that there is a considerable quantity of Stores (of various descriptions) belonging to the Colonial Government at Impression Bay where they were held in 1857 by the Immigrants in quarantine – most

Note across above text: Cancelled vide Folio 218

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most of the Articles are quite unserviceable, and as it is not desirable that they should be brought to Port Arthur – I have to recommend that they may be surveyed by some Officer of the Colonial Government and destroyed or otherwise disposed of as soon as convenient.

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
Port Arthur
9th Feby 1867

The Honble
The Comp. Genl

Civil Commandant's Office
Port Arthur
9th Feby 1867

Sir,

With a view to economise expenditure I have the honor to recommend that the Kangaroo skins collected for the Paris Exhibition and others which have been found by the police in the possession of persons on the Peninsula improperly - amounting in all to some dozens may be tanned, for the purpose of providing Boots for the Invalid, and Lunatic Classes – thereby saving the purchase of heavier less suitable, and costly Beef leather now used. –

I am of opinion that a large quantity of Kangaroo and Calf leather might be prepared by prison labor annually on the Peninsula – and at a very trifling expense to the Public –

I have the honor to be Sir
Your most obedt Servt.
.sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant

The Honble
The Comp. General

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Memo

Copy of Report on Rations to C.F.O
9/2/67

Memo'

I have the honor to report that there is a considerable quantity of Stores (of various descriptions) belonging to the Colonial Government at Impression Bay Station where they were used in 1857 by the immigrants in quarantine.

Many of the Articles are quite unserviceable; and as it is not desirable that they should be brought to Port Arthur, for fear of infection.

I have to recommend that they may be surveyed at Impression Bay by some Officer of the Colonial Government and destroyed, or otherwise disposed of as soon as convenient.

sd. J. Boyd

*James Boyd (Civil Commandant, Port Arthur) - Office letterbook, 1866-1869 from Tasmanian Papers, 1821-1877
Tas. Papers 315*

Mitchell Library, State Library of NSW

Civil Commandant
9th Feby 1867

The Honble
The Compt Genl

Civil Commandant's Office
Port Arthur
9th Feby 1867

Sir,

With a view to economise expenditure, I have the honor to recommend that the Kangaroo and Wallaby Skins collected for the Paris Exhibition, and subsequently directed to be forwarded to Hobart Town for sale, may, with others, found by the Police to be improperly in the possession of persons residing on the Peninsula, amounting in all to about 17 dozens ~~may~~ be tanned at Port Arthur for the purpose of providing light boots for the Invalid and Lunatic classes – thereby saving the purchase of the heavier, less suitable and

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and costly Kip leather now in use.

I am of opinion that a large quantity of Kangaroo and Calf leather might be prepared on the Peninsula annually, and at a very trifling outlay to the Public.

I have the honor to be, Sir
Your most obedt. Servt.
sd J. Boyd
Civil Commandant

The Honble
The Comp. Genl.

Morris. In. Y. (Margin Note)
[indecipherable] 40
Hobt. L.Ct. 9.4.61.
Life P.L.
Murder.

The man named in the margin has been under treatment for five months for an injury to the loins arising from lifting heavy weights.
Recommended that he be placed in lighter irons, as disease of the kidneys is impending.

sd J.K.Lewis
J.M.O.
13.2.67

Endorset. on the above.

The Prisoner Morris is one of the most dangerous men at Port Arthur, and having avowed his determination to escape from the Peninsula, I cannot sanction the removal of his present chains unless he be treated in one of the larger Cells in the Separate Prison if he requires Hospital treatment.

sd J. Boyd.
13/2/67

The Junior Medical Officer
Port Arthur

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Mr Kenneth McKenzie has served under my command as Superintendent of the Timber Department and in other situations as Constable and discipline Officer at this Establishment since 25th May 1860- during which period he has discharged his public duties with diligence and fidelity.

Mr. McKenzie is about to leave Port Arthur in consequence of the situation he now holds having been abolished.

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
Port Arthur
Tasman's Peninsula
Tasmania
14th Feby. 1867.

Memo

The Civil Commandant has to report that Mr James Johnson Smith late Under Keeper of Insane at this Establishment died on Monday last 11th inst.

Mr. Smith will be borne on the pay Abstracts to and for the 3rd inst. the day which he ceased to perform duty, and was recommended to retire on physical grounds.

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
16/2/67

The Honble.
The Comp. Genl.

Memorandum,
Margin Note:
Geo. Birchall, as Knibbs, a native.
Geo. Sidebottom, "Equestrian"
Jas. Doneker "Waterloo"
Joss McGraham "Roslyn Gardens"
Peter Harrison
I. Soames

The prisoners named in the margin are this day forwarded to the Prisoners' Barracks Hobart Town in the charge of Mr Coxswain Griffiths there to await the receipt of their Free Pardons. Their arrival is to be reported to the Comptroller General.

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
18/2/67

The Supt.
Prisoners' Barracks
Hobarton.

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Port Arthur
18th February 1867

Before the Civil Commandant.

In reference to the statement made by the Prisoner Jas. Doneker per "Waterloo" before His Excellency the Governor on the 16th inst-viz " that he (Donaker) had known instances of men having been kept at Port Arthur after they were ordered to be discharged by the Governor."

Donaker upon being asked to mention the names of any persons so detained, states, "I have nothing to say- I decline to say who the men are who were detained at Port Arthur after the Governor ordered their release. I decline to tell the Commandant anything. I also decline to tell either of the Assistant Magistrates or any other person at Port Arthur.

sd. J. L. Hill
Bench Clerk

Endorset.
Forwarded for the information of His Excellency the Governor.

sd. J. Boyd
18th Feby. 1867.

The Honble.
The Comp. Genl.

Port Arthur
18th Feby. 1867

Sir,
In order to enable me to bring the new Scales of diet into operation at Port Arthur on the 1st April next- I have the honor to request your sanction for the accompanying forms, as

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as per requisition, to be printed and transmitted to his Office prior to that date.

I have the honor to be, Sir
Your most obedt. Servt.
sd. J. Boyd.
Civil Commandant

Margin Note: Abraham Crabtree "K.S. Forbes"
Memo

With reference to the Convict named in the margin who saw His Excellency the Governor on the 16th inst, I have the honor to recommend that, in order to enable the prisoner whose character, known and suspected, is such as to render his early removal from the Colony most desirable- may be granted the sum of £2.16.0 in addition to his earnings amounting to £2.4.0 making altogether the sum of £5.0.0 which with a pound kindly promised him by the Comptroller General, will be sufficient to pay his passage to one of the neighbouring Colonies and also provide him with a small amount on landing there.

sd J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
18th Feby. 1867

The Honble
The Comp. General.

Endorsement on application of Mr P. Mc Guinness & Mr L. Smith respecting their Sons being learnt Carpentering.

Submitted, & recommended that Mr. Mc Guinness's son who is 17 years of age be permitted to work at the New Hospital for the Insane as a Carpenter, under the instruction of one of the paid Mechanics- all labor performed by the lad being applied to Public purposes exclusively. The Foreman of Works considers that this arrangement would be advantageous to the Government.

sd J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
14/2/67.

The Honble
The Comp. General.

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Margin Note: John Conville L. Auckland 9/6/64- 8yrspg
John Jones ST Blundell 2/6/63 6 yrspg
Robert Johnson Cape Packet 1/12/63 4yrspg

Memo

The Civil Commandant presents his compliments to the Senior Medical Officer and requests that he will have the goodness to report whether the Convict Invalids named in the margin are fit for the lightest employment in the Penitentiary- such as polishing the tinware and cutlery during a portion of each day.

Sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
Port Arthur
19 Feby. 1867.

The Senior Medical Officer
Port Arthur

Endorset. on Petition of John McNair per "Aboukir" (an invalid)

This man was received at Port Arthur on the 2nd Feby. 1865 as an Imperial Pauper holding the indulgence of a Colonial Conditional Pardon.

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant.
19.2.67.

The Honble.
The Comp. General

Endorset. on Police Record (paper) of Thos. Orton "Dromedary"

If this man is free by servitude it is requested that his original Police Record may be furnished.

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
19/2/67

The Honble
The Comp. General.

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Memorandum

I beg to submit a report received from the Senior Medical Officer relative to Mr. Chatfield the District Constable in charge of Eagle Hawk Neck who is desirous of retiring from the Public Service on the grounds of failing health and the Senior Medical Officer expresses his opinion that it is desirable Mr. Chatfield should do so without delay as he has a decided tendency to cerebral disease.

Mr Chatfield states that he entered the Convict Department as 2nd Mate of the Government Barque, "Franklin" on the 23rd Feby. 1845.

If it be decided to allow Mr. Chatfield to retire, I recommend that Mr John Peppard late of the 40th Regt. the Senior Constable in Charge of the police at Port Arthur, may be appointed his successor with the same rate of pay and allowances now received by Mr. Chatfield, and that Constable Timothy Phelan of the Civil Guard and late of the 77th Regt. may be Senior Constable at Port Arthur vice Peppard. The changes to take effect, if approved, from the 1st prox.

sd J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
18th Feby 1867.

The Honble
The Comp. General.

Memo

Mr Chatfield has repeatedly consulted me during the last two or three years respecting pains about the head coupled with giddiness and loss of memory. It appears on one occasion, while engaged in the bush, he was struck on the head by a falling tree and from that accident dates the commencement of his sufferings.

Mr Chatfield states that his general

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general health has failed very much lately, so much so, that at times he feels quite unequal to the anxious post he fills. He is desirous of retiring from the Public Service and I consider his condition requires that he should avoid, as far as possible, all excitement and over anxiety- he having a decided tendency to cerebral disease.

I am of the opinion that he is consulting his best interests- so far as his health is concerned- by seeking without delay that quietude and freedom from excitement his condition evidently demands.

sd, Geo. Dinham
Senior Medical Officer
Port Arthur
Feby. 13th 1867.

The Civil Commandant

The Civil Commandant's Office
Port Arthur
19th Feby. 1869

Sir,

I have the honor to recommend that two of the exercise yards at the Separate Prison may be roofed over and lighted by skylights for the purpose of providing respectively a Store-room and a Work Shop for the Shoemakers who are sent there from the Penitentiary to work in double cells.

By the arrangement, which would in no way lessen the security of the Prison, the 3 double and 7 ordinary Cells now used as shops and store rooms will become available for the

confinement of prisoners requiring to be placed in that Establishment, and the noise at present unavoidably made by the associated shoemakers be much reduced.
The annexed sketch shews the manner

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manner in which I propose that the alteration should be effected.

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your most Obedt. Servt.
sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant

The Honble
The Comp. General

Endorset. on Prisoner John McCann's ("Roslyn Castle") Earnings Abstract- sent to Town as Imperial in error.

Will Mr Reidy have the goodness to cause the error referred to by Mt. Tapp to be rectified

sd. J. Boyd
20/2/67

The Supt. Prisoners' Barracks.
Hobart Town.

Endorset. on paper record of Jas. Conway as Leary as Mullins per "Neptune"
Conway states that he was tried at Cork in 1847 for "Housebreaking & Stealing" and was sentenced to 7 years transportation- was sent to Bermuda- and came from Bermuda to this Colony per ship "Neptune" with a Conditional Pardon in the latter part of 1849 was discharged to his Pardon on arrival and went by the name as at present viz James Conway- he was originally tried and sentenced in that name and came as such per "Neptune".

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
20/2/67.

The Honble
The Comp. General.

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Margin Note: Parker Jos. Alfred
London
Gardener at Safety Cove
47-4.9.66.- 6yrs Transp.
Horse stealing.

Required the service of the man named in the margin as my servant.

sd. J.K. Lewis.
J.M.O.
21.2.67

The Civil Commandant

Endorset. –

This man is the Gardener at Safety Cove Station and cannot be spared from that service at present.

sd. J. Boyd
21.2.67.

The Junior Medical Officer
Port Arthur.

Margin Note: Robt. Tucker "Equestrian"

I have carefully examined the man named in the margin and am of opinion that he is of sound mind, he answers readily and clearly all questions put to him, and has a fair recollection of dates and events.

He is a man of nervous temperament and becomes excited when spoken to about his sentence- he states that when on his trial, the police record of another Robert Tucker per "Equestrian" was produced in court and the result was his present sentence, he further states that he was once fined £2 for opening a letter addressed "Robert Tucker, Equestrian" and that his present conviction was owing to the production in court of this person's record.

sd. Geo. Dinham.
S.M.O.
21st Feby. 1867.

The Civil Commandant.

Endorset. on the above.
The Prisoner Tucker

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Tucker was ordered by His Excellency the Governor to be examined by the Medical Officer in reference to the state of his mind.

The Governor also directed that his statement relative to a wrong Police record having been before the Court when tried at Launceston in October 1866, was to be enquired into. The man's personal description does not agree with that entered in the record of No. 12,935- Robert Tucker per Equestrian. The man complained that he had received a heavier sentence when tried at Launceston in October last, than he would have had passed upon him- especially as he disputed the correctness of that record- which is herewith transmitted

sd.J. Boyd
22/2/67

The Honble
The Comp. General.

Endorset. on Petition of John Porter as Orrin per "Equestrian"
Forwarded in accordance with the Governor's decision.

sd. J. Boyd.
23/2/67.

Endorset. on Petition of Samuel Bott "Barossa"

Forwarded in accordance with the Governor's decision and strongly recommended that in consequence of the Petitioner's great age and general very good character for a long period he may be pardoned. He is most willing and industrious.

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
23/2/67

The Honble
The Comp. General

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Margin Notes:

Harper Jas. "Sir R. Peel" Hobt. P.O. 99/3/65.-Larceny-2 yrs transp. & H.L. 15/3/65- Escaping - 2yrs H.L. in chains. P.A. 4/11/65-Idleness-3 mths H.L. strong chains.
7/11/65- Idleness-4 days Solitary Confinement
2/5/66- Fighting-6 days Solitary Conft.
8/11/66- Insolence-7 days S.C.

Memorandum: The Prisoner named in the margin having completed almost the whole of the sentence of hard labor in chains passed upon him at the Police Office Hobart Town on the 15th March 1865 for Escaping, the Civil Commandant recommended that he may now be released from Irons. Harper is of weak mind.

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
Port Arthur
23rd Feby. 1867.

The Comp. General

Margin Note: Francis Harris "Eden"

Memorandum

The Civil Commandant has the honor to recommend that the individual named in the margin who has been employed as Paid Warder in the Invalid Depot since the 15th Novr. last, may now be appointed Plumber and to lay the Water Pipes on to the new buildings for Insane, Port Arthur, in succession to John Hayward resigned- and allowed the same rate of pay and allowances, viz 2/4d. per working day and a Police ration.

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
23rd Feby 1867.

The Honble
The Comp. General.

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24203/5

Will the Comptroller General oblige the Curator of Intestate Estates by obtaining from the Commandant Port Arthur any information he may possess on the subject of the enclosed letter (Letter from Mr L. F. Smith, Melbourne)

sd. H. Buckland
Curator's Office
26th Feby 1867

Referred to the Civil Commandant for any information he may be able to afford

sd. C.T. Belstead
for CG
Comptroller General's Office
26th Feby 1867

Memorandum,

The Civil Commandant present his compliments to the Protestant Chaplain and requests that he will furnish him with any information that he may possess as to whether the late Mr. Jas Johnson Smith Under Keeper of Insane at Safety Cove executed a Will before his decease, or in any way expressed his wishes for the disposal of his property?

This information is required by the Authorities in Town, and an early answer is requested

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
Port Arthur
2nd March 1867

The Protestant Chaplain
Port Arthur

Memo'

Mr Eastman has the honor to state that when visiting the late Mr Smith professionally and perceiving his approaching end he enquired of his Son in Law Mr Roberts – whether his Father had made any disposition of his property and on being informed that

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that he had not Mr Eastman advised Mr Roberts to make enquiry of him as to his wishes and have them embodied in some document for the satisfaction of his sons and daughter – on his next visit Mr Eastman was informed by Mr Roberts that he had made the enquiry and that Mr Smith wished all he possessed to be given to his daughter and that he had drawn up a paper to that effect.

Mr Eastman then in Mr Roberts' absence asked Mr Smith to say – whether he had thought about his property in case of his death and he said "Yes." I said I will read this "paper" drawn up by Mr Roberts, I did so, and then enquired whether he understood its meaning – Mr Smith replied "Yes" – I said do you wish your property to go to your sons or to your daughter. He replied "To Mary". - I said do you wish to sign this paper, he said "Yes" – I said "you understand that by this paper if you lose your senses or die your daughter is to have what you possess" – he said "Yes" – I then gave it to him to sign in the presence of Messrs Smith and Fuller who attested his signature.

sd. Geo Eastman
Chaplain
2/2/67

James Boyd Esq
Civil Commandant

Port Arthur

Endorset. on the above. –

The statement of the Protestant Chaplain is herewith forwarded, and I have reason to believe that the Mr Jas Wm. Roberts Son-in law of the deceased and referred to by Mr Eastman, has received the whole of the effects belonging to the late Mr Jas Johnson Smith

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
Port Arthur
2/3/67

The Honble
The Comp General

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Memorandum,

The Civil Commandant presents his compliments to Mr J. K. Lewis and has to inform him that the accounts for Telegraph charges for the month of February last are delayed in transmission to town in consequence of his Telegram of the 23rd ulto not yet having been paid – the amount of which is 2s/6d.

sd. J. L. Hill
Clerk

for the Civil Commandant
4th March 1867

J. K. Lewis Esq
Junor Medl Officer
Port Arthur

2s/6d enclosed

sd. J. K. Lewis

Dr Lewis will be obliged by being informed to whom the cash for signals are to be forwarded to

Mr. J. L. Hill. -

Cash for Telegrams is received by the Accountant Mr Tapp. – 2s/6d recd

J. L. Hill
Clerk
4/3/67

J.K. Lewis Esq.

Reply to queries from Comml on Timber Act.

Neither of the items queried are shewn correctly on the Return furnished to the Commissariat

The first should be shewn – 84 [indecipherable] – 9^{ft} long (10X10)/4 or 10X10 quartered according to a certain specification given – 1575 correct total –

2nd The 30 [indecipherable] 9/- - 5X6 is the Port Arthur account not 5.4X6 as stated herein – the unit figure 4 appears to have been misplaced in the extract from the Port Arthur accounts

Correct entries

84 Pence 9 sh (10X10)/4 - 1575 ft
30 – 9 – 5X6 – 675 ft

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
2/3/67

The Honble
The Comptroller General

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Endorset on Memo' from Mr Stewart Commissariat
Hobart Town respecting Kindling Wood. –

Can this wood be supplied from Port Arthur?

sd. T. B. Belstead
for
CG
1st March 1867

Yes.

sd. J. Boyd
6/3/67

The Comptroller General

Memo'

With reference to query No 78 – dated 23rd Nov 1866. – on Kerosene lamps and oil – the Civil Commandant has to request the Assistant Commissary General to be good enough to cause a delivery voucher of these Articles to be transmitted as soon as convenient to authorize their being placed on the Accounts – the query will then be explained and returned.

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
6th March 1876

The Asst Commissary Genl
in charge
Hobart Town

Endorset on Return of Telegraphic a/c for Feby '67

Cash herewith (7s/6d) also 1s/0 which it is regretted was found deficient in the payment for the month of Jany '67

sd. J. Boyd

Civil Commandant
6/3/67

The Superintendent
of Telegraphs
Hobart Town

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Endorset on Petition of Wm Bright per Louise

Forwarded – General conduct at Port Arthur bad. – but has improved since May '65

sd. J. Boyd
6th March 1867

Endorset on Petition of Richd Harrison [indecipherable]

Forwarded. – Conduct at Port Arthur very good – and general conduct since arrival in the Colony in 1852 satisfactory with the exception of last Offence for which he is now in confinement.

sd. J. Boyd
6th March 1867

Memorandum,

Names in margin:
Jas Cave
"Argyle"

F. Ward
"Rodney"

Wm Jones
"Blundell"

The 3 Convicts named in the margin, who labor under Separate Treatment restrictions on account of the peculiar nature of certain Offences recorded against them, have been Patients in Hospital for some time – particularly Cave & Ward –

Will the Senior Medical Officer have the goodness to inform the Civil Commandant whether these men might not be discharged to the Penitentiary.

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
7/3/67

The Senior
Medical Officer
Port Arthur

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Memo'

The Civil Commandant presents his compliments to the Senior Medical Officer and has to request that he will be good enough to inform him (if in his power to do so) as to the cause of

*James Boyd (Civil Commandant, Port Arthur) - Office letterbook, 1866-1869 from Tasmanian Papers, 1821-1877
Tas. Papers 315*

Mitchell Library, State Library of NSW

the sudden death of Mrs Samuel Smith which appears to have occurred this morning to the great surprise and sorrow of the inhabitants of the Settlement generally.

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant and
Coroner
9/3/67

The Senior
Medical Officer
Port Arthur

Endorset on Petition of David Davis "Caledonia"

The statement of prisoner Patrick Lardner in reference to Davis' case was sent to the Comptroller General on the 14th August 1864 – there is no copy of that statement at Port Arthur, but to the best of the Civil Commandant's recollection Lardner made no admission of having committed "perjury".

The following is the reply that was received thereto. –

"The Governor with the advice of the Council declines to interfere with the sentence passed upon him (David Davis)". –

CGM
13/9/64

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
Port Arthur
7th March 1867

The Honble
The Comptroller General
Hobart Town

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I certify that Mr Kenneth McKenzie served under my orders, firstly as Constable, secondly as an Assistant Overseer, and lastly as Superintendent of Timber from the 25th of May 1860 to the 28th of February 1867 and that he discharged his public duties with diligence and fidelity and to my satisfaction

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
Port Arthur
Tasmania

7th March 1867.

Endorst on Superannuation papers of Mr K. McKenzie. –

Forms filled up and returned

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
7th March 1867

The Honble
The Comptroller General

Memo'

In compliance with the request of the Civil Commandant I have to inform you (in reply to your letter to him dated 5th inst) that on the 19th ulto an authority was issued by the Honble the Comptroller General for Mr. J.J. Smith to be borne on the pay Abstracts to the date of his death and that such authority has been attended to. –

The Civil Commandant is of opinion that Mrs Roberts is the only person who could legally sign the acquittances for pay due. –

sd. J.C. Tapp
Chief Clerk
Port Arthur
9/3/67

Mr J.N. Roberts
Lower Queen St
Hobart Town

N.B. Nothing further is known here respecting the Compensation Forms

sd. J.C.T.

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Endorset on Memo' from the Colonial Storekeeper respecting Timber for the Hospital for Insane New Morpeth

The within named order was completed on the 25th April 1866 – sent to Hobart Town per Schooner Harriet, and a receipt received for the same from the Director of Public Works.

Respectfully
M.P. Aherne
Clerk in charge of
Timber Branch
Port Arthur
11/3/67

The Civil Commandant

Forwarded for the information of the Colonial Storekeeper with the Civil Commandant's compliments.

sd. J. Boyd
11/3/67

The only situation vacant at present at this Establishment is that of Attendant of insane – pay 1/0 per diem and rations

Sd J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
Port Arthur
12/3/67

Testimonial herewith returned

Mr G.W. Edwards
New York House
Leo St H. Town

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Civil Commandant's Office
Port Arthur
13/3/67

Memo

The Civil Commandant presents his compliments to the Senior Medical Officer and [indecipherable] that he will have the goodness to furnish as soon as possible the report – called for by His Excellency the Governor on the morning of the 17th ulto in deference to the case of the Convict named in the margin.

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant

The Senior Medical Officer
Port Arthur

Endorset on George Rapps' application for Fishing Licence

No objection.

sd. J. Boyd
2/3/67

Endorset on Warrant of Jas Blake "Argyle" J.H. (Invalided)

This man applied to the Comptroller General at Port Arthur for a Conditional Pardon

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
12/3/67

Civil Commandant's Office
Port Arthur
15th March 1867

Note in the margin:
Jms F. Morris
Pist. Born:
Life J. L.
(a commutation)
for Wilful Murder.

I have the honor to represent to you that in consequence of the removal of the Convict named in the margin from one of the larger

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larger Apartments at the Separate Prison to the Hospital on the 3rd inst. for treatment therein, as recommended by the Medical Officers, I have deemed it necessary to place a paid free Constable in charge of him by day and night; the more especially, as Morris is held under a life sentence of Penal Servitude (being a commutation) for Murder – and one of the most dangerous and intriguing characters at Port Arthur, having a few years ago with some other Prisoners of the same extreme class as himself, built a Canoe for the purpose of effecting their escape from the Peninsula – in which attempt they nearly succeeded. –

He has also openly expressed his determination to accomplish that object “if money can enable him to do and in defiance of all the Constables under my command”.

I have good reason to suspect that he can through certain channels procure money and assistance, and therefore apprehend that if not most closely watched he will before long attempt to carry out the scheme upon which his mind is fully bent – well knowing, as he does, that he has little or no hope of ever being liberated. –

The maintenance of this strict guard has however increased the duties of the ordinary Constabulary (which has been recently reduced to the lowest possible strength) so much that the men have to perform watch nearly every second night in addition to their duties during the day which demand their best attention from day-light until dark.

Under these circumstances I consider it absolutely necessary that 3 more Constables at 2/- a day, with rations should be at once appointed for special duty at the Hospital while the Prisoner Morris remains here. –

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your most Obedt Servt
sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant

The Honble
The Comptroller General

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(page overwritten horizontally)

Endorset. on Return Timber & supplied to the Public Work Dept. from the 1st January to the 31st December 1866.

The timber in the foregoing return has been received (except as to one item viz: under date 26th May where 390 palings is charged for instead of 290)

sd W. Cheverton
Overseer of Works.

Countersigned
W.R.Falconer
Director of Public Works
11th March 1867.

This receipt from the Director of Public Works for 390 palings forwarded from Port Arthur on 26th May last is herewith enclosed which shews the return to have been correctly prepared. The receipt is requested to be returned as soon as possible.

sd J. Boyd.
Civil Commandant.
16/3/67

The Honble
The Comp. Gen.

Memo'

The Civil Commandant requests that the Commissariat Storekeeper will have the goodness to cause the Article as per margin (which appears to have been removed from the hospital to Mr Pringle's quarters) to be delivered into the Dry Stores with as little further delay as possible.

sd J. Boyd.
Civil Commandant
20th March 1867.

(Margin note: 1 Hair Bed)

The Commissariat Storekeeper
Port Arthur.

Endorset. On reference to the Original Way Bill it will be seen that but 290 Palings were forwarded . This accords with the entry in the "Rough Stores Book" exhibited to Mr Belstead. The Receipt given by the Director of Public Works was presumed to be a duplicate of the Way Bill- on comparing the figures in Way Bill (herewith transmitted)- with those in the receipt- the Commandant will I think feel satisfied that but 290 were received.

sd James Gray
for D. of Public Works

The Comp Gen.
Please return Way Bill

20th March 1867.

Endorset.

Returned corrected- It appears that the mistake made hereon originated from the clerical error on the receipt prepared for the signature of the Director of P. Works, which it is regretted should have occurred. The total amount is now £97.19.3 1/2 instead of £98.4.2 as formerly shewn.

sd J. Boyd.
Civil Commandant
26/3/67

The Honble.
The Comp. Genl.

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Margin note: 4 blankets, 8 Rugs, 2 Hair Beds, 2 tin Mess cans, 4 tin Dishes, 1 table, 4 Sheets.

Memo'

The Civil Commandant requests that the Senior Medical Officer will have the goodness to cause the articles as per margin (which appear to have been removed from the hospital to Mr. Dinham's quarters) to be delivered into the Dry Stores with as little further delay as possible.

The Senior Medical Officer
Port Arthur

Margin note: 11 Blankets, 21 Rugs, 4 Hair Beds, 1 Palliasse, 1 Hair Pillow, 1 Pillow Slip

Memo'

The Civil Commandant requests that the Junior Medical Officer will have the goodness to cause the Articles as per margin(which appear to have been removed from the Hospital to Mr Lewis' quarters) to be delivered into the Dry Stores with as little further delay as possible.

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
Port Arthur
20th March 1867.

The Junior Medical Officer
Port Arthur.

Wm. Hardy "Maria Soames"}
Henry L. Brooks "Waterloo" }
John Nestor "Hydrabad" }

Sir,

I beg to bring under your notice the names of the three Prisoners mentioned above who on the morning of Sunday the 18th of November 1866 rescued me from further violence at the hands of Prisoner John Dogherty. I

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Charles Walch

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Mr Trowbridge

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I trust that if it is in your power to do anything for these men you will do so in consideration of the conduct on this occasion.

I feel assured but that for their prompt assistance I should have experienced further violence beyond the severe injuries inflicted by the Prisoner Dogherty.

I am Sir
Your Obedt. Servt.
sd. I Kenrick Lewis
J.M.O.
Port Arthur
20th March 1867.

The Honble.
The Comp. General.

Endorset.
Forwarded to the Civil Commandant for transmission to the Comptroller General.

sd J. Boyd
20/3/67

The Honble.
The Comp.General.

The Honble.
The Comp. General.

*List of Articles lent to Dr Lewis from Dry Stores with the Civil Commandant's authority:

Fire irons	1 set
Forks steel	1
Gridiron	1
Hoes Garden	1
Pots iron oval	1
Pots try iron	1
Pans frying	1
Mats coir	2
Tubs washing	2
Kettles bush	1
Tubs urine	1
Dishes tin	1
Plates	1
Pannicans	2
Knife	1
Fork	1
Spoon	1
Axe American	1
Pans sauce (iron)	1
Buckets water	1
Saws X cut	1

W. Whittington
Dry Stores Keeper.

(Not lent by C.C.)
Stores removed from Hospital to Dr. Lewis' quarters

1866		
March	Rugs	No. 19
	Blankets	8
" 17 th	bedsteads iron	2
" "	Hair Beds	2
July 21 st	" "	2
August 22 nd	Blankets	3
	Rugs	2
	Hair Pillow	1
	Pillow Slip	1
	Palliasse	1

W. Whittington.
Dry Stores Keeper

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Endorset. on Petition in favor of Joseph Eden "Cornwell"

The conduct of Joseph Eden since his arrival at Port Arthur, has been exemplary in every respect. His Police character is herewith annexed.

sd. J. Boyd
21/3/67

The Honble.

The Comp. General

Endorset. on Petition of John Dwyer "Aboukir"
Forwarded in accordance with the Governor's decision.

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
23/3/67

Statement of Isaac Henshaw "China" forwarded to C G's Office Hobarton.

Medical Report in the case of James Joyce per "Emerald Isle"

This man was received from the Lunatic Asylum at new Norfolk Sept 24th 1862 and has since that date been an inmate of the Insane Hospital at Port Arthur. He is a Separate treatment man and labours under delusions of the most filthy character, he is constantly charging the Keepers & Attendants with committing unnatural crimes, he also refuses to eat Meat stating it is human flesh.

He has a very plausible and quiet manner when addressing strangers and always endeavours to

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to enlist their sympathy, he has clearly shewn himself to be one of the most troublesome and dangerous Lunatics at Port Arthur

sd Geo. Dinham
S.M.O.
Mar.22nd 1867.

The Comptroller General.
etc. etc.

transmitted to the Comptroller General

sd. J. Boyd
25/3/67

Margin Note: John Delve "London" F by S Hobt. S.C. 6/4/64 Sheep stealing 4 years transport.

David Murphy "Rodney 3" F by S L'ton .S.C.14/4/64 Stg. money 4 yrs Transp.

Memorandum,

The Meat Contractor at Port Arthur having represented that a great portion of the fence at the Sounds Paddock has been destroyed by fire and applied that it may be repaired, the Civil Commandant recommends that the prisoners named in the margin may be employed for the purpose, under the supervision of the District Constable at Eagle Hawk Neck, and in the immediate charge of a Constable.

These prisoners have not more than 4 months to complete of their respective sentences.

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
Port Arthur
30th March 1867

The Honble.
The Comp. General.

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Endorset. on Memo' respecting Denis Shearan per "Constant"
This old man is 88 years of age – infirm mind and body and quite incapable of earning his living. I cannot recommend him as a fit patron to be discharged to Town.

Sd. Geo. Dinham
S.M.O.
March 29th 1867.

The Civil Commandant

Senior Medical Officer's Report herewith

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant 29th March 1867.

The Honble.
The Comp. General

Port Arthur
Before the Civil Commandant

The Statement of James Woods a prisoner under sentence at Port Arthur who saith as follows "I came out as a soldier in the "Samuel Boddington." I think in 1845 or about 22 years ago- as one of the Convict Guard. I then belonged to the 65th Regiment & on arrival _was stationed at the New Wharf Hobart Town for six months. I was then sent to New Zealand and remained there until I got my discharge in Wellington. After my discharge, about 1852 I received a sentence of 14 yrs Transportation for Theft- remaining in the gaol at Wellington for about 3 months after my trial, I was put on board the "Circassion" which vessel put in at Williamtown and there I was transferred to the "Exchange" which ship brought 5 other Prisoners beside myself to Hobart Town. I was then sent to

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to Port Arthur where I was employed charcoal burning. I remained at Port Arthur about 20 months.

sd. J. L. Hill
Clerk

Endorset. to the preceding statement.

The Prisoner herein referred to was received at Port Arthur on the 25th February last under sentence of 6 yrs Imprisonment for Assault & Robbery.
From the annexed Memo' of Mr Reidy it would appear that Woods represented himself in Town as having been always free, but on examination of the Register here it has been discovered that he is No. 2346 Jas. Woods per "Exchange" & "Circassion" tried 1/12/52 15 yrs Transportation . It is requested that his Police Record may be sent to Port Arthur without delay.

sd. J. Boyd.
Civil Commandant
29th March 1867.

The Honble
The Comp. Genl.

Memorandum

The Civil Commandant has the honor to recommend that Mr Charles Anderson free Constable of the Civil Guard may be appointed Coxswain of the Guard Boat stationed at Sloper Island in succession to Mr Richard Thompson who retires from the service superannuated.

Anderson is a respectable steady man. He has been employed in the Police of this Establishment since the 22nd December 1864 and is quite competent to perform the duties of Coxswain.

He has of course always been free.

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
28th March 1867

The Honble
The Comp. Genl.

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The accompanying letter of instructions from the Assistant Commissary General, is returned to the resident Commissary Storekeeper with the Civil Commandant's compts. & thanks.

Sd. J. Boyd
1 April 1867.

The Commissariat Storekeeper
Port Arthur.

Memo'
Margin note: Wm Dawson "Barossa"

Required for a few days until my own servant is returned from the Hospital, the man named in the margin

sd. Geo. Eastman
Chaplain
6/4/67

J. Boyd.
Civil Commandant,

Endorset. on the above

The man Dawson will be sent to the Rev. Mr. Eastman as requested. Will the Chaplain be so good in future as to forward his requisition on clean paper. I have frequently noticed the very objectionable state of such documents and the present is rather a better specimen than many of them - dirty as it is.

sd. J. Boyd
6/4/67

The Revd.
George Eastman
etc. etc.

Endorset. on selection of John Blake "Argyle." (for a C. P.)

Forwarded and Recommended
Sd. J. Boyd.
6/4/67

The Honble.
The Comp. General

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Endorsten Memo respcting certain Indian Convicts maintained at Port Arthur during 1866

Information required stated on the face of this document opposite each name

Sd J.Boyd
Civil Commandant 4/4/67

Memo

I have the honour to recommend that Overseer Sullivan may be superannuated – He informs me that he is nearly 61 years of age ; has been several times under Medical treatment and exempted from duty for a diseased leg, and although he has not been indisposed of late, he is too old to discharge his duties efficiently.

The Staff of Officers and Constables has been so much reduced, that I find it absolutely necessary to have active, and intelligent ment to enable me to deal promptly and effectively with the large number of dangerous convicts now accumulating at this Establishment.

Mr Sullivan has been 8 years and 7 months in the Convict Department.

Sd J Boyd
Civil Commandant
5th April 1867

The Honbl
The Comp. General

Memo

The Civil Commandant has the honor to recommend that Mr Thompson Coxswain of the Guard Boat stationed at Sloper Island may be allowed to retire upon pension from the Convict Department as he has become unable, from age and infirmity, to discharge his duties efficiently.

The application of Mr Thompson and

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and Certificate given by the Senior Medical Officer in his case are herewith appended.

Mr Thompson entered the Convict Service in January 1849

Sd J Boyd
Civil Commandant
6th April 1867

The Honbl
The Comp. General

Copy No 35
Commissariat Tasmania
Hobart 5th April 1867

Sir,

Referring to the complaint made of the 12 percent flour at Port Arthur, a sample of which was forwarded for my inspection, I have to acquaint you that the Comptroller General and myself both carefully examined the flour, and compared it with 3 or 4 samples received from the mills during the last twelve months and could detect no perceptible difference in the quality, nor in the relative proportion of Bran in each sample; - It is possible that some descriptions of wheat may be darker in color than others. But there appears to me to be no doubt the the flour complained of is a fair sample of 12 percent flour and must be issued accordingly .- I have however given instructions to Mr Storekeeper Stewart to consign to you several bags of each description of 12 per cent flour received into Store during the last year, and it would be as well for you to suggest to the Civil Commandant that a few loaves of bread should be made from each sample of the flour in order to detect any difference in the several loaves, or you might issue a sack of each description of flour and let them mix it previously to its being manufactured into bread.

I have the honor to be
Signed Henry Bartlett
A.G.

A true

Mr. J J Pringle
Commissariat
Port Arthur

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A true copy

sd J Pringle
I would respectfully draw the Civil Commandants attention to the Asst Commisary General's suggestion
Sd J Pringle

Endorst
I am much obliged to the Commissariat Storekeeper - the better plan in my opinion will be to mix the finer and coarser descriptions – that is where the latter appears to be darker, or to contain more bran than is usual.

Sd J Boyd 8/4/67

The Commissariat Storekeeper
Port Arthur

Memorandum
Would the Civil Commandant be so good as to relieve the Commissariat Writer Pollock from night watch? – The Civil Commandant is aware that he has two mens` duties to perform, that of Store laborer and Writer, and now he has a third of night watchman, after which, from his previous days Commissariat work , he seems from the want of repose to be almost stupefied

Sd Jas J. Pringle
Commissariat Port Arthur
6th April 1867

The Civil Commandant

Endorset
I have no objection to Pollock being relieved from night watch but he will lose a little time and money from his earnings.

Sd J Boyd
8/4/67

The Commissariat Storekeeper
Port Arthur

Endorst
The

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Civil Commandant`s Office
Port Arthur 9th April 1867

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 4th inst relative to the difficulty which you inform me, is still experienced in having the Commissariat sacks returned to the Magazines under your charge,

After conferring with the Provision Storekeeper of this Department, I find that, as regards the sacks issued to that Officer, such have always been only accounted for to yourself- consequently any deficiency of these articles that may have arisen in your store, would appear to be owing to stipendiaries or other persons, who may have drawn flour therefrom direct and not through [indecipherable] having failed to return the whole of the sacks in which it was contained.-

Under these circumstances I quite agree with your suggestion viz that all paid persons applying for flour – from the public stores should find private sacks to contain such. I have therefore issued

The Commissariat Storekeeper
Port Arthur

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issued a detail order on the subject and of which I beg to annex a copy for your information (D.O No 259)

Trusting that this arrangement may be deemed satisfactory and relieve you from any further trouble or loss in the matter-

I have the honor to be

Sir

Your Most Obedient Servant

Sd J Boyd

Civil Commandant

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Endorset

The Commissariat Storekeeper feels much obliged to the Civil Commandant for his acquiescence in this matter, and the Writer Pollock is grateful for it, but as his great anxiety is to shorten his detention to rejoin his wife and children, he would prefer to continue as he is, he has however expressed a hope that as he conducts the Roman Catholic Choir on Sundays that he may be relieved from attending the Protestant service also, which would afford him more time to prepare documents for the Sunday evening posts called for by the Posts on Saturday from Hobart Town

Sd Jas J Pringle 8/4/67

The Civil Commandant

Endorset

According to the Regulations Pollock ought to attend the Protestant service – His performance as organist for the Catholic is, I presume, a labor of love for which he is deserving of every consideration

Sd J Boyd

Civil Commandantg 9/4/67

The Commissariat Storekeeper
Port Arthur

Copy

Memorandum of Director of Public Works on Schedule of Sawn and Split timber now available for sale or removal from Port Arthur

The timber ordered for the Commissariat Wharf and Pontville Bridge is not not now required , but Mr Oldham is willing to take the most of this for the Sorell Causeway as per list appended . The

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The other timber would realize very little if sold by public tender or auction; the greater part might however be disposed of by private agreement or for Government purposes.- Palings are at present the only class of timber, that at present command a ready sale at fair prices, and for these the timber ,at Port Arthur is admirably adapted.

Sd W.R.Falconer
Director of Public Works
6th March 1867

(Note in margin reads :- This will be attended to sd J.B.)

The Comptroller General

Forwarded for the information of the Civil Commandant
Sd W Nairn Comptroller General
8th March 1867

Endorset

Referring to my former Memo upon the Schedule of Timber on hand at Port Arthur, I beg again to request attention to the matter and strongly advise that, as the material in question is becoming much deteriorated from long exposure to the weather, some of it having been cut to order for the last 24 months, a sale may be effected as soon as possible in order to avoid depreciation in the value of the same.

Sd J Boyd
Civil Commandant
Port Arthur 1th April 1867

The Honble
The Comp.General

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Civil Commandant`s Office
Port Arthur
10th april 1867

Sir,

I have the honor to recommend that 12 separate sleeping apartments with open trellis – work fronts, and 12 strong rooms (one of which to be padded) be provided contiguous to the extremity of the south wing of the new Asylum for Insane at this Station - This separate accomaodation will only be equal to that at present in use in the wing of the separate Prison, and in the large dormitory for the Lunatics.

The cells in the former, are found to be too dark, insufficiently ventilated, and altogether unsuitable for insane persons, while the great noise made by several of the patients, disturbs the quiet of the Separate Prison (immediately adjoining) and cannot but have an infusions effect upon the minds of some of the convict inmates of that Establishment.

*James Boyd (Civil Commandant, Port Arthur) - Office letterbook, 1866-1869 from Tasmanian Papers, 1821-1877
Tas. Papers 315*

Mitchell Library, State Library of NSW

In addition to these reasons, I may also remind you of the representation I made at your late visit, viz the necessity for having more large cells provided for prisoners under life sentences, and other special cases of lengthened confinement.

The site selected for the new separate apartments for the insane, is dry and cheerful ; and after conferring with the Senior Medical Officer on the subject, Mr Dinham expressed to me his entire concurrence in the arrangement now recommended.

The accompanying plans shews the position of the proposal building, tinted yellow , and also the former arrangement by which it was intended to

(Note in margin reads:- 3 plans in package.)

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to obtain separate accommodations.

The expense of Stores for the new building, as stated by the Foremen of Works will not exceed £20

I have the honor to be Sir

Your most Obedt Servt J Boyd

Civil Commandant

The Honble

The Comptroller Genereal.

Memo

With reference to the application of Mssrs Chatfield & Thompson (Late officers of this Establishment) for superannuation – the Civil Commandant has to request to be furnished with instructions on the following points – viz

The sum of £18.5.0 appears by the annexed suthority to be allowed for an officer`s ration – is that sum to be shewn on those officer`s claims respectively or the actual present value of their different rations – or the average value of their rations during the last 3 years in similar manner as that salaries are to be shewn on the form furnished.

Mr Thompson has received a marine ration from October 1864 to 31st Ult Mr Chatfield a marine ration from Novr 1862 to 31st March 66 and during the last year a Constables ration.

The undermentioned prices will show the difference in the present value of certain scales of rations allowed to Stipendiaries

Marine ration	£21.0.0.
---------------	----------

Constables Do	£14.9.10
---------------	----------

Usual discipline officers Do	£12.2.4
------------------------------	---------

(not after these three items reads:- such as Mr Newall usd [indecipherable] annexd memo)

The

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The value of a Marine ration is, as shewn considerably more than the amount stated (£18.5) on the memo herwith

Sd J Boyd

Civil Commandant

10th April 1867

The honble

The Comp. General

Eden Joseph “Cornwall”

Tried Hobt S.C. 5/9/65 Larceny 3 yrs impd

Memorandum

The prisoner above named would be reported for discharge according to rule, if his conduct were good, at the expiration of 2yrs & 6mths of his sentence.

*James Boyd (Civil Commandant, Port Arthur) - Office letterbook, 1866-1869 from Tasmanian Papers, 1821-1877
Tas. Papers 315*

Mitchell Library, State Library of NSW

Is it to be understood from the annexd document that his case is to be reported at the end of 2 years if his conduct continues exemplary?

Written sideways over text is :-

If his conduct continues good he is to be reported 6 months before he would have been ,had no remission been granted .sd W Nairn 12/4/67

Sd J Boyd
Civil Commandant 10th April 1867

The Honble
The Comp.General

Endorst on Statement of John Walker per “ Larkings”

Forwarded in accordance wit the decision of His Excellency the Governor

Sd J Boyd
Civil Commandant 10/4/67

The Honble
The Comp.General

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Endorst on Petition of Jno Case “Cressy” applying for a free pardon

Forwarded in accordance with the decision of the Honble The Comp.General

Sd J Boyd
Civil Commandant
10/4/67

The Honble
The Comp.General

Endorst on paper recomg Thos Cahill per “ E & Henry” to be invalidated.

Cahill Thos as Mustagh Farrell [indecipherable] “ Eliz & Henry “ Coll Effective.

Tried Hobt S.C. 20/1/64 Larceny
4 yrs impt Arrived at P.A. 22/2/64

sd J Boyd
Civil Commandant 10/4/67

The Honble.
The Comp.General

Endorst same as Cahill

Pullman Ino W.”Kenn - “ or “ J Regent “ – Coll effective

Tried S`ton [indecipherable] larceny 4 yrs impt arrived at P A 23/10/65

Sd J Boyd
Civil Commandant
10/4/67

The Honble
The Comp.General

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Civil Commandant`s Office
Port Arthur
Thursday 11 April 1867

Memo.

The Commisrt Storekeeper is infor that the schooner Ham – is now at Imp Bay and will probably sail from Norfolk Bay for Hob Town on Saturday morning next

For the Civil Commandant
Sd [indecipherable]

The Comm Storekeeper

Safety Cove

10 April 1867

Sir

I received a memo from Mr Pringle yesterday evening to the effect that there are 50 Govt sheep to be slaughtered this week and in consequence no meat required from me until the said sheep are issued ; these arrangements put me to a great deal of inconvenience inasmuch as I have Stock here and on the road for slaughter and if carried out my Stock will have to stand over wasting for four five days, myself , and whole establishment idle and expenses (which are heavy) still going on whether at work or not. To obviate this and similar interruptions in the working of this contract, which has always been my study to do satisfactorily, I beg respectfully to tender you an offer of 23/s each for all the Govt sheep (Whethers) that are fit for slaughter and supply them as per conditions of Contract alternately with Beef.

The price I here offer for the sheep allows me but a small margin to cover expenses.

Trusting you will give this matter a favourable consideration

I have the honor to

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remain Sir

Your Obedt Servt

Sd H Mansfield

Endorst on the preceding

Referred to the Superintendent of Agriculture for report as regards the weight at which he estimates the Wethers now at Salt Water River and their value to the public including skins & if slaughtered for issue – also the number now fit for slaughter

Sd J Boyd

Civil Commandant 12/4/67

The Supt of Agriculture

S W R-

Civil Commandant`s Office

Port Arthur

12th April 1867

Memo

John F.Morris

P.Bomarque

Life P.S

“Murder”

With reference to the case of the convict named in the margin and in compliance with instructions contained on the Comptroller General`s memorandum dated 28th Ult that a report be furnished every fortnight of the same . The Civil Commandant has to state for the information of the Governor that Morris continues a patient in the hospital here.

Sd J Boyd

Civil Commandant

Written sideways over the text :- “ Dr [indecipherable] under whose immediate care the prisoner Morris is states that “Morris is far from being fit to leave No 1 Ward, the disease in the kidney is still going on “ I have examined the prisoner and concur in this opinion.
Sd Geo Dinham S M O April 21st 1867

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The accompanying samples of 12 per cent flour recently received from Hobart Town marked 1.4..9 & 11 as denoting the number of months that each has been in store in the Head Magazines, are forwarded for the Civil Commandants inspection
Sd Jas J.Pringle Commissariat
13/4//67

The Civil Commandant

Endorst
Memo

I am much obliged to the
Commissariat Storekeeper for his courtesy in affording me an opportunity of inspecting samples of 12 per cent flour – one of which (No9) is superior to the others.
Sd J Boyd
13/4/67

The Commissariat Storekeeper

Endorst on Return of Colonial Prisoner chargeable to Colonial Funds on the 1st Jan 1867 shewing the dates when each man will probably become Free by Servitude
Herewith; sd J Boyd
Civil Commandant 13/4/67

The Honbl
The Comp.General

Endost on above
The nearest approximate dates have been given as regards the time when the Prisoners will severally become Free by Servitude – the probable remissions by task work having been duly considered in

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in making the calculations.
In the cases of the Convicts under life sentences such dates cannot of course be stated
Sd J Boyd
Civil Commandant 13/4/67

The Honble
The Comp.General

Memo

Will the medical officers have the goodness to favour the Civil Commandant with their opinion as regards the relative value of the bony portion of pork herewith submitted to their inspection and of fresh meat of the usual quality issued at Port Arthur
These bony parts have been removed from the side of fitches which it is intended to cure for Bacon and to be issued under the new scales of diet; it therefore becomes necessary to fix upon a proportional equivalent on the rate at which they should be issued.
Written sideways over the text “ He considers 3 lbs of the bony portions of the pork to be equivalent to 1 lbs of Beef or mutton. Sd.Jas Dinham, SMO”

Sd J Boyd
Civil Commandant

Memo

Will the Senior Medical Officer have the goodness to examine Overseer Sullivan with the view to its being decided whether he is considered physically able to perform the general duties of an Officer in charge of Prisoners at bush labor including walking to and from Long Bay daily or further occasionally if required is to do with a gang
Mr Sullivan states that he is nearly 61 years of age and has on two or three occasions

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occasions during the last few years been unable to attend to his duties from some disease in one of his legs

sd J Boyd

Civil commandant

Port Arthur 15th April 1867

The Senior Medical Officer

Endorsement on receipt for shingles for schnr "Harriot" from Public Works Department

29000 shingles were forwarded, on the 30th ult and appear by the accompanying telegram to have been received, Will the Director of Public Works be so good as to favour me with a receipt for the full quantity

sd J Boyd

Civil Commandant

16/4/67

Director of Public Works

Endorsement on application for Jn Blake's Record

This record is not at Port Arthur

Sd J Boyd

Civil Commandant 16/4/67

The Honble

The Compts [indecipherable]

Endorsement on memo respect of Jno H Sullivan "Kinnear"

The diseases from which this man is now suffering were contracted during the years 1860 & 1861. The affection of the lungs on account of which he was formerly invalided he has quite recovered from, & his present state in no way resulted from that or is connected with it

Sd Jas Dinham

Senr Medl Offr

16 April 1867

Written sideways over text "Returned to the Comptroller General with the Medical Officer's reply

Sd J Boyd

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In margin "Vide see Folio 259 for Mr Mansfield's letter"

Submitted the wether which the contractor herein offers to purchase are the same that were bought in January last for the purpose of feeding of the farm stubble and thereby improving the land under cultivation – they are in excellent condition and ought to be slaughtered very soon in order to prevent loss.

*James Boyd (Civil Commandant, Port Arthur) - Office letterbook, 1866-1869 from Tasmanian Papers, 1821-1877
Tas. Papers 315*

Mitchell Library, State Library of NSW

The price offered by the Contractor is 3s/3d each below the amount at which the superintendent of Agriculture estimates their value to the public – this upon 140 gives a difference or total loss of £22.15.0.

I cannot see that the contractor has any valid grounds for complaint as it has always been customary for the Government Stock to be slaughtered by giving reasonable notice to the contractor

If the present objection raised by Mr. Mansfield be allowed I apprehend much inconvenience arising hereafter from similar cases

Under

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Under these circumstances I think it would be better not to disturb the practice which has existed for many years – viz the public stock to be slaughtered when deemed expedient, and not sold

Pending a decision on this subject (which I recommend be given as soon as possible) I have directed that the wethers in question shall not be slaughtered!

Sd J Boyd
Civil Commandant
Port Arthur
13th April 1867

The Honble
The Comp.General

[Page 313]

John Deloe
London
4 yrs 6/4/64
List herewith

Daniel Murphy
[indecipherable]
4 yrs – 14/4/64
Now at [indecipherable]

Memo

The two convicts named above are to be employed and lodged at the [indecipherable] for 14 days for the purpose of improving the fencing of the Paddocks thereat.

[indecipherable] [indecipherable] under the charge of Constable Pugh while he is at “The [indecipherable]” and another Constable must be sent from Eaglehawk Neck to [indecipherable] Pugh of this charge before the latter proceeds with or for the Mail.

The two men Deloe and Murphy are to be supplied with Rations, tools, and bedding from E H Neck and are to be visited every alternate day by the District or Senior Constable, a report being made of such visits to the Commandant twice a week – viz. – by each post.

Sgd. J Boyd
17 April 1867

Mr John [indecipherable]
District Constable – E H Neck

Certified that Mr George Morris has been employed as Petty and latterly as Senior Constable on Tasman’s Peninsula for a period of eight years during which time he has conducted himself satisfactorily and performed the duties devolving upon him in a most efficient manner. Mr Morris now resigns his situation for the purpose, as he informed me, of returning to England.

Sd. J Boyd
Civil Commandant
Port Arthur
Tasmania
30th April 1867

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Port Arthur
21st March 1867

Sir,

I beg most respectfully to inform you that there were no empty casks landed from the Steamer on the 11th March with the exception of 1 empty oil cask addressed to Mr Mansfield Meat Contractor Safety Cove, and which is now on the wharf.

I also saw no casks or cases of fruit shipped on board the Steam vessel on that afternoon – + or on any other occasion.

I remain

Sir

most respectfully

J. McCann
Wharfinger

J. Boyd Esq J. P.
Civil Commandant
Port Arthur

+ Or on any other occasion?

sd. J. Boyd

Mr McCann

Forwarded to the comptroller General for his information in reference to this subject as mentioned by the comptroller General at his late visit.

sd. J. Boyd

Civil commandant\17/4/67

Port Arthur
Tasmania
17th April 1867

Gentlemen,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 29th ultimo referring to the Drain Tiles and Bricks which I had the pleasure to forward to the Intercolonial Exhibition at Melbourne, and requesting me to inform you at what price I could

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land such articles there –

In reply, I regret to inform you that in my official capacity as Civil Commandant of the establishment, I am, of course, preclude from entertaining any such proposition as that embraced in your letter or affording the information you desire.

I would therefore beg to suggest the expediacy of your addressing the Honble. the Colonial Secretary or the Comptroller General (of Convicts) of Tasmania on the subject.

Your price current circular was duly received.

I have the Hon to be
Gentlemen
Your most obedient serv't
sd J Boyd
Civil Commsndant

Major Hon'ble
Merchants
Melbourne

Memo
The Senior Medical Officer has prepared a requisition for 12 months supply of drugs &c to be obtained from the Apothecaries Society London.

sd. Geo Dinham
S. M. O.
April 17th 1867

The Civil Commandant

Requisition in duplicate transmitted herewith.

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
17th April 1867

The Honble
The Comp. General

[page 316]

Memorandum

Before submitting the plans for the proposed new separate sleeping apartments for the Insane for the Governor's approval I should be glad of information on the following points

1. Will the apartments attached to the [indecipherable] Prison and now used for the Lunatics be available for other purposes on the completion of the new buildings.

10 cells of ordinary size would be available for other purposes on the completion of the new building and 4 cells could, with a small amount of labour be also made available, as the original partition walls were removed some years ago.

2. When is it contemplated that the building will (if sanctioned) be completed.

In Feb'y 1868 as shewn by the [indecipherable] [indecipherable] of the Foreman of Works.

3. The Commandant is requested to send up the original plan of the new Lunatic Establishment.

The requested plans ([indecipherable] in number) & a rough sketch of the proposed arrangement were forwarded to the Comp. Gen. on the 10th inst.

sd. [indecipherable] Comptroller general
11th April 1867

The Civil Commandant
P. A.

Of what material is it proposed the building should be constructed

The original plan appears to be with the new one

The most substantial and durable material would of course be stone, but for the reason stated in the letter of the Foreman of Works I recommend that the new building be constructed of timber. A brick building would not be suitable for the violent patients sd. J Boyd

Civil Commandant

17th April 1867

The Comp G

Port Arthur

April 17th 1867

Sir,

With reference to the separate apartments and rooms proposed to be attached to the new building for Insane

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I beg to state that the most substantial material for it would be stone, but as the labor here for preparing it is so very limited it would take a long time to complete it.

A good substantial building of Wood suitable for the purpose required might be selected and with the labor now at command might be completed (with the building now in progress) by February next.

I am

Sir

Your most obed't Serv't

sd. Geo Strutt

F. W.

The Civil Commandant

I recommend that the proposed building be of timber.

sd. J Boyd

Civil Com't.

Endorsed

By the labor now at command the Foreman of Works includes the 6 paid mechanics.

sd J Boyd

17/4/67

The Honble

The Comp. Genl.

Memorandum

Leithley Geo Blundell

Hobart T. Ct. 23/1/56

Murder Life Impt.

*James Boyd (Civil Commandant, Port Arthur) - Office letterbook, 1866-1869 from Tasmanian Papers, 1821-1877
Tas. Papers 315*

Mitchell Library, State Library of NSW

Arrived at P. A. 16/2/66

[indcipherable] [indcipherable]

"Able S'man"

Hobart T. Ct. 10/1/66

Indecent Assault on a child

5 yrs Imp't

Arrived at P. A, 17/4/66

The Civil Commandant has to report for the information of the Comptroller General that in order to provide accommodation for particular cases, the 2 Prisoners named in the margin were released on the 5th inst. from the Separate Prison, where they had been confined according to rule since their arrival

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W. Mc Lynch [indcipherable]

[indcipherable] 2/1/61

15 yrs P. S.

Cattle stealing

arrived P. A. 16/1/61

Classed a Lunatic 20/1/61

App. chargeable to Colonial funds in general last dated 25/10/61

Memo

On examining the accounts of this Establishment in order to effect the preparation of certain Returns of Colonial Prisoners recently called for, the name of the Lunatic specified in the margin came under my notice

The peculiarity of the man's case induced me to refer to the Draft of Returns of Colonial Prisoners [indcipherable] for the years 1865 and 1866 in both of which I found his name did not appear and as these Returns were originally copied from other Returns furnished from the Comptroller General's Office, I am apprehensive that Lynch has been omitted to be charged during the whole period he has been at Port Arthur – viz. from 16/1/61

I very much regret that I did not discover this [indcipherable] before – but as the man was classed as a Lunatic and his name removed from the Register of Effective and [indcipherable] Prisoners to a distinct one of Lunatics and being thereby a Colonial Lunatic under Penal Servitude for a long period, his case escaped me till the present and I now bring it before you without delay.

[indcipherable] [indcipherable]

C. Clerk

Port Arthur 17 April 1867

The civil Commandant

[page 319]

Forwarded for the information of the Comp. Gen'l. whose instructions are requested as to what course had better be adopted in rectifying this oversight which I very much regret should have occurred.

sd. J. Boyd

17/4/67

The

*James Boyd (Civil Commandant, Port Arthur) - Office letterbook, 1866-1869 from Tasmanian Papers, 1821-1877
Tas. Papers 315*

Mitchell Library, State Library of NSW

Honble
The C. G.

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[apparently continues from end page 317]

arrival at Port Arthur.

Leathley completed a period of 414 days out of 450 days the usual time allotted for men of his class and Sandermore 353 days out of 365 days the term directed to be served by men convicted of indecent offences.

sd. J Boyd Civil Commandant
17/4/67

The Honble
The Compt. Gen.

Memo

The Civil Commandant presents his compliments to the Asst Commissary General in charge at Hobart Town, and has to request his signature to the annexed certificate which is required as a Supporting Voucher for the expenditure of certain articles of clothing (as specified thereon) during the halfyear ended 31/12/66.

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant 20/4/67

The Asst
Commissary General
Hobart Town

£14 ..14s..¼

Certified that the sum of Fourteen pounds, fourteen shillings and two pence farthing was received on day of January 1866 from the Civil Commandant Port Arthur bring the amount paid for the undermentioned articles of clothing sold to Constables at that place during the halfyear ended 31st December 1866.

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Articles of clothing sold as per Return furnished with the cash for payment.

Blue Cloth Trowsers	Pairs	No.	24
Serge Shirts or Jumpers		No.	24
Blue Cloth Caps		No.	17

Commissariat
Hobart Town

The Civil Commandant
Port Arthur

Memorandum

Wm. Castle
[indecipherable]

The Civil Commandant regrets to inform the Comptroller General that the Convict named in the margin committed suicide by hanging himself with one of the straps by which his hammock was usually suspended in a Cell of the Separate prison where he had been confined according to general rule since his arrival at Port Arthur on the 11th of March last. An inquest was held before Dr Dinham Coroner on Thursday the 18th inst. and a verdict returned by the jury that the deceased had committed suicide while labouring under "Temporary Insanity" – a copy of the evidence given by the Junior Medical Officer and by the Keeper of the Separate Prison is hereunto appended.

sd. J boyd
Civil Commandant
Port Arthur
21st April 1867

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Immediate

Port Arthur
20th April 1867

Sir, I have the honor to represent that as the new scales of Dietary will be introduced on the 1st proximo it will be necessary to have a person of considerable intelligence and practical experience to conduct the preparation and distribution of food for the general body of the Convicts, in order to guard against dissatisfaction through the incompetent management of the Cooking and Baking department.

I therefore recommend that Constable Sweeney of the Guard may be promoted to Assistant Overseer for that duty as being the fittest person I can find here.

There is not any vacancy at present, it will consequently be necessary that

The Honble
The Comptroller General
Hobart Town

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authority for an additional Overseer for 4 months be obtained as soon as possible to enable me to carry out the arrangement suggested, which I regard as absolutely necessary for the successful introduction of the new scales of Diet.

I have the hon. to be
Sir
Your most obed't Servt.
sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant

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Certified that Mr. Richard Thompson served in the Convict Department at Port Arthur from the 1st March 1853 to the 31st March 1867 and that he discharged his duties to my satisfaction with diligence and fidelity. Mr. Thompson had been previously employed at Norfolk Island but I cannot specify, from my own knowledge, what his services were at that Station.

sd. J. Boyd

*James Boyd (Civil Commandant, Port Arthur) - Office letterbook, 1866-1869 from Tasmanian Papers, 1821-1877
Tas. Papers 315*

Mitchell Library, State Library of NSW

Civil Commandant
Port Arthur
20th April 1867

The Honble
The Comp Genl

Endorsed on Supplementary Return of the number of Diets issued to John Jay per “
Medina” F.L. (a lunatic) chargable to the Colony during the year ended 31st December 1865.

Jay’s return herewith in triplicate – the returns required for Ewd Galloway Russell were
forwarded by last post.

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
24/4/67

The Honble
The Comp General

[page 325]

Endorsed on death Report of James Mansell or Jas Mansfield F.L “ Pt. Franklin”

17/4/ 67

Does this man appear on the Books of any other ship as well as “Pt. Franklin”

sd. C.L. Belstead
for Cly
23rd April, 1867

Endorsed on above –

From the annexed orders respecting this man it will be seen that he was under the name of
Mansell or Mansfield per “Pt Franklin”.

sd. J.Boyd
Civil Commandant
26/4/67

The Honble
The Comp Genl

Certificate on Mr. Mansfield’s pension papers.

Certified that Mr. Alfred William Mansfield has served under my orders as Assistant
Superintendent and also as District Constable from the 1st Novr 1856 to the 31st March 1867 –
for 4 years and 5 months of which period he had charge of the Civil Guard at the imporant
and responsible post of Eagle Hawk Net, and during the whole time he discharged his duties
to my satisfaction and in a diligent and faithful manner.

Mr. Mansfield appears by the Registers of this Establishment to have been employed as an
Overseer and Asst. Superintendant from 26th April 47 to 1st Nov 1853 on which date I took
charge, and I have always heard the former Superintendant of the Station speak in high terms
of his conduct and his efficiency.

sd. J.Boyd

*James Boyd (Civil Commandant, Port Arthur) - Office letterbook, 1866-1869 from Tasmanian Papers, 1821-1877
Tas. Papers 315
Mitchell Library, State Library of NSW*

Civil Commandant
Port Arthur [indecipherable]
27 April 1867

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Civil Commandant's Office,
Port Arthur
29th April 1867

Sir,

I have the honour to inform you that there are 77 pairs of boys books(nos 6,7,8 & 9) in store at this establishment. They are, of course, too small for the inmates here but might suit for the boys at the Queens Asylum.

I have forwarded a pair for your inspection and shall be glad to receive instructions for the disposal of the whole.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most Obedient Servant

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant

The Honble
The Comptroller General

[page 327]

Memo

Required for the Expenditure Return of 1866.

Returns from the Commissariat shewing quantity & value of all Rations for 1866

Do Do Fuel and Light

Value of Station produce raised and applied in aid of Rations

The Civil Commandant will feel much obliged by the above particulars being furnished as may be convenient to enable him to proceed with the Expenditure Returns.

sd J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
1st May 1867

The Honble
The Comp General

Endorsed on Hugh Waldron's letter addressed to the Comptroller General

Referred to the Commandant

sd. W. Maison
23rd April 1867

The accompanying letter is the production of the man Hugh Waldron, a pauper, who wishes to be allowed to go off the Station for the purpose of bathing at some of the Bays in the

*James Boyd (Civil Commandant, Port Arthur) - Office letterbook, 1866-1869 from Tasmanian Papers, 1821-1877
Tas. Papers 315*

Mitchell Library, State Library of NSW

vercinity – this I object to, and have done so every since the murder of the invalid at Opussum Bay some few years ago.

Waldron can go out in charge of a Warder to bathe, like other Paupers, which

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which is in accordance with the Regulations but refuses to do so.

sd. J. Boyd
30/4/1867

The Honble
The Comp Genl

Memorandum,

It is requested that a supply of Forms of Caption as I requests may be sent to Port Arthur as soon as possible, there being none on hand at this Establishment.

sd. J. Boyd
civil Commandant
1st May 1867

The Honble
The Comp Genl

Green Wm “Black Swan”

Tried L.ton S Ct 14/4/64 – Assault & Robery – 5 yrs imprisonment

Memo

The Prisoner above named was received here as “Free to Colony” has now been discovered to be Wm Green for ‘Lady Emma’ – tried at Adelaide in 1843 for wilfull murder and sentenced “Death Recorded” – commuted to 7yrs Transportation

He arrived in this Colony in the same year became free in 1850, left the Colony shortly afterwards, but subsequently returned to Tasmania by the “Black Swan”

It is requested that his Police character may be sent to Port Arthur with as little delay as possible

sd J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
1st May 1876

The Honble
The Comp Genl

[over writing on above memo]

There is no man on the Records answering the description of Willm Green- the personal description of a man named Jas. Green is forwarded for comparison with the man now at Port Arthur and the result is to be communicated to this office.

sd C. J. Belstead for [indecipherable]
Comptroller General’s Office
May ‘67

The Civil Commandant.

[page 329]

Memo

With reference to the sum of £60.7.7 I beg to state that it comprises the amount of sundry cheques drawn on the Port Arthur account but remaining unpaid therefrom – I enclose a list of these cheques, of which a considerable number have been presented and paid from my private funds - there having remained a balance of 1/6 at the Bank to meet the deficiency of £60.7.7 as fully explained in the separate statement furnished on the 5 June, 1866.

The Governor, under the circumstances of the case, accommodated that I should be credited with the full

H Bartlett Esq.
Assistant Commissary General
in charge

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Full amount as I, alone, was legally liable for every penny of the several cheques which bore any signature and were then unpaid.

The exact sum is £60.6.1, as the balance of 1/6d is still at the Bank and I presume this amount will be paid to the credit of my public accounts in the Bank of Australasia and then I can refund the sums with which I have been surcharged and meet the remainder of the cheques as they may be presented for payment.

sd J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
Port Arthur
4 May 1867.

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Civil Commandant's Office
Port Arthur
3rd May 1867.

Sir,

With reference to your letter of the 29th Inst. I have the honor to enclose herewith copies of papers received from the Commissariat's Office shewing the sums which had been deposited to my credit in the Bank of Australasia or paid to myself direct from the 26th April 1860 to the 28th March 1865.

I also enclose copy of a letter received from the Manager of the Bank

H. Bartlett Esq.
Assistant Commissary General in charge.

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acquainting me of the aggregate sum which had been deposited to the Credits of my public accounts during the same period and amounting to £45,986.15.0

In reporting the amount which has been paid into the Bank, the Manager's Official acknowledgement was adopted.

I now find however, upon a further examination of the deposits that, the following items ought to have been deducted from the aggregate total- viz. £118.2.11 deposited by D.A.C.Ryland as a repayment, on the 3rd August 1860 as comprising several sums for stores and other charges which had been paid in excess to the Commissariat, from the Port Arthur Account, for the month of June 1860, also £1.7.0.recovered from Drs Dinham and Bone for Store Charges paid likewise from the

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the Port Arthur accounts to the Commissariat. In April 1865 those Officers having received the amount of their pay etc. for the previous month in full from the Commissariat direct.

A further sum of £2 has been entered by the Manager as a deposit, this misrepayment by the Bank for a cheque which had been fraudulently altered by some person from £2.19.2 to £4.19.2 and paid as such.

And lastly, a sum of £3.4.6, comprising certain small amounts recovered from various persons who had been overpaid the net amount of their salaries through error.

These sums amount together to £124.14.5 and reduce the aggregate deposit to £45,862.0.7. This sum would therefore appear to me to be the correct amount upon which the half per cent allowance should be calculated

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calculated,- but , if upon examination of the account, in the Commissariat's Office, there be any other items which in your opinion ought to be deducted I shall be much obliged by your having the goodness to cause such to be pointed out for my information.

I have the honor to be
Sir,
Your most Obedient Servant

sd J. Boyd
Civil Commandant

[page 335]

Endorset. on Mr Chatfield's Petition forwarded to the Civil Commandant for a certificate as to certain statements contained therein.

I certify that I have examined the record of Offences adjudicated by Magistrates at this Establishment, and find that the statement herein made by Mr. Chatfield as to his having been assaulted by the Prisoners on the 24th of February 1849 is quite correct.

I also certify that Mr. Chatfield, while in charge of one of the gangs cutting timber, met with the accident to which he refers.

Under these circumstances and having frequently observed Mr. Chatfield to be suffering from some affliction of the head- the result no doubt of the injuries he had received.

I beg strongly to recommend his case to the most favorable consideration of Her Majesty's Government.

sd, J. Boyd
Civil Commandant

Port Arthur
Tasmania
1st May 1867.

Memo'

The Civil Commandant presents his compliments to the Commissariat Storekeeper and has to thank him for his Memorandum of yesterday referring to the price of Flour and the issue of Suet.

Enclosed herewith is a correspondent relative to the bony portions of the first Pork made into Bacon- the paper was received by last post

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post, is now forwarded for Mr Pringle's perusal and it is requested may be returned.

sd J. Boyd
Port Arthur
3rd May 1867.

The Commissariat Storekeeper
Port Arthur

Port Arthur
May 4th 1867

Memorandum

Margin Note: Wm Amos
"Barossa"
Hobt S.Ct. 22/1/67
Inflicting greivous bodily harm
4 yrs [indecipherable]
sd J. L. H.

Mr Eastman has the honor to request that the Civil Commandant will have the goodness to authorise the exchange of his present servant, "James Perry" for the man named in the margin.

sd. George Eastman
Chaplain.

James Boyd Esquire
Civil Commandant
etc. Port Arthur

Endorset. on the above

The Prisoner Amos is not eligible for private service at present as the Chaplain will observe from the entry in red ink.
Perhaps some other man might be selected to succeed Mr Eastman's present servant.

sd. J. Boyd.
4/5/67

The Rev. Geo. Eastman
Protestant Chaplain.

[page 337]

Parsonage
Port Arthur

May 4th 1867.

(Recd.5/5/67)

Sir,

I have the honor to request permission to be absent from my duties for a few days to attend the "Levee" to be held on the occasion of H.M. Birthday.

I propose deputing the Clerk of the Church, Mr Huxtable, to perform such unavoidable duty as may be necessary during my short absence- for as I propose to ride up, I trust not to extend my absence over the Sunday.

I have the honor to be

Sir,

Your obedient Servant

sd Geo. Eastman.

Chaplain.

The Honorable

The Comptroller General etc.

Hobart Town

Endorset. on the above.

I have communicated with the Senior Medical Officer respecting the Chaplain's proposal for Mr Huxtable the Dispenser, to perform his duties, and find that it would be inconvenient for him to do so. I therefore suggest that the Schoolmaster, Mr McVilly, be requested, by Mr Eastman to officiate for him during his absence and instructed as to the nature and extent of the duties which the Chaplain considers it necessary should be attended to.

sd. J. Boyd

6th May 1867.

The Protestant Chaplain

Port Arthur.

[page 338]

Endorset. on Mr Mansfield's letter requesting an extension of time for the men Fencing at the Sounds.

Submitted and recommended that the former authority for the 14 days be extended for an equal period, as it is of much importance that the Cattle and Sheep should be depastured at the Sounds when en route to the Slaughter House at Safety Cove.

Former authority herewith-

sd J. Boyd

8th May 1867.

The Honble

The Comp. Genl.

Memorandum,

The Assistant Commissary General begs to inform the Civil Commandant, that he has not yet been furnished with the Return of Boats etc. on charge at Port Arthur for the quarter ending 31st March last, and requests that it may be transmitted as soon as convenient.

Commissariat, Tasmania

*James Boyd (Civil Commandant, Port Arthur) - Office letterbook, 1866-1869 from Tasmanian Papers, 1821-1877
Tas. Papers 315*

Mitchell Library, State Library of NSW

Hobart Town 3rd May 1867
sd Henry Bartlett
A.C.G.

The Civil Commandant etc.
Port Arthur.

Endorset. on the above.

The return of boats has hitherto been rendered half yearly- Will the Assistant Commissary General be so good as to inform the Civil Commandant whether he wishes it to be furnished in future every quarter?

sd. J Boyd
8th May, 1867.

The Asst. Commissary Genl in charge etc.
Hobart Town.

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Endorset. on Memo' from the Comp. General approving of 12 separate sleeping apartments being erected on the South wing of New Asylum for Insane.
24 were recommended to be erected.

sd. J.Boyd.
8th May 1867.

The Honble
The Comp. General.

Endorset. on authority for Mansfield to purchase the wethers at Salt Water River.

Mr Mansfield the Contractor informs me that he has not offered more than 23/- per head for the sheep and does not appear willing to give 24/- for them. His letter (herewith) shews that only 23/- was offered by him.
I therefore presume that 24/- per animal is a clerical error. Instructions on this head are requested.

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
8/5/67

The Honble.
The Comp. General.

Memo'

With reference to the proposed change of residence of the Superintendent of Agriculture from Salt Water River to Cascades, I am satisfied after fully considering all the bearings of the question, that, it is most desirable for the interests of the service that Mr. Luttrell should reside at Cascades.

The distance from Salt W.River to

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to Safety Cove is about 22 miles which being doubled for the return makes 44 miles and allowing for visits to Valley farms, H.W. Bluff, the upper land at Cascades, Long Bay and Garden Point, the day's journey may be taken at near upon 50 miles- a distance particularly in the Winter season, by far too great to admit of the Superintendent doing justice either to the several farms or to himself- the visits can only be cursory and by no means satisfactory, while the personal fatigue to Mr. Luttrell must be excessive.

Looking also at the fact that the new scales of diet require an increase of one third more vegetables upon the former scales, every effort will have to be made to raise the large quantity now demanded, and this will fall chiefly upon the farms on the South side of the Peninsula- therefore under all the circumstances it is clear that Mr Luttrell ought to reside much nearer to Port Arthur than at present, and as Cascades is the most central and convenient Station he will have the goodness to remove thither on the 1st prox. Mr. Cassidy taking charge of Salt Water River.

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
8th May 1867.

Mr Luttrell
Supt. of Agriculture
Salt Water River

9/5/67
12.50 pm.

From S.W.River
Constable Cullen begs to inform the Commandant that he has been informed by Lessee of Coal Mines this morning that

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that the party reported as strangers were some of his own men and no strangers.

sd J. Bowen
C. Signalman

J. Boyd Esq.J.P.
Civil Commandt.

Endorset. above.

The Superintendent of Agriculture is requested to inform the Lessee that I disapprove of his men shooting about the Mines and particularly as the public game are in that locality- they have given a deal of trouble on the present occasion as from the Lessee's report they were supposed to be strangers.

sd J. Boyd.
9/5/67

The Supt of Agriculture
S.W.River.

Endorset. on memo' from Comp. Genl. respectg. a letter addressed to Richd. Ambrows per "Eliz. & Henry" from his brother David Lewson at Pentridge Stockade.

The person referred to in the annexed letter is Richd. Amarous or Ambrose per "Eliz. & Henry" who was discharged from here to the prisoners' barracks Hobart Town on the 14th March 1861.

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
9th May, 1867.

The Honble.
The Comp. Genl.

[page 342]

Endorset. on death report of Thos. Warwick per Waverly.
Impl. Pauper.

Is this man's ship correctly stated?

sd. C. J. Belstead for C. G.
30th April 1867.

No- should have been "Morley"- an error of the Medical Clerk-vide death report annexed

sd J. Boyd
Cvial Commandant
9th May 1867.

The Honble
The Comp. Genl.

Memo:
Margin Note:
3rd Clerk from £80 to £92 per annum
Waiter Acct's Office from £85 to £ 92 per annum
Wardmaster from £90 to £100 a year.

Names transmitted.

The Civil Commandant begs to intimate to the Comptroller General that the officers named in the margin have been shewn for pay on the Abstracts for last month, in accordance with the Estimates for 1867 or '68.

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
Port Arthur 11/5/67

The Honble
The Comp. Genl.

Memo'
Mr Mansfield is informed that the Governor has approved of his being allowed to purchase the Wethers at Salt Water River Farm at twenty three shillings each.

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
11th May 1867.

Mr Henry Mansfield
Contractor for Fresh meat
Tasman's Peninsula.

Copy to Commiss. Storekeeper.

[page 343]

Endorset. on the Civil Commandant's memo respectg. the Schedule of Timber available for sale.-(vide Letter Book Folio 254)

B.311

Forwarded to the Honble. the Colonial Secretary

sd. W Navin
12/4/67

Memo'

What is the Hobt. Town market price, and what is the price offered by Mr Oldham for the timber he is prepared to take for the Sorell Causeway.

sd. B. Travers Solly
15/4/67

The Director of Public Works
Hobarton.

"Hobart Town prices"- No quotations for the class of timber Mr Oldham requires- none being in the market.

From 4/6 to 5/6 per 100 feet for 82,390 ft delivered at Port Arthur is offered by Mr Oldham.

Lists and prices affixed sent to Comptroller General on 6th March last.

In this reporting and looking at past transactions, I would beg leave to point out, that the Commissariat claim the right of disposing of Port Arthur timber, and that such sales do not rest with the Colonial Government.

sd W. R. Falconer
D.P. Works
18/4/67

The Asst. Secretary.

24215 over.

[page 344]

B.311

Memo

The Sorell Causeway being a public work the Governor approves of the rule respecting the disposal of Port Arthur Timber being relaxed- The disposal of such timber however must rest with the Imperial Government and these papers are now returned to the comptroller General.

Sd Richard Day
30th April 1867

The Comp.General

The Commandant is requested to send the list of the Timber and the price at which it is to be taken to the Assistant Commissary General

Sd W Nairn
6th May 1867

The Commandant

The list of Timber with prices affixed, referred to by the Comptroller General appears by the annexed memo of the Director of Public Works to have been sent to the comptroller General's Office in March last
sd J.Boyd
Civil Commandant 11/5/67

The Honble The Comp.General

[Page 345]

Normal Return of Coll Prisoners at Port Arthur during 1866 – returned by this post to the C Gs Office with corrections made in the cases of
Jas Ashcroft Per Duncan
Thos Jackson Per Ratcliffe
Thos Wilson Per [indecipherable]
11/5/67

Endorsement on query respecting the detention of Geo ;Martin per “ Surrey” & “Gov Phillip “ in the separate Prison.

Geo Martin per Surrey & Govr Phillip C.C.I Life tried Hobt S.C.10/4/66 manslaughter 12 yrs impot Arrived at Port Arthur 17th April 1866

Memo The above named prisoner has been released , his detention in the Separate Parison beyond 12 monrths was an error sd J Boyd
Civil Commandant
Port Arthur
15th May 1867

The Honbl
The Comptroller General

Memorandum

In margin :-
Jas Herrick “Neptune “ (2)
Mullins “ Neptune” (2)

It is requested that the Police Records of the Prisoners named in the margin may be sent to Port Arthur as soon as possible. They are required for the purpose of enabling me to endeavour to identify the prisoners now at Port Arthur under the names of Jas Conway per “ Neptune “ (2)
Sd J Boyd
Civil Commandant
15th May 1867

The Honbl
The Comptroller General
Hobt Town

[Page 346]

Endorsement on Petition of Jno Mc Nair per “ Aboukir” for a Free Pardon (vide page 323)

The Governor in Council grants this man a Free Pardon provided that it does not make him chargeable to Colonial Funds

Sd E.C. Howell
23rd March 1867

The Honbl
The Coll Secretary

Will the Comptroller General have the goodness to state if the issue of a Free Pardon to this man will have the effect of making him chargeable to Colonial Funds when maintained at the Public expense
Sd B Travers Solly
26th March 67

No if his disease continues the same
Sd H Nairn
26th March 67

It appears that the provision contained in the minute of the Governor in Council cannot be ensured as should he be restored to health and subsequently invalided for a different disease he would be chargeable upon Colonial Funds
Referred to the Honbl the Attorney General for further instructions
Sd B Travers Solly
6th April 67

Before finally deciding on this case I should like to know with what diseases this man is afflicted & if it is likely to be permanent
Sd H.L.Dobson
13th May 1867

Memorandum
The Commandant is requested to furnish a reply to the Attorney General's enquiry
Sd H Nairn
Comptroller General
13th May 1867

[Page 347]

Will the Senior Medical Officer have the goodness to reply to the enquiry of the Attorney General dated 13th inst
Sd J Boyd
16/5/67

Senior Medical Officer
Port Arthur

Hospital Port Arthur
May 18th 1867

In Margin :-
Jno McNair " Aboukir"

The man named in the margin was invalided for fracture of both legs.
I have now examined him & find his legs are perfectly sound and quite recovered from the effects of the injury for which he was invalided.
He is robust, young man, in good health, and quite able to earn his livelihood.
Sd Geo Dinham
Senr Med Offr

The Civil Commandant

Transmitted to the Comptroller General

Sd J Boyd
Civil Commandant
18/5/67

Jno Deloe "London"
Danl Murphy "Rodney"

Memo

Referring to my memo of the 17th ultm respecting the Prisoners above named, authority has been received for their being employed for an additional 14 days at the Sounds repairing the Meat Contractor's fences under the same restrictions as before. They are to proceed thither on Monday morning next the 20th inst & as this period will include the time occupied in going to and returning from the Sounds care is to be taken that they return to E H Neck at the time appointed

Sd J Boyd
Civil Commandant
18th May 1867

Mr D.B. Peppard in charge E H Neck

[Page 348]

endorsement on statement of Willm Hulance per "York" as Willm Newland per "R I Shephard"

The prisoner herein referred to was received this morning by the schooner as Wm Newland > Free to Colony per "RI Shephard"

It is requested that his Police Record as William Hulance per Ship "York" may be sent to Port Arthur as soon as possible

Sd J Boyd Civil Commandant
Port Arthur
17th May 1867

Written sideways across above text :-

Record herewith is a report to be made if on examination it is found to be that of the man calling himself Newland

Sd H Nairn
Comptroller General
28th May 1867

Also written sideways :-

From a comparison of this prisoner with the Police Record of Wiilam Hulance it is found that he agrees in every respect with the description therein [indecipherable]

Sd J Boyd
Civil Commandant
Port Arthur
29th May 1867

Endorsement on name respecting William Green per [indecipherable] [indecipherable] "Emma"

The personal description sent does not answer the appearance of William Green in any respect. He still persists in his former statement. His correct personal description is herewith forwarded

J Boyd
Civil Commandant
16th May 1867

Written sideways across above text :-

Will the Commandant enquire from this man the name in which he was tried, as he states in Adelaide [indecipherable] C J [indecipherable] for Cf.21/5/67

*James Boyd (Civil Commandant, Port Arthur) - Office letterbook, 1866-1869 from Tasmanian Papers, 1821-1877
Tas. Papers 315*

Mitchell Library, State Library of NSW

The man persists in stating that he was tried at Adelaide in 1843 in the name of William Green but I strongly suspect from his manner that he is not telling the truth
J Boyd 4/6/67

The Honbl
The Comptroller General

Covering memo on Returns of Convict Expenditure in the Colonies of New South Wales, Victoria, Adelaide to Western Australia.

Returned Copies have been made and are retained in the Civil Commandant's Office
Sd J Boyd
Civil Commandant
Port Arthur
18th May 67

The Honbl
The Comptroller General

[Page 349]

Memorandum

With reference to the Governor's authority of the 9th July 1862 relative to the periods which Convicts were to be confined in the Separate Prison on arrival from Hobart Town. I beg to point out that as only four classes of sentences are specified viz. Life, 15 and 10 years, as also cases of indecency, some difficulty has been found in regards to the terms of confinement for other sentences than those mentioned, I have also to remark, that, in my opinion, it would be advisable to fix 12 months as at present, and in this view I believe the Medical Officers agree. I therefore beg to submit herewith for approval, an amended scale in which I have reduced the time of confinement to weeks and specified the sentences from 21 to 9 years inclusive, life sentences being of course also shewn. All sentences for indecent offences are provided for as at present.

I also recommend that, according to present rule, men whose sentences do not exceed 8 years should not be placed in the Separate Prison.

Sd J Boyd
Civil Commandant
18th May 1867

The Honble
The Comptroller General

Proposed Scale of periods to be undergone in the Separate Prison by Convicts on arrival at Port Arthur

Sentence	Period to be Undergone in Separate Prison	Under what sentence	Period to be undergone in the Separate Prison
Life	52 weeks	15 years	45 weeks
21 years	51	14	44
20	50	13	43
19	49	12	42
18	48	11	41
17	47	10	40
16	46	9	39

All sentences for indecent offences at present 52 weeks

Sd J Boyd Civil Commandant

The Honbl
The Comptroller General

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Danl J Field CP " K.S.Forbes"
Tried Hobt SC 24/1/65 Receiving 4 yrs imprisonment

The Governor with the advice of the Council approves of 12 months being deducted from the unexpired terms of Imprisonment.
CJM 9/3/66

Memorandum

Will the Comptroller General be so good as to inform the Civil Commandant whether the above mentioned remission is to be deducted from the man's sentence of 4 years and therefore reduce it to one of 3 years , or to have the effect of reducing the prisoner's minimum period of 3 years and 3 months to 2 years and 3 months.

Sd J Boyd
Civil Commandant
18th May 1867

The Honbl The Comptroller General

Civil Commandant's Office
Port Arthur Tasmania
22 May 1867

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 10th inst relative to 100,000 Iron bark sleepers which you inform me that a gentleman requires for the Indian market. In reply, I beg to state that I am officially precluded from entertaining any proposal for the purchase of material and would therefore beg to refer you to the Head of this Department the Honble The Comptroller General Hobt. Town

It may however be right to mention that Iron-bark is a very scarce wood on Tasman's Peninsula & could only be supplied in the smallest quantities.

I have to thank you for your courtesy in intimating the recent award to me of a special Commissioner's Medal

I have the honor to be
Sir, your most obedt Servt
Sd J Boyd Civil Commandant

Willm R Evans esq
Late secretary Tasmanina Const
8 Elizabeth Street
Melbourne
Victoria

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Memo

The Dispenser must in future commence his duties at the hospital at 8 o'clock every morning, and will enter the time of his arrival and departure in a book to be opened for that purpose, as is done by the Clerks in the Civil Commandant's Office. This book is to be laid before the Senior Medical Officer daily and on every Monday morning sent to the Civil Commandant. The Dispenser is again informed that he is held responsible for the punctual completion of the hospital accounts which must be submitted to the Senior Medical Officer for signature not later than the 8th of each month.

It is with much pain that the Commandant has to add that owing to the repeated complaints which have been made on this subject, the Comptroller General has directed the

*James Boyd (Civil Commandant, Port Arthur) - Office letterbook, 1866-1869 from Tasmanian Papers, 1821-1877
Tas. Papers 315*

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Commandant to inform Mr Huxtable that he must send in his accounts punctually and correctly or his services will be dispensed with
Sd J Boyd Civil Commandant Port Arthur
24th May 1867

Mr Huxtable
Clerk & Dispenser
Medical Branch
Port Arthur

Commissariat Port Arthur
15th May 1867

Sir, In forwarding the a/c current for the month of April with vouchers. I have been compelled to do so in regard to my own incomplete from the absence of the usual and necessary voucher from the Hospital, which I have endeavoured frequently to obtain but without success. in fact there is no branch of this Establishment gives more trouble in these matters than the hospital -

I have thought it therefore desirable not to delay the accounts any longer; but forward them by this present post, when the hospital return can follow and the items added to my a/c current

I have the honor to be Sir,
Your most obedt Servt
Jas J Pringle

The Assist Commissary General

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Endorsement on the preceding

This letter is transmitted to the Comptroller General with a request that he will be good enough to communicate with the Civil Commandant in reference to the complaint made by Mr Pringle of the delay in obtaining the necessary vouchers from the Medical Officers
Sd Henry Bartlett Abf 18th May 1867

Referred to the Commandant who will have the goodness to see that these accounts are regularly furnished
Sd H Nairn
21st May 67

Urgent

Will the Senior Medical Officer have the goodness to cause the Accounts herein mentioned to be furnished to the Commissariat Storekeeper as soon as possible
Sd J Boyd 22/5/67

The Senior Medical Officer Port Arthur

Hospital Port Arthur
May 22nd 1867

Mewmo

The Senior Medical Officer presents his compliments to the Civil Commandant & begs to inform him that the Hospital Accounts for the month of April were forwarded to Town by the Steamer on Monday last.

The repeated delays in furnishing these accounts are owing in great measure to the Dispenser's late attendance at Hospital & the Senior Medical Officer takes the present opportunity of requesting the assistance of the Civil Commandant in compelling the Dispenser to commence his duties at the hospital at a much earlier hour than heretofore.

*James Boyd (Civil Commandant, Port Arthur) - Office letterbook, 1866-1869 from Tasmanian Papers, 1821-1877
Tas. Papers 315*

Mitchell Library, State Library of NSW

To carry on the business of the Hospital satisfactorily it is essentially necessary that the Dispenser should be at the hospital at eight o'clock every morning
Sd Geo Dinham SMO

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I have again spoken to Mr Huxtable the clerk at the hospital whose duty it is to prepare the Accounts in question, and he has promised that they shall be sent in punctually in future. I have also, in accordance with the request of the Senior Medical Officer, addressed an order to Mr Huxtable on the subject – copy of which I annex
Sd J Boyd 25/5/67

The Honble The Comptroller General

(Vide Mr Pringles letter page 289)

Memorandum

Will the Commissariat Storekeeper have the goodness to inform the Civil Commandant to what other branches of the Establishment, besides the hospital, he refers in that part of the accompanying letter marked X and underlined, as having given him trouble in the rendering of their accounts. The Commandant is desirous of obtaining this information in order that the Officers to blame may be at once admonished to attend properly to their duties in future.
Sd J Boyd Civil Commandant, Port Arthur.
24th May 1867

The Commissariat Storekeeper
Port Arthur

Memo

The Commissariat Storekeeper begs to acquaint the Civil Commandant that in reference to this communication of the 15th inst to the Alefenl he did not intend to imply any trouble in sending accounts &co to any other branch of the Peninsula service; except that of the hospital; of which both the Civil Commandant and Senior Medical Officers are fully aware of. The nature of his letter to the Alefenl [indecipherable] and is borne out by his memo of the 18th inst in which he states "The necessary vouchers from the Medical Officers" All other necessary monthly returns and voluminous vouchers are punctually rendered within the time as desired for transmission to

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to head quarters; but which have been often delayed until the middle of the month awaiting the Hospital Accounts
sd Jas J Pringle Commissariat
24th May 1867

Civil Commandant

Memo

On the 27th March last an application was made to Mr Reidy for money said to have been given up for safe keeping by 3 paupers on reception into the House of Correction for males, Hobt Town.
Since then one of the men named Jas Crossam or Carsons has applied several times at this office to know if his money had been received. Will the Superintendent have the goodness to cause the sum to be forwarded if the man's statements are correct.
Sd J Boyd
Civil Commandant's Office
Port Arthur
25th May 1867

Mr Reidy esq

*James Boyd (Civil Commandant, Port Arthur) - Office letterbook, 1866-1869 from Tasmanian Papers, 1821-1877
Tas. Papers 315
Mitchell Library, State Library of NSW*

Memo It is requested that the half yearly supply of stationery requisitioned for on the 27th of April last may be sent by next trip of the schooner as it is urgently required there being but very little on hand
Sd J Boyd. Civil Commandant, Port Arthur
25th May 1867

The Honble The Comptroller Generals

Endorsement on query from the Colonial Auditor thro` the Comptroller General respecting John Clare

Clare was appointed a Constable at Port Arthur on the 21st of March 1866 pay 2s/-per diem and a Police ration
Sd J Boyd C.C. Port Arthur
29/5/67

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Civil Commandant`s Office,Port Arthur
29th May 1867

Sir, Referring to your letter of the 14th inst in which you inform me that the Honbl the Colonial Secretary wished for a Return of Colonial men whose sentences will expire in two years and who I think might be sent up to Hobart Town with a prospect of their quietly working out the remainder of their sentences there.

I have the honor to report, that having given the matter my careful consideration, I am of opinion that for the following reasons it would be most inadvisable to remove any of the men under short sentences from this Establishment.

1st There are only very few effective Prisoners who I consider might be safely employed at Hobart Town.

2nd There are 82 men at Port Arthur labouring under what is termed " separate treatment restrictions " i.e. men who have been convicted of unnatural or indecent offences, or are strongly suspected of having such propensities.- these men have to be most carefully matched and are lodged at night in cells.

3rd. 89 of the Convicts are under sentence of Penal Servitude Imprisonment or transportation for life and the greatest vigilance has to be observed in their supervision and control in order to prevent them from effecting their escape and committing graver offences.

4th There are also about 100 men who will not complete their term of sentence for the next five years

Looking ,therefore, at the large number of prisoners who require the closest inspection ; and also at the great extent of coast to be guarded – particularly when cases of absconding occur- on which occasions the short sentenced and well conducted men are necessarily employed in assisting the Constabulary – it is of the greatest importance that, so long as dangerous convicts are kept upon so extensive a tract of country as Tasman`s Peninsula, there should always be a considerable

The Honble The Comptroller General

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considerable number of active, trusty men available to aid the Authorities.

This is, further, the more necessary now that, the majority of the Police consist of men who have always been free, and who for severe service in the wet, dense bush when searching for runaways,would be much less efficient than the Prisoner Class.- As a proof of this, I may mention that by far the greater part of recaptures have been effected by short sentenced convicts who have been employed with the Constable.

It is true there has not been any case of absconding of late, but it is quite impossible to tell how long this favourable state of things may continue. There are many life- sentenced men

*James Boyd (Civil Commandant, Port Arthur) - Office letterbook, 1866-1869 from Tasmanian Papers, 1821-1877
Tas. Papers 315*

Mitchell Library, State Library of NSW

who are now anxiously waiting the final decision of the Executive in their cases, and should such result in the extinction of all hope of their ever being released, we may certainly expect not only many attempts to escape but much other serious trouble with convicts of this extreme class.

Then again, the number of signal stations, Guard post and Farms throughout the Peninsular some of which are upwards of 20 miles distant from Port Arthur, always require a large strength of short timed well conducted men ; and to these have to be added some 70 of the same stamp who are required as officer`s servants and for other situations of comparative trust.

For these reasons, therefore, and with a view to presume the safety, order and general satisfactory condition of the Establishments on this peninsula, I strongly advise that none of the well conducted prisoners under short terms of detention may be removed.

I have the honor to be Sir, Your most obedt servt

Sd J Boyd, Civil Commandant

Ps In the numbers given in this letter Imperial as well as Colonial Prisoners are included sd
JB

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Civil Commandants Office, Port Arthur,
29th May 1867

Sir,

With refernce to the timber specified in the general schedule of the 14th of February last as being available for sale or removal and for a considerable portion of which the Director of Public Works in his memo of the 6th of March stated that it would realize very little if sold, I have the honor to report that, in order to prevent further loss from long exposure to the weather, and as much of the timber is well seasoned, I have directed the foreman of Works to use such portions of it as he may find to be suitable for the erection and repair of buildings on the Peninsula.

This, however, will not interfere with the heavy timber required by Mr Oldham for the Sorell Causeway nor with the split stuff shewn in the list.

An amended schedule of the timber available for sale or removal can be furnished should you consider such to be necessary.

I may remark (as stated in my former report respecting this timber) that it is most desirable to have the same removed as soon as possible as it is becoming much deteriorated in quality from the long period it has been cut.

I have the honor to be Sir Your most obedt Servt

Sd J Boyd

Civil Commandant.

The Honble The Comptroller General

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Endorsement on letter from the lessee of the Coal Mines requesting to be allowed to cut timber off Govmt land beyond the boundaries of the mines.

Will the comptroller General have the goodness to inform the Civil Commandant whether the lessee of the coal mines may be allowed to remove timber from the Govmt land not within the mines boundaries?

The timber referred to is not at present, of any value to the Government and is required for carrying on the works.

Sd J Boyd Civil Commandant

27th May 1867

The Honbl The Comptroller General

Written sideways over above text :-

The Comptrollelr General is anxious to know for what works at the mines the timber is required

Sd C J Belstead

31st May 1867

James Boyd Esq Civil Commandant
For the Coal -pits tramroads and jetties
Sd J Boyd 1/6/67

The Comptroller General

Civil Commandant`s Office
Port Arthur. 1st June 1867

Memorandum

In compliance with the instructions contained in the Comptroller General`s memo of the 28th March 1st respecting the Convict named in the margin, the Civil Commandant has to report that Morris still remains a patient in the hospital.

No report has yet been received fro the Senior Medical in this man`s case

Sd J Boyd Civil Commandant

The Honble The Comptroller General
Ps. A report will be obtained & forwarded by next post
Sd J B

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Civil Commandant`s Office
Port Arthur
1st June 1867

Leonard Hand
A Native
18 yrs of age
Sentenced to 15 yrs
Impt: at the
Sup. C. L`ton
On the 24/4/66 for an
Attempt to commit
Sodomy

Sir,

I have the honor to report that the Prisoner named in the margin will have completed the prescribed term of confinement in the Separate Prison on the 14th inst:

He is the same juvenile whom you will remember having noticed in the prison at your last visit.

For some months past the lad has been allowed to exercise as much as possible in the open air, and daily, weather permitting, in the new yard outside the prison. He has also been instructed in Shoemaking and promises to become an efficient workman.

The question of how this lad should be treated until he attains the age of manhood has now to be considered, and on this point I would venture to suggest that he be detained in the

*James Boyd (Civil Commandant, Port Arthur) - Office letterbook, 1866-1869 from Tasmanian Papers, 1821-1877
Tas. Papers 315*

Mitchell Library, State Library of NSW

Prison, under modified discipline – i.e. being allowed to work in the corridor instead of in a Cell; to have instruction from the Schoolmaster in the Chapel; to be allowed a better selection of books from the Prisoner's Library than those usually issued to men in the prison – to be occasionally employed in carrying articles from the Station Stores to the prison – under the personal charge of the Keeper or one of the Officers – to have at least 2 hours exercise, in the open air daily and not to wear the Prison Mask.

Under this mild and relaxed form of treatment I am of opinion that the lad might safely, and with much advantage to himself, be Kept at the Separate Prison until it

The Honble
The Comptroller General

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it may be considered expedient to send him to the first convicted Station at Cascade, or elsewhere, to undergo the remainder of his sentence.

I have the honor to be
Sir,
Your most obedt. Servt.
(sd) J. Boyd
Civil Commandant

Civil Commandant's Office Port Arthur
1st June 1867.

Sir,

Civil Commandant's Office
Port Arthur
1st June 1867.

Danl. Aherne
"Emma"
Life P.S.

Sir,

I have the honor to report that the Prisoner named in the margin was released from the Separate Prison on the 27th ulto: as he requested to be allowed to work outside and promised, amendment of conduct in future.

His conduct since his arrival at Port Arthur in September 1864 has been so continuously very bad, that I thought it desirable to accede to his request as a matter of experiment, and I am glad to be able to report that, since his release, he has given no trouble.

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your most obedt. Servt.
(sd) J. Boyd
Civil Commandant.

The Honble
The Comptroller General

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Civil Commandant's Office
Port Arthur
1st June 1867

Sir,

I have the honor to submit for your consideration the desirability of appointing some person to conduct the scholastic instruction of the first convicted Prisoner at Cascade Station – several of whom are young men whose education has been neglected.

Hitherto books have been supplied to the Prisoners, and the Overseer of the Station has interested himself in their instruction, but as the Superintendent of Agriculture has now been transferred from Salt Water River (in exchange for Overseer Cassidy) – to Cascade, which is the most central and convenient Station – it will be impossible for him to attend to the instruction of the Prisoners, as his time will be otherwise fully occupied.

Under these circumstances, I beg to recommend, that Constable John Napier, who has always been free, and is competent to teach, may be allowed one shilling per diem for acting as Schoolmaster to the first convicted men at Cascade, in addition to his ordinary duties at that Station.

Constable Napier only receives 2s/- a day at present.

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your most obedt. Servt.
(sd) J. Boyd
Civil Commandant

The Honble
The Comptroller General

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Salt Water River Farm
31st May 1867

I beg to say that in compliance with the Civil Commandant's Orders I have allowed the Contractor Mr Mansfield to remove from this Farm the undermentioned number of Sheep – Wethers

May 10. 41 Sheep
" 22. 30 do
" 28. 30 do

Total 101 Sheep, Wethers

(sd) J. N. Luttrell
Suptdt of Agriculture
In charge

The Civil Commandant

Port Arthur

Will Mr Mansfield have the goodness to acknowledge the receipt of these Wethers on the face of Mr Luttrell's report and return the same by bearer.

*James Boyd (Civil Commandant, Port Arthur) - Office letterbook, 1866-1869 from Tasmanian Papers, 1821-1877
Tas. Papers 315
Mitchell Library, State Library of NSW*

(sd) J. Boyd
&c &c
3/6/67

Mr H Mansfield
Contractor for [indecipherable] Meat
Safety Cove

Note written on the side

Memo,

The accompanying report of 101 Sheep delivered to the Contractor under the Governor's Authority dated 4th May 1867 is forwarded to the Assist. Commiss. Genl. with the Civil Commandant's compliments.

(sd) J. Boyd
Civil Commandant's Office
4th June 1867

The Assist Commist. Genl.

Comptroller General's Office
31st may 1867

Memorandum,

The Civil Commandant is requested to furnish me with the Medical Report in the case of the prisoner Morris as soon as possible in order that it may be laid before the Governor.

(sd) H. Nairn
Comptroller General

James Boyd Esq.
Civil Commandant

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Hospital Port Arthur
June 3 1867

We beg to state for the information of the Comptroller General that the Prisoner Jno. Morris still remains an inmate of the Hospital and his condition at this date indicates no abatement of his disease; he continues in a very low state.

(sd) Geo. Dinham
S.M.O
(sd) J. Knrick Lewis
J.M.O.

The Honble
The Comptroller General

Forwarded to the Civil Commandant with the Senior Medical Officer's compliments.

(sd) Geo. Dinham
S.M.O
June 3/67

Transmitted to the Comptroller General.
(sd) J. Boyd
4/6/67

Civil Commandant's Office
Port Arthur Tasmania
4th June 1867.

Sir

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 27th ulto: requesting information as to my opinion of the suitability of Iron-wood and Blue Gum for Railway sleepers, and whether I could supply a large quantity for India, if so, at what price.

In reply, I beg to inform you that Iron-wood is very scarce on this Peninsula and could only be furnished in small quantities. – It would no doubt however make most durable Railway sleepers.

As regards Blue Gum there is plenty of such available, but not within a considerable distance of Port Arthur. No better timber exists for the purpose referred to. In

G.T. Landell Esq
189 King Street
Melbourne
Victoria

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In my official position I am precluded from entertaining any proposal for the supply of material I would therefore beg to refer you to the head of this Department – The Honble the Comptroller General – Hobart Town.

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your most obedt. Servt.
(sd) Jas. Boyd
Civil Commandant

Civil Commandat's Office
Port Arthur
4th June 1867

Note in margin:

Nos 966-477-1107
709-637-1007
671-827-996

Nos 928 & 982

Note written cross-wise over text:
The undersigned witnessed these 9 cheques enclosed with this letter to the Asst Compt General and posted their [indecipherable].

J. C. Yapp
C. Clerk
[indecipherable]

2nd Clerk
5 June 1867

Sir

Referring to the authorized refund to me of the [indecipherable] [indecipherable] on account of the [indecipherable] at this Establishment, I have the honor to enclose herewith 9 of the public cheques which have been freed from my private funds –

The two others with a letter from the Manager of the Bank of Australasia, were forwarded to the Comptroller General on the 1st August 1866 and have not since been received by me –

I enclose copy of the Banker's letter & of my communication to the Comptroller General on the date referred to –

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your most obedient Servant
JB
Civil Commandant

The Asst Commissary General
in Charge

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Civil Commandant's Office
Port Arthur, Tasmania
4th June 1867.

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 27th ulto requesting information as to my opinion of the suitability of Iron-wood and Blue Gum for Railway sleepers and whether I could supply a large quantity for India, if so, at what price. –

In reply, I beg to acquaint you that there is only a very small quantity of Ironwood on this Peninsula – of Blue Gum there is plenty, but not within a considerable distance of Port Arthur – both woods would make excellent sleepers.

I may, however, inform you that I am precluded from entertaining any proposal to purchase material, and would therefore refer you to the head of this Department – The Honble the Comptroller General, Hobart Town.

I have the honor to be
Sir,
Your most obedt. Servt
(sd) J. Boyd
Civil Commandant

G.T. Landells Esq.
189 King Street
Melbourne
Victoria

[Pge 366]

Port Arthur

8th June 1867

Sir, I have the honor to enclose herewith Caption of an Inquest held by me on the 6th inst. on view of the body of James Vallier alias Jean Villiers or Valliers late a Pauper belonging to this Establishment who was found dead in his bed in the Dormitory of the Pauper Depôt at ½ past 1 o'clock on the morning of the 5th inst: -
Verdict of Jury – Died of extensive disease of the heart.

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your most obedt. Servt.
(sd) J. Boyd
Coroner and
Civil Commandant.

Ref: J. Buckland Esq:
Registrar Supreme Court

Hobt Town

Coroners a/c in duplicate to Asst Commissary General 8/6/67.

Memorandum,

Referring to the Prisoner John F. Morris who appears from the recent report of Drs. Dinham & Lewis to the Comptroller General to be in a very low state, will the Senior Medical Officer have the goodness to acquaint the Civil Commandant of any considerable improvement which may take place in the man's health, in order that steps may be taken to prevent him from effecting his escape, & also that arrangements be made for his treatment when considered fit to be discharged from hospital.

(sd) J. Boyd
Civil Commandant.
11th June 1867

The Senior Medical Officer
Port Arthur

[Page 367]

Civil Commandant's Offices
Port Arthur
12th June 1867

Note in margin:
Jno. F. Morris
'Port: Born'
Life P.S.

Sir,

I have the honor to inform you that in consequence of the Medical Officers having reported on the 3rd inst: that the Prisoner named in the margin was in a very low state, I have thought it unnecessary to retain any longer – at least for the present – the two extra Constables who were authorized to guard him whilst in Hospital.

I enclose copy of a Memorandum which I have deemed it desirable to address to the Senior Medical Officer in order that steps may be taken for the man's safe custody and treatment when he regains strength and is considered fit to be discharged from Hospital.

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your most obedt Servt
(sd) J. Boyd
Civil Commandant

The Honble
The Comptroller General

Endorsement on letter from M. A. Prevost Launceston requesting information respecting Jas. Bird per "Rn. George"

Forwarded to the Commandant to be communicated to Bird. – The Writer has been informed of Bird's present position.

(sd) C. S. Belstead
for C.G. 7 June 1867

Communicated to the Prisoner James Bird per "Rn George" who declines to hold any correspondence with the writer, whom, he states his Mother-in-law.

(sd) J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
10 June 1867

The Honble
The Comptroller General

[Page 368]

Endorsmt on Memo' from the Comptroller General asking when the Police Records of Jas. Hadden, Ky Bromhall, Patk Foley & Robt. West were sent to Town.

Forwarded 6th March 1867 with the Return of all Prisoners at Port Arthur under sentence of Penal Servitude, Imprisonment or Transportation for Life.

(sd) J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
Port Arthur
12th June /67

The Honble
The Comptroller General

Hobart Town

Civil Commandant's Office
Port Arthur
12th June 1867

Dear Sir

I requested my Foreman of Works to go over and look at the fly-wheel shaft at the Mines as it was required at Port Arthur. – He informed me that he had done so but that you told him the shaft was your own property. – May I request that you will be good enough to inform me whether the Government shaft can be handed over to this Establishment.

I hope to receive an authority for you to be allowed to cut props for the Works.

I remain
Dear Sir
Yours truly
9Sd) J. Boyd
Civil Commandant

Mr. J. Hurst
Lessee Coal Mines
Tasman's Peninsula

[Page 369]

Civil Commandant's Office
Port Arthur
15th June 1867

Note in margin:
vide annexed copy of Mr Oldham's list

Sir,

With reference to the Timber selected from the general Schedule by Mr Oldham, I find that he has included a large quantity of boards which were available at the time the schedule was prepared, but owing to the recently authorized erection of a block of 12 separate apartments and 12 strong rooms for the insane patients (which building is to be of wood) – the Foreman of Works informs me, that he will require the whole of the boards in question – a portion of which he has already used. –

Under these circumstances, and as it is desirable to lose no time in completing the building – for which the services of 6 paid Carpenters have been approved – I recommend that Mr Oldham be allowed to select from the accompanying list, which has been extracted from the schedule, timber amounting to the same number of feet, superficially, as the boards referred to.

I have also to suggest that Mr Oldham may be informed that we have 5 of the large Piles which were cut for the Wilson's Bay Railway Order, available for disposal – They are 60 feet long, and about 24 inches in diameter at the large end, and might probably be of use in the construction of the Sorrell Causeway.

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your most obedt. Servt
(sd) J. Boyd
Civil Commonadnat.

The Honble
The Comptroller General

[page 370]

Memo'

Note in margin:
4 quires
Full sheet size
No. 76.

Will the Comptroller General have the goodness to cause a supply of Salary Abstract forms, as per margin, to be forwarded to this Office by the first opportunity.

(sd) J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
Port Arthur
19th June 1867

The Honble
The Comptroller General

For further certificate in the case of George Friend, vide fol: 190 of this book

19th June 1867

Comptroller General's Office
19th June 1867

Memorandum,

The Civil Commandant is requested to furnish a return of the number of Prisoners now at Port Arthur whose sentences will expire on or before the 31st Decbr: 1870.

(sd) N. Nairn
Comptroller General

Jas. Boyd Esq.
Civil Commandant

Return of the Number of Convicts, Imperial & Colonial, whose sentences will expire on or before the 31st Decbr: 1870.

<u>Funds</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
Imperial	55	2 of these are confirmed Lunatics
Colonial	254	
Total	309	

(sd) J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
21st June 1867

The Honble
The Comptroller General

[Page 371]

Return of the number of Convicts under detention, Invalids, Paupers and sentries at Port Arthur on 31st Decr. 1867 with the funds to which they are chargeable, (as per Day Book)

<u>Port Arthur 22nd June 1867</u>	
<u>Under</u>	<u>Under</u>
<u>Iml.</u>	<u>Cole.</u>

Convicts – or Prisoners under under detention - all classes no.	598	394	-	204
Invalids – or Imperial Paupers of all classes – ImI or Pardon 40 – [indecipherable] 72 no.	112	112	-	--
Paupers – Colonial – [indecipherable] - or Pardon –no.	123	--	-	123
Sentries – Imperial – all classes [indecipherable]	77	77	-	--
Sentries Cole. – Nil				
Total	910	or 583	and	327

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant

The Honble
The Comptroller Generaletc etc

Expenditure Return of 1866

Required for the above Return, the cost of the Stationery supplied to Port Arthur during 1866. Will the Comptroller General have the goodness to cause this information to be forwarded as soon as convenient.

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
Port Arthur
22nd June 1867

The Honble
The Comptroller General

[page 372]

Civil Commandants Office,
Port Arthur.
26th June 1867

Sir

I have the honor to report for your information that I have strong reason to believe that the Prisoner named in the margin, who was received here on 20th ulto: as a first convicted man has been repeatedly under sentence before – in fact he admits having been confined in the House of Correction at Hobart Town under various Police office sentences, but denies ever having been convicted in any Superior Court. This, however, I very much doubt as I remember his face quite well.

He says he has been 6 or 7 times in the Penitentiary of Hobart Town for felony and other offences since 1852 or 53, and always as James Nelson per “Tasmania”, also that he arrived in the Colony by the Barque “Anna Mauritia” in 1850 as Cook for the ship’s company and ran away from that vessel in Hobart Town.

Under these circumstances I have not sent him to Cascades where the first convicted men are stationed.

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your most obedt Servt
J. Boyd
Civil Commandant

The Honle
The Comptrioller General

Margin

[indecipherable]
Tried Hobt. Tn 7/5/67
Re stolen sheep
6 yrs Impt

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Civil Commandant's Office
Port Arthur
26th June 1867

Sir,

I have the honor to recommend that the 3 Convicts named in the margin may be released from heavy chains and placed in medium irons until further orders.

The conduct of these men has been perfectly satisfactory for a considerable period and I think that they might now be safely treated in a lighter description of chains than those worn by them at present.

Margin

M. Forster
Equestrian
1/8/63 Absconding – Governor's Pleasure

F. McDonald
Fairlie1
1/11/64 Absconding

H. Smith
fimore
1/4/64 Absconding

5 [indecipherable] chains each
Tried under 27 Vict. No. 20

The Honble
The Comptroller General

Endorsed on application of Edn McCoy for fishing licence.

No objection

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
27th June /67

The Honble
The Comptroller General

[page 374]

Civil Commandant's Office
Port Arthur
28th June 1867

Sir,

I have the honor to enclose herewith a list of Colonial stores now at the Quarantine Station Impression bay – the items thus marked + have been ordered to be sent to Hobart Town: and as many of the remaining articles are quite unservicable from the long period they have been out of use, I would recommend that such be destroyed, as they have been recently surveyed and condemned by an officer of the Public Works Department; and that the whole of the servicable foods be forwarded to the Colonial Storekeeper, as I am of the opinion, that it would be much better not to have any Colonial stores on the Peninsular.

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your most Obedt Servt.

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant

The Honble
The Comptroller General

Civil Commandant's Office
Port Arthur
29th June 1867

Sir

I have the honor to bring under your consideration the difficulty experienced in dealing with idle, ill conducted Paupers under the new scales of dietary. Some of these men are frequently most insolent to the Overseer and other persons in charge of them, and the only punishment which can

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can now be awarded to such is to place them upon the No. 8 scale of diet, which is somewhat less than the ordinary pauper ration, and found to answer very well, generally, as a minor punishment – but in certain cases a more effective mode of correction is absolutely necessary for preserving authority and the order & comfort of the Depot.

I therefore beg to recommend that I be authorised to place refractory men, or the insubordinate who refuse to do work or obey lawful orders, upon the no. 5 scale of diet for any period not exceeding 7 days.

I have the honor to be

*James Boyd (Civil Commandant, Port Arthur) - Office letterbook, 1866-1869 from Tasmanian Papers, 1821-1877
Tas. Papers 315
Mitchell Library, State Library of NSW*

Sir
Your most obedt Servt
sd J. Boyd
Civil Commandant

The Honble
The Comptroller General

[indecipherable]

Civil Commandant's Office
Port Arthur
29th June 1867

Memorandum,

In compliance with the instructions contained in the Comptroller General's Minute of the 25th ult: relative to the application (herewith returned) of George J. Landells esq. of Melbourne to be supplied with 100,000 Blue gum or Ironwood Railway Sleepers for India, as also information respecting the adaptability of Blue gum for such purposes, I have the honor to report, that there is only a very

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very small quantity of Ironwood or Iro-bark on Tasmania's Peninsular.

With respect to Blue gum, the only locality from where such can be procured in considerable quantities is upon the ranges between Cascade and Impression Bay Stations, about 12 or 14 miles from Port Arthur.

The sleepers required by Mr. Landells are equal to 4,166,666 feet superficial, and could not be furnished without erecting a Sawmill where the timber is most plentiful, and employing a large number of suitable paid labourers, as there are only very few able bodied Convicts now at Port Arthur who could be safely trusted so far from head quarters, and these are absolutely necessary for carrying on the ordinary works of the Establishment.

Blue gum, I may add, is a first class firewood, makes excellent charcoal and Mr. Landells could be supplied with the seed at a reasonable price –if approved by the Comptroller General.

sd. J.Boyd
Civil Commandant

The Honble
The Comptroller General

Reply to Mr. Carpenter's application for employment

No situation vacant to which he could be appointed.

29.6.67

Mr. Richd Carpenter
Wentworth Street
Hobt. Town

[page 377]

Memorandum

Will the Comptroller General be so good as to inform the Civil Commandant whether the timber on hand at Port Arthur and not included in the Oldham's purchase, may be used in the erection of the new block of apartments & strong rooms for the insane in order to enable the paid mechanics to proceed at once with the work & thus save delay & expense.? If this be not done the erection of the building will be much retarded in consequence of all the timber having to be cut for it - there being also at the present time a considerable quantity required for the Departmental Orders

(sd) J Boyd
Civil Commandant Port Arthur
29th June 1867

The Honble The Comptroller General

Endorsement on enquiry respecting John Moore per "Blenheim"

The man known as John Moore per "Blenheim" cannot be identified by any of the men at Port Arthur who arrived per "Blenheim" 2nd, 3rd, or 4th. A Prisoner named William Burley per "Elphinstone" states that he has known him for the last 10 or 11 years, not however by the name of Moore, but some uncommon name which he says he cannot remember. Burley also states, that the man referred to, told him that he arrived per ship Maria Soames as a sailor. It is rather strange that he should remember this and not the man's name, if he has known him so long. I annex Burley's statement.
The man held as John Moore per "Blenheim" has been insane ever since his arrival at Port Arthur.

sd J Boyd Civil Commandant
1st July 1867

The Honble The Comptroller General

[Page 378]

Port Arthur 2 July 1867

Dear Sir

It having been arranged under the authority of His Excellency the Governor to close the public Account standing in my name at your bank; and the amount paid from my private funds to meet public cheques having been placed to the credit thereof by the Commissariat less the balance of 1s/6d of the former account, it only now remains to transfer the said balance to my private account which I shall feel obliged by your doing
Herewith I enclose a list of [indecipherable] cheques drawn up on the public account and comprising the whole now remaining unrepresented and unpaid - [indecipherable] the present arrangement, these cheques are to be paid by the Commissariat, May I therefore request that you will be so good as to cause persons presenting the same at the Bank to be informed accordingly.

I avail myself of this opportunity to tender to you my best thanks for the courteous and obliging manner in which you have at all times [indecipherable] my wishes in reference to the account now closed.

I remain Dear Sir
Your very [indecipherable]
J Boyd Civil Commandant

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List of twenty cheques drawn upon Mr Boyds public account and comprising the whole now remaining unrepresented and unpaid
 Civil Commandants Office
 Port Arthur 2nd July 1867

Date Drawn	No of cheque	Name	Amount		
			£	s	d
29-5-60	249	Mr Carroll	3	0	0
18-6-60	400	George Jones	3	2	0
20-3-61	1529	J Selwood	0	2	0
24-2-62	2999	J Hand	0	2	0
do	3009	J Sheen	0	2	0
do	3034	John Driscoll	0	2	0
26-9-62	3987	Jnth Ley	0	3	0
28-11-62	4284	John Williams	0	10	4
9-1-63	4339	Edward Christie	3	17	2
1-5-63	4997	John McCarthy	2	16	5
do	5046	Willm Croker	0	10	4
26-6-63	5380	Jn Carsons	0	1	8
20-7-63	5546	do	0	10	0
21-8-63	5713	do	0	3	4
31-12-63	6244	Edwd Christie	3	11	8
do	6370	Donald Grant	0	10	6
do	6377	Rob Metcalf	0	2	4
14-4-64	511a	Jn Mix	0	5	0
30-11-64	260/13	Richd Ladd	3	1	2
23-1-65	761/13	John James	0	5	0
Total			22	7	5

Queries and replies on Provision A/Cs of effectives and Paupers for May 1867 returned to the Commissariat Hobart Town

The Correspondence duly [indecipherable] The Register kept for [indecipherable] purpose

6/7/67 HJ

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Covering Memo with money Estimate for 1868 & 9

Herewith the Civil Commandant forwards the money Estimate for the year 1868 & 9 , and also a comparative statement showing the difference in the Estimate for 1868 & 9 with that of the current year

sd J Boyd
 Civil Commandant Port Arthur
 6th July 1867

The Honble The Comptroller General

*James Boyd (Civil Commandant, Port Arthur) - Office letterbook, 1866-1869 from Tasmanian Papers, 1821-1877
 Tas. Papers 315
 Mitchell Library, State Library of NSW*

Colonial Treasury
21st June 1867

Sir

I do myself the honor to forward herewith, the Printed Receipt Book for the collection of the Dog Tax on Tasman's and Foresters Peninsulas for the year ending the 30th April 1868, and to request that you will be so good as to cause the necessary instruction to be issued to the Chief Constable on the spot, to proceed forthwith with the collection of the Tax. On it being completed, the Receipt Book is to be transmitted to the Colonial Auditor, and the amount remitted to the Treasury .

I have the honor to be Sir, Your obedient Servant
sd H Lovett
Asst. Colonial Treasurer

The Comptroller General

The Commandant is requested to have this tax collected.

sd H Nairn
21st June 1867

The Senior Constable will comply . Receipt Book herewith

sd J Boyd
29/6/67

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Tasman's Peninsula

Explanation is requested from the Senior Constable Port Arthur on demanding payment of Dog Tax

1st In what Police are you?

2nd State under what authority or appointment you demand such monies?

3rd Do you consider yourself as Imperial or Colonial Servant, stating from what funds you are paid.?

4th State what funds do you pay the Dog Tax money & through whom?

5th Do you consider that you are legally justified in collecting this dog tax from officers of all grades, being maintained by her Majesty the Queen whose servants they are, and located upon the reserved Crown portion of the Island of Tasmania namely, Tasman's Peninsula for her Majesty's purposes?

6th Are you any officers of a Municipality, or of a Country Police District?

7th Is there a legally Gazetted Police Office at Port Arthur & if so will you inform me who is the Police or Assistant Police Magistrate or Magistrate's Clerk ?
Schedule C of the 11 Vict .Ho 7.states that the receipt for dog tax shall be signed by the " Police Magistrate, Assistant Police Magistrate or Magistrate's Clerk?

*James Boyd (Civil Commandant, Port Arthur) - Office letterbook, 1866-1869 from Tasmanian Papers, 1821-1877
Tas. Papers 315*

Mitchell Library, State Library of NSW

Upon your explanation will depend my paying this tax

(sd) Jas. J. Pringle Port Arthur
6th July 1867

The Senior Constable
Port Arthur
Tasman`s Peninsula

Respectfully submitted fo the Civil Commandant`s instructions
(sd) Timothy Phelan
Senior Constable

Submitted for instructions . The Acts of Council referring to the dog tax have been shewn to Mr Pringle, who has paid the tax upon his two dogs, but under protest , as being illegal -Vide Memo annexed. The authority on which the tax is being collected on Tasman`s Peninsula is forwarded herewith & in order to set the matter at rest, I beg to suggest that Mr Pringle`s objections may be referred to the proper authorities for consideration & a decision

sd J Boyd Civil Commandant
8th July 1867

The Honbl The Comptroller General

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Memo

Mr T Phelan Senior Constable
Port Arthur Tasman`s Peninsula

In order that you may not be placed to any trouble in the collecting of the dog tax, I herewith enclose you ten shillings for two dogs and in doing so I would have you to bear in mind that I most thoroughly protest against such tax upon all dogs on Tasman`s Pensinsula as being illegal.

sd Jas. J Pringle
Port Arthur, Tasman`s Peninsula
8th July 1867

Description of dog

1 male dog Pointer Black and white

1 do Mongrel Black and tan

Sale of Equivalents

Effective prisoner - 3 eggs in lieu of 10 oz of fresh meat
- 2 ½ oz Butter Do Do

Invalid or pauper - 1 ½ pints of milk in lieu of 8oz fresh meat
- 2 eggs Do Do

- 2 oz Butter Do Do

Port Arthur 15 July 1867

Sir

I have the honor to recommend that the annexed scale of equivalents of Butter, Milk & eggs for meat, may be approved for issue at this Estblt when available – former scale to be cancelled

I have the honor to be &- -
sd J Boyd Civil Commandant

The Honble , The Comptroller General.

[Page 383]

Memo

The Civil Commandant begs to enclose the within copies of condemnation vouchers and instructions for disposing of the dry stores lately surveyed at Port Arthur , to the Comptroller General, in order that, if deemed expedient, the Governor's approval may be obtained for the same being carried into effect which [indecipherable] have [indecipherable] which have done in similar cases heretofore

sd J Boyd Civil Commandant , Port Arthur
15/7/67

The Honble, The Comptroller General

Endorsement on Petition of Thomas Hall per "Rodney"

The conduct of the petitioner, Thomas Hall has been perfectly satisfactory since his arrival at Port Arthur

sd J Boyd Civil Commandant
16th July 1867

Endorsement on paper respecting [indecipherable] Robinson as Anthony Robinson per "Eden"

Will the Comptroller General be so good as to inform the Civil Commandant whether the prisoner herein referred to is to be tried for absconding from the Government schooner at Hobart Town in 1860

sd J Boyd, Civil Commandant
18/7/67

The Honble The Comptroller General.

[Page 384]

Enclosed to the Asst. Commissary General, Hobart Town by post 21/7/67

[indecipherable] receipt for £9 on A/C of postage

Procursions of Constable John Sullivan for June 1867

Memorandum

In margin :-

Mr Reynolds. per "Northumb-"

The authority for the maintainance in the Pauper Depot here of the man named in the margin cannot be found in this office. Will the Comptroller General be so good as to cause an order for such to be sent as soon as convenient.

Annexed is a copy of the correspondence which took place on the subject in Sept last

Reynolds was chargable to Imperial Funds whilst a prisoner at Port Arthur.

sd J Boyd, Civil Commandant, Port Arthur
19th July 1867

The Honbl The Comptroller General. Hobart Town

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In the margin:-

Cochrane, Saml "E Henry"
Delve, Jn "London"
Eden Jn. "Cornwall"
Fletcher, Robt. "China"
Heywood, Thos. "Asia"
Jones, Thos. "Asia"
Pickthall Jn, "Indus"
Perry Jas "Indus"
Perry Jn, "Indus"
Robson Jas, "Sir F -"
Rowe Geo. "City of Hobt"
Smith Hy "Rodney"
Sullivan Jas "L Dalhousie"
Theobald Christo "P Bom"
Woods Thos "Franklin"
Winters Wm Jno "Barry"
Munting J.T. "Anson"
Powell Patk "Rodney"
Steele Wm Ly "Kenmanay"
Hayes Jas "St Vincent"
Knight Jno M. "Hastings"
Heller Jno "Equestrian"
Williams, Chas "Percy"
Bowie, Walter "P Bom"
Chiggs Hy "L Petre"
Geary Jno A Native
Green Wm "Blk Swan"
Smith Saml "Agincourt"

To Constables John Clare and James Cannon

Constables John Clare and James Cannon are hereby directed forthwith to convey the 28 convicts as per margin to the House of Correction for Males at Hobart Town per Government

schooner "Harriet" and safely deliver them into the custody of the Keeper of the said Establishment

The warrants under which these men are held are enclosed herewith

The prisoners are to be handcuffed before landing and kept close together in proceeding to the Penitentiary.

Two of the crew of the schooner "Harriet" who are special constables, will assist in escorting the prisoners to the penitentiary

sd J Boyd, Civil Commandant

[Page 386]

In margin same list of prisoners as on Page 385

Memorandum

the Civil Commandant has the honor to report, that in compliance with the instructions of the Comptroller General dated the 19th inst he has this day forwarded to the House of Correction for Males at Hobt Town, per schooner "Harriet" and under a guard of two constables, 28 well conducted prisoners who have only a short period of their respective sentences to complete.

The names and ships of these men are given in the margin, and warrants under which they are held have been transmitted with them to the keeper of the Establishment

sd J Boyd, Civil Commandant, Port Arthur
23rd July 1867

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(In the margin)

Jas Hayes as Peter Kegan "St. Vincent"

Memorandum

The Civil Commandant has the honor to report that the prisoner as per margin whose name was included in the list of 28 men discharged to the House of Correction for Males at Hobart Town yesterday having been identified at Hedge Bay when about to be embarked on board the "Harriet" as James Smith per "[indecipherable] Queen" and under a life sentence, was detained and returned to Port Arthur pending enquiry into the case.

Only 27 men were consequently forwarded to the penitentiary, 3 others will, however be selected and sent up by next trip of the schooner.

sd J Boyd, Civil Commandant, Port Arthur, 24th July 1867

The Honble. The Comptroller General.

Memorandum

The prisoner as per margin (Hayes) whose name was included in the list of men discharged to the House of Correction for Males at Hobart Town yesterday and whose warrant was forwarded per schooner, having for special reasons been detained on Tasman's Peninsula, it is requested that his Warrant may be returned by the first post.

sd J Boyd, Civil Commandant, Port Arthur

*James Boyd (Civil Commandant, Port Arthur) - Office letterbook, 1866-1869 from Tasmanian Papers, 1821-1877
Tas. Papers 315
Mitchell Library, State Library of NSW*

24th July 1867

The Keeper
H of Correction for Males
Hobart Town

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Memorandum

In compliance with the request contained in the Keeper's telegram of this date I have the honor to transmit herewith full particulars for his information and guidance, as regards the mode in which the Prisoners time- credit and money-earnings Books are kept at Port Arthur, and I shall have much pleasure in furnishing any further information which Mr Reidy may require on the subject.

sd J Boyd, Civil Commandant, Port Arthur
24th July 1867

The Keeper , House of Correction for Males. Hobart Town

Memorandum in reference to the mode of keeping time-credit and Money –earnings Books at Port Arthur.

1st the Prisoners are divided into 3 classes by the Commandant & the Medical Officers. The 1st class are required to perform a full day's labor- the 2nd $\frac{3}{4}$ trs and the 3rd $\frac{1}{2}$ as much as the 1st class.

2nd Every officer of a gang is provided with an industry and conduct Book in which he enters weekly , the amount of labor performed by each prisoner – when such can be conveniently and accurately specified but when this cannot be done, the degree of industry and of conduct is to be substituted, according to a scale of which a copy is given

3rd

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3rd. The Commandant personally fixes the amount of time and money in the Gang Books monthly by a scale of indicating letters of which a copy is furnished and as a Rule B & C are those inserted. Each letter carries a certain amount of time and money and this the clerk enters monthly in ledgers of which copies are given.

4th The man is now allowed more than 6d per week

5th The extent of remission which may be earned or granted by Regulation is defined per 25th Vict.No 7

6th In addition to the amount of time – credit awarded monthly, prisoners may at the completion of their minimum periods of detention be recommended to the Comptroller General for a special remission of 15 days for each year of their entire sentence provided they have been free from Magisterial conviction during their sentences, and also provided, of course, that the total remission back- work credit included, does not exceed the limit fixed by law. In cases where men have been convicted before a Magistrate once, 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ days per year are recommended but when they have been tried more than once, no such remission is granted except in special cases of amendment and industry. In cases where men have received sentences of Empt with hard labor at Port Arthur it has been usual to recommend a remission not exceeding one half of such except where men have had several sentences when a much smaller proportional remission had only been recommended.

sd J Boyd, Civil Commandant, Port Arthur.
24th July 1867 The Keeper
H .of Correction for Males, Hobart Town

[Page 390]

Memorandum

In compliance with the request contained in the Keeper's telegram of this date , I have the honor to transmit herewith full particulars for his information and guidance, as regards the mode in which the Prisoners Time-credit and Money-earning Books are Kept at Port Arthur, and I shall have much pleasure in furnishing any further information which Mr Reidy may require on the subject.

Sd J Boyd
Civil Commandant
Port Arthur
24th July 1867
The Keeper
House of Correction for Males
Hobart Town

Memorandum in reference to the mode of Keeping Time-credit and Money-earning Books at Port Arthur

1st The Prisoners are divide into 3 Classes by the Commandant & the Medical Officers. The 1st Class are required to perform a full day's labor – the 2nd $\frac{3}{4}$ ths and the 3rd $\frac{1}{2}$ as much as the 1st Class.

2nd Every Officer of a Gang is provided with an Industry and Conduct Book in which he enters weekly, the amount of labor performed by each Prisoner – when such can be conveniently and accurately specified – but when thi9s cannot be done, the degree of Industry and of Conduct is to be substituted, according to a scale of which a copy is [indecipherable].

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3rd The Commandant personally fixes the amount of Time and Money in the Gang Books monthly, by a scale of indicating letters of which a copy is furnished – and as a rule B & C are those inserted. Each letter carries a certain amount of time and money and this the Clerk enters monthly in Ledgers of which copies are given.

4th No man is now allowed more than 6d per week.

5th The extent of remission which may be earned or granted by Regulation is defined by 25th Vict. No. 7.

6th In addition to the amount of time-credit awarded monthly, Prisoners may at the completion of their minimum periods of detention, be recommended to the Comptroller General for a special remission of 15 days for each year of their entire sentence provided they have been free from Magisterial conviction during their sentences, and also provided, of course, that the total remission [indecipherable] credit included, does not exceed the limit fixed by law. In cases where men have been convivted before a Magistrate once, 7½ days per year are recommended, but where they have been tried more than once, no such remission is granted except in special cases of amendment and industry. In cases where men have received sentences of Impt. With Hard Labor at Port Arthur it has been usual to recommend a remission not exceeding one half of such except where men have had several sentences when a much smaller proportional remission has been recommended.

Sd J Boyd
Civil Commandant
Port Arthur
24th July 1867
The Keeper
H of Correction for Males
Hobart Town

[Page 392]

Memorandum

In reference to the case of John Ronen per :Isabella", I beg to state that he saw His Excellency the Governmor at Port Arthur on Saturday the 16th February last. He applied for a free pardon to be granted at the expiration of his existing sentence, on the ground that he held a conditional one at the time of his last conviction. The Clerk, according to custom read out the man's principal offences from his police record, but the Governor declined to interfere. Ronen however respectfully urged his Petition and referred to me for a character, when I strongly recommended him on account of his uniformly very good conduct whilst at Port Arthur. I also explained to His Excellency that the Prisoner was the Chief Signalmen and conducted the telegraphic communications both on the Peninsula, and for Hobart Town – a duty of considerable trust which he had discharged in a most correct and faithful manner, and at a saving of expence to the Government as a paid person had been employed for the purpose.

In consequence of this recommendation His Excellency was pleased to inform Ronen that if I recommended him at the expiration of his sentence, his application would be attended to and a pardon granted for which the man expressed his gratitude.

I may observe that Ronen has since written to his relatives in Victoria, who appear to be respectable people, and stated that he would join them as soon as possible in accordance with their request, and this I have no doubt is his intention.

Under these circumstances, and

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considering the man's advancd age (63) together with the fact that he has completed his last sentence by effluxion of time, and that his conduct for the whole period thereof viz. five years – has been in every respect exemplary, I beg earnestly to recommend that he may be granted the boon he asks for.

Sd J Boyd
Civil Commandant
Port Arthur
27th July 1867
The Honble
The Comptroller General

Hobart Town

Memorandum

Will the Comptroller General have the goodness to cause the letter of instructions from the Asst. Col. Treasurer for the collection of the Dogtax on Tasman's and Forestiere's Peninsulas to be returned as soon as convenient.

It was transmitted with a list of queries raised by Mr Pringle the commissariat Storekeeper here on 8th inst. for further instructions on the subject.

Sd J Boyd
Civil Commandant\Port Arthur
31st July 1867
The Honble

The Comptroller General
&c

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Memorandum

The Lessee of the Coal Mines may be allowed to obtain such timber as may be required for the works at the Coal Mines within three miles of the Coal Mines boundary.

Sd J Boyd
Civil Commandant
To Mr Cassidy
in charge of Salt Water River Station
The Constable at the Sheep Farm
& all others whom it may concern

[in the margin]

Copy sent to Mr Hurst Coal Mines
4/8/67

Civil Commandant's Office
Port Arthur Tasmania
1st August 1867

Sir

I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of your letter, in reference to Tasmanian Woods, and requesting that I would inform you whether you could be supplied with some planks suitable for coating Wooden Pollers; in reply I beg to inform you that I have no doubt such could be supplied in small quantities from this Establishment and at a reasonable price, but as I am not empowered to entertain any application for the purchase of timber or other material, I would suggest the expediency of your addressing the Honble the Comptroller General Hobart Town who is the head of this Department – giving a full description of the number and dimensions of the pieces of Wood and the purpose for which they are required. It would be necessary for you to authorize some person in Hobart Town to receive and pay for these – the name of

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your agent being communicated to the Comptroller General.

As regards the relative merits of our Ironwood and the Australian Ironbark, I may mention that I have never seen any of the latter but am disposed to think they must be very much alike if not identical.

For the purpose you refer to I should say that Blue Gum would be quite suitable as it is one of our most durable timbers and very hard when seasoned. Ironwood is also very hard and close-grained but there would be some difficulty in procuring it more than 18 inches wide and 6 inches thick free from heart and sap.

I have the honor to be Sir
Your most obed. Servt.
sd.J Boyd
Civil Commandant

J. H. Noding Esq.
Maiapoi
Canterbury
New Zealand

Endorsement on memo' calling for Return of prisoners at Port Arthur under Life sentences.

*James Boyd (Civil Commandant, Port Arthur) - Office letterbook, 1866-1869 from Tasmanian Papers, 1821-1877
Tas. Papers 315
Mitchell Library, State Library of NSW*

The return and remarks upon the conduct of 39 of the prisoners whilst they have been at Port Arthur herewith.

sd J Boyd
Civil Commandant
1 August 1867

The Comptroller General
etc.

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Endorsement on Memo' respecting the Police Records of the prisoners removed from Port Arthur to the House of Correction for Males, Hobart Town.

The records were forwarded to the Comptroller General on the 5th June last with a Return of Colonial prisoners who will be discharged from here during the years 1867 to 69 inclusive.

sd. J Boyd
Civil Commandant
3rd August 1867

The Honble.
The Comptroller General
etc.

Memorandum

The Civil Commandant has to report for the information of the Comptroller General that portions of a wreck were discovered at Half Moon Bay near Port Arthur heads on the 6th inst. by Mr [indecipherable] Mansfield, Meat Contractor. The wreck, on examination was found to consist of part of the Topsides of a Vessel of from 80 to 120 tons burden- the timbers- 7 in number- are of Huon or McQuarie Harbour Pine from 3 to 5 feet in length and 6 in. by 5 in. thick with some of the planking attached painted a leaden color and fastened with ½ in. iron bolts.

No other marks can be found but from the general appearance of the wreck it is supposed to be a part of a new vessel which has been lost not longer than 3 or 4 months.

The Commandant forwards some of the timbers by the schooner "Harriet", and suggests that the Master Warden of the Marine Board Hobart Town may be made acquainted with the circumstances.

sd J Boyd
Civil Commandant
Port Arthur
10th August 1867.

The Honble.
The Comptroller General.

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Memorandum

Margin Note: Elisha Holmes, "Emily"(1)

The prisoner named in the margin absconded from the service of R.C. Gunn Esq., Launceston on the 14th Decbr. 55 as appears by the Gazette of the 15th Jany. 1856. He was received at Port Arthur on the 14th Decbr. 65, under sentence from the Supreme Court Hobart

*James Boyd (Civil Commandant, Port Arthur) - Office letterbook, 1866-1869 from Tasmanian Papers, 1821-1877
Tas. Papers 315*

Mitchell Library, State Library of NSW

Town as Elijah Elton per "Canton" and under that name he appeared in the Return of Colonial Prisoners maintained at Port Arthur during '65. His identity as Elton was however questioned by Mr Sandford Scott of the Colonial Secretary's Office (who came to Port Arthur on the matter) and from information supplied by that gentleman together with the testimony of men who came out in the same ship with the prisoner, his identification as Elisha Holmes per "Emily" (1) was completely established.

He was therefore tried at Port Arthur for the absconding and received a sentence of 6 months Impr. and hard labor. The Assistant Magistrates who adjudicated upon the case have recommended Mr. Sandford Scott for a reward of Two pounds which recommendation the Commandant begs to support.

sd J Boyd
Civil Commandant
Port Arthur
10th August 1867.

The Honble.
The Comptr. Genl.
etc.

Annual Report on Establishment with appendices forwarded to the Comptroller General
10/8/67 per schooner "Harriet."

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Memorandum

With reference to the proposed removal of the Colonial bedding and other stores from the quarantine station at Impression Bay to Hobart Town, I would beg to suggest whether looking at the almost worthless condition of the articles generally, and at the possible risk of infection which may still attach to them- especially to the blankets- which are chiefly old and moth-eaten, it might not, on the whole, be expedient to destroy them where they now remain.

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
Port Arthur
10th August 1867

The Honble.
The Comptroller General
etc.

P.S. Mr Griffiths commanding the schooner "Harriet" has instructions to request the orders of the Comptroller General as regards the conveyance of the above mentioned stores to Hobart Town.

sd J B.

Salt Water River
13th August 67.

Return of the number of sheep removed from S W River to Port Arthur by the Contractor Mr Mansfield from the 1st to the 31st July 1867.
July: Wether sheep (38) thirty eight

sd J Cassisy
Overseer in charge

sd J.H. Luttrell
Superintendent Agriculture

The Civil Commandant
etc.

Transmitted to the Asst. Commissary General with the Civil Commandant's compliments.

J. Boyd C.C.
14/8/67

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Memo'

The accompanying return of thirty eight sheep- delivered to the Meat Contractor during the month of July 1867, with Mr Mansfield's acknowledgement thereon is forwarded to the Assist. Commissary General with the Civil Commandant's compliments.

sd J Boyd
C.C.
14/8/67.

Port Arthur
14th August 1867.

Sir,

I have the honor to enclose herewith the sum of Eleven pounds and five shillings being the amount of Dog Tax collected on this Peninsula.

According to instructions the Book of Licences has been by this post transmitted to the Colonial Auditor for examination.

I have the honor to be

Sir,

Your most obedt. Servant

sd. J Boyd
Civil Commandant

The Honble. T.L. Chapman
Colonial Treasurer
etc.

Memorandum,

The Civil Commandant presents his compliments to the Colonial Auditor, and encloses herewith the Dog Licence Book- shewing 45 dogs licenced this year on Tasman's Peninsula.

The sum of £11.5.0 has been, by

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by this post transmitted to the Honble. the Colonl. Treasurer

sd. J Boyd
Civil Commandant
Port Arthur
14th Augt. 1867.

The Colonial Auditor etc.
Hobart Town.

Endorsement on instructions respecting new estimate to be prepared for 1868 & 9.

With reference to the new estimates required, it will be necessary that I be instructed as to whether the term "Invalid" used by the Honble. the Colonial Treasurer refers to convicts now under sentence who are classed as Invalids, or if it only applies to Paupers not under detention as Prisoners.

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
Port Arthur
14 Augt. 1867.

The Honble.
The Comptroller General
etc.

Memorandum

The Prisoner hitherto known at Port Arthur as James Hayes alias Peter Hogan per "St. Vincent" has been identified as James Smith per "[indecipherable] Queen" a ticket of leave holder under sentence of life transportation from [indecipherable] Assizes 10th March 1851 for Burglary and Stealing, and was tried this day for Misconduct in having, -after being cautioned that he might be found untrue- falsely represented himself to the Civil Commandant on the 30th ulto. as James

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James Hayes per "St. Vincent" free by servitude- for this offence he has received a sentence of one month's Imprisonment and hard labor.

The Prisoner's maintenance has been charged to Colonial funds since his arrival at Port Arthur under sentence of 6 yrs. from the Supreme Court Hobart Town on the 1st Septbr. '63 for Burglary, but it is presumed that this will have to be altered.

sd. J Boyd
Civil Commandant
Port Arthur
13th August 1867.

The Honble.
The Comptroller General

Commissariat Port Arthur
15th August 1867.

Sir,

In reference to the transfer from the Provision Stores to my charge of the flock of swine to be cured as bacon, and the proposed arrangements to that effect under your approval; May I beg to be informed if it is your opinion that I should receive from the Provision Store Keeper fresh Pork as bacon? as I have always understood that uncured pork is certainly not "bacon," though the latter is made from the former.

Under this view of the case, I could not conscientiously afford a receipt for the weight of fresh pork which unquestionably is not Bacon.

My humble idea is this, that when the Provision Store Keeper has had any such meat cured and in a fit state to be hung up in the drying lift, that then I should give him a receipt for the weight of such as "green bacon" and credit the same under the head of Station produce.

I have the honor to be ,
Sir,
Your most obdt. Servt.
(sd) Jas. I. Pringle

[in margin]

The Civil Commandant
&c

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Endorsement on the preceding

Memo.

The most simple and most correct course will be to adhere to the form which has been framed after very mature consideration and is now in use for keeping an account of the Pork and Bacon obtained from Station produce. The Pork when perfectly fresh, can be delivered to the Commissariat Storekeeper if he desires such to be done, otherwise the Provisions Storekeeper will have it used for the convenience of Mr Pringle – and as the Commissariat Storekeeper can inspect the same daily, I really cannot see what objection there can be raised to the arrangement. Besides if the mode proposed by Mr Pringle were adopted two separate deductions in weight would be unavoidable viz. when the pork was cured and again after a considerable lapse of time when it was dried and fit to issue thereby involving two distinct reports and probably much correspondence. I shall always be most happy to meet the wishes of the Commissariat but under all the circumstances of the case now under consideration I believe that the present arrangement will not be found otherwise than commercial and satisfactory.

sd J Boyd
Civil Commandant
16th August 1867

The Commissariat Storekeeper
Port Arthur

Endorsement on Mr Reidy's letter respecting time and money earnings of prisoners.

My dear Mr Reidy

I think I cannot do better than give hereon the further information you require:-

1st If a man has only received one magisterial sentence he may obtain a remission of half of it and also half of the 15 days per annum.

2nd Time credit is given for every day provided the man's conduct be satisfactory. Money earnings are

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only awarded for work performed, consequently Prisoners not employed on Sundays or other days would only be returned by the Overseers for the number employed. Prisoners at work every day as Herdsmen, Watchmen &c would be shown for 7 days in each week.

3 The scale is all right – the several classes, 1, 2, 3 & 4 receive an equal amount of time provided their conduct & industry are equal – i. e. the man physically incapacitated for the hardest labor is not subjected as a rule to longer detention than the able bodied on that account; but very great discretion has to be used in carrying out this principle in order to

*James Boyd (Civil Commandant, Port Arthur) - Office letterbook, 1866-1869 from Tasmanian Papers, 1821-1877
Tas. Papers 315*

Mitchell Library, State Library of NSW

discourage idlers. Money is, however, only given as earnings and hence the 1st class only receive the maximum rate if they work for it.

4 I have not for some years had the men's time or money credit read out monthly as with so many accounts I found it impractical, but whenever such can be done it would be well to observe that rule.

The man Henry Smith never showed any sign of insanity here.

I regret that any man should have been permitted to get drink when en route to your Establishment and shall speak to Griffiths on the subject. Pray let me know if anything of the kind occurs again and do not fail to call for every information which you may think I can afford.

Believe me

My dear Mr Reidy

Yours very sincerely

sd J Boyd

16/8/67

Thos. Reidy Esq

Keeper

H of Correction for Males

Hobart Town

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Commissariat Port Arthur

August 1867.

Sir,

It having come to my knowledge that in a recent case of investigation regarding Mr J Connolly's misconduct of inebriety, stated to have been caused from having indulged at Mr Harris' the Night Officer's quarters, and that that Officer on excusing himself from blame in the matter, suggested that Mr. J. Connolly may have obtained the stimulant producing the effect alluded to from the Stores.

Now as there is but one store containing intoxicating liquids, and that one under my care and charge, may I respectfully beg you to kindly inform me if Mr Harris made such an insinuation?

I have the honor to be

Sir,

Your most obedt. Servt.

Sd. Jas. J. Pringle

The Civil Commandant

Etc.

The Civil Commandant presents his compliments to the Commissariat Store Keeper and, in reply to the enquiry herein contained, has to state that Mr Harris made no such insinuation or suggestion to Mr Boyd nor to any one else that he is aware of

Sd. J. Boyd

16/8/67

The Commissariat Store Keeper

Etc.

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Margin Note: J. F. Morris [indecipherable]

The man named in the margin having been in the Hospital since the 4th of March last under my care, I think it would be better if he went out provided his Irons were not placed on him again- as he has serious disease of the Kidneys, he is at the present time in an improved state of health, and would I think continue to improve if he had employment in the open air of a light kind for a few weeks.

Sd J. K. Lewis
J.M.O.
August 13th 1867.

The Senior Medical Officer

Hospital, August 14th /67.

Memo'

Note in the margin:
J. F. Morris
[indecipherable]

The man named in the margin is this day discharged from Hospital, the Medical Officers being of opinion that occupation in the open air may tend to improve his strength, his present condition being one of debility. Dr Lewis's Memorandum herewith explains his views with regard to the prisoner's ability and the question of his being replaced in irons. I fully concur with Dr Lewis's suggestions and believe that no better plan could be adopted, at present, in this case.

(sd) Geo. Dinham
S.M.O.

The Civil Commandant

Submitted for the information & approval of the Comptroller General. The Prisoner Morris has been placed at light labor, but not in chains.

(sd) J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
14th August 1867

The Honble
The Comptroller General

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Endorsement on Petitions of Tho. Carter Sellings and Frederick Court for Fishing Licences

No objection

(sd) J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
17 August 1867

Joshua Smith
"British Sovereign"
(ordered 6 months Probation for a free Pardon
C.fer to Memo' 9/7/67.)

Memorandum

Note in margin:

He will be allowed pay at the authorized rate
sd W. Nairn
20th August 1867

With reference to Prisoners' Earnings the Civil Commandant has to point out that the Convict above named was by the order which came into operation on the 15th of August last excluded from the advantages thereof – he being under a sentence of Life – but as a period of probation has now been fixed, for him to serve for a free pardon, it is presumed that he will be allowed earnings continuously according to the authorized rates.

(Sd) J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
Port Arthur
17th August 1867

The Honble
The Comptroller General

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Memorandum,

With reference to the temporary appointment of an additional Assistant Overseer for the purpose of introducing the new scales of dietary, I gave the honor to report that the period for which the appointment was authorized – viz: 4 months – will expire on the 31st inst:

The person appointed to the situation (Mr Sweeny) has taken so much pains in the management of the general Kitchen & Bakery and has been found so efficient that the new dietary has been established most successfully, but I apprehend very great inconvenience and perhaps dissatisfaction amongst the Prisoners, should a person unacquainted with the new arrangements be placed in charge of the cooking and baking duties.

Under these circumstances and looking at the fact that a saving of nearly £108 per month, or at the rate of about £1300 a year, has been secured by the new system, I beg to recommend that Assistant Overseer Sweeney be continued until the end of the present year, by which time some change may probably occur amongst the other Officers to admit of his being retained permanently.

(Sd) J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
Port Arthur
17th August 1867

The Honble
The Comptroller General

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Memorandum

Note in the margin:

Murdoch McIvor
"M.S. Elphinstone"
[indecipherable] to be Kept

*James Boyd (Civil Commandant, Port Arthur) - Office letterbook, 1866-1869 from Tasmanian Papers, 1821-1877
Tas. Papers 315*

Mitchell Library, State Library of NSW

in the Sep. Prison for
3 months afterwards
- from 25/5/67 for
Drunkenness

The Civil Commandant has the honor to report that the Convict named in the margin has been released from the Separate Prison his services being urgently required as a Splitter to furnish Shingles for the Colonial Government and for the buildings now in course of erection for the Insane.

(Sd) J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
Port Arthur
17th August 1867

The Honble
The Comptroller General

Endorsement on Memo' from Asst. Commissary Genl. requesting a return of al alterations in offices or pay of Stipendiaries to be forwarded with the Salary Abstracts.

Will the Comptroller General have the goodness to inform the Civil Commandant whether the written instructions are intended to apply to the Paupers Abstracts, also whether a return will be required for the abstracts of July sent in before the receipt of this document.

(Sd) J. Boyd
Civil Commandt
20/8/67

The Honble
The Comptroller General

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Memorandum

Note in margin:
Nicholas White
P Regent
[indecipherable] of 2 yrs Impt & HL
for Larceny and
Escaping

The Civil Commandant presents his compliments to the Keeper of the House of Correction Launceston and requests to be informed of the number of days task work credit [indecipherable] by the Prisoner named in the margin while under his charge.

It is observed that the Prisoner's Warrant for Larceny bears the endorsement "entitled to ordinary credit" while he himself asserts that he was promised extra credit by Mr Cox for working in the Swamp at Launceston.

(sd) J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
Port Arthur
21st August 1867

The Keeper
House of Correction

Launceston

Memorandum

Note in margin:
Nicholas White
P. Regent
[indecipherable] of 2 yrs Impt & HL
for Larceny and
Escaping

The Prisoner named in the margin was received here by last trip of the Schooner Harriet undersentence of 2 years Impt and hard labor, viz P.O. Torquay 17/4/67 Larceny 12 months, L'ton 24/7/67 Escaping 12 months.

In the Warrant for the Larceny the Pris.rs name is inserted in one part as Nicholas Barnes and in another as Nicholas White The usual clause has also been omitted in the order for his removal to part Arthur i.e. "ordered by His Excellency the Governor to undergo his sentences at Port Arthur or such other portion of Tasman's Peninsula as the Commandant may select."

The papers are returned herewith for correction.

(sd) J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
Port Arthur
21st August 1867

The Honble
The Comptroller General

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Port Arthur
20th August 1867

The statement of Frederick Courto who saith, I left Hobart Town on Friday last for the purpose of fishing for barracouta in my own boat called the "Panic". I was accompanied by Thos. Carter Sellings – neither of us have licences but we have sent in applications for licences – It was not our intention to have come as far as Tasman's Peninsula but we were blown here by strong north westerly winds – We put in at half Moon Bay at Port Arthur heads on Sunday night & made fast the boat to the Kelp & also put out a Kellick – after which we both went asleep – we were wakened by the boat drifting among the breakers – we could not save her from going ashore on the sandy beach when we took our stores out of her (which had been all wetted) and hauled her up as far as we could – the boat is considerably damaged and is unfit to go to sea until she has been repaired – After hauling the boat up we found a track which led us to Safety Cove where we reported the matter to the Overseer in charge Mr [indecipherable] – I have no money and am unable to pay the expense of repairing my boat at present. I also require a supply of provisions for myself and my mate. I am willing to give security on the boat for the cost of her repairs & for what provisions I require but I cannot leave my boat as security, or I will be deprived of the means of paying my debts. I am Known to Mr Charles Wilson Clothier Argyle Street Hobart town. Neither myself or my mate have ever been round the coast before in a fishing boat. My boat is a licensed fishing boat No. 2036.

(sd) Frederick Courto

Forwarded to the Comptroller General –
Under the circumstances herein stated I have

*James Boyd (Civil Commandant, Port Arthur) - Office letterbook, 1866-1869 from Tasmanian Papers, 1821-1877
Tas. Papers 315
Mitchell Library, State Library of NSW*

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have ordered the boat to be repaired, and directed provisions to be issued to the distressed fishermen.

(sd) J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
Port Arthur
21st August 1867

The Honble
The Comptroller General

Port Arthur
21st August 1867

Memo'

A Fishing boat No 2036 the "Panic" owned by F. Courto having been driven by the heavy weather to seek shelter on the evening of the 19th inst was during the night driven on the rocks and had 2 of the planks stoved in, in 3 places and also 3 timbers broken which will take about 2 days to repair and which is now being carried on.

(sd) P. Chadwick
Coxswain

The Civil Commandant

Civil Commandant's Office
Port Arthur
22nd August 1867

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 19th inst: in reference to the man Thomas Reynolds, alias "Kiny Reynolds" and to the statement of the men Rogers & Smith to Constable Hanley at East Bay Neck.

For this information I beg to thank you, and shall always esteem as a favor any further hint which you may be kind enough to give me respecting the proceedings of improper or suspected characters in relation to my charge.

By last evening's post I sent

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sent an order to Constable Pugh to remove Reynolds at once from his quarters at the Sounds and threatened him with dismissal if he fails to do so. - I shall also call upon him for an explanation as regards the statement alleged to have been made to him by Rogers & Smith.

In the meantime you will oblige me very much by desiring Constabel Hanley to ascertain whether Reynolds has left Forestiers' Peninsula - He ought certainly to be kept as far away from the men cutting wood thereon and from their boast or crafts as possible, as he is a clever scheming fellow and may embark in some plot against the public interests.

Alvarez is also a person requiring surveillance and in my opinion would be much better off the Peninsula. –

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your most obedt. Servt
sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant

George Spotswood Esq
Superintendent of Police
Sorell

Constable Pugh,

I have been informed that two men named Rogers and Smith who were taken to the Sounds by Thomas Reynolds and John Alvarez for the purpose of cutting firewood have left Forrestier's Peninsula, and that before doing so they mentioned to you that they had not been engaged merely as Wood cutters but for the purpose of assisting a Prisoner under sentence to escape from Tasman's Peninsula.

As you have not only not reported

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reported this grave matter to me, but actually lodged Reynolds in the Public Cottage allowed you as quarters at the Sounds, I request that you will at once explain all the circumstances in order that I may be enabled to determine what steps I ought to take in the matter.

I have already directed you to be informed that Reynolds must forthwith leave the Sounds – you will report by return of post whether this instruction to you has been complied with – also whether John Alvarez is residing with you at the Sounds, or if not where and with whom he is residing on Forrestier's Peninsula. –

You will further report to me on the first day of each month what person or persons have been lodged by you at the Sounds during the previous month with their business and the length of their stay.

(sd J. Boyd)
Civil Commandant
Port Arthur
22nd August /67

Constable Pugh
Sounds

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Jno McAnally or McEnery Flag S. "Ld Dalhousie" Tried Hobt. St
25/10/64 Bestiality Life Imprismt (a commutation) Colonial Funds

Jno Moore Flag S. "Blenheim" Tried L'ton St 4/10/66 Larceny from a dwelling 4 yr Imprt.
Colonial Funds.

Mr Kitchen Flag S. "Gilmore" Tried 3/12/56 [indecipherable] 3 Cons 7 years P.S. to
commence at the expiration of former sentence of 7 years. Colonial Funds

Jno Hughes Flag S. "Ld. Dalhousie" Colonial Pauper
Richd Roberts Flag S. "Wm Jardine" Do

*James Boyd (Civil Commandant, Port Arthur) - Office letterbook, 1866-1869 from Tasmanian Papers, 1821-1877
Tas. Papers 315*

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John Kamel T of L. "Southworth" Imperial Pauper
Willm Dumbie P.H. "Ly. East" Do
Jas. Stagg Flag S. M. Soames (1) Do
Wm. Andrews Flag S. Theresa Do
Bernd Cluskey or McCluskey Flag S. Cadel Imperial Lunatic
Michl Fitzpatrick P.H. Maitland Do

Memorandum,

The reports of a Medical Board in the cases of the 11 Men above named are herewith forwarded for approval.

(sd) J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
Port Arthur
24th August 1867

The Honble
The Comptroller General

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Memorandum

The accompanying Estimates are forwarded in accordance with the Comptroller General's Memo of the 7th inst.

J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
Port Arthur
24th August 1867

The Honble
The Comptroller General

Port Arthur
30th August 1867

Memo

Will the Comptroller General have the goodness to cause the Civil Commandant to be furnished with the prices of the Materials and Articles specified on the annexed draft in order to enable him to complete the Half yearly returns required for transmission with the Dry Store accounts.

sgd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant

The Honble
The Comptroller General
&c &c &c

Abstract for the earnings of Joseph Eden per "Cornwall" forwarded to the keeper House of Correction for [indecipherable] Hobart Town 1/9/67.

Margin note:

Half yearly return of materials supplied to General Departments

*James Boyd (Civil Commandant, Port Arthur) - Office letterbook, 1866-1869 from Tasmanian Papers, 1821-1877
Tas. Papers 315
Mitchell Library, State Library of NSW*

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Michl. Fitzpatrick "Maitland"

This man may be released from the Insane Hospital at Port Arthur.

sgd. M. Nairn
Comptroller General
30th August 1867

The Civil Commandant
Port Arthur

For the information & guidance of the Senior Medical Officer with the Civil Commandants complements. To be returned.

sgd J. Boyd
2/9/67

Returned with the Senior Medical Officer's compliments

sgd Geo Dinham
S.M.O.
3/9/67

The Civil Commandant

Endorsement on Memo enquiring if Fitzpatrick can be employed on pay at Port Arthur until he becomes free in June next.

Fitzpatrick will be employed as a paid Attendant of Insane.

sgd J. Boyd
3/9/67

The Honble
The Comptroller General

Endorsement on Memo from Mr. Reidy enquiring whether, in case a man is exempted thro illness for a day or two any deduction is made from the weeks allowance in money.

No deduction is made if the man's illness be only for a few days.

sgd J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
Port Arthur
3/9/67

The Keeper
H of Correction for Males
Hobart Town

[page 417]

Memo accompanying supplementary requisition for Medicine required from 1st Sept/67 to 30th June 1868.

Hospital Sept 3rd/67

Memo

It has been found that some few drugs & sundries will be required for the use of the Hospital before the medicines can be received from England. A supplementary requisition has therefore been prepared and is forwarded herewith.

sgd Geo Dinham
S.M.O.

The Civil Commandant
&c &c &c

Endorsement on Memo from Comptroller General calling for a report on Willm. Elliot per [indecipherable] in the Lord Bishop's letter.

William Elliot is held under two sentences of Transportation for Life, viz Montreal 10/3/40 Highway Robbery and Hobt Town 6/3/49 accused being armed.

He has been treated for lunacy, is still of weak intellect and at times disposed to be violent.

The last decision of the Governor in Council viz on 13/8/66 was "that he be detained for the remainder of his life".

sd. J.Boyd
Civil Commandant
Port Arthur
3rd Septr. 1867

The Honble
The Comptroller General

[indecipherable – that the Schooner will sail – weather permitting – for Hobt Tn on Wednesday morning 4 September.

sd. [indecipherable]
Capt
2/9/67

[page 418]

The prisoner named in the margin was received at Port Arthur, under sentence of 6 years Penal Servitude from the Supreme Council Hoberty Town 1/9/63 for Burglary and Stealing, in the name of James Hayes Peter Morgan free by servitude per " St. Vincent" and under that name was about to be removed on the 23rd July to the House of Correction for Males at Hobart Town, there to complete his sentence when he was identified as James Smith per [indecipherable] a Ticket of Leave Holder under sentence of Transportation for Life by Constable James Blythe at Hedge Bay.

It would appear that the man had been gazetted as an Absconder, and he was consequently tried on the 13th ultimo for misconduct in making a false statement by representing himself to be James Hayes or Hogan per " St. Vincent" and sentenced one months imprisonment and hard labour.

Under these circumstances, & considering that if it had not been for Constable Blythe's vigilance the prisoner in all probability would have been discharged in a few months as a free man, The Civil Commandant recommends that a reward of Two pounds may be granted to Blythe in which recommendation the Assistant Magistrate before whom the prisoner was tried- concurs.

sd J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
Port Arthur
3rd Sept 1867

The Honble
The Comptroller General
&c & &c

Margin note:

E W Smith [indecipherable] Life Transpt

Dr. Richard Henri

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Memo

I consider that Constable Blythe is entitled to a reward of £2 in the case of James Smith per Oriental [indecipherable]

sd Geo Dinham
JP
Augt 13th 1867

Civil Commandant

Endorsement on letter from Acting Secretary General Post Office Hobart Town requesting a receiving office be established at Scringer's Public House East Bay Heath.

Memo

I have carefully perused the accompanying papers and given the subject my best consideration but am apprehensive that were the Constable, who carries the Post Office Mail, to get into the habit of calling at the Public House referred to, he would become altogether too intimate there, and some serious irregularity and interruption to the postal service be the result. I therefore regret being unable to sanction the employment of the Constable proposed.

sd J.B oyd
Civil Commandant
Port Arthur
3rd Sept. 1867

The Acting Secretary
General Post Office
Hobart Town

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Mr Boyd presents his complements to Messrs Hinchly & Calvert and in reply to their letter of 24th ulto. requesting to be supplied with some perfect Sea Eggs, Shells of various kinds and Sea weeds regrets that due to the difficulty in procuring the eggs and Shells fresh and whole, he could not undertake to furnish anything like satisfactory samples, while in conveying them to Port Arthur many of the best would, in all probability become further damaged.

The Seaweeds, however, could be sent, and if Messrs Hinchly & Calvert will be so good as to specify the sorts preferred to & for what purpose required Mr Boyd would endeavour to

*James Boyd (Civil Commandant, Port Arthur) - Office letterbook, 1866-1869 from Tasmanian Papers, 1821-1877
Tas. Papers 315*

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meet their wishes. The jar mentioned in this letter could be forwarded by the Master of the Govt Schooner Harriet

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
Port Arthur
4 Sepr 1867

Messrs Hinchly & Calvert
Druggists
Hobart Town

Endorsement on enquiry of his Excellency the Governor as to the causes of so much Lunacy being reported on at one time through the Comptroller General.

Nine men were recently recommended by the Medical Officers to be placed in the Lunatic class viz 3 Prisoners and 6 Paupers. They had all been under medical observation for a considerable period and had also gradually

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gradually becoming insane for some years.

There are now many other Prisoners & Paupers here of very weak mind and when their insanity has been further developed they will no doubt be claimed as confirmed Lunatics.

sd. J. Boyd
4/9/67

The Honble
The Comptroller General

Memorandum

Will the Senior Medical Officer have the goodness to report whether the Paupers and Invalids named in the accompanying lists are in a fit state of health to be removed by the Schooner 'Harriet' to Hobart Town.

sd J. Boyd
Civil Comandant
Port Arthur
5/9/67

The
Senior Meical Officer
Port Arthur

Port Arthur
7th Sepr 1867

My dear Sir,

Will you be kind enough as to inform me whether any of the men who are almost unfit for any work are to be included in the accompanying Return, or whether any of those who have been formally Invalided are to be shown.

*James Boyd (Civil Commandant, Port Arthur) - Office letterbook, 1866-1869 from Tasmanian Papers, 1821-1877
Tas. Papers 315*

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There are several men quite as unable to perform the most ordinary labour as some of those that have been Invalided and who no doubt shortly to be placed in that

Margin note:

Return called for by Coll Secretary of men at P.A. incapable of working

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that class.

Will you be able to let me know if any of the Invalids under sentence are to be sent up in compliance with the request of the Honble the Coll Secretary in his letter of the 27th ulto: or whether the term "Invalids" used therein only applies to the Paupers not under sentences.

Yours very sincerely
sd J. Boyd

The Honble
M.E. Nairn Esq.

Warrant of Chas Brown per "Caledonia" forwarded by post to Mr. Reidy 7/9/67.

Certified that Benjamin Pugh has been employed as a Constable under my orders since 2nd March 1863 and as Post Messenger for the last year and seven months during the whole of which period he has conducted himself to my entire satisfaction & has discharged his responsibilities in a most correct & faithful manner.

I am much disappointed and pained in hearing of the charges which have been proffered against him by one Thomas Reynolds lately a Prisoner and Pauper on Tasman's Peninsular.

sd J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
Port Arthur
10th Sepr 1867

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Port Arthur
10th Sepr /67

The Prisoner named in the margin reports to the undersigned that he observed part of the shed on Brickfields Hill was down on Sunday last and the timbers removed.

Last evening (Monday) about 6 oclock Shaw states that he saw the Revd. Geo Eastman's son and another lad cutting the fallen spars where some of the roof was down, with an axe. Shaw remarked to Master Eastman who was removing the wood in a barrow, that he, Master Eastman, had some good dry wood for the fire.

sd. James Aylett
Station Officer

The Civil Commandant

Endorsement on the above.

Will the Chaplain have the goodness to direct that the destruction of the shed herein referred to may be discontinued.

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
11th Sepr1867

The Rev. Geo Eastman

Mr Pringle informs that the schooner ~~would~~ will sail for Hob Tn, weather permitting,
[indecipherable]

11/9/67

Note - the following is written over the last paragraph:

The Commissary Storekeeper is informed that the Schooner Harriet will sail, weather permitting, for Hobart Town on friday morning next, the 13th inst.

Your obedt. serv.
J.C. Tapp
C. Clerk
11/9/67.

Margin Note:

Willm Shaw "Woodford" Night Bullock Herdsman

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Endorsement on application of F[indecipherable] Harris for increase of pay.
Submitted & recommended that the plumber Harris be allowed pay at the rate of 4/- for each working day from the 1st inst.

sd J Boyd
Civil Commandant
10th Sept. 1867

The Honble
The Comptroller General
etc.

Memorandum

In compliance with the request contained in the Honble. the Colonial Secretary's letter under date the 27th ulto: the Civil Commandant has the honor to report that the number of Paupers now remaining to be forwarded from Port Arthur to the Establishment for Invalids at the Cascades is 43 of whom 3 are reported by the Senior Medical Officer to be at present in an unfit state of health to be removed, but may probably be able to go to Town in the course of the approaching summer.

12 Paupers will be forwarded by the Govtmt. Schooner during the present week, and, the residue as opportunities offer- after the removal of the short-sentenced Prisoners who have been ordered to be transferred to the House of Correction for Males.

10 Paupers were forwarded to Hobart Town on the 4th inst. agreeably to the instructions of the Comptroller General.

sd J Boyd
Civil Commandant
Port Arthur
11th September/67

The Honble.

*James Boyd (Civil Commandant, Port Arthur) - Office letterbook, 1866-1869 from Tasmanian Papers, 1821-1877
Tas. Papers 315
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The Comptroller General
etc.

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certified that Mr William McVilly has held the situation of Constable Assistant Overseer and Schoolmaster at this establishment since the 9th May 1866 during which period he has discharged his public duties in a most efficient manner.

Mr McVilly resigns his present office of Schoolmaster in consequence of having been appointed to the Police Force of the Municipality of Fingal and carries with him my best wishes for his advancement in life.

sd J Boyd
Civil Commandant
Port Arthur
11th Septbr. 1867.

Memorandum

The sum of twelve shillings having been found in the possession of the Lunatic named in the margin, is herewith enclosed to the Comptroller General – a receipt requested.

Sd J Boyd
Civil Commandant
Port Arthur
12th Sept 1867

Margin Note: John Jay Inconia
12/- found 2/8/67

The Honble
The Comptroller General

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Memorandum

The Civil Commandant has to acknowledge the receipt of Mr Richard McVilly's application of the 9th inst. for the situation of Schoolmaster at Port Arthur and in reply, to inform him that the situation has been filled up.

sd. J Boyd
Civil Commandant
Port Arthur
13th Septbr. 1867.

Mr Richard McVilly Jun.
Bridgewater.

Endorsement on application of P. Power per "Rodney" for remission of sentence on account of injury to his shoulder at Port Arthur.

Power received very liberal credit & I regret that I am unable to do more for him

sd J Boyd
13/9/67

P. Power
"Rodney"(3)
House of Correction for Males

*James Boyd (Civil Commandant, Port Arthur) - Office letterbook, 1866-1869 from Tasmanian Papers, 1821-1877
Tas. Papers 315*

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Hobart Town.

Memo' for D.C.Peppard E.H. Neck

With regard to the boat left at the Sounds by the man Reynolds, I have no instructions to give regarding it. The Superintendent of Police at Sorell is aware of the boat being at the Sounds and will no doubt take the necessary steps for disposing of it in such manner as he may deem fit.

No Constable is to be sent from the Guard at E H Neck to watch the boat as the Convict Department has nothing to do with it.

sd J Boyd
Civil Commandant
Port Arthur
13 Septbr 1867.

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Memo'

The Commissariat Storekeeper is informed that H.M. Schooner "Harriet" will, weather permitting, return to Hobart Town from Wedge Bay tomorrow morning.

By Order
Sd J C Tapp
C. Clerk P.A.
17th Sept. 1867.

The Resident Marine Storekeeper

Memorandum
Margin Note:

Pritchard Willm. M.S. "Elphinstone"
Atkinson George "Rodney"
Boswell Thomas "Blenheim"
Berry John "Tony"
Barrows or Burrows Jos. "Blenheim"
Draycott Edward "D.Clarke"
Gale Joseph "Lotus"
Gailor William " Ly Nugent"
Hayes David- a native
Hunt or Hurt Daniel "Barrica"
Hall George "Mandarin"
Jones John "W. Jardine"
McLoughlin Joseph "London"
McKay Peter "Nile"
Millington Willm. "Rodney"
Norton as Kotts Saml."Georgiana"
Pimms Willm."Rodney"
Pheasant John "Kermansy"
Smith Edwd."Equestrian"
Smith George "P. Bom"
Sidebottom Jas. "Medina"
Jager Alexr. "America"
Miller James Aug "Jessie and "F.Fish"

The Civil Commandant has the honor to report that in compliance with the instructions of the Comptroller General, dated the 29th ulto. he has this day forwarded to the House of Correction for Males at Hobart Town, per Schooner "Harriet" and under a guard of 2 Constables, 23 well-

*James Boyd (Civil Commandant, Port Arthur) - Office letterbook, 1866-1869 from Tasmanian Papers, 1821-1877
Tas. Papers 315*

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conducted Prisoners who have not more than 18 months of their respective sentences to complete.

The names and ships of these man are given in the margin and the Warrants under which they are held, with their Police Records have been transmitted with them for the Keeper of the Establishment.

sd J.Boyd
Civil Commandant
Port Arthur
18th Septbr. 1867.

None of these man are under separate treatment restrictions.

The Honble
The Comptroller General
etc
Hobart Town.

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Civil Commandan't Office
Port Arthur

18th Septbr. 1867.
Memorandum:

Margin Note:

Pritchard Wm. "Elphinstone"
Atkinson Geo. "Rodney"
Boswell Thos. "Blenheim"
Barry Jn. "Tony"
Barrows or Burrows Jos. "Blenheim"
Draycott Edwd. "D. Clarke"
Gale Joseph "Lotus"
Gailor Wm. "Ly Nugent"
Hayes David -a native
Hunt or Hurt Daniel "Barrica"
Hall Geo. "Mandarin"
Jones John "W. Jardine"
McLoughlin Jos. "London"
McKay Peter "Nile"
Millington Wm. "Rodney"
Norton Saml. as Kotts "Georgina"
Pimm Wm "Rodney"
Pheasant Jn. "Ly Kermansy"
Smith Edwd "Equestrian"
Smith Geo. "P. Bom"
Sidebottom Jas. "Medina"
Jager Alexr. "America"
Miller Jas. Aug. Jessie and F. Fish
(23).

Constables Michael Ward and William Box are hereby directed forthwith to convey the 23 convicts as per margin to the House of Correction for Males at Hobart Town per Government Schooner "Harriet" and safely deliver them into the custody of the Keeper of the said Establishment.

The Warrants under which the men are held and their Police records are enclosed herewith. The Prisoners are to be handcuffed before landing and kept close together in proceeding to the Penitentiary.

*James Boyd (Civil Commandant, Port Arthur) - Office letterbook, 1866-1869 from Tasmanian Papers, 1821-1877
Tas. Papers 315*

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Two of the crew of the Schooner "Harriet" who are Special Constables will assist in escorting the Prisoners to the Penitentiary.

sd J. Boyd
Civil Commandant.

To Constables
Michael Ward and William Box.

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Margin Note: Edward Smith "Equestrian" 4 yrs. P.S.

Memo'

The sum of seven shillings and sixpence left at Port Arthur, in safekeeping for the Prisoner named in the margin, is, by request of the Civil Commandant, enclosed herewith to the Superintendent for Smith when he becomes eligible to receive it.

sd J.C.Tapp.
Acct.
Port Arthur
17/9/67

The Superintendent
House of Correction for Males
Hobart Town

Civil Commandant
Port Arthur

Memorandum in reference to the working of the new dietary on Tasman's Peninsula-furnished for the information of the Honble. The Comptroller General Western Australia, in compliance with the instructions of the Honble. the Comptroller General Tasmania, under date 13th Septbr, 1867.

-
1. The accompanying copy of the new scales of diet will afford full information as to the qualities of the several articles, with the mode of preparation, and the weekly distribution of the same.
 2. Appended, also, will be found the former scales of rations, for the Effective, Invalid and Insane Convicts.
 3. A comparison of these tables will shew the changes which have been established.
 4. The new dietary was introduced on the 1st of May last, and the saving thereby effected, upon all classes of inmates on Tasman's Peninsula during the months of May and June amounted to £215:7:0, or at the rate of nearly £1300 per annum.

The Honble.
The Comptroller General
Tasmania.

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5. The change of dietary has been proved an uninterrupted and decided success; and has been found to improve the health and discipline of the Convicts, particularly those at hard labor.
6. This gratifying result has been mainly owing to the variety of food introduced, an abundant supply of good vegetables, and to the superior mode of cooking adopted.

7. As regards the Bacon and Suet Pudding diets, I have to state that both have been found sufficient, and that no instance has occurred of any Convict being ordered additional animal food on the days those rations have been issued.

8. The new dietary is strictly adhered to except for the Insane, some of whom are occasionally ordered other food.

sd J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
Tasman's Peninsula
18th Septbr 1867.

Duplicate abstract for pay of Horse Post Messenger for the month of July 1867 forwd. by post to CGO 18/9/67.

Memo'

The Commissariat Storekeeper is informed with the Civil Commandant's compliments that the Schooner "Harriet" is expected to arrive at Wedge Bay today and will leave for Hobart Town, weather permitting, tomorrow morning.

By order J.C.Tapp
C.Clerk
20/9/67

The Commissariat Storekeeper
Port Arthur.

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49 Harrington St
Hobart Town
17th Septbr./ 1867.

To the Civil Commandant

Sir,

I beg respectfully to inform you that I have this day forwarded 3 men for the Sounds to remove the boat, gear and rations from thence to another part of the island and shall thank you to order the same to be given up on their arrival.

I have the honor to be
Sir,
Yours most respectfully
sd John Alvarez

Forwarded to the Superintendent of Police, Sorell with the Civil Commandant's compliments

sd J Boyd
19/9/67

Memorandum

Margin Note:

Benj. Pugh, "M. Soames," Tried Port Arthur 19/9/67

Larceny under £5 , 1 month Impt. and Hd. Labor.

The Prisoner named in the margin is forwarded to the House of Correction for Males Hobart Town per this trip of the Schooner "Harriet" in the charge of Mr Special Constable Griffiths.

The sum of fourteen shillings 7 eleven pence (14s/11p) given up for safe keeping by the Prisoner is herewith enclosed and for which a receipt is requested to be returned.
The Warrant for the prisoner has been handed to Mr Griffiths to be by him delivered over with the Prisoner to the Keeper of the Establishment.

sd J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
Port Arthur
20th Septbr.

The Keeper
House of Correction for Males
Hobart Town.

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Memorandum:

The accompanying papers are forwarded to the Senior Medical Officer with the Civil Commandant's compliments.

The Station Officer has been directed to bring the men named in the list marked A. before Dr Dinham at such times as it may be convenient for him to inspect them, and should the Senior Medical Officer consider that any of them are able to perform a fair day's work he will perhaps be good enough to strike their names out of the list, which comprises the whole of the 2nd and 3rd labor class men.

sd J Boyd
Civil Commandt.
Port Arthur
20th Septbr. 1867

To the Senior Medical Officer
Port Arthur.

Endorsement on application as to whether 100 Posts & 400 Rails can be supplied for the Queen's Asylum, Hobart Town.

The Posts and Rails can be supplied from the stock on hand.

J.Boyd
21/9/67

The Honble
The Comptroller General
etc.

Memo

The Schooner "Hawich" is expected to arrive off Wedge Bay this day- and will leave that place for Hobart Town-weather permitting- at 8 oclock tomorrow morning.

By order
J.C.Tapp
C.Clerk
24/9/67

The Commissariat Storekeeper
Port Arthur.

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Endorsement on requisition for beams required to repair the landing place at the Ordnance Stores Hobartown

As notified by telegram yesterday to to the Director of Public Works , the government schooner can only take timber not exceeding 22 feet in length, and but a small quantity of that size, there are 20 piles 22 feet long ready for the jetty at Government House ; and and as they are urgently required, I would suggest that a vessel large enough for the purpose should be sent to Port Arthur to convey both demands to Hobart Town with any other heavy timber now on hand that may be wanted.

Sd J Boyd C.C.
24th Sept. 1867

Director of Public Works

In the Margin :-

Saml Ferguson £0.7.6.

Chas Halliday £1.3.6

Jno Kelly Navarino £2.0.0.

All under sentence & discharged to the H. of Correction ,Hobt Town this day

Memo
The Civil Commandant encloses herewith the sum of £3.11s being the amount of monies given up for safe keeping for the prisoners named in the margin
A receipt requested as soon as convenient.

Sd J Boyd. Civil Commandant , Port Arthur
25th Sept. 1867

The Superintdt
House of Correction for Males, Hobart Town

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In the margin :-

Chas Halliday Hyderabad
Jno Harper Sir R Peel
Jno Kelly Navarino
Jno Lancaster Susan
Israel Mclay Forfarshire
Jno Daniel Ratcliffe
Jno McFaile Kinnear
Jno Doherty as McDonald G Dalhousie
Jno Power St Beddington
Jno Blake Emily
Robt Blakey Equestrian
Wm Bishop Agincourt
Patk Cashen Emily
Jas Conway Neptune
Lot Faulkner London

Saml Ferguson Ld Auckld
Coms Gleeson Sir Montague
Jas Rose MS Elphinstn
Ethelbert Satcher Nile
Chas West Equestrian
Jas Willis Eliz & Hy

Port Arthur
25th Sept. 1867

Memorandum

The 21 Prisoners named in the margin who are under sentence are to be discharged to the House of Corrections for Males at Hobart Town this day via Wedge Bay rationed to and for the 26th inst.

The Senior Constable will take charge of these men escort them to Wedge Bay and deliver them into the custody of Constable Samuel Rennie with the warrants under which they are held. He will also see rthe 12 prisoners embark on board HM Schooner Harriet.

Sd J Boyd Civil Commandant

The Senior Constable will take charge of these men, escort them to Wedge Bay & see them embark on board HM. S. Harriet to Station Officer

The Senior Constable

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In the margin the same list of prisoners as on previous page.

Port Arthur 25th Sept. /67

Memorandum

Receive on board the Schooner "Harriet" the prisoners named in the margin who are all under sentence and forthwith convey them to Hobart Town for removal to the House of Correction for Males thereat.

The men are rationed to and for the 26th inst, inclusively

The mate and one of the Crew, who is a special Constable, will assist in escorting the prisoners to the House of Correction.

Sd J Boyd Civil Commandant

To the Master and the Mate of the Govnt Schooner "Harriet" and to all Constables and special Constables on board the said schooner.

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In margin, same list of prisoners as previous page

Memorandum

Constable Saml Rennie and ~~William Jackson~~ John Cannon are hereby directed forthwith to convey the 21 Convicts as per margin to the house of Correction for Males at Hobart Town per Gov Schooner "Harriet" and safely deliver them into the custody of the Keeper of the said Establishment.

The warrants under which they are held and their Police Records are enclosed herewith

The prisoners are to be handcuffed in threes before landing and kept close together in proceeding to the Penitentiary .
The mate and one of the Crew of the Schooner "Harriet" both of whom are special Constables will assist in escorting the Prisoners to the penitentiary.

Sd J Boyd Civil Commandant Port Arthur
25th Septbr 1867

To Constable Samuel Rennie John Cannon and ~~William Jackson~~

Memo

Prisoner Thomas Williams alias Smith per " Lady Harewood" (one of the Colonial Prisoner) at Port Arthur has this day been identified as John Perrot per ship " Argyle"
Will the Comptroller General have the goodness to cause the police record of the latter to be forwarded to this office as soon as possible in order to clear up the matter

Sd J Boyd Civil Commandant, Port Arthur
25th Sept /67

The Honbl The Comptroller General

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In margin, same list of prisoners as previous pages

Memorandum

The Civil Commandant has the honor to report that in compliance with the instructions of the Comptroller General dated the 20th inst. He has this day forwarded to the House of Correction for Males Hobart Town per schooner Harriet and under a guard of 3 Constables, 21 prisoners none of whom are under separate treatment restrictions and who have not more than 2 years of their respective sentences to complete. The names and ships of these men are given in the margin and the Warrants under which they are held with their police Records have been transmitted with them to the Keeper of the Establishment

Sd J Boyd Civil Commandt Port Arthur
25th Sept. /67

The Honbl
The Comptroller General

Memorandum

The Assistant Magistrates before whom Benjamin Pugh was this day charged & convicted of larceny under £5, recommend that Constable Patrick Kavanagh of the Sorell Municipality be allowed the sum of thirty shillings for expenses of himself and horse (3days) in attending to give evidence in the above case at Port Arthur

Sd Geo Dinham JP
Sd J Kenrick Lewis JP
Port Arthur 19th Sept. 1867

The Civil Commandant

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Port Arthur
24th Sept. 1867

Sir

With reference to the authorized tanning of the kangaroo and other skins collected for the Paris Exhibition, I have the honor to report that arrangements have been completed for doing so, and that a considerable quantity of excellent light leather has been manufactured there from

The leather is now in the Dry Store and will be used for the uppers of boots required for Paupers Invalids and Lunatics instead of Kips, which for the greater anumber of the persons composing these classes, is too heavy & also very expensive.

The tannery arrangements being perfect, I have deemed it expedient to cause the Cattle – hides in hand to be likewise converted into leather, by which a supply of thong kips and sole material now being obtained and a large saving to the public will be thereby secured - for this I have to request the necessary authority

There can be no doubt, from the success which has attended these experiments, that the whole of the leather required for the use of the Establishment may be manufactured here, at little or no expense; I therefore recommend that all the available Cattle hides and other skins be made into leather and applied to the purposes herein specified

I have the honor to be Sir
Your most obedt servt
Sd J Boyd Civil Commandant

The Honbl The Comptroller General

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In the margin :-

Jas Smith "Mangles"
Tried Oatlands SC 26/9/60
Assault & Robbby being armed Death recorded commuted to Life Penal Servitude
P.A.14/8/64 Absconding 5 yrs HL in chains – strong irons recommended

Geo Fisher "Stratheden"
Tried Hobt SC 9/11/61 Burglary 12 years P.S. P.A. 4/8/64 Absconding 5 yrs H L in chains.
Strong irons recommended

The Civil Commandant's Office
Port Arthur
24th Septbr 1867

Sir

I have the honor to recommend that the 2 convicts named in the margin may be released from heavy chains and placed in medium irons until further orders
The conduct of these men has been perfectly satisfactory for a considerable period and I think they might now be safely treated in a lighter description of chains than those worn by them at present

I have the honor to be Sir, Your most obedt Servt
Sd J Boyd. Civil Commandanat

The Honble
The Comptroller General

Two cheques – each £3-2-0 forwarded to the Suptd Ho of Correction Hob Town for Benjn Pugh – late Horse Post Messinger at the Sounds – being allowance in aid of Horse maintenance for July & August 1867 from Colonial Postal Dept – Receipt also requested

J [indecipherable]
Acct. 25/9/67

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Memorandum

I beg to submit the accompanying application to the Comptroller General.

The applicant (Patrick Kavanagh) is at present Constable and Watch-house Keeper at Sorell – was for several years a Constable belonging to Tasman's Peninsula, and carried the Mail between the Carlton and Eagle Hawk Neck. He resigned his situation on 31 Augt 1866 to enter the police in the Municipality of Sorell.

The late post messenger, Constable Pugh has been recently dismissed & sentenced to [indecipherable] months hard labor for larceny – hence Kavanagh's application

It has often been felt very inconvenient to have a married Constable at the Sounds, as, in cases of sickness, the Medical Officers at Port Arthur found it difficult too attend there. The last post messenger, Constable Pugh was a single man, but as his quarters were left unprotected during his frequent absence a paid pauper was allowed him.

It would be much better, however, to have a steady married person for this service, and as the applicant is a man of good character – having always been free – I am of opinion that he would, considering his previous experience answer well for the situation.

The Constable performing the post duty has been allowed one of the 2s/6d per day [indecipherable] with 2s/6d for forage, viz, sixpence upon the general abstracts and two shillings from the Post office Department, the cost of his [indecipherable] has been lately about £14.8/- per annum making in all £105.13/- per annum or 5s/9d a day

To this has to be added the cost of govt. bedding, utensils and tools & allowed for (continue on next page)

Written sideways over the previous text :-

I recommend that the service be transferred to the "Colonial Govt – the Impl Govt paying half the Colonial Govt would then pay half the cost of the messenger & the Imperial Govt half.
Sd. W Nairn 1st Oct 67

Referred to the Honbl the Colnl Treasurer
Sd W Travers Selly

The Colonial Govt will be prepared to carry out the proposed arrangement with Mr Kavanagh for conveying the mails between E H Neck & the Carlton, on the terms proposed by Mr. Boyd – provided an arrangement can be made by Mr Boyd to send a messenger from the Neck Mr [indecipherable] who will be at the half way to receive them from that messenger and convey them on to the Carlton – Mr Kavanagh will only consent to undertake the service on those terms

Sd Thos D.C Colonial Treasurer
18/10/67

The Comptroller General

The Postmaster will live at the Sounds & convey the mail half way from E H Neck to E H Neck he will convey it direct – Refer to the Commandant as to whether there is any objection.

Nairn

*James Boyd (Civil Commandant, Port Arthur) - Office letterbook, 1866-1869 from Tasmanian Papers, 1821-1877
Tas. Papers 315*

Mitchell Library, State Library of NSW

I have no objection to offer to the arrangements proposed

Sd J Boyd C Commandant 19/10/67'

The Honbl The Com General

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for use of the Constable`s quarters at the Sounds

Kavanagh offers to perform the service as a private individual for 5s/6d per diem.

He would not , of course, be allowed any govt stores nor have an claim to medical attendance.

Under these circumstances, I recommend that his offer be accepted, and one of the 2s/6d per diem rates of Constables reduced.

It might , however, be better were this service transferred altogether to the Post Office Depaartment and the expense divided between the Imperial and Colonial Governments, in which case the post should be delivered at, and conveyed from Eagle Hawk Neck direct by the post Office Messenger

Sd. J Boyd Civil Commandant, Port Arthur
28th Sept. 1867

The Honbl. The Comptroller General

Endorsement on application of Robt Langstone per "Duncan" for remissn of unexpired, portion of sentence

I regret that I am unable to recommend any further remission to Robt Langstone sd J Boyd
26/9/67

The Superintedt
House of Correction Hobart Town

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Scale shewing the periods which must be served by prisoners under sentence and the amount of remission which may be granted them

Under Sentence of	Divisor for whole period	Divisor for lapse of time	Total number of days	Period that must be served as minimum	Total remiss which may be granted	Total
2 years	6	5	730	609	121	730
3	6	5	1095	913	182	1095
4*	5	4	1461	1188	273	1461
5	5	4	1826	1461	365	1826
6	4	3	2491	1644	547	2191
7	4	3	2556	1917	639	2556
8	4	3	2922	2192	730	2922
10	4	3	3652	2739	913	3652

12	4	3	4383	3288	1095	4383
15	3	2	5478	3652	1826	5478

- According to the Act of Council one fifth may be remitted but as only 9 months or 273 days is granted, the difference between that period and one fifth or 292 days i.e. 19 days, has to to be deducted from the quotient after dividing the lapse of time by 4

Memo

The enclosed scale is forwarded to Mr. Reidy for his information and guidance with the Civil Commandant's compliments.

Sd J. Boyd
Civil Commandant Port Arthur
28th Sept 1867'

The Superintendent
House of Correction for Males
Hobart Town

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Endorsement on letter from the Commissioner of Police Dunedin, New Zealand, to the Inspector of Police Tasmania, respecting a man named, John Dononghue, bond to Tasmania, ship unknown aged from 40 to 45, 5ft 5 or 6 inches high, hair of a brownish grey.

It is supposed that the person herein referred to as John Dononghue is identical with John Donoghue per Ship "Constant" who was tried at Hobt. Town Qr: Sessions 26/5/56 for Housebreaking & received a sentence of 10 years Penal Servitude. He was duly discharged to Hobart Town on the 26th of July 1866 as free by servitude.

There is not any charge in Tasmania against the man so far as I know.

(sd) J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
Port Arthur
28th Septbr: 1867

The Inspector of Police
Tasmania

Memorandum,

The Civil Commandant has to report that the barge "May Queen" Nicholson Master arrived at Port Arthur on Sunday last the 29th ulto and is now loading Timber for the Sorell Causeway on account of Mr Thos. Oldham of Hobart Town, or Sorell.

(sd) J. Boyd
Civil Commandt.
Port Arthur
2nd Octbr: 1867

The Honble
The Comptroller General

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Memorandum

The Civil Commandant has the honor to recommend that Constable Henry Hobbs who detected one of the Shoemaker's (Jas. Moore per "Salem") in the act of pilfering a piece of [indecipherable] leather from the Separate Prison on Thursday last the 26th ulto, may be granted a reward of ten shillings, in order to mark his sense of the vigilance of the Constable in the performance of his duty, and to act as an incentive to others to perform their duty in a strict manner.

(sd) J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
Port Arthur
2nd Octbr. 1867

The Honble
The Comptroller general

Hobart town

Memorandum,

Note in margin:
Receipt of
Cheque
Acknowledged
G.H.G. Bartlett 4/10/67

The Civil Commandant presents his compliments to Assistant Commissary General Bartlett and encloses herewith a Cheque on the Commercial Bank Hobart Town for the sum of Fifty pounds [indecipherable] drawn by Mr Thomas Oldham in Mr Boyd's favour and tendered on account as payment for the timber now being shipped by the barge "May Queen" to Mr Oldham's order.

A Return of the timber supplied will be forwarded to Assistant Commissary General Bartlett by next post as the Vessel has not yet completed loading.

(sd) J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
Port Arthur
2nd Octbr: 1867

To Assistant Commissary General
Bartlett

Hobart Town

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Note in margin:
Reply
Telegram for the Civil Commandant
Other timber may be supplied
if paid for
(sd) W. Nairn
Comptroller General
4th Octbr/67 - time 11 A.M.

Telegram to the Comptroller General Hobt. Town

Some items of the timber selected for purchase by Mr Oldham have been applied for by the Director of Public Works, and others are required for the New buildings at Port Arthur. Mr Oldham is willing to take other timber in lieu from stock available. May this be allowed? Please reply early as a Vessel is waiting for the timber.

(sd) J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
Time 12.15 P.P. 1/10/67

No answer to the above telegram has been received although such was again requested to day. –

(sd) J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
2/10/67

The Honble
The Comptroller General

Covering Memo' on papers connected with Mr Oldham's purchase of timber.

Memo'

The accompanying papers are forwarded to the Comptroller General for approval, with a request that they may be afterwards transmitted to the Assistant Commissary General for his information & subsequently returned to Port Arthur.

(sd) J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
Port Arthur
2nd Octbr: 1867

The Honble
The Comptroller General

Hobt. Town

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Port Arthur 5/10/67

Memo

The Commissariat Storekeeper is informed that the Schooner "Harriet" will leave for Hobart Town (weather permitting) early on Monday morning next the 7th Inst -

[indecipherable]

J. Y. Tapp
CClerk

The Commissariat Storekeeper
Port Arthur

Memorandum,

Note in margin:
[indecipherable] on Meteorology

The Civil Commandant presents his compliments to the Secretary of the Royal Society, and would feel obliged by his causing to be procured for the Observatory here, the publication named in the margin.

(sd) J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
Port Arthur
3rd October 1867

The Secretary
Royal Society

Hobart Town

Memorandum,

The Civil Commandant presents his compliments to Assistant Commissary General Bartlett, and transmits herewith, in receipt from the Master of the Barge "May Queen" for the timber shipped by that vessel for Mr Thos. Oldham of Sorell – also a memo' shewing the amount of the cargo, the sum received from Mr Oldham on account, and the balance due to him.

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
Port Arthur
5th Octr 1867

Assistant Commissary Genl
Bartlett

Hobart Town

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Memorandum,

The Civil Commandant has to report for the information of the Comptroller General that the Prisoner hitherto known at Port Arthur as Thos Smith alias Williams free by servitude per Ship "Ly Harwood", has been identified as, and admitted himself to be, John Perrott per ship "Argyle" holding a Colonial Conditional Pardon on sentence of Life Transportation, passed upon him at the Quarter Sessions Hobt Town on the 28th of November 1834 for Housebreaking and Robbery.

Instructions are requested as to whether his maintenance will still be chargeable to Colonial funds.

(sd) J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
Port Arthur
5th Oct 1867

The Honble
The Comptroller General

Hobart Town

Note in margin:
John White
"Eliza"
Joseph Powell
"Rebecca"

Endorst on application from C.G.O. respecting the Police Character of the men named in the margin.

These Records were forwarded by me, with others, in a package, to the Comptroller General last post.

Respectfully
(sd) J.L. Hill
Clerk
5/10/67

The Civil Commandant

For the information of the Comptroller General.

(sd) J. Boyd
5/10/67

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Memo'

If the Accounts are correct I require no report from any of the Clerks on the subject – they can resume their ordinary duties –

All Certificates are presumed to be "reliable" and that upon the nominal Register equally so with any other – If the Chief Clerk had no doubt on the subject, he ought not to have adverted to the matter at all. By doing so he disturbed my feelings of security and confidence in the accuracy of the Accounts.

Mr Tapp must refrain from any such proceedings in future.

This matter is closed.

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
8/10/67

The Chief Clerk
Civil Commandant's Office
Port Arthur

Memo'

The Superintendent is requested to be good enough to credit the Prisoner named in the margin with the sum of £1.0.0 herewith enclosed.

The amount was left in this Office for Gleeson by the Very Revd A. Maguire.

Please return a receipt for same to the Civil Commandant.

(sd) Y. C. Tapp

*James Boyd (Civil Commandant, Port Arthur) - Office letterbook, 1866-1869 from Tasmanian Papers, 1821-1877
Tas. Papers 315
Mitchell Library, State Library of NSW*

Accountant
9/10/67

The Supt
House of Correction
for Males
Hobart Town

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Geo: N. Selwood. T of L. "Layton".2.

This man has been recommended for a Condit Pardon

sd. W. Nairn
Comptroller General
11/6/67

Memo'

The Civil Commandant recommends that the individual above named who was reported on the 6th June last as having completed the period of probation ordered him, and who is only now detained at Port Arthur pending the receipt of his Conditional Pardon from Home, may be placed on pay as a Constable, his services being much required in that capacity as free persons cannot be obtained and there are 3 vacancies at the present time.

(sd) J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
Port Arthur
12th Octr 1867

The Honble
The Comptroller General

Hobart Town

Mr Harris Assistant Overseer is at present under my care suffering from Palpitation of the Heart with congestion of the Liver, and will be unable for any duty for a few days, and when he is relieved of his present symptoms will be totally unable to be constantly on his feet for a number of hours together.

(sd.) J. K. Lewis
S.M.O
10/10/67

The
Civil Commandant
Endorst on above

Submitted

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Submitted for the information of the Comptroller General, and recommended that Assistant Overseer Francis Harris be superannuated. He represents himself to be quite unfit for the ordinary duties of an Assistant Overseer – stating also, that his age is 68 years.

Mr Harris last entered the service of the Convict Department at Port Arthur in December 1860 as a Constable at 2s/0 per diem and a ration.

(sd) J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
Port Arthur
12th Oct 1867

The Honble
The Comptroller General

Memorandum,

Receipts are requested for the undermentioned prisoners' monies forwarded on the dates specified to the Superintendent.

Ewt Smith – Equestrian 7s/6 17/9/67
Benjamin Pugh “M. Lomas 14s/11d – 20/9/67
Saml Ferguson – Ld Auckland 7s/6d
Chas Halliday – Hyderabad 23s/6d } 28/9/67
John Kelly – Navarino £2.0.0

Sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
Port Arthur
12/10/67

The Superintendent
House of Correction
for Males

Hobart Town

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Gaol &c. Males Hobart
11th October 1867

Memo

By the Act regulating the remissions to Prisoners those sentenced to 3 years can only benefit 6 months – that they cannot be discharged under 2 years & 6 months. Yet 2 of the men received from P.A (Pickthall and James Perry) by the unexpired time thereon as on Pt Arthur list when discharged from there and by a continuance of similar credit here to that they had been receiving at P.A. their sentences would expire before the completion of the 2 yrs & 6 mos:. Will the Civil Commandant please tell me how he acts in such cases?

I presume the men have to be kept till they complete the legal period?

Also as regards Charles Brown per “Caledonia” a man exempted from all labor at P.A. – and continued so here – appears to have come up with earnings due him there. Did the amount embrace earnings up to the date of his leaving P.A, or was it to the time of his exemption? – Do men, tho' exempt from all labor continue to receive earnings until their final discharge from sentence?

An early answer will oblige
Thos Reidy

J. Boyd Esquire

Endorst.

The Prisoners Pickthall & Perry received extra credit while at Port Arthur in consequence of having performed night watch duty after the labor of the day, they must, however, each serve 2 yrs & 6 mos., & the present rate of credit

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credit be reduced accordingly.

Prisoners do not receive the same rate of credit every month, it must be varied and regulated according to their industry & the minimum legal periods required to be served.

Browne only received Earnings to the time of his exemption from labor

Men exempted from all labor are not granted money Earnings.

(sd) J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
Port Arthur
12/10/67

The Supt
House of Correction
For males

Hobart Town

Memorandum

The Commissariat Storekeeper is informed, with the Civil Commandants compliments – that the Schooner Harriet will sail – weather permitting – for Hobart Town at Monday morning the 18th inst –

By Order
(sd) [indecipherable]
C Clerk
16/10/67
P.A.

The [indecipherable] Storekeeper
Port Arthur

By Electric Telegraph
Dated 15th Oct. '67
Time 4.35 pm

Message for
The Civil Commandatn

Please tell me under what Act you dispose of the undermentioned man tried magisterially for Prison offences, those

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those sentenced to Penal Servitude at Supreme or Recorders Courts, to Imprisonment and which though not expressed carry hard labour with it. I should suppose all the incidents of Penal Servitude.

sd. J Ready

Also add following Penal Servitude 7 those sentenced at Sessions.

sd. E. de Turnurue
C. Signalman

J. Boyd
Civil Commandant

Endorsed on above

The men dealt with Magisterially for offences committed whilst undergoing sentences passed in the in the Supreme Court & at Quarter Sessions are tried under the provisions of the 8th Victoria No. 13.

Free men who have been convicted at Police Offices are dealt with for Prison Offences under the 19th Victoria No. 6.

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
16/10/67

The Supt
House of Correction
for Males
Hobt Town

Endorst on application from Cornelius Gleeson "Ldy Franklin" asking for an increase of tank Work Credit whilst at Port Arthur.

Gleeson cannot be allowed any more credit.

sd J. Boyd
17/10/67

C. Gleeson
through the Spt
House of Correction
for Hobart Town

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Memorandum

The Civil Commandant has the honour to report that in compliance with the instructions of the Comptroller General dated 13th September 1867 he has this day forwarded to the House of Correction for Males Hobart Town, and under the guard of one Constable, the seven invalided convicts named in the margin – none of whom are under any separate treatment restrictions.

The warrant under which they are held, also their police records have been transmitted with the men to the Keeper of the Establishment.

sd J. Boyd
Civil Commandan
19th October 1867

The Honble
The Comp Genl

Memo

Constable William Jackson hereby directed to convey the 8 convicts as per margin to the House of Correction for Males at Hobart Town per Govt Schooner Harriet and safely deliver them to the custody of the Keeper of the said Establishment.

The Prisoners are to be handcuffed in threes before landing and kept close together in proceeding to the Penitentiary.

The warrants under which they are held and their police Records are enclosed herewith. Two of the crew of the Schooner "Harriet" who are special constables will assist in escorting the Prisoners to the Penitentiary.

sd J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
19 October 1867

To Constable
Wm Jackson

Margin:

Geo W. Sullivan
"Kinneer"

Geo Brown
"Jms Regent"

Wm Harris
"Theresa"

Geo Conville
'indecipherable"

Jms Bourne
"Blenheim"

Wm Squires
"Enchantress"

Jas Dennyhy
"Hydrabad"

Wm Hinchin
"London"

Jms Brown
"Prince Regent"

Wm Harris
"Theresa"

Jms Conville
"indecipherable"

Geo Byrne

"Blenheim"

Jas Dennyhy
:Hydrabad"

Wm Squires
"Enchantress"

Jas Wm Sullivan
"Jamaica"

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Endorst on Memo from Mr. Cassidy the Supt of Agriculture recommending that John Buckley per "Tory" (a Colonial Pauper) be retained on the Peninsular his services being much required as a Wheelwright.

The Pauper John Buckley is one of those ordered to be transferred to the Colonial Establishment at the Cascades Factory. His services are very necessary as a Wheelwright in keeping the farming implements in repair on the North side of the Peninsular, and if he could be allowed to remain on the Peninsular it would save much inconvenience & loss of labour in removing the implements to Port Arthur for repair besides there is only one other rather infirm Wheelwright at the Settlement at the present, and if he should become unfit for work I do not see how the Ploughs Carts could be kept in repair were Buckley removed to town.

sd J. Boyd
17/10/67

The Honble
The Comp Genl

Endorsed on Mr. Downward's application for Rebate of Income Tax

Transmitted to the Asst. Commiss General with the Civil Commandants compliments and requites that he will be so good as to cause inquiry to be made into this claim and the result communicated to Wardmaster Downward.

sd J.B oyd
Civil Commandant
18/10/67

The Asst. Commissr
Genl
Hobart Town

Note- the following overwritten on second paragraph:

What pay – if any –does Buckley receive

sd W. McNairn
21/10/67

The Commandant

He receives 4d per diem as a Pauper replacing effective labour

sd J. Boyd
24/10/67

The Hnble

the Cmp Genl

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Port Arthur
19th Oct. 1867

Sir,

I have the honour to recommend that the Tailors' Instructor at this Establishment who receives at present 2/- per diem 7 days a week with a ration, may be allowed 3/0 a day for 6 days weekly and the ration continued.

The Instructor is very industrious and correct in the performance of his duties, and has succeeded in teaching many of the Convicts confined in the Separate Prison to become very fair workmen. It is of great importance, now that so much of the clothing, linen and flannel required, are made in the Prison, to have a well conducted and painstaking man to instruct the inmates who are so employed.

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your most obedient Sevt
sd J. Boyd
Civil Commandant

The Honble
the Comp Genl

Endorsement on application from Asst Overseer Harris asking for leave of absence to the 20th Dec 1867.

Forwarded and recommended – Mr. Harris last entered the Convict Department on the 20th December 1860, and would consequently be enabled to complete 7 years service if granted leave of absence to the date he has mentioned.

As it is not my intention to apply for a successor to Mr. Harris. I hope the Comptroller General will be good as to accede to his request.

sd J. Boyle
Civil Commandant
22/10.67

The Honble
The Compr Gen

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Endorst. on petition of Long Choo (a Chinaman) residing at Bream Creek – requesting permission to fish on the coast around Slopsen Island & Frederick Henry Bay.

Slopsen Island is close to this Peninsular, and a Guard-boat has been stationed there to prevent Prisoners from escaping. There are also, at the present time, 172 Government Sheep and Lambs on the island. I therefore consider it most undesirable that any person in private boats should be allowed to fish within 3 miles of the Island, or that part of the coast of Tasman's Peninsular, as I feel certain that, were such permission conceded to "Long Choo", other persons would soon apply for a similar exemption from the restrictions of the 8th Vict. No. 14 and the result would be the occurrence of many serious irregularities.

sd J. Boyd
Civil Commandant

21st Octr 1867

The Honble
The Comp Genl

Endorst on memo from Mr. Reidy respecting the Police records of men removed to the House of Correction for Males Hobart Town.

The record of the first 27 men forwarded to the House of Correction were sent to the Comptroller's Office at the time – those of Doran, Smith & Langstone are herewith transmitted – that of Brown was sent to the Comptroller General's Office on the 17th August last.

sd J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
23/10/67

The Supt
House of Correction
for Males
Hobart Town

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Edmnt on memo to the Supt. House of Correction for Males Hobt Town requesting a receipt for certain monies forwarded.

One shilling it appears was improperly given by the Constable who had charge of the money for delivery to the Supt Prisoner's Barracks, to a person in Campbell St. at Pugh's request

Sd J Boyd
26/10/67

Thos. Reidy Esq Hobt Town
To be returned

Endorst. On petition of Wm Bishop per Agincourt

The conduct of petitioner was good at Port Arthur
The Governor declined to interfere in his case on the 16/2/67 at P.A.
sd J Boyd
26/10/67

Endorst on decision of the Governors in Council in case of Alexr Jager

Forwarded to Mr Reidy – the prisoner Jager having been transferred to the House of Correction for Males, Hobt Town on the 18th ulto

Sd J Boyd Civil Commandant
26/10/67

The Supt
House of Correction for Males Hobt Town

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Endst on application from Saml Cochrane "Eliz & Henry" respecting the Governor's decision in his case

Cochranre is mistaken as to the decision given by His Excellency who declined to interfere in his case.

*James Boyd (Civil Commandant, Port Arthur) - Office letterbook, 1866-1869 from Tasmanian Papers, 1821-1877
Tas. Papers 315*

Mitchell Library, State Library of NSW

I am unable to do anything further for him, but have no doubt his Superintendent will give him all the credit he can if deserved, and also the usual recommendation of 15 days per year of his sentence.

Sd J Boyd
26/10/67

Saml Cochrane
Through Mr Reidy.

(In margin - " Warrant & record")

Endorst on memo respectg the date of Joseph Powell`s (per Rebeccca) sentence
The Police Record was altered at Port Arthur, as it was supposed the date of conviction, 3rd
October 1861 was an error – the warrant shewing the date to be 15 October 1861 (warrant
herewith)

The prisoner himself now states that he was tried on the 15th but that the Supreme Court
opened on the 3rd Oct.61

Sd J Boyd Civil Commandant
26th Oct 1867

The Honble the Comp.Genl.

Endorst on Petition of Jno Pollock per " Antipode"
Forwarded – the Petitioner`s conduct at Port Arthur has been good

Sd J Boyd
Civil Commandant
31st Oct 1867

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Memo

Convicts who have to serve a portion of their sentences in the Separate Prison on arrival at
Port Arthur, and who are employed therein , receive time credit and money earnings, provided
their conduct and industry are satisfactory ;the time credit does not, however, diminish their
fixed periods of confinement in the Separate Prison

Those convicted of indecent offences do not receive any remission of time whatever, but are
allowed money if their conduct and industry be satisfactory.

Prisoners under Life Sentence of Penal Servitude , or imprisonment have time credit recorded
as a guide to the Commandant when framing reports in their cases, but they are not allowed
money earnings.

Sd J Boyd Civil Commandant, Port Arthur,
26/10/67

The Supt. House of Corrections for Males, Hobt Town

Duplicate copy of Timber forwarded to Hobt. Town per Harriet on 5th & 18th Octr 1867 to
Director of I.Works

Endorst on Petition of Robt Tucker per "Equestrian" to the Chief Justice

+

Forwarded with the sanction of the Comptroller General – correct police record – herewith

Sd J Boyd Civil Commandant
26/10/67

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Cornelius Hester per “Equestrian” Fby S.

Tried at the House of Correction Hobt Town on the 1st Nov 1865 for Escaping from his place of labor at the Franklin Square & sentenced to 5 yrs HL in chains.

This sentence, in my opinion, is illegal as the Prisoner Hester was, at the time he escaped from the Franklin Square, undergoing an Imperial Court sentence of Imprisonment with Hard Labour and therefore not amenable to the provisions of the 27 Vict No.20, which only recognized the severer sentences of Transportation, Penal Servitude, or Imprisonment. He ought I think, to have been dealt with under the Act 19 Vict No 6, the maximum sentence authorised by which is 3 years imprisonment with Hard Labor in chains, Instructions are requested

Written in margin:-
Referred to the Attorney general as to the legality of this sentence
Sd H Nairn 4/11/67
No 57867

Written sideways across the above text :-
The Prisoner when he absconded was undergoing punishment for felonies , and (illegible) amenable to the provision of 27 Vict 20 – He is a very bad character

Sd L Dobson
6th Nov 1867

Sd J Boy Civil Commandant
26/10/67

The Honbl The Comp.Gen

Memo
The Commissariat Storekeeper is informed, with the Civil Commandant’s compliments , that the schooner “ Harriet” will leave Norfolk Bay for Hobt Town – weather permitting tomorrow morning.

Sd J [indecipherable] Clerk
Port Arthur
30/10/67

The Commissariat Storekeeper
Port Arthur

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Memorandum

Sentences passed at Port Arthur under the provisions of the 27 Vict No 20 for absconding , are to be regarded the same as other Port Arthur sentences, and the Civil Commandant may recommend Prisoners for remission of such portion of such sentences as he may deem desirable in their cases

Sd W Nairn
Comptroller General, Paort Arthur
28th Oct 1867'

The Civil Commandant, Port Arthur

Memorandum

Prisoners who may be convicted at Port Arthur of indecent offences or where there is strong suspicion of their intention to have committed such, are not to be allowed task work credit upon the sentences for which they may have been sent to Port Arthur, but are to be treated in every respect as if they were received under sentence for indecent offences

Sd W Nairn The Comptroller General, Port Arthur
28th Oct 1867

The Civil Commandant Port Arthur

Memo

Will the Commandant please inform me what the expression often recorded in the police characters of the men originally under sentence at Pt Arthur, but subsequently transferred here, relative to sentences passed there " to operate against Task Work" means?

Sd Thos Reidy
Gaol & Males
Hobart
28/10/67

Jas Boyd Esquire
.....

[Page 463]

Endorst on the preceding

Magisterial sentences of the kind refered to are not cumulative upon Superior Court sentences of Penal Servitude , or Imprisonment, but operate " against Task Work credit " only , and have the effect of actually extending the period of detention – they would otherwise be inoperative – i.e. unless so expressed

Sd J Boyd Civil Commandant
30/10/67

The Suptd
House of Correction for Males
Hobt. Town

In the margin :- Danl Aherne " Emma"

The man named in the margin to be received into the Insane Department under observation

Sd J.K. Lewis

*James Boyd (Civil Commandant, Port Arthur) - Office letterbook, 1866-1869 from Tasmanian Papers, 1821-1877
Tas. Papers 315
Mitchell Library, State Library of NSW*

SMO
31/10/67

Mr Lawson [indecipherable]

Will the Senior Medical Officer have the goodness to favour me with his recommendation on this subject

Sd J Boyd Civil Commandant
31/10/67

The Senior Medical Officer

Memo
As reported to the Comptroller General at Port Arthur, the authority for the admission of the Pauper named in the margin has been mislaid – Will the Comptroller General be good enough to cause a renewed authority to be transmitted as soon as convenient

In margin :-
Jno Taylor Nile

Pauper Hospital patient Imp Funds

Resd from the CII Hospital Hobt Town
3rd Jan 1861

sd J Boyd Civil Commandant
30/10/67

The Honble The Comp.Gen

[Page 464]

Memorandum,
The Civil Commandant presents his compliments to Mr T J Crouch and begs to forward him the enclosed letter – the prisoner referred to in it (Richd Brewell" M Soames " 2) has been ordered " Life Imprisonment without any remission "
The Commandant requests that Mr Crouch may break this decision to the writer of the letter in the manner deemed most judicious by him

Sd J Boyd Civil Commandanat
Port Arthur
2nd Nover 1867

T J Crouch Esq
Under Sheriff
Hobart Town

Civil Commandant`s Office
Port Arthur
2nd Nov 1867

In margin :-
John Griffin 2/14th Regt

Memorandum,

The Civil Commandant has the honor to acknowledge the receipt of parchment certificate of discharge for the man named in the margin from the 2nd Battalion 14th Regiment, which will be given to him when his sentence is completed

Sd J Boyd
Civil Commandant

Major G. Mayevik
Commanding Detachment
2/14th Regiment
Hobart Town

Endorst on application of Jno Jones "W Jardine" (under sentence at House of Correction for Males, Hobt Town) respecting his Earnings while at Port Arthur
There is no error in Jones`

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Jones` account. He cannot be allowed any more money
Sd J Boyd
2/11/67

Jno Jones
W.Jardine
Thro The Supt. House of Correction for Males
Hobt. Town

Endorst on memo respectg Jas Austin per "Ld Kennaway" (Free Pauper)
This man is stated by the Senior Medl Officer to be able to earn his livelihood & will be discharged to Hobt Town per steamer on Monday next.

Sd J Boyd Civil Commandant
2/11./67

The Honbl The Comp.Gen

Port Arthur
2nd Nov 1867
Dear Sir

In reply to your note of the 27th ulto, I have to inform you that the Pauper John Herrod referred to, is stated by the Senior Medicl Officer of the Establishment to be able to earn his livelihood and that he will be discharged to Hobt Town by the Steamer expected here on Monday next

I am Dear Sir, Yours Truly
J Boyd
Civil Commandant

J.W.Graves Esq.
Solicitor
Hobart Town

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In the margin :- Danl Aherne " Emma"
Life Impt.

Memo

I yesterday examined the prisoner named in the margin confined in the Separate Prison & found him to be in a morose and sullen state refusing to conform to any of the rules of the prison. The Senior Medical Officer appears desirous of having him placed under observation for the pupose of testing the present state of his mind; in this I concur, but in consequence of the prisoner being a very powerful man I must ask for some additional assistance while the prisoner is retained in the Insane Hospital.

Sd Geo. Denham
SMO
1st Nov. 1867

The Civil Commandant

Endorst on above

Submitted - & recommended that an additional attendant at 2s/0d per diem & ration be allowed for this service

Sd J Boyd Civil Commandant
2/11/67

The Comptroller General

Endorst on Petition of Edw Sullivan as Sweetman per Cadet
Conduct at Port Arthur Bad

Sd J Boyd Civil Commandant
2/11/67

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Civil Commandants Office Port Arthur
4th Nov 1867

Cerfied that Mr Francis Harris has served under my command since the 20th of Decr 1860 as Assistant Overseer and attention to his duties during that period has been perfectly satisfactory

Mr Harris retires from the service in consequence of increasing age and infirmities and will be granted the usual retiring allowance according to Regulation.

Mr Harris carries with him my best wishes for his future happiness and prosperity

Sd J Boyd
Civil Commandant

In margin :- Copy of original papers filed in this office

Endorsmt memo callling for a Return of Colonial Prisoners who are unable to perform a fair days work

The accompanying list is forwarded to the Civil Commandant with the Senior Medical Officer`s compliments.

Those men whose names are struck out may probably recover from the disorder under which they are now suffering & again become able to perform a fair days work

Sd Geo Dinham SMO

*James Boyd (Civil Commandant, Port Arthur) - Office letterbook, 1866-1869 from Tasmanian Papers, 1821-1877
Tas. Papers 315*

Mitchell Library, State Library of NSW

31st Oct 1867

Return herewith

Sd J Boyd Civil Commandant
4/11/67

The Honbl The Comp. General

[Page 468]

Colonial Secretary's Office
Brisbane, Queensland
18th October 1867

Sir

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 15th of May last, and in compliance with the request contained therein to forward to you the enclosed copy of a statement shewing the Expenditure in connection with Gaols in Queensland for the year 1866, as furnished by the Sheriff, who is the Departmental head of these establishments in this Colony

I have the honor to be Sir Your most obdt Servant
Sd A.H.Palmer
Colonial Secretary

The Comptroller General
Tasmania

Forwarded for the information of the Civil Commandant

Sd C.J Belstead for the Comp.Genl
Comptroller General's Office
1st Nov. 1867

Endorst on above

Will the Comptroller General be so good as to obtain information from the Queensland Government as to the average number of Prisoners at each of the Gaols, Hulks &co referred to in the accompanying Statement for the year 1866

Sd J Boyd, Civil Commandant. Port Arthur
5th Nov 1867

The Honbl The Comptroller General

[Page 469]

Copy
Colonial Secretarys Office
21st October 1867

Sir

I have the honor to request that you will arrange for the transport of Colonial Convicts at Port Arthur to the House of Corrections in Hobart Town, so as to reduce the number at Port Arthur

to about 275 men if practicable. I say if practicable, because I do not desire that any man of dangerous character should be sent up, nor any long sentenced men. The men might be forwarded in small detachments by the "Harriet" notice being sent to the Gaoler of the probable number and time of arrival

I have the honor to be Sir Your obedt Sert
Sd Richard Dry

The Comptroller General

Endorst

The enclosed copy of a letter from the Colonial Secretary is forwarded to the Civil Commandant who is requested to carry out the request as far as practicable.

Sd W Nairn Comptroller General
23rd October 1867

Endorst on above

As explained to the Comptroller General at his recent visit, I beg to report that it is impracticable to transfer any more of the Colonial short – sentenced men to Hobart Town at present – the whole of such Prisoners being absolutely necessary for carrying on with safety and efficiency the general works and duties on Tasman's Peninsula

Sd J Boyd Civil Commandant
5/11/67

The Honb The Comp.Gen

[Page 470]

Dear Sir

As you are most likely to see the Comptroller General before he leaves, would you bring the following under his notice and determine what punishment the man "John Byrne" my late servant deserves – The whole of his so suddenly changed conduct in but a few days of his embarkation is that he had heard I had reported unfavourably of late, and I presume from this circumstance he has exercised that low spirit of revenge so peculiar to the Irish Character. His offences – Making away a Govt Axe & do + cut saw file
Exchanging a good + cut saw for a very indifferent half leaving none of his advanced rations (sold no doubt)
Making away with a bucket

Rest of text has sideways text imposed making it impossible to read in its entirety
Gist is as follows

Drinking a bottle of sherry and recorking it
Emptying 3 kegs of home made wine and refilling with water
Items missing from his (Pringle's) quarters.

I trust therefore he may be taught that he is still under the law, by a good lengthened extension to his unexpired time

And Believe Dear Sir
Yours very truly sd Jas J. Pringle

In margin :-

Mr Reidy This man to be sent from Hobart Town to Port Arthur there to be tried for this offence

W Nairn
9th Nov 1867

J Boyd Esq Civil Commandant Port Arthur

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Endorst on the preceding letter

Submitted for the information of the Comptroller General & recommended that the Prisoner John Byrne per "Blenheim" who was transferred to the House of Correction at Hobart Town on the 20th ulto may be returned to Port Arthur for the purpose of being tried for the misconduct herein reported by Mr Pringle

Sd J.Boyd Civil commandant
5/11/67

The Honbl The Comp.Genl

In the margin :-

Richd Brewell M Soames

Memo

Will the comptroller General have the goodness to inform the Civil Commandant whether there is any mistake in the wording of the sentence on the accompanying Warrant.- "Imprisonment" and not "Penal Servitude" being the term prescribed by the Act under which the man Brewell was convicted

Sd J Boyd Civil Commandant
6th Nov.1867

The Honbl The Comp. Gen

5th Nov 1867

Sir

I respectfully beg leave to offer you many thanks for recommending my application to the Postmaster General. I have had a communication from the Secretary of the General Post Office that it has been approved of by the Government, but I having heard that Pugh is living at the Sounds and occupying the land there I must decline having anything to do with the post as I could not consider myself safe

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safe to live on the station with him.

I have wrote to Mr Mansfield to know the truth of it

I remain Sir Your obedt Servt

Sd Patrick Kavanagh

James Boyd Esq Civil Commandant

Endorst on preceding letter

Constable Kavanagh is informed that Benjamin Pugh has no authority to occupy the Government Cottage at the Sounds

*James Boyd (Civil Commandant, Port Arthur) - Office letterbook, 1866-1869 from Tasmanian Papers, 1821-1877
Tas. Papers 315*

Mitchell Library, State Library of NSW

Sd J Boyd Civil Commandant Port Arthur
7/11/67

Endorst on invaliding paper of Ewd Hardy Bell per "Westmoreland"
On what funds is this man borne?

Sd C J Belstead for the Comp Genl
5th Nov 1867

Imperial Funds

Sd J Boyd Civil Commandant Port Arthur
8/11/67

The Honbl The Comp.Genl.

Endorst on Supplementary number of Diets issued to Ewd Fullarden Russell per "
Enchantress" (Coll Invalid)

Returned – signed by the Medical Officer
Sd J Boyd Civil Commandant 9/11/67

The Honbl The Comp.Genl

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Endorst on Memo respecting John Smith per "David Clark" (Pauper) having been charged to
Colonial Funds

John Smith per "David Clark" – a Colonial pauper was received at Port Arthur from the
Colonial Hospital in Hobart Town on 14th April 1858 was discharged to the Pauper Depot -
Cas— on the 15th Sept 1867

Another man of the same name & by the same ship – but chargeable to Imperial Funds was
received at Port Arthur on 10th Sept. 1867 – and discharged to Hobart Town – to earn his own
livelihood on 4th inst.

Sd J Boyd Civil Commt
9/11/67

The Honbl The Comp.Genl.

Endorst on letter of Wm Lee "Gazelle" respecting his sentence (bond sent)

Forwarded in accordance with the decision of the Comptroller General.

Sd J Boyd Civil Commandant
12th Nov 1867

The Honbl The Comp.Genl

Endorst on letter of Maurice Bishovg p per "Bardaster" (his wife`s letter attached)
(bond sent)

Forwarded by command of His Excellency the Governor

Sd J Boyd Civil Commandant
12th Nov 1867

The Honbl The Comp.Genl

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Endorst on Petition of Michael O'Neil "Gov. Phillip"
Forwarded in accordance with the decision of the Comptroller General.
Petitioner's conduct since his arrival at Port Arthur has been good.

Sd J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
12th Nov. 1867
The Honble
The Comp. Genl.

Endorst on Petition of Geo Wilson "Elphinstone"
Forwarded in accordance with the decision of the Comptroller General
Sd. J Boyd
Civil Commandant
12th Nov. 1867
The Honble
The Comp. Genl.

Endorst on Statement of John Walker per "Larkins"
Forwarded in accordance with the Comptroller General's decision.
Sd J Boyd
Civil Commandant
12th Nov. 1867

Endorst. On application of Mrs Thompson for a Fishing Licence.
No Objection
Sd J Boyd
Civil Commandant
11/11/67
The Honble
The Comp Genl

Henry Wylde per Asia. C. C. I. Tried Hobt S. C. 4/4/65. 6 yrs Impt.
Memo.

This man's name was entered in error on the list of Colonial Prisoners at Port Arthur who are incapable of working –

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He has always been shewn on the Register of Imperial Convicts
Sd J Boyd
Civil Commandant
13/11/67

the Honble
The Comptroller Genl

Sorell
12th Novr.
Sir

I had a letter from Mr Mansfield this morning stating that "he had made no arrangements with late Constable Pugh to occupy the Sounds Station. –that he had been told that I did not intend going to the Sounds, that if I would go there I would occupy in defiance of Mr Mansfield or any one else" (which is a great falsehood as I never made use of such an expression – this is but little to what has been said by parties at East Bay Neck with a view to impune me) "in consequence he Mr Mansfield has determined on putting a man there himself"

Sir – Under these circumstances I beg to resign my appointment.

I remain

Sir

Your Obedient Servant

Sd Patrick Kavanagh

To

James Boyd Esq

Civil Commandant

P. S.

I have been told by most respectable people that Pugh should say that he would stop at the Sounds for nothing else but to spite me and that if I was once there he would inconvenience me in every way he possibly could.

Sd

P Kavanagh

Referred

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To Mr Mansfield –

Patrick Kavanagh has been appointed by the Honble the Colonial Treasurer Post Carrier for Tasman's Peninsula and allowed to reside in the Government Cottage at the Sounds – Will Mr Mansfield be so good as to inform the Civil Commandant whether he has now possession of the said Cottage, and if he refuses to give it up, on what grounds his refusal is based.

Sd J Boyd

Civil Commandant

Port Arthur

14th Nov 1867

Mr Henry Mansfield Contractor

Safety Cove

(To be returned)

Endorst on Constable Robt. Smith's application for a messenger to be sent to Fortesque Station.

A second man cannot be any longer allowed – The Constable and the Signalmen must perform all the duties between them & arrange accordingly.

Sd J Boyd

14th Nov 1867

Constable Smith

Fortesque

Memo

The Accountant begs respectfully to enclose herewith to the Honble the Comptroller General through the Civil Commandant – a cheque for the sum of (£5.7.0) Five pounds and seven shillings which money had been deposited in his hands to the credit of one Edward Merritt per "Buffalo" – a Colonial Pauper who died intestate at Port Arthur on 23rd March 1867. – a receipt requested

Sd John C. Tapp

Accountant

Port Arthur

14th Nov 1867

The HonbleThe Comp Genl

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Endorst on the preceding Memo
Forwarded
Sd J Boyd
Civil Commandant
14/11/67
The Honble
The Comp General

Memo
The Civil Commandant has informrd Mr Turner in reply to his letter dated 11th November 18677 – that a Pauper named Edward Merritt per ship “Buffalo” died at this Establishment on 23rd March last.
Sd J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
Port Arthur
14th Nov 1867
Mr Thos. Turner
Care Captain Fenton
Fenton Forest

Civil Commandant's Office
Port Arthur
15th Nov. 1867
Sir

I have the honor to recommend that the Convict named in the margin may be released from heavy Chains and placed in medium irons until further orders.

His conduct since he absconded in 1864 has been perfectly satisfactory and I think he might now be safely treated in a lighter description of chain than those worn by him at present.

I have the honor to be

Sir

Your most Obedt. Servt.

Sd J boyd

Civil Commandant

The Honble
The Comp. Genl.
Hobart Town

[In the margin:]

McKay, John “Hindostan” Tried Oatlands S. C. 26/9/60 Assault & Robbery 15 yrs P. S. L'ton 9/9/64 Absconding 4 yrs H. L. in chains

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Endorst on Statement of Denis Fogherty per “Aurora”
Forwarded
Sd J Boyd
16/11/67
The Honble
The Comp Genl

Endorst on Form No 78

A supply of this Form of Abstract is required at this Office – Will the Comptroller General have the gooness to cause such to be forwarded by earliest opportunitu.

Sd j Boyd

Civil Commandant 15/11/67

The Honble

*James Boyd (Civil Commandant, Port Arthur) - Office letterbook, 1866-1869 from Tasmanian Papers, 1821-1877
Tas. Papers 315*

Mitchell Library, State Library of NSW

The Comp Genl

Memorandum

In submitting to the Comptroller General the two accompanying lists of certain Dry Stores which have been found after a careful survey, to be respectively surplus and deficient upon the Store Account rendered fro the half year ende 30th June last – I bveg to offer the following explanation.

Upon the breaking up of several of the probation Stations in the Colony, and of the large Penal Settlement at Norfolk Island, many of the Stores at those Establishments were transferred to Port Arthur, as were also considerable quantities from the Royal Engineer Department when that brsnch of the service handed over the charge of all prison buildings to the Convict Department.

Various articles were likewise sent here when the Ordnance Store Department at Hobart Town

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now undergoing reductionsome years ago – so that, in addition to the ordinary extensive supplieson hand including the Old Dock Yard plant &c a very large amount of Dry Stores have been accumulating at Port Arthur from various sources, for which the store room available was altogether inadequate to admit of necessary classification of the articles, or of Stock being taken with any degree of accuracy although often attempted – this however has been remedied of late by using for storage purposes the buildings formerly occupied by the troops. An Officer has also been specially appointed to the exclusive charge of the Dry Stores, which duty previously devolved upon the Provision Storekeeper; and as the whole of the Articles have now been thoroughly sorted, classified and arranged, I have been enabled to have Stock taken by a committee of three intelligent Senior Officers who have inspected all the Stores on Tasman's Peninsula and prepared correct Stock lists of the same with a report of the results of their labours, which documents have been examined and compared with the general Store Ledger by the Chief Clerk and Accountant whose certificate is appended to the report of the Surveying Officers.

I therefore have the honor to request that authority may be forwarded to me for taking the Surpluses on and striking the Deficiencies off the Accounts for the current half year.

As regards the Chains which have been lost, I have to state that frequent search has been made for them, a portion was found in the bush recently and I am in the hope that more will be recovered, in which case such will be duly brought to credit in the Accounts.

Sd J Boyd
Civil Commandant
Port Arthur
16th Nov 1867

The Honble
The Comp Genl
Hobart Town

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[In the margin:]

Immediate

Memo

Mr Peppard will proceed at once to the sound accompanied by a Constable and resume possession pf the Police and Post-Messengers' Quarters there – leaving the Constable in charge of the same and supplying him with such Stores and Rations as may be necessary for his use.

The Constable will keep a vigilant watch upon the Sounds' Road in order to recapture any of the Convicts who may succeed in passing Eaglehawk Neck or otherwise reaching Forestiere's Peninsula.

This order to be shewn and read to any persons found in the Cottage at the Sounds and they must leave the said premises forthwith.

Late Constable Benjamin Pugh is on no account to be allowed to remain at the Sounds and Mr Peppard will visit that post as often as practicable in order to support the Constable in the performance of his duties.

Sd J Boyd
Civil Commandant
Port Arthur
19th Nov 1867
Mr District Constable Peppard
In charge at the
Eagle Hawk Division

Endorst on Petition of Aaron Jones and Thos. Walters per "Hydrabad" and "Asiatic"
Forwarded – Conduct good at Port Arthur
Sd J Boyd
20/11/67
The Honble
The Comp Genl

Endorst on Petition of John Shepherd per Morley (a Pauper) for a Free Pardon.
Forwarded
Sd J Boyd 20/11/67

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Endorst on Statement of Thos. Bonsill per "Palmyra"
Forwarded in accordance with the decision of His Excellency the Governor at Port Arthur on the 9th inst.
Sd J Boyd
Civil Commandant
18th Nov 1867
The honble
The Comp Genl

I hereby certify that I have examined the man named in the margin and am of the opinion that his mental condition is unsatisfactory. During the last three years I have had many opportunities of observing his conduct, habits &c and always regarded him as a person verging upon insanity, which any excitement would tend to develop.

Sd Geo Denham
S.M.O.
Nov 20th 1867
Endorst on above
Submitted for the information of the Honble the Attorney General.
Sd J boyd J. P.
Port Arthur
20th Nov 1867

[In the margin:]
Moses Cochrane Free Pauper per "Medway"

Port Arthur 20th Nov 1867
Sir

I have the honor to transmit herewith the charge, depositions and statement of the accused, taken before Mr George Joseph Dinham J. P. and myself in the case of regina V. the Conditionally pardoned Pauper named in the margin who has this day

[In the margin:]

Moses Cochrane "Medway" C. P. Police record Herewith

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been fully committed for trial upon a charge of unlawfully and maliciously wounding one James Millwood a Prisoner of the Crown at Cascade Station Tasman's Peninsula on the 20th ulto: -

I also forward the recognizances of the several witnesses examined – that of the man Millwood excepted as he is under sentence.

I further enclose a Certificate furnished by Dr Dinham expressing his opinion of the mental condition of the accused who will be sent to the Gaol at Hobart Town by the first opportunity.

I have the honor to be

Sir

Your most Obed't Servant

Sd J Boyd

J. P. and Civil Commandant

The Honble

The Attorney General

Hobart Town

Memo

The Crown Storekeeper is inf'd with the Civil Commandant's Compliments – that the schooner Hamish will sail – weather permitting – for Ht. Town to morrow morning.

(undecipherable)

sd J duple

C Clerk

Port Arthur 22/11/67

The Crown Storekeeper

Port Arthur

Observations on Return of Colonial Prisoners tried at Soperior Courts who have been maintained at Port Arthur during the year ended 31st Decr 1866

A clerical error in copying the date – the period maintained was from 1st Jan. to 28th June 1866. 179 days correct

Sd J Boyd

Civil Commandant

21/11/67

The Honble

The Comp Genl

[In the margin:]

Stephen Bell a native

From 1st jan. to 25th June. Should be 176 Rations not 179

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Port Arthur

22nd Nov 1867

My dear Sir

Be so good as to add to the endorsement on the warrant of Isaac Rogers – herewith- the words “or such other portion of Tasman’s Peninsula as the Civil Commandant may select”
Yours very sincerely
Sd J Boyd
Charles T. Belstead Esq

John Wilkinson
“Lady Kennaway” 2
Memorandum
Will the Comptroller General have the goodness to cause the original Police Record of the Prisoner above named to be furnished to this Office as soon as convenient
Sd J Boyd
Civil Commandant
21/11/67
The Honble
The Comp Genl

Endorst on Statement of Edward Wallace per “Lady Kennaway”
Forwarded in accordance with the Governor’s permission – the statement made by the Prisoner to His Excellency, and which was entered by the Governor at the time, was as follows, “States that Judge Smith told him he would soon be restored to his liberty – directed to write a statement to that effect.”
Sd J Boyd
Civil Commandant
Port Arthur
21st Nov 1867
the Honble
The Comp General
Hobart Town

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Endorst on Thos. Heenan’s application (& endorst thereon by the Acting Secretary) to convey the Port Arthur and Carlton mails.
The Cottage at the Sound is required for the accommodation of the Constable detached from Eagle Hawk Neck, as heretofore, and I consider it necessary that the Station should not be relinquished – more especially on account of the safe custody of the men under Life and other sentences on Tasman’s Peninsula.

The land at the Sound consists of a run of 400 acres, which is reserved to the Meat Contractor for the Port Arthur Establishments.

Sd J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
22/11/67

The Honble
The Comp. Genl.

Endorst on Mr. Henry Mansfield’s application to convey the Port Arthur & Carlton Mails –

Forwarded at the request of Mr Mansfield; and as Constable Kavanagh of Sorell has resigned the appointment of Post Messenger, I recommend that Mr. Mansfield’s offer be accepted, it is £9.2.6 a year less than Kavanagh’s

I can make arrangements at Norfolk Bay for the accommodation of Mr. Mansfield’s Nephew, whom he proposes to employ in conveying the Mails.

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant

22/11/67

The Honble
The Postmaster General

Hobart Town

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Memorandum,

Note in margin:
John Barnes
"Mayda"

Will the Senior Medical Officer have the goodness to inform the Civil Commandant whether in his opinion, the Prisoner named in the margin, who is at present confined in the Separate Prison, is in a fit state of health of body and mind to be discharged to freedom or not?

His Police Record is herewith forwarded.

Sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
Port Arthur
23rd Nov. 1867

The Senior Medical Officer
Port Arthur

Note written across the page:
Memo'

I cannot discover any trace of Insanity. I consider him in a fit state of health both of mind & body to be discharged.

sd. Geo Dinham
S.M.O.
30th Nov. 1867

The Civil Commandant

Memorandum,

Note in margin:
Isaac Walker
"Aboukir"

Oatlands S. Ch
27th Dec. 1861
Burglary
6 yrs P.S.

Will the Senior Medical Officer have the goodness to inform the Civil Commandant whether, in his opinion, the Prisoner named in the Margin, who is at present an inmate of the Lunatic Depôt under observation, is in a fit state of health of body and mind to be discharged to freedom or not.

Sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant

Port Arthur
1st Oct. 1867

The Senior Medical Officer

Port Arthur

Endorst. On above,

I consider it very necessary to retain this man under observation for some time longer, that the question of his labouring under some form of Insanity may be fully tested; his many acts of unprovoked violence towards others seem to indicate that he is subject to fits of temporary Insanity, and if such be found to be the case he is a very dangerous person to be at large.

sd. Geo: Dinham
S.M.O.
1st Oct. 1867

The Civil Commandant

Endorst

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Endorst on preceding. –

Submitted for the information of the Comptroller General –

The Prisoner Walker's sentence expires by effluxion of time on the 26th prox.o.

It is requested that an authority may be sent for his detention at Port Arthur under observation after the above date.

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
23/11/67

The Honble
The Comp. Genl.

Note in margin:
Col.I Invalid

Endorst on Duplicate Return of Diets issued to Ewd Gullaidon Russell "Enehntion"

Herewith

Sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
23/11/67

The Honble
The Comp Genl.

Endorst on Petition of Michael Burke per "Richd Webb" (Police Record sent)

Forwarded according to the decision of His Excellency the Governor.

The Petitioner has been at Port Arthur since the 27th June 1865 and with the exception of one minor offence in July 1866, has conducted himself satisfactorily.

I have frequently observed him to be suffering from depression of spirits, and on speaking to him, he has generally referred to his case and declared earnestly, and with apparent truthfulness, his innocence of the crime for which he was sent here. It has also been mentioned to me, that several persons in the Brighton District, where the Offence was committed, had doubts of his guilt.

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
23rd Nov. 1867

The Honble
The Comp. Genl

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Memorandum

Note in margin:
Geo. N. Selwood
"Layton"
(Awaiting Condl.
Pardon)

The Prisoner named in the margin, who has been directed to be sent to the Prisoners Barracks Hobart Town, is desirous of entering the private service of Mr. Thos. Todd the Provision Storekeeper at Port Arthur, to earn sufficient means to enable him to leave the Colony. -

Mr Todd is desirous of having the man's services for a short time to cultivate his garden.

Should this meet with the sanction of the Comptroller General, will he have the kindness to cause Selwood's Pardon to be forwarded to Port Arthur.

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
23rd Nov. 1867

The Honble
The Comp Genl.

Memordanum,

Note in margin:
Jas. Williamson
"Sir Jas Byng"
C.C.P
[indecipherable] Pauper

It is requested that the Police Record of the man named in the margin may be sent to Port Arthur by return of post.

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
27th Nov. 1867

The Honble
The Comp. Genl.

Port Arthur
28th Nov. 1867

Sir,

I have the honor to recommend that the whole of the Convicts, Paupers, and Lunatics at this Establishment may be allowed the special indulgence of a dinner, consisting of roast beef, plum pudding, and a glass of Ale, on the occasion of the visit of His Royal Highness the Duke of Edinburgh

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Edinburgh to Tasmania, as, I believe, is proposed to be granted at the similar Public Establishments in Hobart Town.

For this purpose, I would suggest, that in addition to the ordinary ration, each man may be allowed 8oz extra of meat, ingredients for pudding, consisting of 8 oz of 20% Flour, 2 oz of Suet and 3oz of Raisins or Currants – also ½ pint of Colonial Ale.

The cost of this, on the present strength and at contract rates would be £20.18s.

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your most obedt Servt
sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant

The Honble
The Comp Genl

Hobart Town

Memo'
Note on margin: Printed Form attached

Will the Conmptrroller General be good enough to cause a supply of printed procuracy Forms – of the description annexed – to be furnished to this Office as soon as convenient.

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
28/11/67

The Honble
The Comp. Genl.

Civil Commandant's Office
Port Arthur
30th Novr. 1867

Sir,

I have the honor to enclose herewith statements made by Messers J. C. Tapp, J. Todd, and W. Markham, three of the Officers at this Establishment in reference to the Estate of the late Edward Merritt a free Pauper who died Intestate in the Hospital at Port Arthur on

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on the 23rd march last –

I also now transmit to you an Affidavit in the case duly deposed to by Mr Joseph William Downward Wardmaster of Hospital in which Merritt died and wherein he had been a Patient for 44 days immediately previous to his decease.

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your Obedt. Servt.
sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant and
Commissioner of the Supreme
Court of Tasmania

Henry Buckland Esq.
Curator
of Intestate Estates

Tasmania

Note in margin: Referred to the Colonial Secretary

Endorst on Invaliding paper of Robert Butcher per Joseph Somes

Forwarded
sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
2nd Decr. 1867

Note written across page:
Record attached
Col.I Funds
sd. W Nairn
Comp Genl

The Governor approves of Butcher being removed to the House of Correction Hobart – these papers to be forwarded to the Superintendent

sd. B. Trainers Sally
9th Dec 1867

The Commandant is requested to comply
Sd. W. Nairn
Comp Genl.
10th Decr. 1867

Note in margin:
Original
Authority
Reld to C.G.

The Prisoner herein referred to is forwarded by the present trip of the Govt Schooner “Harriet” to Hobt. Town in the charge of Special Constable Garde

sd. J. Boyd

12th Decr. 1867

The Honble
The Compt Genl.

Port Arthur
3rd Decbr. 1867

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your polite letter of the 18th ulto., presenting, on behalf of the Royal Commissioners, a Medal that had been awarded to me at the late Intercolonial Exhibition held at Melbourne, and for which I beg that you will be kind enough to convey my warmest thanks to the Commissioners.

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your most Obedt Servt
sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandt

J. W. Knight Esquire
Secretary & Manager
Intercolonial Exhibition
Offices of the Royal Commission
Melbourne

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Endorst on Memo' requesting authority for 38 Sheep supplied to Mr Mansfield in July last

Authority herewith –

The Contractor has received 139 Wethers vizt 101 on the 31st May 1867, and 38 on the 7th July 1867.-

Will the Comptroller General be so good as to inform me whether any more may be supplied to the Contractor at the approved price?

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
3/12/67

The Honble
The Comp. General

Memorandum,

The Civil Commandant has obtained the signature of late private Lawlor 2/14th Regt. to the document sent to him for that purpose by the Officer Commanding the Detachment at Hobart Town, and herewith begs to return the same duly witnessed as requested.

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
4th Decr. 1867

The Officer
Commanding Detachmt
2nd Battalion 14th Regt
Hobart Town

Memo'

Note in margin:
Jas Williamson
"Sir J. Byng"

Will the Comptroller General have the goodness to inform the Civil Commandt whether the Pauper named in the margin, whose Police Record is hereunto attached, is to be regarded as a Ticket of Leave Holder while in the Colony seeing that he received a sentence of Life Transportation at the Supreme Court Oatlands on the 27th March 1849.

It is presumed that the Conditional Pardon

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Pardon granted him on the 4th January 1859 was on the Life sentence passed upon him at Maitland New South Wales on the 11th March 1842

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
4th Decr. 1867

The Honble
Comp. Genl

Note written across page:

This man is only a Ticket of Leave Holder – he holds no indulgence on account of his sentence passed in Tasmania.

sd. W Nairn
Comp. Genl
9/12/67

Memo'

Note in margin:
Geo. N. Selwood
"Layton"
Imp Funds

Will the Superintendent have the kindness to forward to Port Arthur the Convict Earnings of the man named in the margin recently discharged to the private service of the Provision Storekeeper here, abstracts for which were sent by last post.

For the Civil Commandant
sd. J.L. Hill
Clerk
4th Decr. 1867

Thos Reidy Esq
Superintendent
House of Correction

for Males, Hobart Town

Query from Commissariat, Hobart Town, on Return of Pauper [indcipherable] issued during 1866

In the return of the Prisoners tried at [indcipherable] Supreme Courts chargeable to Colonial Funds, who have been mentioned at Port Arthur during 1866 it is three states that Mr Childs from "Maitland" is transferred to the [indcipherable] on the 4 Decr but on reference to [indcipherable] Accounts it is observed that, that man's name does not appear from 4th to the [indcipherable] Decr 1866 – Explanation is requested

Sd. H. Bartlett

GCG 21 Nov 1867

Referred to the Commandant – Sd W Nairn – 22nd Nov 1867

Reply

This was an omission which has now been corrected, and an [indcipherable] to that specified in red ink on each return

Sd. J. Boyd

Civil Commandant

P.A. 6/12/67

The Honble

The Comptroller General

[Page 492]

Endorst on Overseer Gibbon's report respecting Mr. Mansfield pigs & geese destroying the Government potatoe crop at Safety Cove.

Will Mr Mansfield be good enough to take steps for keeping his pigs and geese out of the Government crops and oblige -

J. Boyd

9th Decr 1867

Mr H. Mansfield

Safety Cove

Memorandum,

Will the Assistant Commissary General be good enough to forward 4 tons of new potatoes by next trip of the Schooner

sd. J. Boyd

Civil Commandant

11th Decr 1867

The Asst.

Commiss Genl.

Hobart Town

Endorst on Memo' respecting the number of days John Ryan per "Shamrock" (Impl Pauper) had been maintained at Pt Arthur.

Herewith,

*James Boyd (Civil Commandant, Port Arthur) - Office letterbook, 1866-1869 from Tasmanian Papers, 1821-1877
Tas. Papers 315*

Mitchell Library, State Library of NSW

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
12th Decr. 1867

The Honble
The Comp. Genl.

Memorandum,

The Civil Commandant presents his compliments to the Director of Public Works and has to acquaint him that in compliance with his request of the 2nd ulto: he has had 8 flags (Union Jacks) made from the bunting sent for that

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that purpose to Port Arthur and in strict accordance with the pattern received.

The flags are forwarded by the present trip of the Schooner as also the two forwarded by the Storekeeper as patterns, a piece of red bunting not required is likewise returned. –

4½ yds Dowlas & 1 lb white thread have been used in making up the flags and it is requested that such may be returned to the Stores at Port Arthur as soon as convenient.

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
12th Decr 1867

The Director
Of Public Works

Hobart town

Memo'

Note in margin:
Respecting the Baptismal
Registration of
Edward
son of James & Margaret Lucas
Pilot - formerly
Stationed at
McQuarie Harbour

Mr Eastman presents his compliments to the Civil Commandant and has the honor to request information as to whether the "Baptismal Register" referred to can be found in any of the Books in his Office.

sd. Geo Eastman
Chaplain
13/12/67

The
Civil Commandant
Port Arthur

Endorst on the above.

Every search has been made for the Baptismal Register herein referred to – but without success.

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
14th Decr 1867

The Protestant
Chaplain
Port Arthur

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Endorst on Report of Overseer Cassidy respecting one of the Government Sheep at Salt Water River having been worried by a dog lent by John Luttrell [indecipherable] to Mr Fredk Mawle of Impression Bay.

Mr Luttrell

The dog herein referred to must either be destroyed or sent off the Peninsula – I cannot allow Mr Mawle to go out hunting on Tasman's Peninsula. Please inform him accordingly, and return this document.

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
16/12/67

Mr Luttrell
in charge
Impression Bay

Endorst on a Death Report Form

It is requested that a supply of this Form may be sent to Port Arthur by first opportunity

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
16/12/67

The Honble
The Comp Gen.

Endorst on Queries No 19 & 20 respecting Timber & Clothing a/c for the year ended 31st Decr 1863.

Returned to the Assistant Commissary General with the Civil Commandant's compliments.

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
17th Decr. 1863

Henry Bartlett Esq.
Asst Comy Genl

Hobart Town

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Port Arthur
18th Decbr./67

Dear Sir,

I have had the pleasure to receive a very handsome large medal, beautifully framed, from the Royal Commissioners of the late Intercolonial Exhibition through Mr Knight the Manager for which I have requested that Gentleman to convey my best acknowledgements.

I find, however on referring to the report of the Tasmanian Commissioners, a copy of which you were kind enough to send me, that I have been awarded five ordinary medals. I have also been officially informed that a Special Medal has been adjudged to me for Enterprise etc., so that I have been granted in all Six Medals.

Might I therefore ask the favor of your acquainting me whether I shall receive the whole of these awards or no more, and if no more, will you kindly inform me whether the one received is the Special Medal not included in the list of awards continued in the Tasmanian report, as extract from which I beg to enclose.

Apologising for the trouble I am giving you,

I remain,
Dear Sir
Yours very truly

sd J Boyd
Civil Commandant

Hugh M Hull Esq.
Secty. to the Exhibition Commissioners
Tasmania

Endorsement on application of Revd. Mr Eastman for conveyance of a Vehicle to Hobt. Town per Schooner.

If Mr Eastman's carriage can be taken on board by the Master of the Schooner I have no objection to such being done

sd J Boyd
Civil Commandant
20/12/67

The Protestant Chaplain

[page 496]

Endorsement on application of the Revd. M. Eastman for a passage by Schooner to Hobt. Town for Mr Eastman & daughters.

I regret that I cannot sanction any passengers by the present trip of the Schooner as the Vessel is required for the accomodation of His Excellency's family. I may however, inform Mr Eastman that the "Harriet" will return to the peninsula on the 26th or 27th inst. and proceed to Hobart Town on the following morning- say the 28th- when there will be a convenient opportunity for the Chaplain's family going up. I trust that this arrangement will be satisfactory to Mr Eastman.

sd J Boyd
Civil Commandant
20/12/67

The Protestant Chaplain

Memorandum

The Schooner being required this trip for the conveyance of His Excellency's family to Hobart Town, no passengers can be received on board. The "Harriet" will however return to the Peninsula on the 26th or 27th inst and proceed to Town on the 28th when passengers can be received as usual.

sd J Boyd
Civil Commandant
20th Decbr. 1867

The Master
H.M.Schooner "Harriet"

Memo
The Comm. Storekeeper is infd. with the Civil Commandant's Compts. that the Schooner Harriet will leave Port Arthur for Hobt. Town-weather permitting-on Monday morning next.

Sd J C Tapp
C Clerk
[indecipherable] Friday 20/12/67

The Commt. Storekeeper.

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Memo
I beg to report that the Junior Medical Officer Dr Lewis, has been allowed to proceed to Hobart Town on Leave of Absence for a few days.

sd J Boyd
20th Decr. 1867.

The Honble
The Comptroller General

Mr Harris has stated that he left the Peninsula on 4th October last and was in Hobart Town during the whole of the month of November – this is [indecipherable]- Mr Harris left Port Arthur on the 4th November 1867 per Steamer [indecipherable] (crossed out) "City of Hobart" and the [indecipherable] is the cheque for 9 lbs of meat or a cow by [indecipherable] from the Stores as follows-
1/11/67- 5 ½ lbs
2/11/67- 4 ½ lbs Total 10 lbs.
Deduct servant's ration 1 lb
To be paid for 9 lbs.

Sd J C Tapp
C Clerk & Acct.
24/11/67.

The Civil Commandant
Explanation herewith
sd J Boyd
24/12/67

Mr J Harris

Memo
I have not yet received any reply from Mr Keith respecting the time when he proposes to have the deficiency of 90 odd tons of firewood made good. I am writing for this information.

sd J Boyd
27/12/67

Assistant Overseer Keith

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Port Arthur
24th October/ 67

Margin Note: [indecipherable] Padfield
"Theresa"

Sir,

I have the honor to recommend that the man named in the margin may be employed as Paid Foundryman for 3 months at 2/- per diem and a Police ration as he is the only person now at Port Arthur who understands the work. It is possible however that a Prisoner under sentence competent to conduct the Foundry may be received within the period specified.

I have the honor to be

Sir,
Your obedt. Servt.
sd J Boyd
Civil Commandant

The Honble
The Comptroller General
etc.

Memorandum

With reference to the employment of Assistant Overseer Sweeney as Officer in charge of the General Kitchen in superintending the preparation of the rations under the new scales of dietary, and which appointment has only been authorised until the 31st inst. I have the honor to recommend that Mr Sweeney may be permanently employed as Assistant Overseer since Francis Harris superannuated and that he be continued in charge of the General Kitchen and Bakery.

Mr Harris' leave of absence expired on the 20th inst.

sd J Boyd
Civil Commandant
Port Arthur
24th Decbr. 1867

The Honble
The Comptroller General
etc.

[page 499]

Memorandum

I beg to report having sanctioned the Senior Medical Officer, Dr Dinham, proceeding to Hobart Town on leave of absence for a few days on the 24th inst. in accordance with his request.

sd J Boyd
Civil Commandant

27th Decbr. 1867

The Honble
The Comptroller General
etc.

Endorsement on application of the Revd. Mr Eastman for passage by Schooner for his Orphan Ward Jas. Bennett.

Passage approved- the Schooner will sail from Norfolk Bay at 7 oclock tomorrow morning for Hobt. Town.

sd J Boyd
28/12/67.

The Revd. Geo. Eastman

Memo

The Civil Commandant presents his compliments to the Senior Medical Officer and has to request him to be good enough to sign the 3 amended forms of Superannuation of Mr Harris- herewith enclosed and forward the same to the office of the Comptroller General, as soon as convenient.

sd J Boyd
Civil Commandant
Port Arthur
30th Dec 1867

George J Dinham esq.
Senior Medical Officer
Forwarded by Schooner to Dr Dinham in Hobart Town 31/12/67.

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On Funds List dated 19/11/67

Memo

The Civil Commandant begs to point out that two prisoners from the 2/14th Regt. lately received here- named John Griffin and James Lawler- have ordered to be charged to Imperial funds- whilst Ralph Mill and Wm Sewell (within mentioned) are to be charged to Colonial funds -qy - should not the latter 2 be as the former - viz. Imperial prisoners?

sd J Boyd
Civil Commandant
Port Arthur
3 January 1868

The Honble The Comptroller General.

Endorsement on letter from George Selwood to the Honble The Comptroller General respq. refund of forfeited money.
The man's statement is quite correct as regards the Overseer & the Constable being fined- [indcipherable] annexed Return

Sd J Boyd -3/1/68

The Honble The Comptroller General

The Return of Fines for Feby. 1863.
Please return this document
sd J Boyd 3/1/68.

The Honble
The Comptroller General

Receipt for 4 lbs. of Scotch yellow Turnips recd. enclosed to A.C.G Bartlett.

Sd J Boyd
Civil Commandant
3/1/68

Boat Returns for ½ year ended 31/12/67
forwarded to the A C Gnl by Schooner
4/1/68 (Initials.)

[page 501]

Memorandum

The Civil Commandant has the honor to report that, in accordance with the [indecipherable] position made in his Memorandum to the Comptroller General dated 28th September 1867 on Postal Service, and as the tender of Mr W McGuinness of [indecipherable] peninsula has been accepted for conveying the Port Arthur Mails to and from Eagle H Neck to the Carlton Post Office – he has reduced one of the Constables of the 2/6 rates of pay from the 1st Jany. inclusive.

Sd J Boyd
Civil Commandant
Port Arthur
4th Jany. 1868

The Honble
The Comptroller General etc.

Memo

Will the Comptroller General have the goodness to cause a supply of 9 Sheet Almanacs for 1868 to be forwarded by first opportunity for the use of the Public Officer here and also for the principal outstations.

Sd J Boyd
Civil Commandant
Port Arthur
4th Jan 1868

The Honble
The Comptroller General. etc

Port Arthur
4th January 1868

Memo

Referring to my memo dated 17th October 1867 respecting the employment of Colonial Pauper John Buckley as a Wheelwright at Salt Water River farm, for which service he is very much required owing to the scarcity of mechanical labor on the peninsula- I have now to request an approval for retaining him as

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as an inmate of this Establishment

sd J Boyd
Civil Commandant

The Honble
The Comp. Genl.

Port Arthur
4th January 1868

Margin Note: David Davis "Caledonia"
29/12/62: 8 yrs P.S.
Appd. Invalid Coll. Funds

Memo:

The prisoner Invalid named in the margin is one of those lately approved to be transferred to the House of Correction for Males, Hobart Town, but as he is an experienced Shepherd- I have retained him for the purpose of taking charge of the Government Sheep, and have now to request authority for him to complete his sentence at this Establishment.

Davis is an old man and having only one arm, his employment as a Shepherd is probably more suitable for himself and also more remunerative to the public than any labor which could be provided for him in Town.

sd J Boyd
Civil Commandant

The Honble
The Comp. Genl.

Mr T. Harris' pension forms recd. from Dr Dinham & transmitted to His Honble The Comptroller General per Schooner from Wedge Bay- 5/1/68.

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Memo

The Revd. Mr Eastman is requested to be so good as to remit by return of post, the sum of 2/6 for the payment of his message to the Lord Bishop of Tasmania on the 30th Ult. The transmission of the Telegraphic Returns for the month of December being delayed in consequence of the non payment of the message in question.

Sd J Boyd.
Civil Commandant
Port Arthur 8/1/68

The Revd. George Eastman
Chaplain of the Church of England & Ireland.

(transmitted to care of [indecipherable] Eagle H N)

Memo

Mr George Ashton is requested to pay to the Accountant of this Estt. at once, the sum of twelve shillings and sixpence being the amount of fees for 5 telegrams received by Mr Ashton during the month of Decr. 1867 from Hobart Town. The Telegraphic Returns for that month are delayed transmissions in consequence of this non-payment.

By order of the Civil Commandant
Sd J Tapp
Acct. Port Arthur
9 Jany. 1868.

Mr George Ashton
Asst. Overseer etc.
Port Arthur.

Endorsement on Memo' from the Inspector of Police requesting a Return of the number of Inquests held at P.A. during 1867.

Returned (filled up) to the Inspector of Police with the Civil Commandant's compliments.

sd J. Boyd
9/1/68.

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Endorst on Memo ; from Dr. Lewis respecting a suipply of medicines – applied for –

Will the Comptroller Genmereal be so good as to cause the medicines referred to by the Junior Medical Officer to be sent to Port Arthur as soon as possible

sd J Boyd
11/1/68

The Comptroller General

Port Arthur
11th Jan 1868

Sir

With a view to lessen considerably the public expenditure, I have the honor to recommend that authority may be obtained for the Commissariat to procure Cattle hides from the Contractor – Mr Mansfield – in order that they may be tanned and converted into leather for the use of this Establishment – thereby avoiding the purchase of such material in future. At present the hides of all Government cattle slaughtered, are applied to this purpose, but the number falls far short of the quantity of leather required.

It is believed that Mr. Mansfield would supple hides of an average size for about 12s/0 each which would produce 16 lbs of kip upper leather at 1s/8d per lb equal to £1.6.8 or 34 lbs of sole at 10d per lb equal to £1.8.4.

The arrangements for preparing leather are , as you have seen perfect ; and would admit of sufficient being provided for the use of the whole of the public institutions in the Colony – We have also a first class Currier under a long sentence, so that no expense would be incurred beyond the cost of the raw hides.

I Have the honor to be Your most Obdt Servt
sd J Boyd , Civil Commandant

The Honble
The Comp Gen

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Memo

Will the Comptroller General have the goodness to furnish the Civil Commandant with a decision in the case of the Prisoner named in the margin as he is complaining of his continued detention at Poart Arthur

In margin :- Thos R Seadon " Wellington " 6 yrs. Impel

In margin :- Case reported for discharge on 1st Jan 1868

sd J Boyd. Civil Commandant Port Arthu 11th Jan 1868

The Honble, The Comp. Gen

Memo

The Commissariat Storekeeper is informed with the Civil Commandant's compliments - that the schooner "Harriet" will sail for Hobart Town from Wedge Bay tomorrow morning 7 oclock weather permitting.

sd J C Neph C Clerk
Port Arthur 12/1/68

The Commiss Storekeeper Port Arthur

Port Arthur
14th Jan 1868

Memo Will the Comptroller General have the goodness to cause the Civil Commandant to be furnished with prices for the materials and articles specified on the annexed draft in order to enable him to complete the half yearly returns required for transmission with the Dry Store Accounts - due on the 1st inst.

sd J Boyd. Civil Commandant

The Honble The Comp.Gen

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Memorandum

The first prisoner named in the margin was released on the recommendation of the Junior Medical Officer on the 5th inst from the Separate Prison, where he had been confined until further orders from the 2nd of April last upon Magisterial recommendation for Insubordination in openly refusing in the presence of the whole body of prisoners in the Penitentiary to go to work.

In the margin : - Wm Price " Triton "

The Civil Commandant recommends that the other prisoner who committed himself at the same time, in a similar manner & who is also named in the margin may likewise be released from the Separate Prison

In the margin : - Wm. Spencer "Triton"

sd J Boyd. Civil Commandant
13th Jan 1868

The Honble The Comp.Gen

Memorandum

*James Boyd (Civil Commandant, Port Arthur) - Office letterbook, 1866-1869 from Tasmanian Papers, 1821-1877
Tas. Papers 315
Mitchell Library, State Library of NSW*

The Civil Commandant has to report that, upon the recommendation of the Junior Medical Officer, the prisoner named in the margin was released on the 10th inst from the Separate Prison and placed in the Lunatic Depot under observation

In the margin :- Ewd Mooney " G Grey" Life P.S.

sd J Boyd Civil Commandant 13th Jan 1868

The Honble. The Comp. Gen

Memorandum

The Civil Commandant requests that an answer may be sent to his letter of the 24th ult recommending that the man named in the margin may be employed on pay at this Establishment as Foundryman for 3 months at 2s/ per diem and a police ration as

In the margin Jas Padfield " Theresa"

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as he is the only person now at Port Arthur who understands the work –
Padfield has been ordered to be sent up to the Prisoners Barracks, but is detained pending the receipt of a reply to the above communication.

sd J Boyd Civil Commandant Port Arthur
15th Jan 1868

The Honble The Comp.Gen

Memorandum

The Civil Commandant begs again to request the attention of the Comptroller General to the large quantity of Timber on hand, both sawn and split, as specified in the former schedules furnished, and to the desirability of its early removal, as from its long continued exposure to the weather it is becoming much deteriorated

sd J Boyd Civil Commandant
15th Jan 1868

The Honble. The Comp Gen

Endorst on application of Thos R Purdon per "Wellington" for the sum of £12.9.6 to be forwarded to the Civil Comandant

This money was forwarded to the Honble. the Coll Treasurer 20th Dec 1865 with the return of monies given up for safe keeping by Colonial Prisoners

sd J Boyd Civil Commandant 15th Jan 1868

The Honbl. The Comp. Gen

Imposed sideways over above text
Forwarded sd.J Boyd 30/12/67

Referred to the A.C.General money was not paid to the Comptroller General in 1865

sd W Nairn, Compr. Genl 3/1/68

This amount has not been received by the Commist
sd Henry Bartlett. A.C.G. 13/1/68

Forwarded to the Commandant
sd W Nairn 14th Jan 1868

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Memo

The Civil Commandant has to report for the information of the Comptroller General that the return of Telegraph fees at P Arthur for the month of Decr 1867 is delayed being forwarded to Hobart Town in consequence of the money for a telegram of the Revd George Eastmans not having been paid.

Annexed is a copy of a communication on the subject addressed by the Commandant to Mr Eastman on the 8th inst and to which he has not thought proper to reply

sd J Boyd Civil Commandant 15th Jan 1868

The Honbl. The Comp. Gen

Memo

Owing to the various conditional changes which have taken place of late amongst the classes of Prisoners, it has been found necessary to re-classify the whole.

Prisoners under sentence of Penal Servitude – imprisonment – or Imprisonment with Hard Labour – passed at Superior Courts are included under one heading .-

Prisoners under Life Penal Servitude, in whose cases decisions have been given for them to serve certain periods on probation, for Free, or Conditional Pardons, are withdrawn from the Penal Servitude and Special Detention classes and shewn on probation accordingly.

A nominal list will be found on the back of the return, explaining the whole except the Superior Court cases 353

The total strength, as also

In the margin :- 5 half yearly Returns on 31/12/67

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also the numbers chargeable to the different funds, of course remain unaltered-

A series of weekly numerical returns from 1st inst will be forwarded to replace those already sent, if approved of .

sd J Boyd. Civil Commandant Port Arthur
18th Jan 1868

The Honble. The Comp.Gen

Endorst on letter of Ewd Ryalls per “ M Soames” respecting his having been ordered to serve the whole of his Probation by time

Forwarded – this man`s conduct has been satisfactory since the 30th Jan 1867

In margin :- “ The Governor in Council has directed that he shall serve the full time of the Probation ordered in his case “

CGM 24/12/67

sd H Boyd Civil Commandant 18/1/68

The Honbl The Comp Gen

*James Boyd (Civil Commandant, Port Arthur) - Office letterbook, 1866-1869 from Tasmanian Papers, 1821-1877
Tas. Papers 315*

Mitchell Library, State Library of NSW

Endort on George Jones` application for Fishing Licence-

No Objection
sd J Boyd Civil Commandant 20/1/68

The Comp.Gen

Memo
The Commt Storekeeper is informed with the CG that the schooner " Harriet" will sail for Hob
Town weather permitting tomorrow morning

sd J C Neph C Clerk 21/1/68

The Commst Storekeeper

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Memo
The Protestant Chaplain is requested to have the goodness in future to forward any letters or
other written communications he may wish to address to the Civil Commandant during office
hours -viz from 9 oclock am until 5 P.M.

An applications for a passage per Government schooner for Master Henry Cook dated last
evening was not received by the Commandant until after the schooner had sailed this
morning.

Upon enquiry the Commandant is informed that the application in question was delivered to a
prisoner [indecipherable] at nearly 7 oclock last evening long after the office had been closed.
The Commandant also takes this opportunity of requesting that the practice adopted by the
Protestant Chaplain of forwarding Official communications to the Commandant on Sundays
may be discontinued

sd J Boyd Civil Commandant
22/1/68

The Protestant Chaplain
Port Arthur

Port Arthur
20th Jan 1868

Sir
I have the honor to acknowledge tha receipt of a letter for Prisoner E.de Tremesseud
enclosed in your communication of the 16th inst, and which letter has been duly delivered to
Temereud who has expressed his gratitude for the favour thus conceded to him

I have the honor to be Sir, Your most obedt Servt
Civil Commandant

The Honble W.L.Dobson
Attorney General

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Memo

The Civil Commandant presents his compliments to the Commissariat Storekeeper and will be glad to receive the returns of Hospital Expenditure to the end of 1867 –Also of monies paid to the same period – copy of the October voucher herewith attached – which is requested to be returned

sd J Boyd Civil Commandant Port Arthur
25/1/68

The Comm Storekeeper

Endorst on Memo from the Comp.Genl respecting a letter written to His Royal Highness Prince Alfred while on a visit to Tasmania by Pauper John Brooks per “Somersetshire” claiming to be a relative of the late Lord Nelson

I beg to forward the statement of the Pauper Brook whom I have always regarded as a person of weak mind – His physical health is good. Copy of Brooks statement filed in this office.

sd J Boyd Civil Commdt. 22/1/68

The Honble The Comp.Gen

Endorst on Memo respecting Jas Staunton per “Hyderabad” – applicant for admission to a Pauper Depot.

Referred to the Medical Officer in charge of the Hospital

sd J Boyd Civil Commdt. P A
15th Jan 1868

Dr Lewis

Received at Port Arthur from Impression Bay as an invalid in Depot on 9th June 1857 – discharged to Hobt Town on 16 Decr 1858 . This

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This mans name does not appear in any of the Hospital Registers, and nothing is known of him

sd Geo Denham..SMO Hospital Pt Arthur
Jan 23rd 1868

The Civil Commdt

Returned with the report of the Senior Medical Officer to the Honble the Colonial Secretary.

sd J Boyd Civil Commandant

Endorst on approval for Jas Padfield to be employed as Foundryman for 3 months at 2s/- per diem

It is recommended that Padfield may be allowed to receive the within rate of pay from the 1st inst as he had completed his period of detention on the 24th ult, and has been employed as founder since that time.

Also that he may be allowed a constable`s ration as already rcommended from this date.

sd J Boyd Civil Commandant

25th Jan 1868
The Honble. The Comp. Gen

Port Arthur
25th Jan 1868
Dear Sir

In reply to your letter of the 24th inst requesting me to inform you whether there was any brand put upon the timber sold from Port Arthur to Mr. Manning, and if so, what it was ; also if any brand has ever been put upon the timber sent to the Public Work`s Yard and if so, what it was. I beg to state

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state that for several years past the only mark placed upon timber cut at Port Arthur was red paint at one end.

Formerly the letters R.E.D. and a broad arrow were stamped upon the timber when cut. It is just possible that some of that sold to Mr Manning may have had those letters and the arrow upon the ends but I rather think that the only mark upon any timber sent from Port Arthur in the last 5 years was red paint at one end placed there when it was taken from the Mill or the Sawyer as a check mark

I remain Dear Sir Yours very truly
sd J Boyd
Civil Commandant

W Falconer Esq
Director of Public Works Dept.

P.S. Upon one of two occasions when two orders were being shipped at the same time, black paint was used to mark one order, and red the other.
The letters and marks given, of course have no reference to the timber sent to the Exhibitions, which bore my name
sd J B

Memo

Will Mr Belstead have the goodness to forward by the first opportunity the corrected draft of the Return of Maintenance of Colonial Prisoners at Port Arthur for the year 1866
It will considerably aid the Clerks in the preparation of the Return now on hand for 1867 – and the document shall be returned as soon as possible..

sd J Boyd Civil Commandant 29/1/68

C Belstead Esq Comp. Gens Office Hobt Town

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J--- Ashcroft per "Duncan" a prisoner under sentence at Port Arthur states, I am employd as pig minder – today when I was collecting the pigs to bring some to the Settlement Farm – a son of the Revd. Mr Eastman & a lad named Bennett set a dog upon the pigs and drove two of them into the Govt flower garden in front of the Govt Cottage & the remainder into the bush – another son of the Rev Mr Eastman who was behind the fence, threw several large stones at me – none of the stones struck me but they came very close to me – I spoke to the two youths who set the dog upon the pigs and told them not to do it again and had trouble enough with the pigs without their giving me further trouble – Mr Eastman`s son jumped out of the cart came to me put his clenched fist in my face & said he`d hit me over the nose – he did not do

so – I told him I would acquaint the Civil Commandant of his conduct he replied “ You can go and tell him “

I then came away & as I was coming young Bennett set the dog on the pigs again & scattered them – This took place on the Brickfield Hill near the gateway leading to the church – One of Mr Eastman`s sons & young Bennett were in a horse cart coming up from the direction of the church to the Gateway – they were only a short distance from the Gateway when they set the dog on the pigs – it was the second eldest son that was in the cart & who set the dogs on the pigs the first time, & who also shook his fist in my face & said he`d hit me on the nose .It was the eldest son that threw the stones at me .

Twice before during last month Mr Eastman`s sons have committed similar acts – driving away my pigs with dogs & when spoken to by me have threatned to hit me over the nose. I complained to the Revd Mr Eastman on the

Following three groups of text Imposed sideways on above text :-

This denied by my eldest son and my servant who was with him & from their position at the time it does not seem possible that they knew what was passing in the road
sd G E

The other pig minder was heard by daughter (13 years old) to say to Ashcroft as he came out from st---- me “ You are a mean person just to joke with the boys & then to report them to their father” while not [indecipherable] of these private depositions as I met Ashcroft on the road I said “How could you tell me such a falsehood that my sons threw stones at you & set the dog on when your mate there says they never left the cart - & merely laughed at you” He replied “ I never said so Mr Eastman
sd Geo Eastman

The further statements to shew that this must be an error as in the first place the other pigv [indecipherable] was at the upper gate near the Brickfield and did not come near the Eastmans daughter at all he could not therefore speak to Ashcroft when he came out from seeing Mr Eastman “ the man himself positively denies having made any such remarks to Ashcroft - simply because he could not. Ashcroft also solemnly denies the truth of the Chaplains remarks

sd J Boyd

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The whole page is about the Pig Minder conflict and is so crisscrossed as to be virtually indecipherable.

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First paragraph of text is written over and indecipherable

..... after that Mr.Eastman`s son & young Bennett threw stones at Ashcroft while he was going to Mr Eastman`s quarters to see Mr Eastman about the conduct of his son and young Bennett – the stones very nearly struck Ashcroft – the pigs then scattered about the Bush. I saw two of them in the Govt flower garden I endeavoured to collect the pigs but was unable to get any of them,, as they went a good distance back into the Bush. While in the bush I heard one of Mr.Eastman`s dogs barking at the pigs. When I returned from the bush I again met Ashcroft and told him that two of the pigs were in the Govt.Garden. Constable McIvor just then returned from duty & assisted Ashcroft to get the pigs out of the Govt. Garden.

Witness

sd M.J.Aherne

Clerk. Port Arthur. 128th Jan 1868

I beg to report for the Civil Commandants information that yesterday evening the 28th inst. James Ashcroft an invalid under detention employed as pig herd at the Settlement Farm requested that I would bring him before the Civil Commandant as he wished to make a complaint -I asked the nature of the

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Whole of page was "The pig minder's conflict" and virtually indecipherable

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Bottom half of page is on "Pig minder" and indecipherable

of from Tasmans Peninsula as soon as possible-

sd J Boyd. Civil Commandant. 29th Jan 1868

The Honble. The Comp...

The statement of Jas Mc Ivor Constable in charge of Govt Cottage & grounds who saith as follows, upon my return from duty yesterday afternoon I was told by Leach that he had seen the sons of the Rev.Mr.Eastman pelting stones at the pig minder & also using very low language towards him - I also found 2 of the pigs in the flower garden - I have always found Leach to be truthful - Leach said he had seen Mr.Eastman's big mastiff dog among the pigs driving them about in all directions - I myself have had a deal of trouble with Eastman's who have repeatedly thrown stones at my little watch dog & the eldest boy on one occasion when on horseback tried to ride my little dog down - also frequently climbed over the fences & gates - when I have checked them for their irregularities they have upbraided me with going after Absconders & called me a "trap" - I am so afraid of these boys doing mischief to the Cottage that I never leave it except when my wife is at home -[indecipherable] when the little side gate next the cottage was locked for the purpose of keeping Mr.Easmans's cattle & goats out of the grounds . I found Mr Eastmans's eldest son climbing over the gate I checked him for it & he said he would just do as he liked & go when he liked & squared up at me to fight me & the old attendants at the Cottage told him he oughtn't to square up at me & he then threatened to knock the old man down - I
Concluding two lines of the page - indecipherable

Written sideways :-

My eldest son & the servant who was with him reported some time since that as they were going along the hill outside the church enclosure Mr. Mc Ivor called out " You call your dog away you train him to come & steal my eggs " My son in return gave him a saucy [indecipherable] saying he was not so & so - For this he was severely reprimanded by me at the time .& has promised never to reply to any one partly again
sd G .E.

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Top half of page - indecipherable

The frequent trespass by Mr Eastmans live stock in public & private gardens is notorious to the whole Settlement & have formed the subject of many complaints - Public & private property has been destroyed by such in some instances the owners have complained that they only received abuse when seeking for redress - even from the protestant chaplain himself.

The Statement of the Farm Overseer shows that he has no knowledge of any Govt pigs having ever been driven to the piggery by any [indecipherable] Mr. Eastmans's family – vide his statement

All that is required is that, the youths in question of whom are men in appearance may conduct themselves in a proper & becoming manner towards the other residents especially the Prisoners who are only carrying out the orders of their officers & not in a position to resent abuse & threats of violence.

sd J Boyd Civil Comt. 15/2/68

Endorst on Memo respect Timber available for sale – vide Page 443 of this book for original letter.

Can the Director of Public Works suggest any method of disposing of this timber

sd W Nairn, Comp.Genl. 17th Jaan 1868

The split palings, & long lengths of timber of which there may be a number of pieces of the same size, had better be shipped direct from Port Arhur to Melbourne the pieces of sawn tomber of which there may be only a few pieces to each length & size, should either be used at Port Arthur or sawn up into battens

sd W R Falconer
D.of P.Works
21st Jan 1868

The Comp. Genl.

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Will the Commandant furnish a return of this timber specifying separately that which the Director of Public Works suggests should be shipped to Melbourne

sd W Nairn Comp.Genl
27th Jan 1868

Endorst on preceding

The freight of the timber to Melbourne would probably cost half as much as it would sell for - the timber would also be expensive to discharge & arrange for sale and it might remain on the hands of the Government for a time & further expense be thereby incurred
Proposal to sell it all at Port Arthur submitted herewith

sd J Boyd Civil Commandant
1st Feb 1868

The Honbl
The Comp.Gen

Memorandum

A list of all the timber available for sale will be prepared and furnished as soon as practicable – as requested.

I beg, however, to suggest that the timber be sold by auction at Port Arthur, and the steamer “Monarch” hired for a day to convey intending purchasers to and from Norfolk Bay and

Hobart Town – arrangements could be made for conveying such persons to and from the Settlement by carts &co.
By leaving Hobart Town at 6 or 7 o'clock a.m. purchasers could remain at Port Arthur between 3 & 4 hours, and be back in Hobart Town by 10 o'clock the same evening –
The expense of the “ Monarch “ for

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for a day would, I presume, not exceed £35-
I have conferred with the Asst. Comms General on this subject, and Mr Bartlett authorizes me to state that he concurs in the suggestion now submitted.

sd J Boyd. Civil Commandant
1st Feb. 1868

The Comp. Genl

Respectg 100 Arras rails – 12 ft. long, 6in.broad & 3 ½ in.thick for the Hospital for the Insane Dept New Norfolk'

Memo

The thickness of Arras Rails is usually given at half their breadth – this prevents much loss of material & of time in sawing them.

With reference to the 100 Arras Rails 6 in broad & 3 ½ in. thick specified in the annexed Requisition - the Civil Commandant begs to request to be furnished with a diagram showing how they are to be cut as there is a difficulty in rendering the Rails to the size mentioned- Perhaps 7 in. broad by 3 1/3 thick would suit the purpose as well?

sd J Boyd. C.C
31/1/68

The Hon.The Comp.Genl

Memorandum

With reference to the Comptroller General's memo of the 30 ult. relative to the Timber required for the Military Barracks, I beg to report that there are at present departmental orders of prior date to that referred to, amounting to about 109,000 feet of sawn timber and 173,000 shingles besides

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besides some posts, rails and palings still uncomplied with
Will the Comptroller General be so good as to inform me, whether these demands are to be supplied according to the order of dates of approval (the course now pursued) or , if the timber for the military Barracks is to take precedence of all others

sd J Boyd CC
3rd Feb. 1868

The Hon. The Comp.Genl

Memo

The Civil Commandant presents his compliments to the Assistant Commissary General and begs to enclose herewith an Account of Timber shipped for “ May Queen” on the 4th inst. to Mr Thos Oldham Sorell – also a cheque for £50 drawn by Mr Oldham on the Commercial Bank Hobart Town in Mr Boyd's favour and deposited on a/c of the same.

*James Boyd (Civil Commandant, Port Arthur) - Office letterbook, 1866-1869 from Tasmanian Papers, 1821-1877
Tas. Papers 315*

Mitchell Library, State Library of NSW

Including balance of £3.15.0 due to Mr Oldham on Timber account in October last – the amount of his 6r at present is £3.4.0

Receipt requested
sd J Boyd. CC 5/2/68

The Asst. Commissary Genl.
Hobart Town

Endorst on Telegram from the Supt House of Correction from Males as to whether Invalids under sentence receive money earnings or Task Work Credit
By a recent order Invalids receive no money Earnings from the date of their being Invalided ; they May receive the

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the correct rate of time credit.

sd J Boyd. CC Port Arthur
5/2/68

The Supt.
House of Correction for Males
Hobt. Town

Civil Commandants Office.
Port Arthur
5th Feb. 1868

Sir

I have the honor to enclose herewith copy of letter received from the City Surveyor of Melbourne in reference to the supply of a large quantity of timber required there; also a copy of schedule of the same material.

I have informed Mr. Adams the gentleman referred to , that I am not in a position to entertain his proposal, but that I would submit the matter to you and that you would probably communicate with him on the subject.

I may observe that the timber referred to could not be supplied from Port Arthur but arrangements might be made with much advantage to the public interests in my opinion, to form a timber cutting establishment on the north side of this Peninsula and to employ short sentenced prisoners thereat.

As already remarked in former letters on the subjects there are very large beds of the finest blue gums and stringy bark in the locality mentioned and by working these, I have no doubt that a large return would be obtained in aid of maintaining the Convicts

I have the honor to be Sir
Your most Obedt Servt.
sd J Boyd . CC

The Honble, The Comp.Genl.

I am informed that the Commandant has orders which will take 9 mos. to complete – if this be correct.

I do not see that this order could be undertaken

sd W Nairn.

7th Feb. 1868

The Comproller General has been correctly informed - my suggestion of the 8th inst had reference to the formation of a timber cutting establishment on the north side of Tasmans Peninsula where light sentenced convicts could in my opinion be employed with much profit & advantage to the public.

The Comp. Genl. will observe that I stated that the timber required by the City Surveyor of Melbourne could not be supplied from Port Arthur

sd.J Boyd CC
18th. Feb.1868

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Civil Commandant's Office
Port Arthur, Tasmania
5th February 1868

Sir

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 24th ulto. with enclosed schedule, requesting information in reference to the building timber of this Colony;and also as to the time it would take to supply the quantity specified in your list – together with the price per cubic foot of the various kinds of timber – delivered at the Melbourne wharves.

In reply I have to express regret that I am unable to entertain your proposal, owing to my not being the head of this department, to whom I have submitted the matter, and who will no doubt communicate with you

I may , however, observe that for the purposes you mention , our blue-gum and stringy – bark timbers are eminently adapted, from their great strength and durability – and with such material you could I doubt not be supplied to almost any extent and at reasonable rates by some of the private establishments if not by the Government

I have the honor to be Sir
Your most obedt Servt.
sd J Boyd CC

R Adams Esquire
Clity Surveyor
Melbourne. Victoria

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Civil Commandants Office
Port Arthur 5th Feb 1868

Sir I have the honor to represent to you that the arrangement which has been in practice for some time past in having the Steam Engine supervised by the Keeper of the Separate Prison at an allowance of £20 per annum,has been found inconvenient and ineffective..

There is now a large quantity of timber required to be cut by the mill for the several public departments; and as the Cooking and Washing arrangements are also carried on by steam, I find it absolutely necessary to have the services of an Engineer – more especially to keep the machinery and boiler in repair – At present the Saw Mill cannot be worked owing to its being out of order, and although` the keeper of the Prison quite understands Engineering , he cannot , with justice to his own duties, devote sufficient time to the necessary repairs &c – besides, there is the risk of some serious accident occurring for want of a competent person being always on the spot.

Under these circumstances, I recommend the immediate re-appointment of Mr Benjn Rushforth the former Engineer whose services were dispensed with in April 1865 for some

*James Boyd (Civil Commandant, Port Arthur) - Office letterbook, 1866-1869 from Tasmanian Papers, 1821-1877
Tas. Papers 315*

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irregularity in retaining possession of a Pauper's monies which had been entrusted to his care by the man – Rushforth thoroughly understands his business as a practical enginner and in the only suitable person I know of who would be willing to undertake the duties at the low salary allowed for the situation viz £100 per annum and a personal ration .
He

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He is now in charge of the Engine at the Coal Mines, and has expressed his willingness to come back.
Trusting that you will be pleased to accede to this request at your earliest convenience

I have the honor to be Sir your obedt Srvt.
sd J Boyd CC

Memorandum

The Civil Commandant recommends that the Constable named in the margin may be granted a reward of one pound for his exertions in searching after and finding an Imperial lunatic named Michl Boyle per "waterlily" who absconded from the Lunatic Depot here on Tuesday the 28th ulto; and remained at large until apprehended by Blythe in a [indecipherable] at Tunnel Bay on Saturday the 1st inst. –Tunnel Bay is only a few miles from Cape Raoul

sd J Boyd
CC 8th Feb 1868

The Honbl The Comp.Genl

In margin :- Jas Blythe

Recommended
sd W Nairn 11/2/68

Approved 'sd S Gore Brown
19th Feb

Forwarded to the Commandant this authority to be attached to the abstract
sd W Nairn
The Comp.General
21st Feb 1868

Port Arthur
10th Feb.1868

Memorandum

Constable James Wade is hereby directed forthwith to convey the prisoner named in the margin to the House of Correction for Males at Hobart Town and safely deliver him into the custody of the Keeper of the said Establishment.

The

In the margin :- Jas Millwood "Fortune"

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The warrant under which the prisoner is held is enclosed herewith
Rationed to and for the 11th inst. inclusive

*James Boyd (Civil Commandant, Port Arthur) - Office letterbook, 1866-1869 from Tasmanian Papers, 1821-1877
Tas. Papers 315
Mitchell Library, State Library of NSW*

sd J Boyd CC

To Constabel Jas Wade & all others concerned including the
Supt of [indecipherable] Cascades

Port Arthur
10th February 1868

Memorandum

The prisoner named in the margin is this day forwarded to the House of Correction for Males at Hobart Town under the charge of Constable Jas Wade – for the purpose of giving evidence in the case of Regina V.Cochrane at the coming Sittings of the Supreme Court Hobart Town
The Warrant under which the prisoner is held is enclosed herewith-
Rationed to & for the 11th inst inclusive

sd J Boyd CC

The Keeper
House of Correction for Males .Hobart T

In the margin :- Jas Millwood “ Fortune”

Memorandum

The prisoner named in the margin is this day forwarded to the House of Correction for Males at Hobart Town, under the charge of Constable James Wade – for the purpose of giving evidence in the case of Regina V Cochrane, at the coming sittings of the Supreme Court Hobart Town

sd J Boyd CC

The Honble
The Comp.Genl

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Endorst on Recommendation of the Asst. Magistrate J K Lewis Esq that John Byrne per “Blenheim” have ½ of P.A. sentence remitted

Forwarded & Recommended

The Prisoner Byrne was removed to the House of Correction for Males Hobt Town on the 29th Nov last.

sd J Boyd CC
8th Feb 1868

The Honble The Comp.Genl

In the margin :- Appo vide 483 this book

Endorst on applicature for Police Record of Moses Cochrane per “ Medway”

This prisoners police record was forwarded to the Honble the Attorney General on the 20^h Nov last, with the depositions in his case

sd J Boyd

CC 8/2/68

The Honble.
The Attorney Gen

Endorst on memo from the Colonial Statistician asking thro` the Comptroller General for certain Returns

The Return for the Port Arthur Establsiment is herewith enclose

sd J Boyd
CC 11/2/68

The Honbl
The Comp.Genl.

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Endorst. on Papers respecting B Rusforth`s appt as Engineer

Has Rusforth satisfied the claim of Anderson?

sd W Nairn
7/2/68

The Commandant

Rushforth repudiates the claim & refuses to satisfy Anderson`s demand

sd J Boyd 12/2/68

The Comp.Gel

Memo

I beg to explain to the Comptroller General, that my recommendation of the 5th inst for the appointment of B.Rushforth as Engineer, was entirely a matter of expediency to enable me to carry on the working of the Saw Mill effectvely

Any other competent Engineer will answer the purpose & the sooner one is appointed the better, as it is very necessary that one should be always present at the Engine.

sd J Boyd
CC 12/2/68

The Honble. The Comp. Genl

Endorst on memo respecg Mr F Harris` pension papers
Will the Civil Commandant certify so to Mr Harris` services being correctly Stated in this application

sd C J Belstead for C.G.
3/2/68
Returned

James Boyd Esq
Civil Commdt.

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Returnall – the insertion of the period during which Mr Harris performed the duties of Wharfinger at Port Arthur has been made – It was believed to be of no consequence as it was upwards of 3 yrs & 10 months since he discontinued that office – hence left out
The certificate as to his services will be found on the 3rd page duly signed by the Civil Commandant

sd J Boyd CC

The Honbl . The Comp.Gen

Observations on the Return of Agricultural Produce received, & remaining on the 31st Dec 1867

Bundle Word – it is stated in the return that 8320 lbs have been issued to the Commissariat
The quantities recd at Hobart Toown are as follows:-

Oct 3000

Nov 2480

Dec 2240

7720 lbs

difference 600 lbs

Explanation is requested

Commisst Office

Hobart Town

8/2/68

sd Troup D.A.C.G. for the Asst Com.Genl

The Civil
Commandant

The Enclosed report from the Master & Mate of the Schooner shows that the book of word were duly delivered to the Commist Hobart Town in October last.

sd J Boyd
CC 12/2/68

The Asst. Commiss Gnl
Memo

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Memo

The Port Arthur accounts shew that the undermentioned quantities of Bundle Wood have been forwarded to the Commissariat Hobart Town during the quarter ended 31st Decr. 1867.

18 th October per Schooner "Harriet"	600 lbs
2 nd Novr " Steamer	3000
27 th Novr. " Schooner	2480

*James Boyd (Civil Commandant, Port Arthur) - Office letterbook, 1866-1869 from Tasmanian Papers, 1821-1877
Tas. Papers 315*

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12 th Decr.	“	“	2240
		Total	8320 lbs

The Commissariat disputes the receipt of the 600lbs on 18th Oct. The Master & the Mate of the Schooner are requested to report for the information of the Civil Commandant whether the quantities above stated were duly delivered to the Commissariat in Town in accordance with the Way Bills

sd, J.C. Tapp
Chief Clerk & Accountant
Port Arthur
12/2/68

The 600 lbs were duly delivered at the Commissariat

sd, D. Griffiths
Master

sd Thos. G. Garde
Mate
12/2/68

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Certified that Samuel Smith was employed as an Attendant upon Insane Patients at Port Arthur from 29th June 1865 to 20th Novr. 1866 and that he performed his duties in an active and intelligent manner.

sd J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
12th February 1868.

Memo
Mr Commissariat Storekeeper is informed with the Civil Commandant's Compts that the Schooner "Harriet" will sail for Hobart Town-weather permitting- early tomorrow morning.

J.C. Tapp
C. Clerk
Feby 13 - 1868.

The Commissariat Storekeeper
Port Arthur

In reference to the Rev. Mr. Eastman's Sons & Mr Bennett.
The further statement of Constable James McIvor who saith I have just heard said to me by the Civil Commandant the statement of the Rev Mr Eastman that "I had told his eldest son to call his dog away as he trained the dog to steal my eggs"- that statement is not true- between 2 and 3 months ago I was at the back gate of the Cottage & I saw Mr Eastman's dog coming out of my fowl house- I said to Mr Eastman's eldest so, who was passing along at the other side of the fence with his brother, to be kind enough to take away his dog, that it was in my fowl house- he replied the dog is doing no harm- I then said well I don't know that, the nest egg is continually going, every egg we put in is taken away, & if you please keep him under proper

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proper control-Mr Eastman's son then holloed out to me – "You shot the bushranger," & said a great deal more in a very insolent way telling me to go away & referred to an occasion when

*James Boyd (Civil Commandant, Port Arthur) - Office letterbook, 1866-1869 from Tasmanian Papers, 1821-1877
Tas. Papers 315*

I was compelled to act in a strict manner in the performance of my public duty as a Constable on the mainland- upbraiding me with having shot "Wingy". I did not see on that occasion the servant of the Revd. Mr Eastman- I felt very much hurt at the abuse I received from the Revd. Mr Eastman's son.- the Revd Mr Eastman never expressed his regret to me that his son had spoken unbecomingly to me.

It was after this that Mr Eastman's son tried to ride down my little watch dog, when he did so, I said "Young gentleman, you were very near killing my dog"- he made no reply but rode on.

I never heard of any Govt. pigs giving trouble to anyone near the church-

Until within the last few weeks the Revd. Mr. Eastman's cow has been repeatedly in the Garden- upon the Comptroller General's last visit the Cow was in the Garden & my attention was called to it by young Mr Nairn.

Upon one occasion I saw the boy Bennett take the fastening from the gate of the Garden.

I have always endeavoured to avoid making complaints of the trespasses of Mr Eastman's cattle & have invariably treated the Revd. Mr Eastman with the greatest respect.

The Station Officer has frequently drawn my attention to the cattle in the grounds of the Cottage & not long ago pointed out to me a Norfolk Island Pine that had almost been

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been destroyed by Cattle.

The Station officer has further pointed out to me the upper gate which had been broken open by some person.

Luck is a very old man & inoffensive, he is very quiet and reserved.

I have never known him to be disrespectful to any one – He never goes of an errand to Mr Eastman's. I never heard him speak anything disrespectful of the Rev Mr Eastway or of any of his family.

When Luck made his statement to me, he could have had no opportunity of concocting any false statement with Ashcroft, as Luck was standing in the middle of the road to keep the pigs back & Ashcroft was away after the pigs to get them together, when I came up and asked Luck what was the matter. Luck & Ashcroft were at the least 150 yards apart.

sd. James Mclvor

Port Arthur

10th Feb 1868

The further statement of Geo. Leach per "Lt. Franklin" – a prisoner under sentence at Port Arthur who saith, the Commandant has read to me certain remarks of the Rev Mr Eastman in which that gentleman states that for a certain reason I was ordered by Mr Eastman some years since never to come near his house since which I have always looked sulky and revengeful at him.

Mr Eastman never told me that I was not to go near his house, & I cannot imagine what the reason he alludes to was. I never had any words with Mr Eastman.

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In 1859 or '60 I was employed as Church Cleaner & also acted as Servant to Mr Eastman, upon one occasion I was brought to the Office for having some words with a Constable for which I was reprimanded & dismissed from my billet – I left a private shirt & 2 pairs socks at Mr Eastman's and sent for them. Mr Eastman sent me answer that he would return them to the Govt. Mr Eastman did not express any anger with me for having the articles at his quarters & I never alluded to the matter afterwards altho' I frequently saw Mr Eastman. I was with Mr Eastman about six months – about 3 or 4 weeks before I left Mr Eastman's some porter was missed by him from a Cask. Mr Eastman did not accuse me of having taken the porter – there was another man also employed at Mr Eastman's at the same time. Frequently since in the last whenever we've met we have always spoken & about 2 yrs ago when I was at Duck Creek Mr Eastman made me a present in the presence of Constable Mawby. Since I made my statement on the 29th ulto about the pigs, whenever I met & saluted Mr Eastman he had held down his head and passed on without noticing me.

I have sometimes been sent by Mr Mclvor to Mr Eastman's house of messages when visitors have been staying at Govt Cottage. I never saw Mr Eastman on these occasions but other membes of his family & have never been checked by them for going there. I was never sent to the Parsonage by Constable Mclvor.

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I state most positively that Mr Eastman never told me that I was not to go near his house. On the day the disturbance took place between the Rev Mr Eastman's sons & the pig minder I was at the back of the Cottage. I distinctly saw & am ready to swear to, if necessary, Mr Eastman's son get out of the cart & go up & shake his fist in the Pigminder's face & the boy Bennett made use of the foul language stated by me in my former statement. I also distinctly saw young Bennett & the son of Mr Eastman that was in the cart throw stones at Ashcroft as he was going to Mr Eastman's to complain of their conduct. Stones may have been thrown from another direction but I did not see them.

I am positive that Ashcroft did not slash his whip at any person but he was trying to keep his pigs together with his whip – the other pig minder was at the top gate leading out to the Brickfield.

I had no conversation whatever with Ashcroft on this matter – from the time the pigs were scattered until I saw Constable Mclvor I was not near Ashcroft – he had gone to Mr Eastman's & I was trying to get the pigs together. I made my statement the same afternoon that the disturbance took place. It was not mr Eastman who charged me with having words with the Constable in 1859 or '60, for he was very much put out at my being taken away from him.

Mr Eastman never made any report against me or had me punished, or did anything toward me that would make me have a revengeful feeling toward him

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but I have often been abused by Mr Eastman's sons when they seen me driving away his horses & cattle from the Cottage but I have not retaliated.

sd George Leach

Port Arthur

10th Feb 1868

I am quite positive that until the pigs were scattered none of them passed below the Cottage towards the Church as one pig minder was by the Cottage, the other at the top gate by the Brickfields – after the disturbance was over mr Eastman's sons went up with the Cart to the Brickfields and brought down several loads of thatch from the old sheds.

At the time the cart came up the pigs were feeding quietly between the Govt Cottage and the Brickfields gate one of Mr Eastman's sons young Bennett were in the Cart. They asked Ashcroft what the pigs were doing there & it was then that the disturbance began. After that the pigs were scattered in all directions, some of them may have got round by the back of the Church.

No dog had barked before the Cart passed the Cottage on its way up the hill – the dog was then with the Cart.

Neither of Mr Eastman's sons or young Bennett went back to the Parsonage when the disturbance took place but proceeded forward for the thatch & it was an hour before they returned & by this time the pigs were all gone and everything quiet.

sd G. L.

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Andrew E Hyde a prisoner onder sentence at Port Arthur saith. I am employed as Pig Minder & have been so for about 5 weeks. I remember when the disturbance took place between Mr Eastman's sons & the other pig minder. I was at the Brickfield gate & the other man was at

*James Boyd (Civil Commandant, Port Arthur) - Office letterbook, 1866-1869 from Tasmanian Papers, 1821-1877
Tas. Papers 315*

Mitchell Library, State Library of NSW

the back of the Cottage – the pigs were feeding on the roadside between us. The first I saw was Ashcroft and one of the boys who was standing close to him having very high words but I was too far off to tell what they were saying. I then saw a big dog rush among the pigs which were scattered in all directions & mostly run thro' the fence by the side of the gate I was at & away to the right. I went after the pigs and collected them & brought them home & told Mr Christie what had happened. At the time I heard the high words one of the lads was quite close to Ashcroft, the other was in the Cart. I did not see any stones thrown at Ashcroft – stones may have been thrown at him which I did not observe. I saw the lad who was facing Ashcroft shake his fist at him. The next I saw was Ashcroft, he held his hand up to me & holloed out "I'm going away" – he then went in the direction of the Church. I remained in the road & when I had collected the pigs I brought them down the hill, past the saw pits & to the settlement Farm. I never went near Mr Eastman's house with the pigs. At the time the Constable & Ashcroft were trying to get the pigs out of the garden I was away trying to collect the others. The next time I saw Ashcroft was when he came up on the road to me & told me of the boys throwing stones at him. I never said to him that he was a mean fellow for joking with the boys & then reporting them to their father, & if anyone says that I said so they are stating what is untrue.

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I say positively & am prepared to swear that I was not near Mr Eastman's quarters that day. I have had no conversation with the Rev Mr Eastman & never told him that the other Pig-minder had merely been laughed at by the boys. I never heard Mr Eastman speak to Ashcroft about this matter. Ashcroft told me that Mr Eastman's sons had galloped horses among his pigs before – but this was before I was employed as Pig-minder. I did not see the other Pig-minder lashing his whip at the lads – I did not for a moment think that Ashcroft & the lads were joking as their voices were loud & angry.

sd Andrew Hide
Port Arthur
10th Feb 1868

The further statement of Jas. Ashcroft per "Duncan" who saith. On Thursday last I was feeding the Govt pigs on the road to Safety Cove when the Rev Mr Eastman was passing on horseback going to Safety Cove. He came up to me & said I was a bad man for reporting his boys to the Civil Commandant & as soon as his boys could catch hold of me he'd give me a thrashing. I said that can't be helped Sir. Mr Eastman then rode away. That is the only time I have seen Mr Eastman to speak to since I went to his place on the day the pigs were scattered by the dog when I complained to him of his boys. Mr Eastman never said to me how could I tell him such a falsehood that his sons threw stones at me & set the dog on when my mate there says they never left the Cart & merely laughed at me. I never replied that "I said so Mr Eastman." such words I state solemnly were never used by Mr Eastman & me.

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The day the pigs were scattered & I went to Mr Eastman's to complain of the boys I did not see the other Pig-minder until I went back to Brickfield Hill. I then told him of the stones thrown at me, he did not say to me I was a mean fellow - first to joke with the boys & then report them to their father – he could not say so as I had not joked with the boys. I went twice to Mr Eastman's house to complain of his sons once when the pigs were disturbed at Opossum Bay & again at the back of the Govt Cottage about 14 weeks after. Twice before Mr Eastman's son had threatened to hit me on the nose – once when I was taking the Pigs down Opossum Bay Hill Mr Eastman's son was riding one horse & leading another & galloped through them when I called out to him "Hold on you'll ride down some of these pigs." I was using my whip to keep the pigs clear of the horses when unintentionally my

whip struck the horse. Master Eastman jumped off his horse & came up & put his fist in my face & threatened to hit me on the nose. I said "Dont".
The same lad about a wek afterwards accompanied by young Bennett were going on foot down Opossum Bay when when they set a dog on the pigs and drove them about the beach. The same afternoon I went to Mr Eastman's & complained of them to the Rev Mr Eastman. On a former occasion Mr Christie the Overseer saw them annoying the pigs by throwing stones at them. Mr Eastman told me the day he went to Safety Cove that I had struck his boy with the whip

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I told him I was not aware of it if I had, that if so it was not intentionally.
I never at any time molested Mr Eastman's sons. The first thing said to me by Mr Eastwood's sons at the back of the Cottage was "what are you doing here" – at this time none of the pigs were in the Govt Garden or in Mr Eastman's paddock, that I am sure of, they were between the gate & the Govt Cottage, they then set the dog on the pigs.
sd James Ashcroft
Port Arthur
10th Feb 1868

Arthur E Hyde (recalled) states, when the Rev Mr Eastman rode past on his way to Safety Cove on Thursday last he merely bid me good day nothing further took place.

E Christie, Overseer Settlement Farm states. About 2 months ago the Pig-minder Ashcroft said to me that one of mr Eastman's sons had galloped thro' the Govt pigs & when spoken to by Ashcroft Master Eastamn threatened to put a twist in his neck. I spoke to Master Eastman about it & he replied "damn the fellow I was only joking with him". Ashcroft told me that he had been twice to Mr Eastman to complain of his sons.
I have no knowledge of Mr Eastman's sons bringing the Govt pigs several times to the Settlement Farm. I never knew them ever to bring any Government pigs to

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the Farm & none of the men at the farm who must have seen such a thing ever mentioned anything of the kind to me. I have had a good deal of trouble looking after Mr Eastman's sons to prevent irregularities about the farm – upon one occasion a heavy implement was thrown into a creek & 3 of the coulter lost. They Mr Eastman's sons were seen in the direction of the implement by myself & also by the Watchman, but we could not say that they threw the implement away although no one else was seen in the direction but themselves, I have no doubt that they were the persons who did it.
sd E Christie
Port Arthur
11th Feb 1868

Memorandum

The Civil Commandant presents his compliments to the Colonial Storekeeper & in reply to his enquiry of the 7th inst as to whether any Urine Tubs are being made at Port Arthur for the Gaol, begs to inform him that no requisition has been received for such articles & consequently none are being made.

sd J Boyd
Civil Commandant

The Colonial Storekeeper
Hobart Town

*James Boyd (Civil Commandant, Port Arthur) - Office letterbook, 1866-1869 from Tasmanian Papers, 1821-1877
Tas. Papers 315*

Mitchell Library, State Library of NSW

Endorst on the Telegram form. The Supt House of Correction for Males Hobt. Town
respecting Jas Millwood per Fortune

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Millwood is not eligible for discharge.
He has 55 days unexpired time to serve.
sd J Boyd
Civil Commandant
15/2/68
Thos. Reidy Esq

Memo

With reference to the two prisonersname din the margin, whose names appear in the weekly
report of prisoners in the Separate Prison, as being confined there under the Commandant's
order, the civil Commandanthas to report that the Convict Tuck voluntarily offered to remain in
the Prison as Shoemakers' Instructor to the inmates. He occupies a large cell, receives full
effective rations & exercises outside the prison.

[in the margin]

S. T. Bewley Tuck "Lotus"
L'ton S. C. 29/4/62
Attempt to commit an unnatural offence
15 yrs P S by time

Dogherty requested to be placed in the Separarte Prison to prevent his committing himself, as
from his infirmity of temper he was unable to agree with the general body of men in the
Penitentiary. He has his meals & sleeps in the Prison, but is worked during the day, as usual,
in a Station Gang.

sd J Boyd Civil Commandant
15/2/68
The Honble
The Comp Genl
[in the margin]
Denis Dogherty "Aurora"
Illegible L Ct 20/7/57
Assault being armed
Life P. S.

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Safety Cove
15th Feb 1868

Sir

I beg to inform you that I examined nine (9) head of Cattle at Salt Water River on 13th inst viz
1 Bullock, 2 Steers, 4 Cows and 2 Heifers fit for slaughter, and submit for consideration an
offer of nine pounds (£9.0.0) per head for the said 9 Beasts.

I have the honor to be

Sir

Your Obedt Servt
sd E Mansfield

J Boyd Esquire J P

Referred to the Superintendent of Agriculture for report as to the estimated value (at contract price of meat) of the Cattle herin referred to by the Contractor
sd J Boyd
15/2/68

Mr Luttrell begs to submit his estimation of the value of the government Cattle referred to by the Contractor to the Civil Commandantviz
The average weight will be about 400 lbs which at contract price of meat - 5½d – would be ten pounds ten shillings & ten pence (£10.10.10).
Mr Luttrell begs respectfully to observe that at the rate of one a week it will be 9 to 10 weeweeks before they are all slaughtered; the feed will become short and they will fall off considerably before that time elapses.
The best of the Cows have already been forwarded to Port Arthur for slaughter
sd J W Luttrell
Supt of Agriculture
Cascades
17/2/68

The Civil Commandant

Endorst

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Note in the margin:

Is the Contractor willing to take the cattle on these conditions.-
sd. W Nairn
21st Feby 1868

Endorst on the [indecipherable]

For the Honble the Comptroller General

I commend that the Contractor's offer of £9.0.0 a head for the 9 beasts referred to by Mr Mansfield in the accompanying letter, be accepted provided that hides of the said animals be given to the Government without any charge – and also provided that the whole of the animals be moved by the Contractor by the 31st proximo

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
18th Feby 1868

Written across previous text:

The Contractor will give £9-5-0 for each of the 9 cattle referred to and after conferring with the Asst Comissary General I think it will be better not have any of the hides returned by Mr Mansfield, as he (the Contractor) is unwilling to do so, unless by receiving a drawback from the sum originally offered viz 9.

Under these circumstances I recommend with the concurrence of A.C.G. Bartlett that Mr Mansfield's amended offer be accepted and that he be required to move the Cattle on or before the 1st May next.

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandt
11/3/68

Reply to query a half yearly Return of Prisoners at Port Arthur on 31 Decr 1867 (Prisoners (remainder indecipherable)).

The names of the 200 Prisoners acc. as follows

John Shackleton – [indecipherable]
Edwd Wallace – [indecipherable]
Jas Schofield
They have always appeared on the Colonial lists

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
PA 19/2/68

The Honble
The Compt General

Endorst on Memo' asking for a corrected Return of Officers in the Convict Department Port Arthur for 1867-

Corrected as requested

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
22/2/68

The Honble
The Comp. Genl

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memorandum,

In reply to Mr Stanton's note of the 16th inst requesting permission to proceed to Eagle Hawk Neck in a boat for the purpose of selecting land on Forester's Peninsula under the provisions of the "Waste Lands Act", the Civil Commandant regrets that he cannot sanction any boat visiting Eagle Hawk Neck, and suggests that Mr. Stanton should land at the Sounds or at Flinder's Bay.

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
Port Arthur
22nd Feby 1868

Mr Job Stanton
Sorell

Memo'

Note in margin:
Joseph Pender
"Flying Squirrel"
Life P.S.

The Convict named in the margin addressed a letter to His Honor the Chief Justice which letter was transmitted by post to Town on the 11th July last

The man begs a reply to the same.

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
22nd Feby 1868

The Honble
The Comp. Genl

Text written across previous letter:

Referred to his Honor the Chief Justice

sd. W Nairn
Comp Genl
23/2/68

I have referred to the letter of this prisoner in which I am asked "to exert my influence on his behalf with a view to his speedy restoration to liberty" – I returned no reply assuming as I did that he would resort to the usual course of petitioning the execturive for remission, and that such petition would be referred to me – when his case shall come before me in that shape, it shall receive every consdieration at my hands – no recommendation has ever preceeded from me at the mere suggestion of a prisoner – I must be called upon by the proper authorities

sd. J. Fleming
C. J.

Chambers
Neck 6th 1868

Memo'

The Station Officer reports that Divine Service was not performed for the Prisoners in the Penitentiary this morning in consequence of the non-attendance of the Revd Mr Eastman who does not appear to have assigned any reason for this absence nor to have made any provision for the performance of his duties.

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
24th Feby 1868

The Protestant Chaplain
Port Arthur

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Note in margin:
John Byrne
"Blenheim"

vide Folio 464
for recommendation

Endorst on Memo' from CG.t with approval of half of John Byrne's Port Arthur sentence to be remitted.

The Superintendent of the House of Correction for Males Hobt Town.

sd. J. Boyd
24/2/68.

Parsonage – Monday 24/2/68

Memo

Being prevented attending as usual this morning, I sent my compliments to the Station Officer with a message to that effect. – a course taken hitherto by me in this place and all the Establishments – By reference I perceive the Memorandum of the Honble the Comptroller General applies to "Leaves of Absence". and not to instances like this morning.

Sd. G. Eastman
Chaplain

The Civil Commandant

Safety Cove
2nd March 1868

The Civil Commandant's attention is respectfully drawn to the havoc the Contractor's pigs are making amongst the late potatoes in the long paddock below Mr Frost's, and the one adjoining – there are 7 or 8 geese which pull the potatoes up almost as bad as the pigs – the Contractor has been made aware of it several times & no notice is taken of it – I am continually driving them off but I find it impossible to

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to keep them away as they are out of a night.

Respectfully
sd. D. Gibbens
Officer in charge

The Civil Commandant
Port Arthur

Memorandum,

The Meat Contractor at Safety Cove is requested to take immediate steps to prevent his pigs and geese from committing further damage to the Government crops at that Station as reported by the Overseer in charge, in his Memo' of this morning (enclosed)

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
Port Arthur
2nd March 1868

The Meat Contractor
Safety Cove

Endorst on letter from Wm Steel per "Lady Kennaway" for a Remission of the whole of his Port Arthur sentence.

The prisoner Wm Steel was tried at Port Arthur on the 30th Novr. 1863 on a charge of Idleness & sentenced 2 month's Impt & Hd Labor against his task work credit. -

Upon his transfer with others to the House of Correction for Males Hobt Town in July last, he was recommended for remission of one month of his Port Arthur sentence, but from circumstances which have since come to the Commandant's knowledge and the strong recommendation of the man's Overseer at the time, the Civil Commandant now recommends that the remaining month of the Prisoner's Port Arthur sentence may be remitted & that the Superintendent of the House of Correction be

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be informed of the approval of this recommendation.

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
Port Arthur
2nd March 1868

The Honble
The Comp. Genl

Endorst on Invaliding paper recommending Ewd Mooney per "Earl Grey" to be Invalided

Submitted & recommended for approval.

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
3/3/68.

The Comptroller General

Note written across previous text:
Police Report 5/3/68

Recommended
sd. W. Nairn
9/3/68
Approved
sd. J.G. Boyd
16/3/68

Civil Commandant's Office
Port Arthur
29th Feby 1868

Sir

I have the honor to submit that the Constable stationed at Wedge Bay may be allowed the sum of one shilling per diem in addition to his ordinary pay in consideration of the expense to which he is necessarily put in entertaining passengers proceeding to and from Port Arthur and Hobart Town per Governemnt Schooner "Harriet".

The accompanying return of persons who have embarked and landed at Wedge Bay during the last 6 months, will afford some idea ot the number of passengers who have been attended to – particularly in wet weather and when the Schooner arrived after dark – On these occasions as many as 20 persons including children, applicants for employment, paupers

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paupers and prisoners employed in carrying luggage and stores (public and private) have been considerably and hospitably entertained by the Constable at one time.

When the Steamer plied between Port Arthur and Hobart Town, the Wedge Bay route was not nearly so much used as latterly, but as the Schooner now performs all the transport, and has frequently to run into Wedge Bay, there is no probability of the demand upon the Constable's hospitality being reduced.

Under these circumstances I recommend that the sum specified may be allowed him –

I have the honor to be Sir
Your most Obedt. Servt.
sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant.

The Honble
The Comp. Genl

Memo

Will the Civil Commandant be good enough to send up to this Office the Warrants under which Mr Lee per "Gazelle" is held - they will be returned immediately

Sd. C. T. Belstead
For Comp. genl.
27/2/68

The Civil Commandant

Herewith
sd. J. C. Tapp
Chief Clerk
for The Civil Commandant
4/3/68

The Honble
The Comp. Genl

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Wedge Bay
29th Feby 1868

Return of the number of persons who have embarked at Wedge Bay for Hobart Town and also of those who have landed at Wedge Bay from Hobart Town during the last six months.

Number of persons who have embarked – 143

Do who have landed – 81

sd. J. Blythe
Constable in charge

The Civil Commandant

Memo'

The Comptroller General is requested to cause a fresh supply of good blotting paper to be furnished for the use of this Establishment as soon as possible.

The white blotting paper received on the 6th Decr. last is so hard and coarse as to be almost useless – besides having been saturated with two bottles of black ink which became open in the case during its conveyance in the Schooner to Port Arthur

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
Port Arthur
7th March 1868

The Honble
The Comp Genl

Endorst on Petition of Michl FitzPatrick per “Maitland” (late a Lunatic now PA Attendant of Insane Dept.) for a Free pardon”.

Forwarded – Petitioners’ Police Records herewith
sd. J. Boyd
Civil Comt
9/3/68

The Honble
The Comp. Genl

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Port Arthur
9th March 1868

Sir,

Note in margin:
Benjamin Anderson

With reference to my letter of the 5th February 1868 and my Memo’ of the 12th of the same month, recommending the immediate appointment of an Engineer for this Establishment – I now have the honor to propose for approval that the pauper named in the margin who has performed the working part of the duties of Engineer for some time past, and without whose services the use of the Steam Engine could hardly be continued, may be allowed 2s/6d per diem & a Constable’s Ration –

Anderson has been allowed 4d per diem as a working Pauper but he refuses to act any longer unless he gets more pay; and as Mr Whittington cannot find time to perform the fitting and other Engine work – Anderson’s services are indispensable until a competent Engineer may be appointed. –

In the mean while Mr Whittington’s services are very necessary in order that a check may be kept upon whoever performs the actual labor connected with the working of the Engine and the Steam boiler used for cooking. –

I also recommend that Anderson may receive the proposed allowance from the first of last month, inclusive – from which date he will be discontinued as a Pauper on pay.

I have the honor to be Sir
Your Obedt. Servt.
sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant

*James Boyd (Civil Commandant, Port Arthur) - Office letterbook, 1866-1869 from Tasmanian Papers, 1821-1877
Tas. Papers 315
Mitchell Library, State Library of NSW*

The Honble
The Comp. Genl.

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Endorst on Memo' for Record of Jno Jones, per "Wm Jardine"

Record not at Port Arthur – this document was forwarded to the House of Correction Hobt. Town on 18th Sepr last when Jones was transferred to that Establishment.

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
9th March 1868

The Honble
The Comp. Genl

Memo'

With reference to the two hand-carts transferred to the Colonial Department as per annexed receipt – The Civil Commandant requests to be informed whether they are to be struck off the Dry Store accounts for the last half year, and if so, is their value to be charged against the Colonial Government?

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
10th March 1868

The Honble
The Comp. Genl

Port Arthur
13th February 1868

Received from the Overseer in charge of the Salt Water River farm, this day – Twenty seven (27) Government wether sheep – from the flock thereat on account of purchase at 23s/0d each

sd. H. Mansfield
Meat Contractor

Endorsement

The Civil Commandant

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Endorsement

Forwarded to the Assistant Commissary General with the Civil Commandant's compliments. –

sd. J. Boyd
11th March 1868.

Endorst. On Return of Indian Convicts maintained at Port Arthur to 31st Decr. 1867

Completed as requested
sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
10/3/68

The Honble
The Comp. Genl

Memo'

The annexed Memo' shews the advantage to the public of issuing Salt Beef to the Prisoners according to the Regulations – viz – once a week – which could not be done without giving rise to great complaint by the Contractor, if the Government Cattle were to be slaughtered and issued by the Commissariat Department – Hence the expediency of disposing of the Cattle to the Contractor. -

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
11th March 1868

The Honble
The Comp. Genl

Port Arthur
11th March 1868

Memo'

Comparative statements shewing the difference of cost between one day's issue of Fresh Meat with Barley, and one days issue of Salt Beef with Peas, for Rations to the Effective classes of Prisoners at Port Arthur who

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who only are allowed to receive Salt Beef according to Regulations

<u>Fresh Meat</u>	<u>£</u>	<u>S</u>	<u>D</u>
356 Rations equal to			
210 12/16 lbs Fresh Meat @ 5s½	4	16	7
11 2/16 lbs Barley @ 3s 1/8	"	2	10¾
Total	£4	19	5¾

<u>Salt Beef</u>	<u>£</u>	<u>S</u>	<u>D</u>
356 Rations equal to			
210 12/16 lbs Salt Beef at 20s/6d	2	15	10
22 4/16 lbs Peas at 2½	"	4	7½
	£3	0	5½
Difference	£1	19	0¼
Total	£4	19	5½

Memorandum,

I request the Commandant will furnish me with a report in the case of the prisoner Aherne and also as to the necessity for the continuance of the employment of the extra Attendant sanctioned during his retention in hospital

sd. W Nairn
Comptroller General's Office
28th February 1868

James Boyd Esq.
Civil Commandant
Port Arthur

Referred to the Senior Medical Officer with the Civil Commandant's compliments. –

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
6/3/68
Endorst.

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Endorst on the preceding

Port Arthur
March 11th 1868

The Prisoner Daniel Aherne per "Emma" continues under observation in the Hospital for Insane & but little alteration has taken place in his conduct & habits; he repeatedly refuses to be shaved, destroys his clothing & behaves in a violent manner: when spoken to his answers are usually rational and intelligent & his conversation indicates no insanity.

He is a very powerful & treacherous man & requires constant watching & I consider it necessary that the services of the extra Attendant be retained during the time this prisoner is an inmate of the present building – owing to the absence of a separate yard for exercising such characters & the presence of another man (Isaac Walker) under observation, equally treacherous and violent.

sd. Geo Denham
S.M.O.

The Civil Commandant

Note in margin:
Pay @ 2s/- per diem
From 1st to 10th March
1861 - £1-0-0

Forwarded to the Comptroller General – I quite concur with the Senior Medical Officer.

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
11th March 1868

Endorst on Constable Geo. Selwoods application for £1. stated to be due him by the [indecipherable].

Forwarded to the Comptroller General Constable Selwood is anxious to leave the

Written across previous text:

Forwarded to the Asst. Commist Genl

sd. W Nairn
Comp. Genl
17/5/68

The sum of one pound was credited to the public in April 1861 – as unclaimed pay due to Constable Geo Selwood – who is now called upon to explain why this sum has not been hitherto claimed.

Commissariat Tasmania
Hobarton 18th March 1867
sd. Henry Bartlett
A.C.G.

The Comp. Genl

Referred to the Commandant
sd. W Nairn
19/3/68

Eagle Hawk Neck
Tasman's Peninsula

I beg to state for the information of the A.C.Genl that my motive for not applying for this pay sooner, was thro' the unfortunate circumstance of having recd a sentence in March 1861 - consequently until recently I had no authority for making the claim.

sd. G.N. Selwood
Explanation

The Civil Commandant

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[Note]

The following is written in the margin:

“Explanation of Geo. Felwood herewith as requested – his statement is quite correct”

the £1 due to him as mentioned within from the Commissariat.

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
12th March 1868

The Honble
The Comp Genl

Respecting Francis Fayerman's [per “Gilmore”] discharge to Freedom.

This man has been an invalid for several years & is not in a fit state of health to earn his livelihood.

I recommend that he be invalided.

sd Geo Dinham

Medical Officer
13/3/68

The Civil Commandant

Endorsed above.

Submitted and recommended that this man, Francis Fayerman, whose sentence of 10 years Penal Servitude passed at the L.C. Hobart Town on the 28th January 1858, and 15 months probation ordered 27th March 1867 has been completed, may be admitted to the Pauper Depot at Port Arthur as he appears by the report of the Senior Medical Officer to be incapable of earning his livelihood.

sd, J. Boyd
14/3/68

The
Comp General

[Page 558]

Correspondence respecting Constable J.W. Barker returned to the Inspector of Police Hobart 14th March 1868.

Memo –

The annexed Draft of Return of Colonial Paupers maintained at Port Arthur 1867 is submitted for examination. the totals will be completed after the Return has been checked.

sg J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
14/3/68

The Honble
The Comp Genl

Endorsed on Overseer Gibbon's report respecting Mr. Mansfield's geese damaging the Potato crop at Safety Cove Farm.

Memo

Will Mr. Mansfield oblige the Commandant by causing his geese to be kept out of the public crops which they are damaging as shown by the enclosed report.

By attending to this further complaint and trouble will be avoided.

sg. J. Boyd
16/3/86

Mr. Mansfield
Safety Cove

[Page 559]

Endorsmt on Memo as to whether any of the undermentioned Indian Convicts were maintained in Hospital during 1867.

J.W. Bloomfield – per “Hoagley” – E.U. Livest “Waterlilly” – T. Ryan “Shamrock” – W. indecipherable “Saxon”.

None of them were Hospital Patients during the year.

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
19/3/68

The Honble
The Comp Genl

Memorandum

The Civil Commandant has to recommend that Mr. John Napier, now employed as Constable at this Establishment, may be appointed Senior Constable vice Phelan who has resigned that Office.

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
20th March 1868

The Honble
The Comp Genl

Memo

As the authority for employing James Padfield as Foundry man on pay for 3 months will expire on the 31st inst, and there being no prisoner competent to perform that description of labour at Port Arthur, the Civil Commandant has the honour to recommend that Padfield's present rate of pay of 2/- per diem with a personal ration may be continued until further orders.

sg. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
20/2/68

The Honble
Comp Genl

[Page 560]

The Civil Commandant has the honour to request the continuance of the pay etc to Francis Harris as Plumber at this Establishment, until further orders.

The authority received on 30th Sept last for six months from 1/9/67 has expired, but as there is no prisoner here capable of performing that kind of Mechanical labour, the Commandant has retained Harris's services – there being a considerable quantity of piping yet to lay down for waterways, besides repairs which are constantly requiring to be done.

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
20th March 1868

The Honble
The Comp. Genl

Memo

Annexed hereto are the refund abstracts of forfeited monies for the half year ended 31st December, 1867.

It is desirable that all Abstracts transmitted from time to time for refund monies since Dec 1864 may be paid as soon as possible.

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
21st March 1868

~~The Honble
The Comp Genl~~

The Assistant
Com Genl
H Town

Port Arthur
21st March 1868

Sir,

I have the honour to enclose herewith an address to the Governor touching the late

[Page 561]

late diabolical attempt made at Sydney to assassinate H.R.H. the Duke of Edinburgh.

The address has been signed by all the employees on Tasman's Peninsular and I have to request that you will be good enough to lay it before His Excellency.

I have the honour to be
Sir
Your most obedt Servt
sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant

The Honble
The Comp. Genl

Francis Fayerman per "Gilmore"

The Commandant is requested to report how long the man has been unfit to earn his livelihood as reported by the Senior Medical Officer.

sd W. Nairn
Comp General's Office
17th March 1868

Endorst

Fayerman was admitted into the Hospital and invalided in April 1858. He has been incapable of any ~~appropriate~~ labour since that time.

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
23/3/68

NOTE

The following is overwritten and the last two paragraphs:

"From my knowledge of this man's condition and judging from the entries in Medical Registers he has been unable to earn his livelihood since the year 1858.

sd. Geo Dinham
S.M.O.
25/3/68

The Civil Commandant"

The Honble
The Comp Genl

Memorandum

The Civil Commandant presents his complements to Messrs Belbin & Dowdell and in reply to their letter of the 17th inst. begs to inform them that he will

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will be glad to meet their wishes as far as he can: but previous to the receipt of that communication, a considerable number of rails have been split.

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
25th March 1868

Messrs Belbin & Dowdell
Merchants
Hobart Town

Memorandum

Will the Comptroller General be so good as to inform the Civil Commandant whether the timber referred to in the accompanying letter of the Honble the Colonial Treasurer is to be supplied before the two urgent orders for the Military Barracks dated respectively the 19th Novr 1867 & the 3rd Feby 1868.

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
25th March 1868

The Honble
The Comp. Genl.

Endorsed on paper Record [No. 5642] of Andrew Sanderson per "Black Swan".

This man is found to be identical with Andrew Sanderson per "Lady Franklin".

Tried Leisterton 25/3/34 – 7yrs.

Sydney S.C. 18/5/39 – 15 yrs Highway Robbery

Hobart S.C. 22/10/46 – Housebreaking – Acquitted

Launceston 6/7/48 – 15yrs Assault & Robbery

Police No. 14,202 - His original police record is requested to be sent to Port Arthur.

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
28/3/68

The Honble
The Comp Genl

[Page 563]

Copy
Port Arthur
25 March 1868

Received on board the barge "May Queen" for and on account of Mr J Oldburn of Hobart Town, and [indecipherable] the undermentioned timber

4	Beams	32	18	12	2304	Sap feet
2	"	41	14	14	1339	"
1	"	30	14	10	350	"
1	"	29	14	10	338	"
1	Plank	37	9	4	111	
		Total			4442	

Sd W. Nichols
Master

The Civil Commandant

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4442-8 at 4/6 per foot
£9:19:11 ½ say £10-

Cheque recd on a/c £10

balance as before on 5/2/68 to W Oldburn's favor £3:4:0

C.C. 26/3/68

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Endorset. paper record (No 25,551) of James Cummings as Jas. Cummings Walker per "Fairlie"

This man was received at Port Arthur as Jas. C. Hill per "Heather Bell" Free to Colony on the 17th Feby. 1858 under sentence of 6 yrs P.S. from Oatlands S. Ct. passed on 30/12/57 for Uttering a forged cheque.

His Police Record is requested to be completed or the original one sent to Port Arthur.

Sd J. Boyd
Civil Commandant

The Honble
The Comp Genl

Margin Note: Date 21/3/68 & countersigned by Bank.

Memo

The Civil Commandant presents his complements to the Assistant Commissary General in charge and encloses herewith a cheque drawn by Mr Thos. Oldham upon the Commercial Bank of Hobart Town for £10 on account of Timber supplied to him of which a Return has been furnished.

sd J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
28/3/68

The Asst Commissary General

Margin Note: Trousers-blue cloth
pairs 34
Shirts-blue
No 31
Caps-blue cloth
No 9

Memo

Will the Asst Commiss. General have the goodness to cause a receipt to be furnished for the articles of clothing which have been issued from the public Stores at this place to Constables during the year 1867, & paid for by them in order that they may be struck off the Dry Store a/c's for the half year ended 31st Decr. last.

sd J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
28/3/68

The Asst.
Commissary General
etc.

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Port Arthur
28th March 1868

My dear Colonel

The Woods, duly packed ready for shipment, were forwarded according to promise on Monday last and directed to be left at the Commissariat Store for you. I hope therefore you received the case safely, in time to send by Capt. Ogilvy whose name I observed amongst the list of passengers by the Southern X on Wednesday last.

The name of each wood was written upon it, but I regret that the shortness of the notice prevented one from procuring satisfactory specimens of Dogwood, Sassafras, Peppermint & Silver Wattle.

The charge for labor & material will be 7s/6p.

I remain
Yours very truly
sd J. Boyd.

Lt. Colonel Crawford
New Town

Margin Note: Form – Statement of money paid over to the Collector of Internal Revenue.

Memo

Will the Assistant Colonial Treasurer have the goodness to furnish the Civil Commandant with a supply of printed forms as per margin in order to enable him to remit to the Colonial treasury the amount of a fine paid during the present month at Port Arthur.

sd J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
31/3/68

The Asst. Colonial Treasurer
Hobart Town.

[page 567]

Endorset. on letter of Thos. Reynolds (an inmate of the Pauper Depot Hobart) for employment at Port Arthur.
Reynolds has only one arm and is altogether a most undesirable man for the Constabulary.

sd J. Boyd
1st April 1868.

The Comp. General

H.M.Hospital
Port Arthur
April 4th 1868.

Memo

There is no Brandy in the store for the use of the sick; the supply has exhausted some days ago & the Schooner has brought none from Hobart Town this trip.- the Medical Officers have been anxiously expecting a supply of Brandy- it is urgently required.
The supply of medical comforts is usually very irregular, & often fails- a large stock should be kept on hand at Port Arthur to meet any emergency.

sd Geo. Dinham
S.M.O.

The Civil Commandant

Forwarded to Assistant Commissary General Bartlett with the Civil Commandant's Compliments.

sd J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
4/4/68.

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Memo

The Commissariat Storekeeper is informed with the Commandant's compliments that the Schooner Harriet will sail for Hobart Town on Monday morning next – weather permitting.

sd J.C.Tapp
C.Clerk Port Arthur
Saturday, 4/4/68.

The Comm. Storekeeper
Port Arthur

Endorset. on application from the Sheriff to be furnished quarterly with a return of Colonial prisoners (Separate Treatment & ineffective men excluded) who have not more than 4 yrs to complete of their sentences

Return for the quarter ending 31st March 1868 is herewith forwarded.

sd J Boyd
Civil Commandant
3/4/68

The Honble
The Comp. Genl.

Endorset. on copy from Senior Medl. Officer respectg. Danl. Aherne per "Emma"

Forwarded for the information of the Comptroller General. The additional paid Attendant appointed for the special care of this man has been discontinued from the 1st. inst. inclusive. Aherne is at present in Solitary Confinement for "disobedience of orders".

sd J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
4/4/68

The Honble
The Comp. Genl.

[page 569]

Port Arthur
8th April 1868

My dear Sir,
Your letter of the 30th ulto. and accompanying case of Passover Cakes were duly received and handed over to Lazarus and Woolf as requested.
It has always afforded me satisfaction to meet your wishes in reference to the unfortunate men, and others, in whose best welfare you have ever taken so deep an interest- they will I know, lament your contemplated severance from them as they have always spoken of you in terms of grateful affection.
Trusting most sincerely, that you may, under the blessing of our Heavenly Father, be enabled to rejoice in the success of the extended field of Ministerial labor which awaits you in the great Colony of Victoria, and with kindest regards in which Mrs Boyd desires to unite.

Believe me,
My dear Sir,
Yours very faithfully
sd J. Boyd

The Revd.
Dr. Goldreich
33 Macquarie St,
Hobart Town

Endorset. on application from Mr H Williams of the Barge Welcome to purchase 3000 ft. boards 12ft. 7"x 1"

I regret being unable to entertain Mr William's offer as no boards can be spared at present, nor probably for several months to come.

sd J. Boyd.

9/4/68

Mr Williams
care of Mr O.H.Hodberg
Hobarton

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Memo.

There being a vacancy E.Peat, an applicant for employment in the Constabulary may come down by the first opportunity, his application having been before & recommended by the Inspector of Police.

sd J Boyd
Civil Commandant
11th April 1868.

The Honble
The Comp. Genl.

Endorset. on application of John Pollock per "Antipodes" - to be discharged to freedom on the completion of $\frac{3}{4}$ of his sentence viz 23rd October 1868.

Submitted & recommended for favorable consideration.
Pollock's conduct & industry have been exemplary since his arrival at Port Arthur.

sd J Boyd
11/4/68

The Honble
The Comp. Genl.

Endorset. on decision of the Governor in Council in case of Edward Wallace alias Richd. Colefields per "Lt. Kennaway 2".

The Commandant requests to be informed whether the within mentioned period of 2 years detention is to include or exclude Task credit.

sd J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
11/4/68

The Honble
The Comp. Genl.

(Margin Note: Forwarded to Town by the Comp. Genl's order.)

Overwritten: Referred to the Honble the Attorney General with the previous papers

sd W.Nairn
Comp. Genl's Office
17/4/68

Whenever a period is fixed for probation for a pardon that period is not subject to any reduction whatever.

sd W.L.Dobson.
18/4/68

Forwarded to the Commandant

sd W.Nairn
28/4/68.

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Memo

As soon as convenient will the Assistant Commissary Genl. have the goodness to cause the "Miscellaneous Return" of payments made by the Commissariat Dept. on the Port Arthur account to be forwarded for the quarter ended 31st ulto.

sd J.E. Boyd
Civil Commandant

The Assist. Com. Genl.
Hobarton.

Endorset. on correspondence from The Director of Public Works through the Honble. the Colonial Treasurer respecting the undermentioned timber required to be shipped per "Harriet" to Hobart Town.

Submitted to the Comptroller General

Margin Note: 6 Tie Beams 43' x 9"x4" (Some pencilled
100 Rafters- 26' x4 1/2" x2" calculations here)
4 Hop rafters 27' x 12" x2"

Under the strong reasons given by the Master of the Schooner for declining to take Deck Cargo; and after conferring with the Assistant Commissary General on the subject, I have deferred ordering the Master to act in opposition to his judgment and expressed objection, and in this view the Asst. Comp. Genl. has concurred.

sd J Boyd
Civil Commandant
11 April 1868

The Honble.
The Comp. Genl.

Statement of Edw. Sweeney per "Tennasurim"
(a Free Pauper)

Edward Sweeney states I performed night watch at the Female Factory & Gaol at Launceston for 5 months and

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and for 7 months at the Govmt. Garden and Swamp. I was sent to do this duty by Mr Irvine the Supt. of Penal Establishments at Launceston. I was not told what rate of pay I was to receive but Mr Irvine told me that I would receive pay. I was then a Pass Holder- it was in the year 1854. Before I went as Watchman I was in the service of Mr Davis alias Pooley a Farmer living at Breadalbane Plains- he also kept the pound. Davies owed me 12/6 wages. I told Mr Irvine of it & he said he would get it for me & send it to the Comp. Genl's Office.

Mr Irvine entered it in the books.

I went to the Comptroller's Office the year following & was told there was no money there for me. When I first went to do watch at Launceston I entrusted to Mr. Irvine's care a diamond worth about £600 which I brought from India with me. I asked him for it several times afterwards & he denied having it. I mentioned this to the Comptroller General several times but never received any answer.

sd Edward Sweeney X (His mark)

Witness
I.L.Hill
Clerk
Port Arthur
14th April 1868.

Endorset. on above.
Forwarded- the man Sweeney is a semi Lunatic. This is the first time I have heard of the Diamond ring and the £600

sd J. Boyd.
Civil Commandant
14/4/68

The Honble
The Comp. Genl.

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Port Arthur
4th April 1868.

My dear Sir,
I beg to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 28th ulto. in reference to the timber applied for to erect a temporary Theatre at the Military Barracks Hobart Town.
You will be glad to know that 9,248 feet of the sawn timber and 26,000 Shingles have been supplied and consigned to the Director of Public Works in whose possession such will no doubt be found.
The remainder of the order shall be forwarded with as little delay as possible; and had it not been for an urgent demand for fencing to enclose the Magazine in the Government Domain the greater portion of the balance would have been despatched to Town by this time.
I may also inform you that some difficulty has been found as to the conveyance of the larger pieces but this I hope to overcome very shortly.
The demand stands on our Books as being for the erection of a Hut at the Military Barracks, but I presume it is the same to which you refer.

Believe me
My dear Sir,
Yours very truly
sd J. Boyd.

Major Maycock Commanding
H.M.2/14th Regt.
Hobart Town.

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Memo.
As notified to Constable McNamara on the 1st inst. his services will no longer be required after the 15th prox. - the Civil Commandant considering, after hearing the evidence given by the Station Officer of the negligent manner in which he, McNamara, was working prisoners under his charge and of his improper observations, also the fact of several previous cases of neglect of duty being recorded against him, -that he, McNamara, is unfit for the duty of Constable at this Establishment.

sd J Boyd

*James Boyd (Civil Commandant, Port Arthur) - Office letterbook, 1866-1869 from Tasmanian Papers, 1821-1877
Tas. Papers 315*

Mitchell Library, State Library of NSW

Civil Commandant
18/4/68

Constable B. McNamara
Port Arthur.

Endorset. on letter from Mr. F. Allison of "Cornhill" respecting a sworn statement of George Martin son to a prisoner under sentence at Port Arthur (Geo. Martin per "Gov. Philip") in which he states- he did not tell the truth at the trial of his Father – for the murder of his mother.

Submitted to the Comptroller General.

sd J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
18/4/68

The Honble
The Comp. Genl.

Margin Note: Thos. Morgan "O. Queen"

Will the Comptroller General have the goodness to inform the Civil Commandant whether the prisoner referred to herein is to be allowed task work credit on the period ordered him.

sd J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
20/4/68.

The Honble.
The Comp. Genl.

Overwritten: Referred to the Attorney General with the previous papers
sd W.Nairn
Comp. Genl's Office
24/4/68

The prisoner referred to is to serve by time & not have credit for task work.

sd W. Dobson
27/4/68

Forwarded to the Commandant
sd W Nairn
28/4/68.

[page 575]

Endorset. on Petition of Patrick Kelly per "Corsair"
Forwarded in accordance with the Comptroller General's decision at Port Arthur on the 11th
inst.
Conduct at Port Arthur good.

sd J. Boyd
CivilCommandant
20/4/68

The Honble
The Comp. Genl.

John Brierly per "Anson"

Memorandum

It is requested that the usual endorsement for this man's sentence to be undergone at Port Arthur may be placed upon his Warrant- which is hereunto annexed.

sd J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
22nd April 1868.

The Honble
The Comp. Genl.

Endorset. on memo respectg a 2nd remission of 120 days in his case.

Richd. McCabe
"Ratcliffe"

This man's case was reported on the 7th inst. in error- the first authorised remission has only, of course, been carried into account viz 120 days - dated 6/3/68.

sd J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
22/4/68

The Honble.
The Comp. Genl.

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Extract from Station Officer's daily report of Establishment dated 22nd April 1868

"No appearance of live stock trespassing in – or of any damage done to the Government Cottage grounds, or at the Church – except horse hoof marks on the flower borders entering the Church – Two horses the property of the Rev. G. Eastman were grazing in the roadway at the rear of Government Cottage".

sd I Aylett
Station Officer

Memo

Forwarded to the Comptroller General with the request that the Revd. George Eastman may be directed to keep his horses on the premises which he occupies in accordance with the rules of the Settlement.

sd J Boyd
Civil Commandant
24/4/68

The Comp. General

Memo

The accompanying amended scale of Prisoners' earnings is submitted for approval with a recommendation that effect may be given to it retrospectively –

Copies of former authorities on the subject are annexed

sd J. Boyd

Civil Commandant
Port Arthur
24/4/68

The Honble
The Comp Genl.

Port Arthur

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Port Arthur
23rd April 1868

Amended Scale of Prisoners' Earnings

Sentences	Rates	Maximum	Remarks			
			Amount of Earnings			
			£	S	D	
Life	1/1 per 9 month	15	0			after 15 years Detention
20 years	1/1 - do -		9	0	0	
15 do	1/5 "		8	10	0	
12 "	1/5 "		7	10	0	
10 "	1/5		6	10	0	
8 "	1/5		5	0	0	
7	1/5		4	8	0	
6	1/5		3	15	0	
5	1/5		3	6	0	
4	1/5		2	10	0	
3	1/5		2	0	0	
2	1/5		1	5	0	

Shorter sentences than
2 years not to exceed
1/3 per month

Endorst on Memo from Mr Belstead C.G.O. requesting copy of Requisition for Timber dated 29th Oct. 1867 required by the Royal Engineer Dept.

Herewith

sd J Boyd
Civil Commandant
25/4/68

C.T. Belstead Esquire
Comp. Genl Office
Hobt Town

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General Order

The Civil Commandant having obtained leave of absence for a few days to enable him to proceed to Hobart Town, the Senior Medical Officer under the sanction of His Excellency the Governor will assume the charge of the several Public Establishments on Tasman's Peninsula until the Commandant's return.

In the several detail arrangements the Senior Medical Officer will be fully assisted by the Station Officer as well as by every other Officer Constable and Stipendiary; and his authority on all subjects submitted to him shall be paramount.

sd J Boyd
Civil Commandant
28th April 1868

General Order

During the temporary absence of the Civil Commandant from the Peninsula, all ordinary reports and requisitions are to be addressed to the Station Officer – Matters of greater importance must be at once reported to the Senior Medical Officer who has been placed in charge of the Establishment until the Commandant's return.

sd J Boyd
Civil Commandant
Port Arthur
25/4/68

Memo

During the temporary absence of the Civil Commandant from the Peninsula, the Station Officer will see that all detail duties of the Establishment are properly and faithfully performed.

Should

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Should he require advice upon any subject of minor importance he will confer with the Foreman of Works, the Keeper of the Separate Prison, and the Chief Clerk; but in the event of any matter of a serious character occurring, the Station Officer must at once communicate with the Senior Medical Officer, who is also the Senior Assistant Magistrate, and be governed by his instructions. He will of course advise the Senior Medical officer in deciding upon any case of difficulty to the best of his judgment.

Should any emergency arise, and the presence of the Commandant be deemed absolutely necessary the Station Officer will request the Senior Medical Officer to telegraph to the Comptroller General accordingly.

Any attempt to escape on the part of any Convict must be frustrated by every possible means. The safety of all boats from seizure by Prisoners being also held as of the utmost importance.

Any Prisoner guilty of insubordinate or mutinous conduct must be at once placed in confinement in the Separate Prison; as must likewise any Prisoner endeavouring to disturb the quiet & order of the Establishment.

Minor offences which may be reported & that do not require magisterial adjudication are to be reserved for the Commandant's disposal on his return.

All works must be urged forward with the utmost despatch.

The Station Officer will receive & carefully examine all the daily & evening reports.

He will report daily to the Senior Medical officer as to the state of the Establishment, & submit to Dr Dinham his daily report Book.

He

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He will approve of any urgent requisitions for Stores or labor – reserving, however, for the Commandant's return such as he may have reason to doubt the expediency of giving his sanction to.

He is not required to visit the Separate Prison.

sd J Boyd
Civil Commandant
26th April 1868

The Station Officer
Port Arthur

Frederick Grimmer "Cressy"

Memorandum,

The Superintendent is informed that this man, whose name appears on the List of Invalids discharged from the Invalid Depot Cascade, to Port Arthur, per Schooner "Harriet" on the 26th inst., did not arrive at the Establishment.

sd Geo. Dinham
S.M.O.
for Civil Commandant
29/4/68

The Supt.
Pauper Depot
Cascade
Hobt Town

Memo

The following memo was superimposed by another message.

1. Original message

The Civil Commandant has to report that he has been informed by Major Maycock Commanding the Detachment of HM. 2/14th Regt at Hobart Town that in consequence of the reduction in the number of the Troops there, the Timber as per margin (*underneath*) will not now be required.

The total amount of both orders is 60,528 feet & 54,000 Shingles, of which 18,312 feet & 26,000 Shingles have been supplied.

Instructions

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Instructions are therefore requested as to whether any more of the Timber in question is to be forwarded. There is a considerable quantity of it cut and could, in some measure, be applied towards the completion of other authorized demands.

sd J Boyd
Civil Commandant
6th May 1868

In margin of above memo

Timber order for "A Hut" dated 19/11/67 and for "Projected Hut" for Military – Hobt Town – dated 3/2/68

2. *Superimposed message*

Will Major Maycock be good enough to inform me whether this timber will now be required.

sd H. Nairn
Comptroller General
7th May 1868

Major Maycock presents his compliments to the Comptroller General and begs to inform him that the timber alluded to in this Memorandum is not now required

Forwarded for the information of the Commandant

sd H. Nairn
11th May 1868

The Comptroller General
Hobart Town

Hobart Town
4th May 1868

Sir

I have the honor to enclose two letters for E. de Tremmerreux – They were delivered to me by the Post Office authorities in accordance with the direction of His Excellency.

It was supposed that letters would be addressed to the Care of private individuals for Tremmerreux and possibly might be improperly detained and it was under these circumstances that the order was given to deliver all letters directed to Tremmerreux to me.

His Excellency is aware that these letters have been received by me and it is at his request that I now forward them.

It will be seen that one is a registered letter.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your most obedt Servt
sd W.L. Dobson

The Commandant

Endorst on above

The two letters herein referred to have been received & delivered to the Prisoner E. de Tremmerreux.

sd. J Boyd
Civil Commandant
7th May 1868

The Honble
The Attorney General

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			Feet
6 Tie Beams	43' - 9" + 4"	=	774
100 Rafters	26' - 4 ½ + 2	=	1950
4 Hip Do	27' - 12 + 2	=	216
80 Rafters	25' - 3 + 2	=	1000
4 Tie Beams	42 - 11 + 6	=	924
		Total	4864

The undersigned agrees to carry the forementioned specification of Timber in the "Welcome" from Port Arthur to Hobart Town, for two shillings & six pence per hundred superficial feet, excepting the last mentioned in the above specification, owing to their weight being too great for the deck of the vessel without there is a greater quantity of smaller Timber that will stow in the hold so as to steady the vessel at sea.

sd. I Williams
Master Schooner
"Welcome"
9.5.68
Port Arthur

Endorst on above

Forwarded for the information and instructions of the Comptroller General.

The within specified timber has been ordered for the Military Huts Hobt Town, but cannot be forwarded by the Schooner "Harriet" on account of its length.

sd. J Boyd
Civil Commandant
Port Arthur
9.5.68

The Comp. Genl

[page 583]

Memo

Understanding that Mr Francis Harris is a Candate for the situation of Messenger to the Legislative Council, I beg to strongly recommend him to the favorable consideration of the Honble the President as a most respectable & trustworthy person who has served the public in various capacities for a very long period.

sd. J Boyd
Civil Commandant

Port Arthur
9th May 1868

Civil Commandant's Office
Port Arthur
13th May 1868

Sir

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 21st ult. enclosing parchment certificate of discharge for Patrick Gabbott from HM 1/12th Regt.

*James Boyd (Civil Commandant, Port Arthur) - Office letterbook, 1866-1869 from Tasmanian Papers, 1821-1877
Tas. Papers 315*

Mitchell Library, State Library of NSW

In reply, I beg to inform you that Gabbott resigned his situation as Constable and left this Establishment on the 6th ult. – the certificate is therefore herewith returned.

I regret that my recent absence from Port Arthur has prevented me from affording you this information at an earlier date.

I have the honor to be
Sir,
Your obedt Servt
sd. J Boyd
Civil Commandant

Lieut & Actg Adjt Howat
HM 2/14th Regt
Hobart Town

[page 584]

Memorandum,

Has a claim been made against the Colonial Government for the value of the 2 Hand Carts supplied in 1867 & shewn as issued in the Dry Store accounts for the ½ year.

sd. C.T. Belstead
for C.G.
Comp. Genls Office
12th May 1868

sd J Boyd Esq

No claim has yet been made by me for the two hand carts referred to, but their value will be ascertained & a claim sent in.

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
13/5/68

The Comp. Genl.

Endorst on Mr Skinner's letter requesting the Commandant to recommend him to the Comp. Genl for an increase to the pension granted him viz. £27-1-5.

The Civil Commandant regrets that he is unable to do anything further than has been done in Mr Skinner's case.

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
Port Arthur
13th May 1868

Mr. H. Skinner
Hobt Town

Endorst on Memo from the Foreman of Works informing the Commandant that since the discharge of Robt. Nicholson per "Nile", a Tinman is required.

Submitted for the information of the Comptroller General.

There may, perhaps, be a Tinman

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at the House of Correction who could be spared for the service herein referred to.

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
16/5/68

The Comp. General

Cascades
14/5/68

Memo

I beg to report to the Civil Commandant that the young Bull purchased from Mr. John Lord last year is not of any service to the Government herd; he will not take the slightest notice of the Cows when in Season.

Under these circumstances I would recommend that he should be exchanged for another; one not of so fine a breed, and about 4 (four) years old would be of more service.

sd. I.N. Luttrell
Supt. of Agriculture

The Civil Commandant

Endorst on above

For the information of the Asst Commissary General, with the Civil Commandant's compliments.

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
16.5.68

It is absolutely necessary that some one competent to undertake the supervision of the Steam Engine at Port Arthur should be appointed – There are 3 candidates, Mr. Joseph Borten, Mr. Jas Grant, & Mr. N.T. Morrison.

I recommend that Mr. Reed be appointed

for

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for a month on trial with pay at the rate of £120 a year.

sd. H. Nairn
8th May 1868

I should like to know if the Civil Commandant cannot make some arrangement which will save this expense.

sd. T.G.G.
11th May

Endorst on above

Looking at the large reduction about to take place in the strength of this Establishment, as recently ordered & that the quantity of timber which can be supplied will be very much less than heretofore, I think it might be advisable to continue the present arrangements- at least for a time- before incurring any further expense.

sd J Boyd
Civil Commandant
16th May 1868.

The Comp General.

memorandum

I forwarded the enclosed paper referring to the employment of an Engineer at Port Arthur to the Commandant with the request that he will report upon the Governor's minute of the 11th inst.

sd W. Nairn
Comp. genl's Office
12th May 1868.

James Boyd Esq.
Civil Commandant

Salt Water River
1/4/68
Recd. from the Station Four (4) cows.

sd H.Mansfield

Mr Cassidy

Forwarded to the Asst Commissary General with

[page 587]

with the Civil Commandant's compliments.

sd J Boyd 16/5/68

23887
15

Memorandum

The Governor has approved of the new scale of money earnings submitted by the Commandant on the 24th ultimo, being adopted, provided all previous promises are strictly fulfilled.

The rates per month proposed in the new scale are understood to be the maximum rates which can be earned.

sd W Nairn
Comptroller General's Office
12th May 1868

James Boyd
Civil Commandant
Port Arthur

Endorset. above

Upon reconsidering this question, I think the better course will be to adopt the new scale from the date of the Governor's approval & not retrospectively - but as the annexed memo' shows that several men may earn more than £10, I would advise that in no case should that sum be exceeded

sd J Boyd
Civil Commandant
20 ~~16~~/ 5/68.

The Comp. General.

Memorandum,
In consequence of the timber requisitioned for the proposed Military Huts at Hobart Town not being now required for that service the

Overwritten of page:
The new scale to commence from 30th June 1868
sd T Gore Browne
Forwarded to the Commandant.

Will the Comptroller General be so good as to inform me whether the sum of £10 may be in any case exceeded. My reason for asking this question is that I understand the Executive Council fixed the amount as the maximum- even for life convicts.

sd J Boyd
3/6/68

The Comp. General.

Under the scale sanctioned by the Governor to come into operation from the 30th inst £9-15-0 is the maximum amount which can be earned, any sums however which may have been earned under the previous regulation are to be paid in full.

sd W Nairn
Comp. Genl's Office
5th June 1868.

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the Civil Commandant has to request authority for the undermentioned Sawn Timber & Shingles, which have been supplied to the Public Works department on account thereof, to be transferred to the services specified below, in aid of the approved demands now remaining uncompleted for the same.

Date when forwarded on account of Military Huts demand of 19/11/67	Description	Quantity	Demand to which transferred
7.3.67	Shingles	No. 11,000	Queen's Asylum New Town, 11/6/67
14.3.67	Boards Flooring each 18x7x1	No. 33	Hospital for Insane New Norfolk 6/7/67
14/3/67	Weather boards each 12x7x1	No 86	Cascade Factory Hobt. Town 9/10/67
26/2/68	Battens 12x3x1	No 430	Day Room Invalid Depot Cascade Hobart

7& 14/3/68

Shingles

No 15,000

Town 13/4/68
Ditto

Sd J Boyd CC 16/5/68

The Comp.General

Memo.

The medicines &co not having arrived from England I have found it necessary to forward a supplementary requisition for drugs which can be obtained in the Colony.
Many of the articles are urgently required.

Sd Geo. Denham. S.M.O.

May 16th 1868

The Civil Commandant

Endorst

Forwarded

Sd J Boyd. CC 16/5/68

The Comp. Genl.

[Page 589]

Memorandum

The convict named in the margin requests permission to address a petition to His Royal Highness the Commander – in – Chief, with a view to obtaining a revision of the proceedings of the General Court Martial before which he was tried and convicted at Hobart Town in September last.

The Prisoner alleges, that he is in a position to urge certain material points in extenuation of the crime for which he is now suffering imprisonment, and to hope for the clemency of His Royal Highness.

He makes this application upon the grounds, as he states, that he has not yet been discharged from Her Majesty's Army

In the margin :-

Jas Lawler "Siam" 2/14th Regt.

Tried Hobt.Ct.Martial 23/9/67

Insubordination. 10 yrs. P.S.

Sd J Boyd CC

Port Arthur

16th May 1868

The Comp. General

Hobart Town

(Copy) 24257

Minute Paper for the Executive Council

Attorney General's Office

Hobart Town 11th May 1868

In the margin :-

*James Boyd (Civil Commandant, Port Arthur) - Office letterbook, 1866-1869 from Tasmanian Papers, 1821-1877
Tas. Papers 315*

Mitchell Library, State Library of NSW

John Power Gvt Boddington F by S
John Clarke F by S
John Press F.S
Jno Howard F.S
Wm Welsh F.S
Jno Mc Phillips F.S
Wm Parker F.S

1 Submitted that the men named in the margin having been convicted of absconding no/credit shall be allowed for task work, nor shall they be allowed the privilege of earning money.

2 That all men hereafter convicted of absconding be not allowed credit for task work, or the privilege

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privilege of earning money.

4 That no man being set at liberty after serving his sentence in case he has become entitled to receive more than £.2., be allowed to draw more than that sum at any one time, and at intervals of at least a week except under special circumstances to be approved by the Sheriff or Comptroller General.

5 That when a Prisoner is ordered to serve a fixed period before being allowed any indulgence, that such period be served by time only.

Sd. W.L. Dobson

Forwarded for the information & Guidance of the Commandant

Sd W Nairn
Comptroller General's Office
May 15th 1868

Port Arthur
May 19th 1868

I estimate the value of the two hand carts forwarded to Hobart Town as follows

One New Cart	£ 4: 10: 0
Second Hand cart	3: 10: 0

£ 8: 0: 0

Geo. Street Foreman of Works

Memo

With reference to the hand carts mentioned in the Comptroller General's Memorandum of the 12th inst and in order to enable the Commissariat to make a demand on the Colonial Government for the said carts, the Civil Commandant forwards the annexed estimate (continued on page 591)

Written in left hand margin:-

Transaction shewn on Dry Store Acct. rendered for the half year ended 31/12/67

Written on right hand margin :- Returned

Written sideways and superimposed over previous text:-

Will the Colonial Storekeeper be good enough to state whether this charge is considered fair & reasonable

Sd W Nairn Comp.Gens Office
22nd May 1868

The carts in question have not been recd by this Department

Sd C H Huxtable
Col. Storekeeper
23rd May 1868

Will the Director of Pc Works state whether he considers these prices fair and reasonable - the articles were supplied to the House of Correction

Sd C J Belstead
For CC 25/6/68

I think the prices fair & reasonable for the class of carts supplied

Sd W R Falconer
Director of P .Works 26/5/68

[Page 591]

estimate of their value from the Foremans of Works, Port Arthur.
The new cart is estimated to be worth £ 4.10.0 & the other £ 3.10.0

Sd J Boyd CC
19th May 1868

Written sideways and superimposed over previous text. :-
Returned to the Commandt the claim to be forwarded in duplicate on the regular form

Sd C J Belstead for CC 26/5/68

Memo

There are none of the forms referred to by Mr Belstead at Port Arthur – It is suggested that the Commissariat make the claims

Sd J Boyd CC
3.5.68

C J Belstead CG Office

Endorst Memo from Comp Genl. Respecting the Estimate for 1869 & 70

The Civil Commandant begs to point out that the present strength of all classes of Colonial Prisoners at Port Arthur – less the 48 men ordered to be removed to Hobart Town & 4 approved for discharge is 247 – this number it appears will be progressively further decreased by future transfers of short sentenced Prisoners to Hobart Town, as indicated by the Sheriff's memo of 27/4/68 to the Comptroller General. – The Commandant has also to point out that the receipt of Colonial Prisoners at Port Arthur only now amount to about half the former number owing to the detention of the short timed men at the House of Correction Hobart Town. It is therefore submitted that 250 be taken as the number on the estimate for 1869 & 70, instead of 300 as shewn upon the annexed memo

Sd J Boyd

*James Boyd (Civil Commandant, Port Arthur) - Office letterbook, 1866-1869 from Tasmanian Papers, 1821-1877
Tas. Papers 315
Mitchell Library, State Library of NSW*

CC 19th May 1868

The Comp. Genl.

[Page 592]

Endorst on Petition of Elijah Elton per "Canton" as Elija Nelmes per "Emily". 1.

Forwarded – the Prisoner Nelmes as Elton has this day been tried before J.K.Lewis Esquire J.P. for making a false statement in reference to his case in this communication & sentenced to 4 months impt with Hd Labor to operate against task work credit.
Warrants & correspondence herewith which it is requested may be returned

Sd J Boyd CC
18/5/68

The Comp.Genl

Memorandum

The Civil Commandant has the honor to request the Governor's approval of the appointment of the individuals named in the margin as Constables in the Convict Department on Tasman's Peninsula

Jas Murray Free to Colony Recommended by the Inspector of police
Sd JB

Robt Nicholson, Nile F by S. Also employed as regulator of clocks
Not seen by the Inspector of Police – completed sentence at P.A. – Is required as regulator of clocks – Is also a most useful man as a Constable.
Sd JB

Jas Austin Free to Colony
Not seen by Inspector of Police = but strongly recommended to the Commandant – Is in every way suitable for this office,
Sd JB

Duncan Mc Phee Free to Colony
Not seen by the Inspector of Police – appointed 26/3/68 Governor's instruction dated 4/4/68 –
Had been as Constable previously – Character good
Sd JB

Sd J Boyd CC
16th May 1868

The Comptroller General

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Endorst on preceding Memo'
Have these men been furnished with a recommendation from the Inspector of Police in accordance with the terms of the Governors instructions of the 4th ult.? It is requested that this information may be given on all future memoranda submitting names for approval

Sd W Nairn Comptroller General
19th May 1868

Information respecting these 4 constables given under their respective names - I have not understood that his Excellency intended that every candidate for office at Port Arthur should be recommended by the Inspector of Police – but merely as a rule – It will be necessary that I still retain a discretionary power as to the appointment of persons to the subordinate situations on this peninsula in order that the various duties may be duly & promptly provided for, and this I trust will not be otherwise than in accordance with the spirit of the Governor's instructions

Sd J Boyd CC
21st May 1868

Written sideways and superimposed on above text

I can have no objection to the Civil Commandant appointing any one he thinks proper, but I desired to protect him from the appointment of doubtful men by requesting the inspector of Police to give his approval before any man is sent to Port Arthur from Hobt.Town

Sd Gore

Forwarded for the information of the Commandant- The Governor approves of the appointment of these persons

Sd C J Belstead for C.G. Compt.Gen Office
2/6/68

In the margin :-

Martin Canby as Camley :Ld Auckld"
J—Ryan as [indecipherable] - "Equestrian"
Jas Nash "Blenheim"
J—Settle as Little " Surrey"
Morris Bishop " Bordaster"
John Franklin as Gard "Cressy"
Fredk Molloy as Cac—"Montagne"
Henry Simpson Sn G Seymour
Jas Smith " Tortoise"
The Comp.Genl

Memorandum

The Civil Commandant has the honor to report that in compliance with the instructions of the Comptroller General dated the 28th ult – he has this day forwarded to the house of Correction for Males Hobt.Town per schooner " Harriet " and under a guard of a Constable, 10 prisoners none of whom are under separate treatment restrictions and

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and who have not more than 4 years of their respective sentences to complete.
The names and ships of these men are given in the margin and the warrants under which they are held have been transmitted with them to the Keeper of the Establishment

Sd J Boyd CC
23rd May 1868

Expenditure Return of 1867
Memorandum

In order to expedite the preparation of the above mentioned return – The Civil Commandant will be glad to receive the usual Commist Return of Rations. – feed - light & co as soon as convenient

Sd J Boyd CC 22/5/68

The Comp.Genl

Memorandum

With reference to the supply of “ nails shoe stubb ” received per schooner from the Commissariat Hobart Town on the 20th inst. The Civil Commandant would feel obliged if they could be exchanged for others according to the samples furnished – duplicates of which are herewith enclosed –

It will be seen that the nails supplied are much smaller than the samples

Sd J Boyd CC
22/5/68

The Comp.Genl

In the margin :-

Packet no 1 contains the duplicate sample of nails required

No 2 contains sample of nails recd per schooner.

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Expenditure Return of 1867

	£	s	d
April	2	14	3
April	3	10	0
July	0	7	6
Aug	27	11	8
Oct	76	7	3

Memorandum

Will the Asst. Commissary General have the goodness to furnish the Civil Commandant with a list of the several items of Stores shewn in the margin hereof, (and also on the annexed statement marked with red ink) as having been paid for on the Port Arthur account during 1867

This information is necessary in order to enable the Commandant to fix the charges against the several classes of inmates of the Establishment for those stores

Sd J Boyd CC

The Asst Commiss Gen

Memorandum

The Prisoner named in the margin is anxious to know if any money was received from Home for him at the time of his arrival in the Colony by the ship “ Ld Auckland “3

Sd J Boyd CC 23rd May 1868

The Compt.Gen Hobart Town.

In the margin :- Richd Wallace “ Ld Auckland “3

Memorandum Extended Return

*James Boyd (Civil Commandant, Port Arthur) - Office letterbook, 1866-1869 from Tasmanian Papers, 1821-1877
Tas. Papers 315
Mitchell Library, State Library of NSW*

The Chief Clerk respectfully informs the civil Commandant that the estimate of the number of each class of persons for rations, Full & light – also of salaries for 1869 & 70 can be completed during the ensuing week but with regard to the expenditure Return of 1867 it cannot be completed until about the middle of next month (June) – A great deal

In margin :- For Commist computations as to cost of rations

[Page 596]

deal of the detail workings of the Return have been completed & other portions are now in progress. The Commissariat Returns of Expenditure of Rations with their value also of produce of Station applied in aid of the dietary sales &c are now required from the Comptroller General's Office and for which an application was forwarded by last trip of the schooner.

On receipt of these documents together with replies to queries on Stores paid for also forwarded to Town – no time will be lost in completing the accounts in question - no additional clerical assistance is required to expedite the work

Sd J C Tapp. Chief Clerk
Port Arthur 24/5/68

The Civil Commandant

Endorst on above

Forwarded for the information of the Comptroller General with reference to his communication of the 22nd inst

Every effort shall be made to have the return completed as soon as possible.- They have hitherto been usually furnished in the month of July .

Sd J Boyd CC 24th May 1868

Endorst on 10th Elliotts (per Asia) Petition

This man is a semi-lunatic – held under two sentences of life transportation

Sd J Boyd CC

The Comp.Genl.

In margin :- Vide memo with reference to this Petition - on other side

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Memorandum

The Prisoner named in the margin wrote a petition to the Secretary of State some time back which wasn't forwarded as he had not obtained the Comptroller General's permission and also as there appeared no grounds upon which the Petition could have been any possible service to him.

He complains in the petition of not having received a Conditional pardon upon his original Life sentence while several other prisoners who were similarly sentenced had been granted that indulgence.

In margin:- Wm Elliot "Asia" 6. Highway Robby. Sentenced to be hanged. Commuted to Transportation for Life.

He further sates that he thinks the reason he has not been allowed a pardon is on account of his name having been changed from Wm. Johnson to Wm. Elliot on his arrival in England from America.

In margin: Hobt 6/3/49 Asault being armed- Transported for Life.

Many decision have been made in this man's case. He has written several letters to the Lord Bishop of Tasmania respecting his detention – is a semi lunatic and unfit to be at large, and has been under medical treatment for insanity.

In margin: New Norfolk 9/7/60 Assault with intent to carnally know – 5yrs H.L. in chains.

He is continually complaining against some person or other and on a variety of subjects.

The man has latterly become very troublesome about this petition and the Commandant thinks it better to send it to the Comptroller General with his Police Record.

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
26th May 1868

The
Comp Genl

[Page 598]

Endorstd Requisition from the Asst. Commisy Genl for 30 Chests. arm to be made at Port Arthur.

Submitted for approval
sd J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
16/5/68

The
Comp Genl

Endsd on W. Johnson's application for a Fishing Licence.

No objection

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
25/5/68

The
Comp Genl

Endorsd on Outrams Manifest of the " Sword Fish".

Forwarded to the Collector of H.M. Customs Hobart Town with the Civil Commandant's complements.

The " Sword Fish" Captain King, arrived at Port Arthur at 4 o'clock this afternoon.

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
27th May 1868
6 pm

Memorandum

The Estimate for 1869 & 70 shows the following reduction from that of the current year dated 1/7/67.

1 Assistant Overseer	£75. 0.0
1 Warder	18. 5.0
1 Constable	45.12.6
Indecipherable	138.17.6

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Brought Forward	£138.17.6
Allowance for Postal service	9. 2. 6
Apprehending Rewards	20. 0. 0
Convicts' Earnings	100. 0. 0
Paupers' Pay	<u>15. 4. 2</u>
Total Reduction	<u>£283. 3.4</u>

Additions viz.

Indecipherable of Tailors	£45. 0. 0
Tinsmith	60. 0. 0
Plumber	60. 0. 0
Foundryman	36.10. 0
Working Engineer	39.10.10
Painter & Glazier	<u>9. 2. 6</u>
Total Additions	<u>£250. 3. 4</u>

Difference – Total £33. 0.10

1869 & 70 less than 1868 & 69

sd J. Boyd
Civil Coomandant

The
Comp Genl

Endorsed on Abstract of Prisoners' Earnings (Manning & Nicholson)

Received £14.3.2. for the Prisoners specified herein.

sd.J.Boyd
Civil Commandant
29/5/68

The Keeper
House of Correction
for Males
Hbt Town

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Memorandum,

The Civil Commandant has to report for the information of the Comptroller General that the Brigantine " Sword Fish' Captain King arrived at Port Arthur on Wednesday last the 27 inst. with a cargo of timber & palings on account of Messrs. Bilpin & Dowdell of Hobart Town.

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
30th May 1868

The
Comp. Genl

Memorandum

Will the Comptroller General have the goodness to sanction the employment of a paid Tinsmith at this Establishment as there is no prisoner available who is competent to perform the Tinsmith's work required.

The Director of Public Works would probably be kind enough to cause enquiry to be made for such a mechanic, who I recommend, should be allowed pay at the rate of four shillings per working day and a Police Ration.

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
30/5/68

Note: The following is overwritten on the above Memorandum:-

If the services of a tinsmith are indispensable I assent: but I would like to be satisfied on this point.
Will the Civil Commandant report whether the services of a tinsmith are actually indispensable.

sd. C. Belstead
for the C.G.
8TH June 1868

The services of a tinsmith are really indispensable as will be seen by the annexed report of the Foreman of Works – but I only ask for such until the end of September next by which time a tinsmith under sentence will perhaps become available.

sd. J. Boyd
13/6/68

End of overwriting.

Memorandum

The Civil Commandant has to report that he has found it necessary to suspend Mr. Asst. Overseer Joseph McGuinness from his duties for having been drunk and disorderly on the

night of the 27th Inst., and as this is not the first occurrence of this kind on the part of Mr. McGuiness, (who was threatened with dismissal

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dismissal for a similar irregularity on the 9th August last as per Comptroller General's memo of that date) the Commandant recommends that his services may be dispensed with.

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
30th MAY 1868

The Honble
W.E. Nairn Esquire
Comptroller General

Endorst on letter from the Meat Contractor respecting the Slaughter House & Stock Yards at Safety Cove.

As already intimated to the Foreman of Works I wish the erection of a new Slaughter House to be proceeded with as early as possible.

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
1st June 1868

Mr. Street
Foreman Works
Port Arthur

Memorandum

I have to recommend that the man named in the margin may be temporarily appointed Chief Signalman at the Establishment at 2/6 per diem and a Constables ration.

Manning is the only person who is competent to take charge of the very difficult signal post on Mount Communication, at least, until certain alterations in the [indecipherable] thereon, which is now in progress, has been completed. Provision for this expense was made in the estimates for 1868 & 69.

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
1st June 1868

The Comp Genl

Margin:

Chas Manning

I cannot make this recommendation

sd. W. Nairn

End of margin

Note:

There is considerable overwriting this memo which is largely indecipherable

*James Boyd (Civil Commandant, Port Arthur) - Office letterbook, 1866-1869 from Tasmanian Papers, 1821-1877
Tas. Papers 315*

Mitchell Library, State Library of NSW

[Page 602]

Endorst on Comp Genl Memo dated 16/5/86 approving of the man named in the margin being admitted to the Invalid Depot Pt. Arthur.

It is requested that the condition of this man may be inserted on the face of the document.

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
2/6/86

The Comp Genl

Margin: Thos Gayley [indecipherable]
Imp.Funds. Colonial Condtl Pardon

Overwriting: Condition inserted sd. W. Nairn 5th June 1868

Memo

There are five vacancies in the constabulary at this Establishment & eligible men to fill the same are urgently required.

There are also two vacancies for paid Carpenters in lieu of men dismissed for idleness and insubordinate example.

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
3/6/86

The Comp Genl

Endorst on Return of Provisions [indecipherable] at Superior Courts, chargeable to Colonial Fund and who have been maintained at the Imperial Establishment J.A. during the year ended 31st Decr 1866.

The annexed return is transmitted to the Comp. Genl in order that a note may be taken in his office & at Pt. Arthur of the several alterations made in it.

sd. Henry Bartlett
A.C.G.
28th MAY 1868

Forwarded to the Commandant, to be noted & returned.

sd. C.T. Belstead
for Comp Genl
28/5.68
Returned

[Page 603]

Returned the totals have been corrected at Port Arthur & alterations noted.

Sd J Boyd CC 5/6/6/68

The Compt. General

Memorandum

The Civil Commandant has to report that in compliance with the instructions of the Comptroller General dated the 28th April last he has this day forwarded to the House of Correction for Males Hobt Town per Schooner " Harriet: & under escort of a constable – ten (10) prisoners ~~none of whom are under separate treatment restrictions who have less than 30 months of their sentences to complete.~~

Whose names & ships are given in the margin the warrants under which they are held have been transmitted with them to the Superintendent of the Establishment.

Sd J Boyd. CC 8th June 1868

Overwritten sideways:- Vide Folio 538

Big X covers whole of above memorandum.

Memorandum

Constable Jas Daly is hereby directed forthwith to convey the prisoner named in the margin to the Gaol for Males at Hobart Town per Government Schooner " Harriet: and safely deliver him into the custody of the Keeper of the said Establishment.

The Warrant under which he is held is enclosed herewith
Rationed to and for the 10th inst

Sd J Boyd CC 8/6/68

In margin :- Nicholas Verilla , Free. Under sentence of 14 days Impl

Overwritten in margin :- The prisoner is to be kept as much apart from the other prisoners as possible. He is not to be handcuffed on the way to the Gaol.

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Memorandum

The Civil Commandant has to report that in compliance with the instructions of the Comptroller General dated the 28th of April last, he has this day forwarded to the House of Correction for Males Hobt Town per schooner "Harriet" and under escort of a Constable ten (10) prisoners whose names and ships are given in the margin - the warrants under which they are held have been transmitted with them to the Superintendent of the Establishment.

Sd J Boyd CC Port Arthur 8th June 1868

The Comp.Genl. Hobart Town

In margin :-

Henry Brown " Cornwall"

Thos Jackson "Ratcliffe"

Geo White "Rodney"

Saml Faith or Faithful " L of Franklin"

Patk Grimes "Westmoreland"

Henry Mc Ewen "Aboukir"

Thos Lahey "Pce Regent"

J-- Stevens "Lotus" & "Hindustan"

Francis Watkins "Louisa"

Thos Wells "Norfolk"

Port Arthur

6th June 1868

*James Boyd (Civil Commandant, Port Arthur) - Office letterbook, 1866-1869 from Tasmanian Papers, 1821-1877
Tas. Papers 315*

Mitchell Library, State Library of NSW

Gentlemen,

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 2nd inst. requesting that the "Sword Fish" might have as much dispatch as possible.

In reply, I beg to acquaint you, that every assistance has been afforded to the Master in discharging ballast

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ballast and loading the vessel

A deal of the timber is heavy & of very large dimensions, and has been difficult to handle & store. The weather has also been unfavourable & retarded the loading considerably- still there is nothing to complain of & I have not known any vessel to take in her Cargo faster than the "Sword Fish" on the present occasion. I think you will find that the discharging of the timber will take a much longer time.

I may inform you that your request as to the posts & Rails has been complied with as far as I could.

Captain King says they are of very superior quality - in fact he has spoke most favourably of the whole Cargo and I trust that you may realise a large profit from it. The remainder of the purchase is not much in my way & its removal may stand over for six weeks.

I am Gentlement

Your obedt Servt

Sd J Boyd .CC

Messrs Belbin & Dowdid
Merchants Hobart Town

Memorandum

By this trip of the schooner "Harriet" are returned repaired, in accordance with the approved requisitions of the 31st of March last, 24 pairs mens boots for the Invalids at the Brickfields.No

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No materials for the repairs were received with the boots, it is therefore requested that the quantities used for that purpose & specified in the margin may be returned to the Stores at Port Arthur by the first opportunity

Sd J Boyd CC Port Arthur
6th June 1868

The Colonial Storekeeper Hobt. Town

In margin :-

Materials used

1 ½ lb hemp

4 lbs Nails shoe stub

29 lbs Sole leather

6 oz kip do.

Port Arthur
June 4th 68

His Excellency
Col.T.G.Browne, Governor

Your Excellency

*James Boyd (Civil Commandant, Port Arthur) - Office letterbook, 1866-1869 from Tasmanian Papers, 1821-1877
Tas. Papers 315*

Mitchell Library, State Library of NSW

Will I trust pardon the liberty I have taken in addressing you, I wrote to your Excellency in April last asking for your kind intercession in my behalf to obtain some employments, I received an answer stating you had spoken in my behalf to the Comptroller General, since that time I have been removed from the Cascades Depot in Hobart Town, to Port Arthur, but cannot get any employment from the officer in charge of this Depot. I informed your excellency in my letter it was in consequence of the loss of my right arm some years in a Cavalry Regiment, that I cannot get employment with the Settlers that I was obliged to seek the relief of a pauper Asylum but there is many appointments in the gift of the Civil Commandant which will enable me to save a few pounds to return to my children. I have given some offence to the Civil Commandant and I have no chance

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chance of getting an appointment without your Excellency will be graciously pleased to intercede for me. Had I done anything wrong or committed the slightest crime for the last eight years I would not have dared to write to the Representative of my Sovereign to intercede for me. I am sorry to inform you Excellency that I was a prisoner a long time under the command of the Civil Commandant but during that longtime I was never brought before him. The rations are so small that I often am in want of food; my meat after deducting the bones amount to about one pound 3 ounces per week & I have been ordered by the Civil Commandant to work in the Farm Gang. My only and last hope is in the intercession of your Excellency with the Civil Commandant to obtain some employment. Trusting my respectful & urgent appeal to the representative of my Sovereign will not be in vain

I remain most respectfully
Sd Thomas Reynolds
Free Invalid
Port Arthur

P.S. Will you Excellency be pleased to answer my request

Referred to the Commandant
Sd T. Gore Browne June 5th

Endorst above.

The writer of this letter is well known to the Police as "Wingy Reynold" he is unfit for the duties of a Constable, but I will try & find some other situation for him, & this he has been told.

Sd J Boyd CC 6/6/68

His Excellency the Governor.

[Page 608]

Endorst. on letter from the Very Revd Dean Maguire Catholic Chaplain respecting the contemplated removal of his Sacristan (Saml. Chalks per Fairlie) to Hobart Town

Submitted the man referred to by the Very Revd Dean Maguire is Saml Chalks per "Fairlie" who is one of the 48 Prisoners ordered to be transferred to the House of Correction Hobart Town – He is the only man that I know of who is competent to assist the R.C. Clergyman in the celebration of Divine Service-

Sd J Boyd CC 6/6/68

The Comp.Genl

Endorst on a letter written by Wm Curtis per "Anson" addressed to J.D.Balfe Esq .M.H.A
Hobt Town
Forwarded to the Comptroller Generl – The Prisoner Curtis has this day been tried before
Geo Denham Esq J.P. & sentenced to 14 days. Solt Conft for misconduct in making false &
malicious statements in this letter against the Foreman of Works & the paid mechanics at Port
Arthur

Sd J Boyd CC Port Arthur 8/6/68

The Compt. Gen.

In margin :- not sent at present the Comp.Genl having gone to Melbourne.
Sent 16/6/68

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Port Arthur
10th June 1868

Sir

I Have the honor to enclose herewith Caption of an inquest held by me at the Public Office
this day on view of the body of the Prisoner named in the margin who was accidentally killed
by the falling of a tree at Long Bay Tasman`s Peninsula where he was employed at work
procuring firewood yesterday. Tuesday the 9th inst.

I have the honor to be Sir
Your most obedt Servt
Sd Geo Denham
Coroner.

The Registrar Births, Deaths & Marriages
Hobart Town

Memorandum

Will the Comptroller General have the goodness to cause the remainder of the sawn timber
purchased by Mr Thos Oldham in May 1867 to be removed as soon as possible , as it is an
inconvenience & blocks up the grounds of the Station.

The greater part of the timber is of very large dimensions, & if not required by Mr Oldham ,
might be advantageously recut & applied towards completing outstanding demands from the
Royal Engineer & Public Works Dept.

It has not yet been paid for - the practice in this purchase being to pay for the timber as it is
removed

At the rate which the other large timber, of similar dimensions, has

The Comp General

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has been removed by Mr Oldham it will take upwards of twelve months to clear away the
beams referred to – meanwhile they will become much deteriorated in quality by long
exposure to the weather & perhaps not removed at all by the purchaser

sd J Boyd CC
10th June 1868

The Senior Medical Officer presents his compliments to the Civil Commandant and would feel obliged by his telegraphing to the Asst Com Genl requesting him to forward the drugs with as little delay as possible, as they are most urgently required
As any loss by breakage will entail much trouble & a renewal of the requisition it would be better to have them landed at Port Arthur & so avoid the risk of conveyance over land

Sd Geo Denham S.M.O.
June 12th 1868

The Civil Commandant

In margin:- Complied with sd J.B. 12/6/68

The stock of spirits – Brandy & Rum – is almost exhausted – there is none for issue this inclement weather – a very small quantity is held in reserve for any emergency

Sd Geoo Denham
June 12th 1868

The Civil Commt

Endorst above
Forwarded to the Asst Comm Genl with the Civil Commandant's compliments

Sd J Boyd
12th June 1868

Reply to query No 7 from Commissioners of Audit in reference to pay of Paupers from 1st April to 31st July 1867 ret'd to Comp. General Office 13/6/68

[Page 611]

Endorst on memo from C.G.O.respecting an application from John Cronin to join the Rural Police

Cronin left Port Arthur under circumstances of a peculiar nature, which render his re – employment most undesirable and of this he is, no doubt, fully sensible

Sd J Boyd 12th June 1868

The Comp Gen.

Memo*

The foreman of works is requested to report whether the services of a tinman are actually indispensable & if so, he will state the description & quantity of work required to be performed

Sd J Boyd CC 12th June `1868

The Foreman of Works
Port Arthur

In margin:- vide Folio 534 for further correspondence on this subject.

Endorst on letter of David Brown per "Hyderabad" addressed to the Revd Mr Storie Minister of St.Andrew's Church Hobart Town

This man is a great schemer & has committed eight offences since his arrival at Port Arthur in May 1866

Sd J Boyd CC 13/6/68

Port Arthur June 13th 1868

Sir

With refernce to your memorandum* of the 12th inst. requesting to know whether the services of a Tinman are actually indispensable- I beg to state that with

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with the repairs required to cooking & mess utensils, lamps &c for Port Arthur, as also , the Out Stations, & the making of Camp kettles, Bush kettles, dishes &c (which are not in store) that the services of a tinman are actually indispensable

Your very obedt Servt
Sd Geo Strutt
Foreman of Works

Civil Commandant

Submitted

Sd J Boyd 13/6/68

The Comp.Gen.

Memo

The Police Records of the 20 men transferred to the House of Correction Hobart in drafts of 10 each on the 23rd ulto & 8th inst. were forwarded with the Return of Colonial Prisoners who had not more than 4 qrs to complete, to the Sheriff for his information, and it is presumed they are now at the Comptroller General's Office as they have not been returned to Port Arthur

Sd J Boyd
Civil Commandant 13/6/68

The Supt ,House of Correction for Males
Hobart Town

Memorandum

The Commissariat Storekeeper is informed with the Civil Commandant's compliments that the schooner "Harriet" will leave Port Arthur – weather permitting – tomorrow morning for Hobart Town.

Sd J C --- c Clerk
15 June 1868

The Commis Storekeeper

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Memo

The Civil Commandant presents his compliments to the Asst Commissary General and has to point out that upon examining the Commissariat Statement dated 8/6/68 of Rations issued & received in the Port Arthur a/c during 1867, the items of Bacon D- & C- require some explanation

The receipt of Bacon by Commissariat as Station produce during 1867 was, as follows :-
lbs

Quarter ending June		1388
do Sept.		1726
do Decr		451
Total	lbs	<hr/> 3565

Whereas the Commist Return gives credit for 4755 lbs. or lbs 1189 in excess

The issues of bacon from Commist to the Establishment for Rations is shewn in the Return dated 8/6/68 as 8603 lbs the issue according to the provision accounts was 7329 lbs as follows:-

To Effective (convicts)	5050
Paupers (Impl)	1045
Lunatics	893
Paupers (Coll)	339
Total lbs	<hr/> 7329 cr

Or 1274 lbs less than the Commisst Return

The Commandant has not enclosed the Return with these queries – but will cause such alterations, as may be deemed necessary, to made in it here, on receipt of information upon the points raised

Sd J Boyd CC 17/6/68

The Asst Commst Genl
Hobt Town

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Endorst a letter written by Wm Elliott per “Asia” addressed to His Lordship – The Bishop of Tasmania.

This man (Elliot) is a semi- lunatic –

A decision haas been received lately that the Governor cannot recommend him for a pardon

Sd J Boyd CC 16/6/68

The Right Revd Dr Bromley
Lord Bishop of Tasmania

Memorandum

The Civil Commandant has to report that in compliance with the instructions of the Comptroller General dated the 28th April last, he has this day forwarded to the House of Corrections for Males Hobart Town, per schooner “Harriet” and under escort of a constable eight,8, prisoners whose names and ships are given in the margin – the Warrants under which they are held have been transmitted with them to the Superintendent of the Establishment

Sd J Boyd CC Port Arthur
19th June 1868

The Comptroller General. Hobart Town.

In margin :-

Saml Morrison "Palmyra"
Jas Lague "Ratcliffe"
Thos Holliday as Dyson " Ld Auckld"
Saml Worthington "Rodney"
Henry Johnson "Equestrian"
Jas Williamson " Westmoreland"
Phillip Burton " D Malcolm"
Ellis Jones "Eden "2

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E.de Tremerreue "Derwent"

Amounts for which he is now undergoing punishment

Obtaing by false pretences	£ 4. 0. 0	from Geo Bezette
Do do	2.17. 6	from Thos Brown
Do do Great coat value	1.10.0	from Geo Davis
Total	£ 8. 7.6	_____

E H Neck 16/6/68

I beg most respectfully to request , the Civil commandant authority to draw funds from the Commercial Bank Hobarton to repay the three persons who cashed for me in June 1866 at Hobarton, the three cheques for which I am now undergoing punishment at Port Arthur

E.de Tremerreue
Per ship Derwent

J Boyd Esq J.P.
Civil Commandant

Submitted tro the Comptroller General
Sd J Boyd 18/6/68

Endorst on memo from Asst Coll Treasurer requested Return of Tas for the month of May

Bi fees – The Returns of forfeited monies are herewith forwarded

Sd J Boyd CC 20/6/68

The Asst Colonial Treasurer
Hobart Town

[Page 616]

Memorandum

The prisoner named in the margin requests permission to write to the Honorable the Executing Council, their Honors the Judges and the Lord Bishop of Tasmania, respecting his detention at Port Arthur

His Police Record, to which is attached the decisions in his case, is herewith forwarded

Sd J Boyd CC 20th June 1868

The Comp.Genl

In margin :-
Wm Elliott "Asia"6
J of L Life , Under special detention

Memorandum

Will the Commandant be good enough to report upon Mr Wright's application stating at what price per thousand the hop poles could be delivered at the wharf in Hobart Town

Sd C.J.Belstead for C.G.
Comptroller General's Office
12th June 1868
Davey St Hobarton 10th June 1868

J Boyd Esq

24259

Sir

I have the honor to enquire whether your Establishment at Port Arthur would supply hop poles to be delivered either in Hobart Town or on the beach of my property at O Briens Bridge. They should be either of tea-tree or gum saplings.

In the event of an answer in the affirmative I will furnish particulars as to size, number &c

I have the honor to be Sir, your obedt Servt
Sd S.P.H. Wright

The Honble, W.E.Nairn
Comptrolle &c &c

In margin :- 12 feet long not less than ½ in diameter
At the top.
If gum must be peeled
5 to 6 thousand required

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Endorst preceding
The hop poles could be furnished unpeeled at £7 per 1000 or £10 peeled.

Sd J C Boyd 20/6/68

The Comp.Genl

Memorandum

Will the Comptroller General have the goodness to inform the Civil Commt what affect the sentences for Larceny and Absconding referred to in the accompanying memo of the Superintendent of Penal Establishments Launceston, will have upon the case of the Prisoner named in the margin, who was received here on the 13th inst under sentence of 8 years Imprisonment passed at Launceston Quarter Sessions on the 19th of May 1868 for Burglary It is also requested that warrants for the sentences for Larceny and absconding may be forwarded

Sd.J Boyd CC 24/6/68

*James Boyd (Civil Commandant, Port Arthur) - Office letterbook, 1866-1869 from Tasmanian Papers, 1821-1877
Tas. Papers 315
Mitchell Library, State Library of NSW*

The Comp Genl

In margin:- Thos Lawler " Elizt Henry"

Memorandum

It is requested that the Police Record of the man named in the margin may be sent to Port Arthur by first opportunity

Sd j Boyd CC 24/6/68

The Comp Genl

In margin :- John Browne, 2, " Ld [indecipherable]", 2,

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Whenever a period is fixed for probation for a pardon, that period is not subject to any reduction whatever

Sd S L Dobson 18/4/68

Memorandum

Will the Comptroller General have the goodness to inform the Civil Command whether the above decision of the Honbl the Attorney General is to have retrospective effects or not as the prisoners named in the margin were informed by the Comptroller General period to the date of the above order that they would be allowed task work credit on the period of probation ordered them, and if so the prisoner first named Thos Taylor per "Red Rover" is now eligible for discharge

Sd J Boyd
CC Port Arthur
18th June 1868

The Comp Genl

In margin :-

Thos Taylor " Red Rover" ordered 12 mos probation for free pardon from 9/7/67

Wm Poole " Eden" ordered 3 yrs probation for free pardon from 24/3/66

John Shackleton " M Hastings" ordered 7yrs probation for free pardon from 24/3/66

Over written sideways:-

Will the Attorney General be good enough to reply to the Commandant `s enquiry 279.68 for the C.G.

C.J.Belstead
Comp.Genls Office
2nd June 1868

The executive order is not retrospective

Sd W L Dobson
22nd June 1868

Forwarded for the Commandant`s information

Sd C J Belstead
For C G 23rd June 1868

Memorandum

Will the Comptroller General have the goodness to furnish the Colonial Storekeeper with the date of the Requisition for two carts supplied to the House of Correction for Males in November 1867? Also by whom the Requisition was made? And by whom approved?

sd C H Huxtable
Coll Storekeeper

Office of Stores
22nd June 1868

Referred to the Commandant
Sd C J Belstead for the C G
23rd June 1868
Requisition

[page 619]

Requisition and authority herewith- the same being correct copies of Telegrams.

sd J. Boyd
26/6/68

The Comp. Genl etc.

Copy
Telegrams
For the Civil Commandant.

Have you any go-carts that you can spare -if so - send two or three by Schooner Harriet and charge against the Gaol.

signed The Superintendent of Public Works
21st November 1867.

To the Comptroller General

The Director of Public Works requests some hand-carts to be sent and charged to the Gaol - May I comply?

signed J. Boyd
J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
22nd November 1867.

For the Civil Commandant,

Yes, if they can be spared.

signed C.J.Belstead
Hobart Town
22nd Nov. 1867.

Endorset. on recommendation of Mr Griffiths for Mr T. Bullock to be mate of H M "Harriet" vice Mr Thos. Garde transferred to the Commissariat Dept.
Submitted & recommended

sd J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
27/6/68

The Comp. Genl. etc.

[page 620]

Endorset. on letter from Mr. Thos. Garde respecting his transfer from the Convict to the Commissariat Dept.

Submitted and recommended that Mr Garde's services in the Government Schooner may be secured to him.

sd J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
27th June 1868

The Comp. Genl. etc.

Civil Commandant's Office
Port Arthur
27th June 1868.

Sir, I have the honor to report for your information that I have hitherto found it impracticable to forward any more of the 47 prisoners ordered to be transferred to the House of Correction at Hobart Town than those sent up.

28 have been removed, at very considerable inconvenience to the operations of this Establishment, from the fact of their all being well conducted and to a certain extent trustworthy men, and also owing to their being mostly employed in situations for which it has been very difficult to find suitable prisoners.

12 others will be forwarded by the next trip of the Schooner, making in all 40 - the remaining 7 I cannot spare, as they are occupied in works & duties for which I am at present unable to find suitable successors.

I enclose a list of their names and employments.

I would further beg to again

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again draw attention to my letter addressed to you on the 29th May 1867 which had special reference to this subject generally; and I can only now reiterate in the strongest manner the opinions therein

expressed which have been confirmed- seeing that during the present week I have been obliged to employ a force of between 30 and 40 short sentenced men in the bush, day and night, for the purpose of assisting the Constables to search for and recapture a dangerous absconder belonging to the Life-sentence class; & of this bush and coast Guard force, some had from 5 to 6 years of their sentence to complete.- A risk which was quite unavoidable, owing to the removal of so many short sentenced well conducted men, and the few of such remaining; and if, unfortunately, absconding should become prevalent in the Spring, as I have reason to apprehend, I am of opinion that the hitherto orderly & efficient working of the Establishment will be greatly interrupted & perhaps seriously disturbed.

In these observations I have not referred to the large quantity of materials due upon approved requisitions, a summary of which I append, nor to the keeping in repair of the numerous buildings for Convicts, Paupers & Lunatics with the large Staff of Stipendiaries at the head settlement and outstations upon this extensive Peninsula- neither have I touched upon the several farms under cultivation & the multiplicity of other works necessary for maintaining the various branches of the Establishment.

In conclusion, I consider it my duty to remind you of the rapidly changing character of the Prisoners sent here

*James Boyd (Civil Commandant, Port Arthur) - Office letterbook, 1866-1869 from Tasmanian Papers, 1821-1877
Tas. Papers 315*

Mitchell Library, State Library of NSW

[page 622]

here who are now mainly composed of long sentenced very bad characters, not a few being without any hope of release, & of men marked by general infirmity, old age & imbecility-incapacitating them for effective labor.

Under these circumstances I earnestly submit that it is most inexpedient to remove any more of the short sentenced Prisoners.

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your most obedt. Servt.
sd J. Boyd
Civil Commandant

The Comptroller General etc
Hobart Town

Names of Prisoners who have been ordered to be removed to Hobart Town shewing also their employment. etc.

Name	Ship	Employment
Bryant Willm.	W.Jardine	Agricultural Instructor & Seedman at Salt Water River Farm
McDonald Jas.	"	The only Blacksmith & Farrier who can be trusted
Westmoreland Jn Smith Wm	Rodney P.Bom	The only Brickmaker on the Peninsula Signalman at Salt Water River Station and cannot be replaced
Mellor Jn	Aboukir	Signalman at "Signal Hill" & cannot be replaced
Pickers Wm	Dromedary	A shipwright-& the only man available for repairing the Guard Boats at Woody & [indecipherable] Isls.
Pollock Jn	Antipodes	Attendant at the Library, Writer & Organist for the Roman Catholic Service.

27th June 1868

Port

[page 623]

Port Arthur
27th June 1868

Return of Sawn & Split timber etc required to complete requisitions from Hobart Town on the above date.

Sawn Timber	Superficial feet	90,348
Shingles	No.	118,000
Palings 6 feet long	"	5,000
Fencing dressed	Feet	600
Gutter tiles	No.	400
Helves for stone Hammers	"	50
" " Mauls	"	50
Buckets Water	"	12
Tubs urine- large & small	"	71

*James Boyd (Civil Commandant, Port Arthur) - Office letterbook, 1866-1869 from Tasmanian Papers, 1821-1877
Tas. Papers 315*

Mitchell Library, State Library of NSW

sd J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
27/6/68

Memo

The accompanying memorandum is referred to the Senior medical Officer for his opinion as to the necessity of transferring the Prisoner Wm. Worthy to an Out Station as suggested by the Junior Medical Officer.

Worthy is under a sentence of Penal Servitude for Life, for "Intent to Murder"; and as all Prisoners of this class are retained at or near Head Quarters, it will be necessary to obtain authority from the Comptroller General to place the man at either of the Out Stations mentioned by Dr. Lewis.

It is understood that Worthy is very much diseased, and if so, his being removed so far from the Hospital might be attended with inconvenience to the Medical Officers in visiting him.

sd J Boyd
Civil Commandant
Port Arthur
1st July 1868

The Senior Medical Officer
Port Arthur

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Be good enough to send me to-morrow without fail the state of your Commissariat Stores – vizt- the remains on hand last evening after all issues for June are made, all receipts (if any) and all issues for the present month with the remains this evening. Forms are sent herewith

sd J Boyd
Civil Commandant 1st July 1868

Copies to
Mr F N Luttrell
Mr J Leppard
Mr T Cassidy
& the Supt of Agriculture

Endorst. on the Revd Geo. Eastman's application for Joseph Wright per "Equestrian" to be employed as his servant –

The man Wright has been transferred to the service of Mr Church's successor
sd J Boyd
2/7/68

The Protestant Chaplain
Port Arthur

Endorst on similar application for John Crutchley per "Cornwall" –

Crutchley is a Shoemaker and working at his trade, I therefore regret being unable to allow him to be employed as a Servant.

sd J Boyd
2/7/68

The Protestant Chaplain

Memo

Will the Senior Medical Officer be good enough to sanction the issue of half a pint of Porter daily for a short time, to the man William Worthy, who is very weak & appears to have little appetite. He asks for Porter in preference to Ale

[Page 625]

Ale, and under the circumstances I think his request might be granted. There can be no objection to the expense.

sd J Boyd
Civil Comandant
Port Arthur
2/7/68

The Senior Medical officer
Port Arthur

Chas Garfitt "M S Elphinstone"	£0 – 10 – 0	from Miss Nairn
Wm Matcham as Mitchell "Gilmore"	0 – 7 – 6	
Philip Burton "D Malcolm"	1 .. 10 .. 0 0 .. 5 .. 0 0 " 6 " 8 1 " 0 " 0	from Miss Nairn " H. Bartlett Esquire " G R Tyuen Esquire " The Civil Commandant
Total	£2 .. 19 .. 2	

Memo

Will the Superintendent of the House of Correction for Males Hobt Town have the goodness to give to the Prisoners above named, on the completion of their sentences, the amount specified against their respective names.

Cheque for £2. 19.2 herewith, for which a receipt is requested.

sd J Boyd
Civil Commandant
Port Arthur
2/7/68

The Superintendednt
House of Correction for Males
Hobt. Town

[Page 626]

Memorandum

The Civil Commandant has to report that in compliance with the instructions of the Comptroller General dated 28th of April last, he has this day forwarded to the House of Correction for Males Hobt. Town per Schooner "Harriet" and under escort of a Constable twelve (12) prisoners whose names and ships are given in the margin – the Warrants under which they are held have been transmitted with them to the Superintendent of the Establishment.

sd J Boyd
Civil Commandant
Port Arthur
2nd July 1868

The Comptroller General

Hobart Town

[in the margin]

Sam. James	"Blenheim"
John Cooper	"S. Bora"
Geo. Smith	Do
Wm. Jones	Do & "Eclipse"
Henry Beach	"Gov. Philip"
Saml. Harris	[indecipherable]
Thos. Walters	"Asiatic"
as Aron Jones	"Hydrabad"
John Nicholson	"Forfarshire"
Geo. Greenbanks	[indecipherable]
Jas. Hill	"Fairlie"
as Cummings	
Rich. Wallace	"Lord Auckland"
Wm. Matcham	"Gilmore"
as Mitchell	

Endorst. on Petition of Francis Watkins per "Louisa"

Francis Watkins F. by S. "Louisa" Tried L'ton Q S 11/9/65 Larceny 4 yrs [indecipherable]
This Prisoner was transferred to the house of Correction Hobart Town on the [indecipherable]
ult. His conduct whilst at Port Arthur was very satisfactory.

sd J Boyd
Civil Commandant
4th July 1868

The Comp. Genl/

Hobart Town

[Page 627]

Endorst. on Petition of E de Tremerrerc pr. [indecipherable]
forwarded & recommended. The conduct of Petitioner, since his arrival at Port Arthur, has
been, in every respect satisfactory.

sd J Boyd
Civil Commandant
4th July 1868

The Comp. Genl.

Endorst. on petition of Randal Young on behalf of his step-brother John Curtis per "Anson"

Record herewith

The Prisoner Curtis is one of the worst conducted and most dangerous men at Port Arthur.
He is at present confined in the Separate Prison on account of his insubordinate conduct. The

*James Boyd (Civil Commandant, Port Arthur) - Office letterbook, 1866-1869 from Tasmanian Papers, 1821-1877
Tas. Papers 315*

Mitchell Library, State Library of NSW

Petitioner Randal Young was lately employed at Port Arthur as a paid mechanic, and had to be dismissed for idle and improper behaviour.
I doubt very much whether he is any relation of the prisoner Curtis. They were both working at the New Asylum and might have found opportunities of conversing together.

sd J Boyd
Civil Commandant
Port Arthur
8th July 1868

The Comptroller General

Memorandum

Will the Commandant be good enough to have the enclosed Returns ruled and headed in triplicate.

sd C T Belstead
[indecipherable] 4th June 1868

[in the margin] ½yearly Station Returns

On opening the package the Chief Clerk found 2 sheets of drawing paper only forwarded for these forms

[Page 628]

4 more are required as soon as possible to complete them

sd J Boyd
Civil Commandant
Port Arthur
7/7/68

C. T. Belstead Esq.
Comp. Genl.'s Office
Hobt. Town

Forwarded to the Supt. of Agriculture for his information

Mr Luttrell will have observed the large quantity of Wheat and Oats which have yet to be sown at this advanced season.

The Commandant must again impress on him the absolute necessity of his losing no further time in completing the cropping for the year, which, as will be observed is especially backward at Impression bay.sd J Boyd

Civil Commandant
Port Arthur
10th July 1868

The Supt. of Agriculture
Cascades

[in the margin]

Statement [indecipherable] Crop of wheat oats & Hay for the year [indecipherable] of acres sown to 1/4/68 are remaining to be sown.

The accompanying letter from Prisoner Wm Elliott addressed to the Right Revd. the Roman Catholic Bishop of Hobarton is forwarded to the Protestant Chaplain for his perusal and I shall be glad to hear from the Revd. Mr. Eastman whether he sees any objection to this man again changing his religious profession. Elliott is a semi-lunatic and was last received at Port Arthur as a Roman Catholic, but as wikll be seen by the correspondence now forwarded, he

*James Boyd (Civil Commandant, Port Arthur) - Office letterbook, 1866-1869 from Tasmanian Papers, 1821-1877
Tas. Papers 315*

Mitchell Library, State Library of NSW

separated himself from that communion in June 1864 and has since attended the Protestant Services.

sd j Boyd
CC
11/7/68

The Rev. Geo. Eastman
Protestant Chaplain

[in the margin]
CC's memo of 20/6/64 & Rev A Maguire's reply

[Page 629]

Memorandum

In the Return of colonial Convicts maintained at Port Arthur during 1866 John Burns "M. Somer" is shewn as having been transferred to Imperial funds as an Invalid [indecipherable] May. It is requested that the authority for his transfer may be forwarded.

sd C T Belstead
for C. G.
Comp. Genl.'s Office
7th July 1868

Herewith and requested to be returned. The man's name is Jones not Burns per [indecipherable]

sd J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
Port Arthur
11/7/68

[overwritten in the margin at right angles]

The ship is wrongly stated in this memorandum it should have been "Blenheim" 4 not "M. Somer" the authority for changing John Burns "Blenheim" 4 is requested. [indecipherable]

sd M Keira – Comp Genl's Office
14th July '68

Memo

The man John Byrne or Burns per "Blenheim" 4 was charged to the Colony in the accounts at Port Arthur for the whole of the year 1866 & his name was accordingly included in the draft return sent to the Comp. Genl.'s Office for examination. When that draft was returned to the Civil Commandant it was found that the man referred to was only to be charged to the [indecipherable] May – the draft having [indecipherable] corrected to that effect.

sd J. Boyd
Civil Commandant 19/7/68

Note in margin:

Police Record
&
Proceedings of
a board to
enquire into report
upon – Glover's state
of mind –
dated 16/3/64

Endorst on Petition of Jasn Glover per "Emperor Alexander" (a Patient in the Insane Depôt Port Arthur) to be granted his liberty –

The Petition is under treatment for insanity and has been so for the last 5 years –

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
18th July 1868

The Comp. Gen.

Note in margin:
For Schedule
vide next page

Memorandum,

The Civil Commandant has the honor to forward herewith, in accordance with the instructions of the Comptroller General, a revised copy of the Port Arthur Penal Regulations for approval, and to be printed as per Schedule if copies required.

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
14th July 1868

The Comp Genl

[Page 630]

Schedule of number of copies required to be printed

Book Copies of the whole – 50

"Coxswain and Marine" – Section 175 to 196 inclusive 50 copies in pamphlets covered with parchment

"Constabulary" – Sections 227 to 246 inclusive – 200 copies in pamphlets covered with parchment.

"Regulations for Prisoners" – Sections 257 to 317 inclusive in sheets as per patterns A. 50 copies

"Mess Room Regulations" – Sections 311 & 312 inclusive in sheets as per pattern B. 50 copies

"Dormitories" – Sections 313 to 316 inclusive in sheets as per pattern C. 50 copies

"Regulations for Separate Prison" – Section 321 to 359 inclusive in sheets as per pattern, D. 25 copies

"Rules for Prisoners Separate Prison" – Sections 355 to 359 inclusive in sheets as per pattern. E. 150 copies

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
14th July 1868

*James Boyd (Civil Commandant, Port Arthur) - Office letterbook, 1866-1869 from Tasmanian Papers, 1821-1877
Tas. Papers 315
Mitchell Library, State Library of NSW*

Note in margin:
Wm Foster
Equestrian. 1.

Required the services of the man named in the margin as a labourer for a day or two while the weather is fine.

sd. J. K. Lewis
S.M.O.
15/7/68

The Civil Commandant

Text written across previous paragraph:

Referred to the Prison Officer

The man named in the margin is under sentence of Life Penal Servitude & could only be sent in charge of a Constable

sd. Jas [indecipherable]
Station Officer
18/7/68

I regret being unable to sanction this requisition – Forster cannot be employed on loan for any Officer, - being under a life sentence and

[Page 631]

and requiring to be closely watched.

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
15th July 1868

The Junior Medical Officer
Port Arthur

Memorandum,

Note in the margin:
Thos. Lawler
“Eliz & Harry”

The Civil Commandant begs again to draw attention to the case of the Prisoner named in the margin.

He was tried at the P.O Launceston on the 5th Oct 1867 for Larceny & sentenced to 12 months Impt & hard labor – On the 2nd of Decr '67 he absconded, but was apprehended & tried on the 30th April 1868 for the Absconding, & sentenced to 2 years Impt & hard Labor which, under the provisions of the 19 Vict. No. 6, would be cumulative on the sentence for Larceny.

Lawler was again tried on the 19th of May last at the quarter Sessions Launceston for Burglary & sentenced to 8 yrs Imprisonment.

The Commandant would be glad to be infomed if this man is to be regarded as under cumulative sentences of 11 years Impt from the date of his first sentence for larceny, or whether the two sentences of 12 months & 2 years merge into the latter sentence of 8 years.

Warrants & former correspondence herewith which it is requested may be returned.

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
Port Arthur
15th July 1868

The Comp Genl

Note written across previous text.

Will the Attorney General be good enough to reply to the enquiry of the Commandant
sd. W. Nairn
Comp Genls Office
17 July '68

The sentence of Lawler is 8 years from the 19th May

sd. W. L. Dobson
20/7/68

Forwarded to the Commandant
sd. [indecipherable]
22/7/68

[Page 632]

Civil Commandant's Office
Port Arthur
16th July 1868

Sir

I have the honor to represent to you that the view of the Semaphore on Mount Augustus from Mount Communication, is very much obstructed by some trees which grow upon the property, as I am informed of Mr John Chipman at Droughty Point, a locality situated about three miles from Clarence Plains.

If Mr Chipman would consent to the trees in question being felled, the Signalmen could attend and point them out.

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your Obedt Servt
sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant

The Comp. Genl

Hobart Town

Text written across previous letter:

Droughty Point
Aug 7th 1868

If there are any trees on my property which obstruct the view from Mt Communication as stated by Mr Boyd I am quite willing to allow them to be felled provided that the work is done

by free men. – in fact there are men in Clarence Plains who would be glad of the job – I shall feel obliged if the trees are pointed out to me before any are cut –

I am
Sir
Your obedt
sd Jas Chipman

Can the Commandant make arrangements for the work being carried out as asked by Mr Chipman

sd. J. M. Belstead
for C.G.
18/8/68

Note in margin:
vide
Folio 563

Memorandum,

In Pge 563 Return of Colonial Convicts maintained at Port Arthur during 1866 John Burns

Endorst on Special Requisition for Stores dated 11th July 1868

Note in margin:
The numbers demanded have been noted in the column of remarks
sd. J. B.

Will the Commandant have the goodness to state whether these Stores have been demanded from England

sd. W. Nairn 14/7/68

I beg to inform the Comptroller General that nearly the whole of the Stores herein demanded are due upon the requisitions forwarded to England

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandt
16/7/68

Text written across previous paragraph:

Memorandum,
Will the Commandt. be good enough to report whether this demand can be reduced as the Stores demanded from England may be expected by the "Ethel" due I believe in September

sd. J. Belstead
for C. G.
30th July '68

The demand has been reduced as practicable in the hope that similar Stores will be received from England shortly

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
1/8/68

C. Belstead Esq

[Page 633]

Port Arthur
July 17th 1868

Sir

I beg to inform you that the work connected with the New Building for Insane is now nearly completed and that the services of the paid Carpenters who have been employed at that building will be no longer required for that particular purpose. At the same time I beg most respectfully to call your attention to the very bad state of repair of several Buildings on the Settlement, as also at the Out Stations, and unless such repairs are attended to, & carried out, the buildings will become so dilapidated that they will not be fit for use; and as the present available prison labor is not sufficient to perform such repairs with other necessary work, I would most respectfully suggest that two, or three, of the present paid Carpenters be retained for this purpose.

I am Sir
Your very Obedt. Servt
sd. Geo: Strutt
Foreman of Works

The Civil Commandt

Endorsement on above.

Note in margin:
Not sent

Submitted & recommended that, two of the present six paid Carpenters be retained for the General service of the Establishment on Tasman's Peninsula –

Many of the occupied buildings requiring extensive repair.

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
17th July 1868

[page 634]

Civil Commandant's Office
Port Arthur
18th July 1868

Sir,

I have the honor to recommend that Mr Edwin Hawkins may be promoted to the situation of Assistant Overseer vice Mr Joseph McGuinness dismissed.

Mr Hawkins has always been free and has been employed as Constable & Paid Attendt of Insane since the 13th October 1866 during which tinme his conduct has been very satisfactory

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your most obedt. Servt
sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant

*James Boyd (Civil Commandant, Port Arthur) - Office letterbook, 1866-1869 from Tasmanian Papers, 1821-1877
Tas. Papers 315*

Mitchell Library, State Library of NSW

The Comp. General

Hobt Town

Civil Commandant's Office
Port Arthur
18th July 1868

Sir

Note in margin:
Sands Jas.
"Isabella"

I have the honor to bring under your notice the very meritorious conduct of the Prisoner named in the margin, who was mainly instrumental in apprehending the Absconder Willm Elliott per "Asia," 6, at Norfolk Bay on the 26th ulto.

The Convict Elliott is under a Life sentence & a most dangerous character, & as he was armed with an axe, I had offered a reward of £5 for his recapture.

Had it not been for the spirited manner in which the man Sands, who is advanced in years, behaved, I have every

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every reason to believe that Elliott would have remained at large for a much longer period, and have created considerable alarm.

Under these circumstances, & in order to stimulate other well disposed runaways, I have, with the concurrence of Dr. Dinham who assisted me to try the Absconder, to recommend that, the man Sands may be granted the promised reward of £5, to be paid to him when he is eligible for discharge; & further, that he may be allowed a remission of 3 months of his sentence of 4 years passed in April 1866, - his conduct having been, in every way, satisfactory since his arrival at Port Arthur.

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your most Obedt. Servt
sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant

The Comp. Genl

Memo'

Will the Asst. Commissy General have the goodness to cause the Civil Commandant to be furnished with delivery vouchers for the 22 Cattle Hides specified in the annexed requisition, in order to enable him to bring them upon the Dry Store Account during the half year ended 30th ulto.

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
18/7/68

The Asst Com Genl

Hobart Town

[Page 636]

Tasmania

Priced statement of the value of 30 Arm-chests made at Port Arthur on account of the Military Store Department at Hobart Town.

No. of Arm chests made	Price per Chest including labor & material	Total Amount £SD	Remarks
30	7s/7d	11-7-6	Forwarded by Schooner "Harriet" on the 2 nd & 14 th inst.

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
18th July 1868

The Asst. Comy Genl
in Charge
Hobart Town

Endorst on application for Duplicate Returns for the month of May last of Moneys found on Convicts & moneys for safe custody. –

Duplicate Returns – herewith.

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
Port Arthur
18th july '68

The Asst Comy Genl
in charge
Hobart town

Memo'

I am directed by the Civil Commandant to inform Mr. Huxtable that unless he regularly, on the first of each month, furnishes a report of the

[Page 637]

the books in the Church, the Commandant will be obliged to recommend the disallowance of his stipend as Clerk of the Church.

If Mr Hextable finds that he cannot perform his duties without giving the Commandant so much trouble he had better relinquish the situation of Clerk of the the Church & save all further annoyance.

The Commandant requires the report in question tomorrow morning.

sd. J. L. Hill
Clerk
Civil Commandant's Office
21st july 1868

Mr F. Huxtable
Clerk of the Church

Port Arthur
July 22nd 1868
Sir

Agreeable to your instructions I have herin made out an approximate list of Repairs &c required to the Buildings &c on Tasman's Peninsula.

Building & Place	Description of Repair	Remarks
Separate Prison	The whole of the spouting needs to be renewed being completely decayed. Flooring of several of the Cells requires to be renewed as the joists are completely rotten.	
Penetentiary	Spouting to be partially renewed also several of the skylights & the whole of the roof requires to be re-shingled. The wood steps leading up to Dormitoria requires to be rebewed, being worn through in places. Gallery floor to be renewed. cont'd.	

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Laundry	Skylights & Roof requires to be renewed as also the shingling to be repaired.	
Dry Store	Flooring & shingling to be partially renewed and Skylights renewed.	
Commissariat & Provision Stores	Flooring to be repaired. Weatherboarding to be renewed in places. Shingling to be partially renewed also Skylights.	
Hospital	Flooring & shingling to be psrtially renewed. Wash-house floor renewed.	
Settt. Farm	New Dairy to be roofed & fitted up with shelves.	
Church	Window sashes to be repaired.	
Govt. Cottage	Roof of Verandah requires to be renewed.	
Carpenters' and other Work Shops.	Requires to be re-shingled.	
Slaughter House	The Slaughter House at Safety Cove requires to be renewed as the present one is in a very dangerous state.	
Infirmary	Nos. 7 & 8 Wards require extensive repairs or alteration being in a very dilapidated condition.	
Officers' Quarters	Several of these require extensive repairs such as Floors Spoutings roofs Floors &c.	
9 Out Stations	Several of the Store Buildings &c require the Floors Weatherboarding & Roofs repaired.	

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Wharves & Jetties	The Wharves & Jetties at Port Arthur, E H Neck, Norfolk Bay, Cascades, S. W. River & Impression Bay require to be repaired.	
Signal Stations	Staffs, Men's Huts &c require repairing.	
Farms	Carts,. Drays, Ploughs, harrows, Machines &c require continual repairs.	

I have also at the same time to bring under your notice that the works connected with the New Building for Insane is now nearly completed and that the services of the paid Carpenters who

*James Boyd (Civil Commandant, Port Arthur) - Office letterbook, 1866-1869 from Tasmanian Papers, 1821-1877
Tas. Papers 315*

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have been employed at that building will be no longer required for that purpose, but as the present available prison labor is not sufficient to carry out the repairs herein described, with other necessary work, I would respectfully suggest that two of the present paid Carpenters be retained for this purpose.

I am Sir

Your very Obed't Servt

sd Geo Huett

Foreman of Works

The Civil Commandant

Submitted & recommended that two of the present paid Carpenters be retained for the general service of the several Establishments on Tasman's Peninsula, in order that the Buildings may be kept in effective condition, which cannot be done by the labor of the Convict Mechanics now, or likely to be available for such work.

sd J Boyd

Civil Comm't.

22/7/68

The Comp. Genl.

[Page 640]

Memo

The Commissariat Storekeeper is informed with the Civil Commandant's compliments, that the schooner Harriet will sail for Hobart Town tomorrow morning – weather permitting.

sd L.C. Tubb

Clerk

25th July 1868

The Commissariat Storekeeper

Memo

There are 5 fat bullocks fit for slaughter at the farms – will Mr. Mansfield be so good as to inform me whether he wishes to purchase them, if so, what price is he prepared to offer per head. They will have to be killed within a fortnight as the stocks of food available for them is nearly exhausted.

sd. J. Boyd

Civil Commandant

23rd July 1868

Mr. Henry Mansfield

Meat Contractor

Safety Cove

Memorandum

The Civil Commandant has the honour to forward herewith, in accordance with the instruction of the Comptroller General, a revised copy of the Rules and Regulations for the Pauper depot Port Arthur for approval and to be printed as per schedule of copies required.

sd. J. Boyd

Civil Commandant

Port Arthur

24th July 1868

*James Boyd (Civil Commandant, Port Arthur) - Office letterbook, 1866-1869 from Tasmanian Papers, 1821-1877
Tas. Papers 315*

Mitchell Library, State Library of NSW

The Comp General

Hobart Town

[Page 641]

Schedule of number of copies required to be printed.

The whole, as a pamphlet covered with parchment. 20 copies

The whole, in sheets as per A 45 copies

Port Arthur
24th July 1868

Endorsed on Invaliding Form recommending Daniel Murphy to be invalided.

Submitted.
sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
24th July '68

The Comp general

Hospital for Insane
Port Arthur

Note in margin:

James Glover per Empr Alexr
In previous correspondence see folio 563

This man was brought before a Board of Medical Officers and found to be insane. Since he has been under my care I have observed that he has had lucid intervals, but I consider him to be a very treacherous and dangerous character & not a fit person to be at large.

This man can read but cannot write.

sd. Geo Dinham
S.M.O.
July 23rd 1868

The
Civil Commandant

Forwarded to the Comptroller General

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Comt
25th July 1868

[Page 642]

Memo

The signal duties at Eagle Hawk Neck must be performed until further orders by Constables Guyatt and De Fernandee who, for that purpose are to be placed in different guards.

The sentry at the Guard House door will keep a lookout upon Woody Island every quarter of an hour, and if the attention flag is shown there, he will call the non Commissioned Officer of the Guard who will see that the signal is duly taken, reported, & entered.

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
25th July 1868

The
District Constable
Eagle H Neck

John Byrne or Burns per "Blue" (Colonial Funds)

Approval for his being invalided – dated 9/5/66 – forwarded to Comptroller General – by this mornings post.
26 July 1868

Endorsd on Memo requesting the Estimate of cost of rations for 1869-70 furnished by the Commisst to be forwarded.

Herewith

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Comandant
29/7/68

The Comp Genl

Endorst on Memo respecting the name of Constable John Healy appearing in the abstracts for June 1868 & also a person of the same name as

[Page 643]

as Warder in the Invalid Depot – to be infd whether both of these are still at P.A.

Both of these men are Stipendiaries of this Establishment – one is a Constable stationed at Eagle H. Neck & another is a Warder of the Pauper Depot Port Arthur

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
29/7/68

The
Comp Genl

Note in margin:

Gough Rt "Flying Fish"

Request the services of the man named in the margin to make a music stool all materials found.

sd. S.K. Levis
S.M.O.

Mr. Street "Foreman of Works" 30/7/68

Endorsd on above

I regret very much being precluded from sanctioning the work herein referred to.

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
31st July 1868

The
Senior Medical Officer

Memorandum

On the 14th November last I forwarded to the Comptroller General, through the Civil Commandant £5.7.0 the effects of a deceased Pauper named Edward Merrit.

An acknowledgement of the remittance is respectfully requested.

sd. J.C. Tapp
Acct
Port Arthur 1ST Aug 1868

The Civil Commandant

Referred to the Comp. General

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Comt
1/8/68

[Page 644]

Endorst on a Statement addressed to the Right Rev. D. Murphy Bishop of Hobart Town by Wm. Elliot "Asia" 6.

Note in margin:

By permission of Comp. Genl

Forwarded – The Prisoner Elliot is under two life sentences, and has been ordered by the Governor in Council " to be detained for the remainder of his life".

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
1st August 1868

Endorst on Ditto addressed to the Honourable the Executive Council of Tasmania.

Forwarded – the Prisoner Elliot is under two life sentences & has been ordered by the Governor in Council to be detained for the remainder of his life. He recently attempted to escape, and is, in my opinion, quite unfit ever to be at large again.

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
1st August 1868

Endorsed ditto addressed to ~~the Honble the~~ their Honours the Judges of the Supreme Court of Tasmania.

Forwarded – The Prisoner Elliot, is under two life sentences, & and has been ordered by the Governor in Council to be detained for the remainder of his life. He very recently attempted to escape, and is quite unfit in my opinion ever to be at large again.

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
Port Arthur
1st August 1868

[Page 645]

Memorandum,

The accompanying Petition of John F. Morris, per ship “Pest Born”, and who is held under a sentence of Penal Servitude for life, passed at Hobart Town on 9th April 1861, was received by the Civil Commandant on the 22nd ulto. by post.

The document was unaccompanied by any communications to show who sent it.

The petition has been read by the Prisoner Morris, who denied having authorised any person to petition in his name; but states that he was informed by a person named Mary Oakley of New Norfolk, that a petition was about being submitted in his behalf by the inhabitants of New Norfolk.

The first name in the left hand column Morris states, is the signature of Captain Fenton, late Speaker of the House of Assembly.

The Commandant suspects that the petition is in Morris’ handwriting – but much disguised - the style is exactly similar to that in other papers of his writing which are in the Commandant’s office. He therefore thinks it right to forward the petition to the Comptroller General; and at the same time to mention that the Governor in Council directed on the 7th July 1862, that no further petition from Prisoner Morris was to be forwarded.

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
Port Arthur
1st August 1868

The
Comp Genl

[Page 646]

Memorandum

Will the Comptroller General have the goodness to cause the Civil Commandant to be furnished with the information required on the annexed copy of Memo dated 3/1/68.

Note in margin:

vide Folio 436

Also in reference to the case of James Bradley per “Haversham” who was received at Port Arthur on the 1st inst. under sentence of 8 years Transpt for “uttering a forged cheque” and shown as chargeable to the Colony – whether he should not be charged to Imperial funds.

*James Boyd (Civil Commandant, Port Arthur) - Office letterbook, 1866-1869 from Tasmanian Papers, 1821-1877
Tas. Papers 315*

Mitchell Library, State Library of NSW

Bradley like other prisoners was a soldier belonging to HM 2/14TH Regt.

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
5th Augt 1868

The
Comp Genl

Endorst on application of Charles Howard for appointment in the Civil Service Port Arthur.

This man is notoriously addicted to horse stealing & will be better known as to his eligibility to the Commandant than to me.

sd. J. Forster
4/8/68

Forwarded to the Commandant under the report of the Inspector of Police, this man has not been forwarded.

sd. C.T. Belstead
for C.G.
Comp Genls Office
4/8/68

Chas Howard is not eligible for the Constabulary of this Peninsula.

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
5/8/68

The Comp Genl

[Page 647]

Special Requisition in duplicate for 6 English Dictionaries retd. & receipted to the Asst. Commissary Genl. Hobt. Town.
5/8/68

Port Arthur 5th August/68

My dear Sir,

I have to thank you for bringing under my notice the inferior quality of the Brooms last supplied to your department.

The two which you returned for my inspection are certainly not well made and I think the best course would be to return the whole number supplied or as many of them as you wish to have exchanged for better articles.

I have given directions for proper brooms to be made, and if you will be good enough to return those of inferior quality, an equal number of good ones shall be substituted by the next trip of the Schooner. I should prefer this course to reducing the authorised prices.

I remain
My dear Sir
Yours very truly
sd J Boyd

C.H.Huxtable

Colonial Storekeeper
etc.

Memorandum,

There are 5 bullocks which have been stall feeding at the farms on this Peninsula, now fit for slaughter.

They are estimated to weigh on average 560 lbs. and the Contractor, Mr Mansfield, offers £9:7:6 for each of them.

The

[page 648]

The subjoined statements shew respectively the value to the public of these cattle including their hides, suet and offal, i.e. if issued in lieu of contract fresh meat, salt beef or bacon.

By the former the public would gain in the aggregate £23:7:1 upon Mr Mansfield's offer; but if issued in lieu of salt beef the public would lose £2:5:3, while if given to the inmates instead of bacon, the gain to the Government would be £13:13:8.

It may perhaps be deemed inexpedient to adopt the first course, as the issues of fresh meat by the Contractor have already been greatly reduced of late owing to the removal of so many men to Hobart Town.

It would, as shewn above, be better to accept Mr. Mansfield's offer than to supply the meat instead of salt beef.

If substituted for the weekly allowance of bacon, the issues would extend over 14 weeks; and as our supply of roots for the animals is nearly exhausted, we should be obliged to pickle the meat, as the cattle must be slaughtered within ten days.

Under these circumstances, I shall be glad to receive instructions on the subject as soon as possible, in order to prevent delay in slaughtering the animals, and the consequent loss in condition from deficiency of food.

sd J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
5th Sept. 1868

The Comp. Genl. etc.

[page 649]

Value of 5 Bullocks, if issued as fresh meat

Estimated weight 560 lbs each.

2,800 lbs at 45s./10d. per 100 lbs (contract price) - £64.3.4

Add for 150 lbs Suet, the difference between

price of suet at £2:18:4 & fresh meat at

£2:5:10 per 100 lbs –

0.18.9

5 Hides at 13/- each

3: 5:0

Offal for Dogs & Pigs at 7/6 each Bullock

1:17:6

Total Value 70: 4: 6

price offered by Contractor

46:17:6

Gain to the Government

£23:7:1

Value of 5 Bullocks if issued in lieu of Salt Beef

Estimated weight 560 lbs each.

2800 lbs at 26/6 per 100 lbs- the cost of Salt Beef £37:2:0

Add for 150 lbs Salt. the difference between

price of Salt at £2:18:4 and Salt Beef at

2:7:9

*James Boyd (Civil Commandant, Port Arthur) - Office letterbook, 1866-1869 from Tasmanian Papers, 1821-1877
Tas. Papers 315*

Mitchell Library, State Library of NSW

£1:6:6 per 100 lb.	
5 Hides at 13/- each	3:5:0
Offal for Dogs & Pigs at 7/6 each Bullock	<u>1:17:6</u>
Total Value	44:12:3
Price offered by Contractor	<u>46:17:6</u>
Loss to the Government	£ 2: 5:3

Value of 5 Bullocks if issued in lieu of Bacon:	
Estimated Weight 560 lbs each	
{2,650 lbs equivalent to 1431 lbs Bacon at 9d.	£53:13:3
{150 " Suet at 7d.	4:7:6
5 Hides at 13/- each	3:5:0
Offal for Dogs & Pigs at 7/6 each Bullock	<u>1:17:6</u>
	£ 63: 3:3
Deduct ingredients for making soup	<u>2:12:1</u>
Total Value	60:11:2
Price offered by Contractor	<u>46:17:6</u>
Gain to the Government	£13:13:8

Safety

[page 650]

Safety Cove
29th July 1868

Sir

Having seen the 5 head of cattle at the different farms I have to submit for your consideration the undermentioned offer for them viz Nine pounds, seven shillings and sixpence per head (£6:7:6)

4 head to be removed next week, the one at Impression Bay to remain three weeks.

I have the honor
etc.
sd H. Mansfield

J. Boyd Esq.
Civil Commandant
Submitted with information as regards the value to the public of the five animals herein referred to

sd J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
5/8/68
(Margin Note: Please to return this letter)
The Comp. General.

Endorset. on Observations of the Port Arthur Quarterly Agricultural Return for 30th June 1868.

Returned to the Asst. Comp. Genl. with the Civil Commandant's compliments

sd J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
5/8/68

Memo

It has been ascertained that the man calling himself Patk. Daley per "Franklin" who was received here on the 3rd April last under sentence of Life Impt. for an Unnatural "offence" arrived in N.S.Wales in the name of Patrick Handley per "Royal Admiral."

*James Boyd (Civil Commandant, Port Arthur) - Office letterbook, 1866-1869 from Tasmanian Papers, 1821-1877
Tas. Papers 315
Mitchell Library, State Library of NSW*

His former police Record is requested to be forwarded

sd J. Boyd.
28/8/68

Margin Note: Patk. Daley per "Lt. Franklin" L'ton S.Ct . 13/2/68 Bxxxxx of Death commuted to Life Impt.

The Comp. Genl.

Over written :

The Police Record of Patrick Handley "Lt Franklin" is forwarded for comparison with the man Patk. Daley, & it is requested that the Comt. will be good enough to report to this office should he be identified as Patrick Handley.

sd C.T. Belstead
Comp. Genl's Office
7/8/68

The P. Record forwarded is found to be that of the man who arrived here as Patk. Daley. He admits that he recd. a sentence of Life Transportation [indecipherable] on 27/3/35 for Cattle Stg. & that he has been an absconder since 8/10/54. Instructions are requested as to what funds he will be chargeable to, & also whether he is to be tried for the absconding in 1854.

[page 651]

Port Arthur
8th August 1868.

Memorandum,

Will the Comptroller General have the goodness to cause the Civil Commandant to be furnished with prices for the materials and articles specified on the annexed draft in order to enable him to complete the half-yearly returns required for transmission with the Dry Store accounts due on the 1st ulto.

sd J. Boyd
Civil Commandant

The Comp. General

Memorandum,

The Civil Commandant has to report for the information of the Comptroller General that he has confined in the Separate Prison for the present, the Military prisoner named in the margin, on account of his youth; his sentence of 8 yrs. Imprisonment and to prevent his associating in the gangs with re-convicted men.

sd J Boyd
Civil Commandant
Port Arthur
8/8/68

Margin Note: Jas. Brady "Haversham" Hobt. S. Ct. 7/7/68 Uttering a forged cheque 8yrs Impt.

Memorandum,

The prisoner named in the margin requests permission to note a memorial to the Right Honorable the Secretary of State for War requesting a certificate that he was at the Battle of Waterloo & was wounded in that action.

sd J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
8/8/68

Margin Note: John Varley "Wm. Miles"

Overwritten:

Before this application is submitted to His Exc. the Governor I should be glad if the Commandant will ascertain from John Varley his reasons for making the application & whether it is possible that such certificate could be furnished by the War Department.

sd C.T. Belstead
for the Comp. Genl.
sick 12th Aug '68.

John Varley states –

My reason for making this application is, that I am now an old man & I should like to have the certificate in my possession as a satisfactory proof that I was in the engagement at Waterloo & I am quite sure that such certificate could be furnished to me by the War Department.

sd John Varley X (his mark)
Witness J.C. Tapp
C. Clerk
17/8/68

Forwarded to the Comp. Genl.

sd J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
17/8/68.

[page 652]

Memo,

The Civil Commandant has to inform the Contractor that his offer of £9:7:6 per head for the five stall fed Bullocks at the farms on the north side of the peninsula has been accepted. Mr Mansfield will be good enough to remove the four animals at Cascade and Salt Water River as soon as possible- the feed being almost exhausted.

sd J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
11th Sept. 1868.

Mr Henry Mansfield
Contractor for fresh meat
Safety Cove.

Bowden

I enclose Mr Chipman's letter in reference to the proposed removal of those trees upon his land which obstruct the view of your Semaphore from Mount Communication.

I suppose it will be necessary for you to come to Mount Communication to ascertain the precise trees which ought to be felled.

You can consider the matter in all its bearings and report what amount of labor will have to be hired to remove the trees.

Let me have your report as soon as convenient and state when you wish the boat to be at Ralph's Bay Neck to bring you across.
I can send a Constable to take charge of your Semaphore during your absence.

sd J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
13th Augst. 1868.

Signalman Bowden
Mount Augustus

Overwritten:

Mount Augustus
28/8/68

Sir,
I have visited Droughty Point Hill & find that there are about 45 large & small trees that require to be fell, the probable cost of felling and burning off would entail an expense of from £2.10.0 to £3.0.0. Mr Chipman asked me to say that he would undertake to get the work done for £2.15.0.

I am, Sir,
Most Respectfully
T. Bowden
Signalman.

Submitted and recommended that in order to improve the view of Mount Augustus Semaphore from Mount Communication the trees herein referred to by Signalman Bowden be felled and that Mr Chipman, upon whose land the trees are, may be allowed the sum of £2.15.0 for having the work performed – the amount I consider reasonable.

sd J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
31st August '68

The Comp. Genl.

Fourth correspondence filed in the office.

[page 653]

Memo'
Will the Senior Medical Officer be so good as to furnish an estimate of the medicines, Surgical Instruments etc. required for the use of the Establishment for the year ending 31st March 1870.

sd J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
13/8/68

The Senior Medical Officer
Port Arthur.

Endorset. on application of Ferdinand C. Houth to join the Constabulary P.A.
He may come down by the first opportunity- there are several vacancies at present.

sd J. Boyd
13/8/68

Chas. T. Belstead Esq.
Comp. Genl's Office.

Endorset. on Petition of Johannah Deakin on behalf of her husband John Deakin per
"Palmyra"

As requested by the Petitioner I have to state that, the conduct of her husband, John Deakin
per "Palmyra" has been perfectly satisfactory since his arrival at Port Arthur in April 1866.

sd J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
13th August 1868.

Johanna Deakin
at Mrs. O. Meher
McQuarie Lt.
Hobt. Town

[page 654]

Safety Cove
14th August 1868

Dear Sir,
Will you be good enough to cause 4 head of Cattle(2 from S.W.River & 2 from Cascade) to
be forwarded to Safety Cove for slaughter on Monday or Tuesday next.

Yours faithfully,
sd. H. Mansfield

J. Boyd Esq.
Civil Commandant

Endorset. on above

Mr Mansfield, I presume refers to the stall-fed Bullocks which he has purchased from the
Government.
I should prefer that Mr Mansfield sent some person for the Cattle; and if the assistance of the
herd be desirable to drive them to Safety Cove that assistance will be afforded with pleasure.
The Officers in charge of the animals have orders to deliver them to Mr Mansfield or his agent
& to request a receipt for the stock.

sd J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
15/8/68

Mr Henry Mansfield
Contractor
Safety Cove

Endorset. on application of the Commisst. Storekeeper for the Provision Storekeeper to take
charge of the Commisst. Stores during his (C.S) absence.
Approved but the Station Officer must be present upon every occasion of the Commissariat
Magazine being unlocked during Mr Garde's absence.

sd J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
17/8/68

The Station Officer
The Provision Storekeeper.

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Immediate

Memo

Will the contractor be so good as to inform the Civil Commandant whether it is his intention to remove the five stall fed bullocks, purchased by him from the Government, from the farms on the North side of the Peninsula- if so, when he will remove them.

The animals must certainly fall off in condition unless slaughtered during the present week, as the supply of roots for them is very nearly exhausted, as already intimated to Mr Mansfield.

If the Contractor does not intend to remove the cattle, they will be slaughtered on the public account without further delay.

The messenger has been directed to wait for an answer.

Sd J Boyd..CC Port Arthur.
18th Aug 1868

Mr Mansfield
Contractor
Safety Cove

Hospital
Aug 19th 1868

I beg to report for the information of the Civil Commandant that two prisoners have lately arrived from Hobart Town affected with Scabies or Itch – These men state that the clothes & bedding used by them in the prison in Hob Town were exceedingly dirty & that they contracted the disease there.

Another recent arrival - an invalid is also suffering from the same affection.

These men have been placed by themselves in a small yard & kept strictly separate from the other inmates

Sd Geo Denham SMO

The Civil Commandant

[Page 656]

Endorst the preceding

Forwarded to the Superintendent of the House of Correction for Males Hobart Town - with the Civil Commandant's compliments and request that, Mr Reidy will be kind enough to take such steps as he may deem best for preventing men being removed to Port Arthur who may be affected with the disease herein referred to –

Sd J Boyd CC 19/8/68

Thos Reidy Esq Hobt Town

Endorst on application of Edmund Davis to join the P.A.Constabulary

I do not wish this applicant to be sent to Port Arthur

Sd J Boyd CC 17/8/68

Charles J Belstead Esq

Port Arthur
Tasman's Peninsula
17th Aug st 1868

To J Boyd Esq J.P.
Civil Commandant

Sir

A remarkable phenomenon of tide, having visited the shores of this Peninsula, the direct cause of which is at present unknown to your correspondent, but which may be owing to volcanic eruption or to some disorganisation of unusual collision

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collision of Oceanic Currents, however without speculating on what might probably be the cause – I take the liberty of furnishing you with a detail of the particulars as observed by several eye witnesses at Long Bay and are as follows-

On Saturday the 15th inst at about 9 o'clock a.m. the condition of the tide was low, the dry strand shewing for 200 yards from the ordinary full tide mark on shore. Several of the prisoners who were employed in bringing shingles from the bush to the jetty observed (what mistook to be a heavy swell on at sea a huge tidal wave coming down the strait from the Brown Mount towards Long Bay ; at the time of its being first observed it was about 3 or 4 miles distant.

Not apprehending any approach danger they continued their employment carrying the shingles they had brought from the wagon & placing them on board a launch moored to the jetty. While engaged in this operation the shallow waters of the bay received an impetus & were propelled towards the shore at speed of between 11 & 12 miles per hour, the water in the bay then gradually & rapidly increased, spars were washed in, & several large gum logs (by no means a buoyant description of timber) one of which was 10ft long, diameter 4 ft9 in & weighing at the lowest estimate 3 tons were washed in while only half the diameter of some was submerged, & the one of which I have given the dimensions, was driven in rapidly, while only 3/5ths of its diameter was covered. Logs that had become bedded in the sands & remained there for years undisturbed were forced up & drifted in.

A Launch of

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of 40 tons burthen was anchored in the Bay, lying head to Sea, was driven in dragging chain, cable, anchor &c for a distance upwards of 100 yards, The men were employed in unloading the wagon at the jetty seeing the rapidity with which the tide continued rising became alarmed, & as any attempt to reach the shore by running up the jetty was futile, they were directed by their overseer Mr Hasting to jump into the launch which was securely moored to the jetty by 5/8inch cable chain, & had just complied with the order when the small T on the north side side of the jetty gave way & was washed in. In the meantime the current or tide meeting with an abrupt interruption from the embankment of the shore, altered its course & swept round from the south end of the beach to the north in a stream of about 50 yds broad with amazing velocity, carrying 45 yds of a substantially built jetty entirely away, bottom logs, side – plates, sleepers, iron rails &c &c were swept clean away & deposited 25 yds out of the direct line, & had that part of the jetty been built much stronger it could not have resisted the force of that current; the water having speedily risen above the embankment rushed on inundating the land for 60 yds beyond, & 2 ft above the level of the highest tide mark known to any of the longest residents on the Peninsula; the water having reached this point & acquired a perpendicular height of 7 ft from the low water mark in the short space of 4 or 5 minutes, now receded instantly (with equal velocity & the same rushing sound that

characterized it coming in) sweeping with it logs, spars, Lauch &c seaward, to a distance considerably beyond where they

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they were removed from, & leaving the strand bare 600 yds long from the shore , allowing a decline towards the bed of the sea at rate of 9in to the 100 yds would shew a depression of three feet of water below the water mark of the previous low tide – the waters of the Bay thus suddenly rose 7ft & lowered 10ft .-

The time that elapsed from the first appearance of this tidal phenomenon until the waters of the Bay were again settled was no more than 15 minutes ; the surface of the water was perfectly calm presenting no appearance of commotion beyond the protuberance of the waves . The morning was fine, & as far as the Horizon was visible no indication of any atmospheric agency likely to produce such a result was apparent.

The Coxwain , Mr Chadwick, who has observed the tides which have visited these shores during the last 14 or 15 yrs, states, that it is the most remarkable tide he has every witnessed here, but he is unable to imagine the actual cause from which it originated. Several of these waves washed up the shore at irregular intervals during the day, & up to a late hour on Saturday night, the last of which exceeded the height of the one I have described, but came in & went out more calmly, leaving the one I have described the most remarkable of the whole.

I have Sir, the honor to remain
Your humble & obedt Servt.
Sd Frederick S Reith, Overseer

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Endorst on the preceding

I forward this letter to the Secretary of the Royal Society of Tasmania – vouching , as I do, from personal observation & similar reports to the foregoing, for the correctness of the statements made by Overseer Reith

Sd J Boyd CC
19th August. 1868

Endorst on Statement of John Walker per “Larkins” address to His Honor Sir Francis Smith

The Prisoner Walker has been duly informed of previous decisions given in his case - He, however, earnestly requests that the present statement may be laid before His Honor Sir Francis Smith

Sd J Boyd CC
22nd Aug. 1868

The Comptroller General

Memo

Will the Commandant be good enough to furnish as soon as possible a nominal return of the 96 convicts at Port Arthur chargeable to Imperial funds on the 30th June 1868 shewing the sentences and conditions under which they were held. The men held under sentence of life or who were under life sentences to be shewn separately

For CF
Sd C J Belstead
Comptroller General's Office

*James Boyd (Civil Commandant, Port Arthur) - Office letterbook, 1866-1869 from Tasmanian Papers, 1821-1877
Tas. Papers 315*

Mitchell Library, State Library of NSW

15th August 1868

J Boyd Esq

Herewith
Sd J Boyd CC
Port Arthur
22nd August 1868' The Comptroller General
Hobt. Town

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Endorst on invaliding form recommending Wm Jones per " Enchantress" to be invalidated

Submitted & recommended

Sd J Boyd CC 24/8/68

The Comp.Genl

Memo

The Civil Commandant presents his compliments to Mr Dunphy, & has to inform him that in accordance with the request contained in his letter of the 20th inst. he has spoken to the prisoner Wheatley respecting the interest upon the money deposited in the Saving's Bank for the lad Robert Emmett.

Wheatley refuses to sign any order for the payment of such interest on the grounds that he believed the father of the boy would obtain & improperly apply the money

The cheque enclosed for Wheatley's signature is therefore herewith returned - unsigned

Sd J Boyd CC Port Arthur
25th Augst 1868

Mr M Dunphy
Stone Building
Hobt Town

Endorst on application of Richd Kelly " Ld Auckland" for leave to Petition
The Prisoner Kelly's conduct has been satisfactory since his arrival at Port Arthur

Sd J Boyd CC 26/8/68

The Comp.Genl

[Page 662]

Memorandum

The Civil Commandant has to report for the information of the Comptroller General that Constable John Clare died at this Establishment on Sunday evening last the 23rd inst. of "congestion of the lungs" as reported by the Senior Medical Officer.

He had been under medical treatment for some time & was exempted from duty for a few days previous to his death.

Clare has left a wife & family residing at North West Bay to whom this intelligence has been communicated

Sd J Boyd CC PA 28th Augst 1868

*James Boyd (Civil Commandant, Port Arthur) - Office letterbook, 1866-1869 from Tasmanian Papers, 1821-1877
Tas. Papers 315*

Mitchell Library, State Library of NSW

The Comp.Genl. Hobt. Town

Endorst on letter of Richd McCabe per "Ratcliffe" stating that Constable Blythe promised him £1 for "Trying out" a whale at Wedge Bay.

No money was promised for this work and Constable Blythe denies having informed McCabe that he would be granted £1 for it on the completion of his sentence

Sd J Boyd CC PA 27th Augst 1868

Prisoner Richd McCabe
Through the Supt House of Correction for Males, Hobt. Town

A Post O.O. for £2 payable to Thos Herbert per "Argyle" forwd to the Supt Ho. Of Correccion for Males Hobt Town
28/8/68

In margin :- per "Harriet"

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Endorst on invaliding paper of Henry Scafe per "Lord W Bentick (a pauper)

This man, who is a Ticket of Leave holder has made application to proceed to Hobt Town –
The Senior Medical Officer reports him able to earn his livelihood.
Instructions are requested

Sd J Boyd
CC 28/8/68

The Comp.Genl

Port Arthur 28th August /68

My Dear Sir,

With regard to the Brooms, I have desired my Storekeeper to send 12 to the prisoners Barracks to compensate for the 24 of inferior quality, which is as much as you can possibly require to pass the item, and which allowance will have the effect of reducing the value of the 24 by 50 per cent as the 12 will not be charged.

I shall feel much obliged in future by your directing any inferior articles supplied from this establishment to be returned by the first opportunity in order that they may be exchanged

Yours truly
Sd J Boyd CC

C H Huxtable Esq
Colonial Storekeeper

Memorandum

Certified that Private Patrick Cadogan of HM 2/14th Regt has been appointed a Constable for Tasman's Peninsula and that he will be unable to attend muster at the Anglesea Barracks Hobt. Town on the 31st inst. This

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This certificate is given at Codogans's request

Sd J Boyd CC 28/8/68

Major Maycock
Commanding Detachmt
2/14th Regt
Hobart Town

Endorst on memo from the Commisariat Storekeeper P.A. respecting a cheque for £3.1.1.
due to late Constable Clare

The cheque had better be returned to the Commissariat Office in Town as unclaimed at Port
Arthur
A letter has been written to the Com/General on the subject of its delivery, for the information
of the Asst Comr Genl

Sd J Boyd CC 29/8/68

The Commist Storekeeper Port Arthur

Memo

With reference to the pay cheque of the late Constable John Clare for July 1868 amounting to
£3.1.1. the Civil Commandant begs to recommend that Mrs Clare who resides at North West
Bay widow of the above may be allowed to receive the said cheque from the Commissariat in
Hobart Town.

The acquittance on the pay abstract was duly signed by the late Constable Clare ~~before he~~
~~died~~

Sd J Boyd CC 29th Augst 1868

The Compt.Genl

Written sideways across text:_
Submitted & recommended
Sd C J Belstead for the Compt.Genl 1/9/68

Approved
J G B

Forwarded to the
Asst. Com Genl with the Civil Commandant's compliments

Sd J Boyd CC 10/9/68

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Memo

In consequence of the large increase in the supply of eggs from the farms – The Civil
Commandant recommends that until further orders, 3 eggs may be issued to the Paupers and
Invalids as an equivalent for 8 ozs of fresh meat instead of 2 as at present – the men
declining to accept two in lieu of their ration of meat

Sd J Boyd CC 31/8/68

The Comp.Genl

Endorst on memo respecg requisition for medicines &c from 1/4/69 to 31/3/70

The requisition in duplicat is forwarded herewith

Sd Geo Denham
SMO 1/9/68

The Comp.Gen

Endorst on Invaliding form recommending George Neale per "Asia" to be invalided

Forwarded & recommended

Sd J Boyd CC 1/9/68

The Comp.Genl

In margin :- Effective Coll Record form

Endorst on Petition of Henry Scafe per LW "Bentick"
Ticket of Leave Imperial Pauper.

I beg to recommend that the applicant Scafe may be granted a pardon available in this Colony

Sd J Boyd CC 1/9/68

The Comp.Genl

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Memorandum

The Civil Commandant has to report that, on the 29th ult. The prisoner named in the margin whose sentence expires by time on the 1st inst. accidentally fell and broke his collar bone while employed at the Settlement Sawpits Authority is requested for his maintenance at this Establishment as a Colonial Pauper until he is sufficiently recovered to be discharged.

Sd J Boyd CC PA 5th Sept 68

The Comp. Genl

In margin:- Herbert Thos, "Argyle"
Hobt S Ct 2/9/62
Indecent Assault
6 yrs PS
Coll Effective

Memorandum

The Civil Commandant has to report that upon the recommendation of the Senior Medical Officer, the two military prisoners named in the margin have been released from the Separate Prison where they were confined according to General Rule upon their arrival at Port Arthur ; they are now employed at out door labor

*James Boyd (Civil Commandant, Port Arthur) - Office letterbook, 1866-1869 from Tasmanian Papers, 1821-1877
Tas. Papers 315*

Mitchell Library, State Library of NSW

Sd J Boyd CC 8th Sept 68

The Comp Genl

In margin :- Neil Ralph "Siam"
Hobt S Ct 18/11/67
Burglary 10 years Impl

Sewell ,Willm "Siam"
Hobt S Ct 18/1/67
Burglary 10 yrs impl

Certifies that Mr Richard Thompson served in the Convict Department at Port Arthur from the 1st March 1853 to the 31st March 1867 as overseer and Coxswain and that he discharged his duties to my satisfaction with diligence and fidelity
Mr Thompson has left the Department on Medical grounds – and has been superannuated

Sd J Boyd CC 9/9/68

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Port Arthur
Sept. 12th 1868

Memo

I beg to inform the Civil Commandant that the time for which, Payne the tinman was engaged is now nearly expired, but there is still a quantity of tinware required to be made, as also repairs, which are daily coming in from the various Departments ; and since Harris the Plumber left there is no one but Payne who can do anything in that line .
I would therefore respectfully suggest that his services be retained for a longer period

Sd J Boyd CC 12/9/68

The Acting Comp.Genl

Memorandum

The Commandant is requested to report whether the new asylum for the Insane at Port Arthur will accomodate any more inmates than are at present in the Institution, and if so, how many

Sd CJ Belstead
Comp.Genls Office
8th Sept.68

The Commandant, Port Arthur

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Endorst Foregoing

Memo

There is accommodation for 120 inmates in the Hospital for the Insane at Port Arthur & the branch Establishment at Safety Cove
The present number of inmates in the two establishments is 100

Sd Geo Denham
S.M.O. Sept 12th 1868

The Civil Commdt

The Senior Medical Officer`s report herewith from which it will be seen that 20 insane patients can be received

Sd J Boyd CC 12th Sept.1868

The Acting Comp.Genl

Endorst on application of David McIntosh No 40 Bathurst St Hobt Town for James McIllhenny (a pauper) to be sent to his service

If the Medical Officer considers this man able to take the employment he can be sent up

Sd C J Belstead for C.G. 7th Sept 1868

Referred to the Senior Medical Officer

Sd J Boyd 10/9/68

The nature of the employment offered is not stated – Mcillenny has occasionally been employed in the Depot here, but always at

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at the lightest kind of work – he has constantly stated his inability to undergo the least exertion he has disease of the heart & large vessels and is a confirmed opium taker ; in his present condition I do not think he is able to earn his livelihood

sd Geo Denham SMO Sept 12 th 68

The Civil Commandant

I fully concur with the Senior Medical Officer

Sd J Boyd CC sept.12th 68

The Comp.Genl

Memo

A receipt from Patrick Cadogan for his parchment certificate of discharge from HM 2/14th Regt is herewith enclosed with the Civil Commandant`s compliments.

Sd J Boyd CC 16th Sept 68

Major Maycock
Commandg Detachmt 2/14th Regt. Hobart Town

Memorandum

The Civil commandant recommends for approval the following amended scale of equivalents of Butter and fresh meat viz

1lb of Butter to be equal to 3lbs of fresh meat

The present equivalents are

2 oz butter for 8oz fresh meat and/or

2oz do to 10oz do

1lb butter to 4lbs fresh meat

This

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This small increase is suggested, in order to prevent the necessity of potting butter during the summer months, which operation caused a considerable loss to the public last season. Butter is necessarily made in disposing of the surplus milk, and is only issued to those prisoners and paupers who prefer it to meat occasionally ; it cannot be forced upon the men - many more of whom, than have hitherto taken this change, would do so, were the allowance slightly increased as now proposed

Sd J Boyd CC 19/9/08

The Comp.Genl

Endorst on Petition in favour of Michl Burk per "Richard Webb"

The conduct of Michael Burke per "Richard Webb" has been satisfactory since his arrival at Port Arthur with the exception of one offence viz Feigning sickness for which he was sentenced to 10 days solitary confinement in July 1866

He is apparently a quiet inoffensive man

Sd J Boyd CC 23/9/68

In margin ;- Copy of decision on reply to a report on petition appended

Endors on Overseer Gibben's report complaining that several of the meat contractor's sheep are damaging the crops at Safety Cove

Mr Mansfield is requested to be so good as to cause the sheep to which Mr Gibbens letter refers to be kept out of the public crops

Sd J Boyd CC24/9/68

Mr Henry Mansfield, Contractor
Safety Cove

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Query from the Colonial Auditor on the Expenditure Return of 1867 – returned answered by this evening by post for particulars see Query Book

JCP 23/9/68

Memorandum

The annexed supplementary abstracts for last month are forwarded to correct an omission in the general pay lists transmitted on the 10th inst. – Stephen Larkins having been shewn thereon for 14 days pay instead of 20

Sd J Boyd CC 25th Sept. 1868

The Acting Comp.Genl

Endorst on Petition of Richd Kelly Ld Auckld

Forwarded – Conduct at Port Arthur satisfactory

Sd J Boyd CC 29/9/68

The Acting Comp.Genl

Memo

As the man named in the margin has completed his sentence by time and task credit – will the Senior Medical Officer have the goodness to furnish the usual form recommending him to be detained at Port Arthur as a Pauper in order that the Governor's approval may be obtained for his maintenance as such

Sd J Boyd CC 3rd October 1868

The Senior Medical Officer, Port Arthur

In margin :- Edwd Ricketts "Surrey" 3 yrs Impl

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Memo

The Public Librarian is requested to prepare a new and correct catalogue of all the books, maps and diagrams belonging to the government library – distinguishing the books reserved for reference from those available for loan

The school books bibles – prayer books & hymn books to be carefully assorted and the correct number of each class entered.

All the books in which have been issued to individuals or departments will of course have to be withdrawn in order to enable Mr Hill to prepare a correct catalogue which is to be laid before the Commandant on or before the 3rd proximo.

Sd J Boyd CC 3rd Oct 1868

The Librarian

Endorst on letter of Thos Williams as John Perrott per "Argyle" addressed to the Actg Comp Genl.

John Perrott alias Thos Williams is detained under a sentence of Transportation for life passed in Nov 1834. His conduct at Port Arthur has been very indifferent

Sd J Boyd CC 3rd Oct. 1868

The Acting Comp.Genl

Endorst on S.M.O.s invaliding report of Edd Ricketts per "Surrey"

Submitted – the man Edward Ricketts is chargeable to colonial funds & has completed two years & ten months, nearly, by time

His sentence of 3 yrs has expired by time & task work.

Sd J Boyd CC 3/10/68

The Acting Comp.Genl

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Endorst on Return of Telegraphic Charges for month of Sept. '68
Telegram from Benj'n Rushforth "Coal Mines" Hobart Town stated to have been paid for when delivered in Hob't Town on the 31st of August last – consequently the 2/8 remitted to the Supt. of Telegraphs for the telegram on that date is deducted from the present amount.

sd J Boyd
Civil Commandant
2/10/68
The Supt. of Telegraphs
Hobt. Town

Memo

Coxswains Horlock & Anderson will exchange Stations and Boats on or about the 15th inst – and report having done so.

By orderof Civil Commandant

sd S. C. Tapp

Chief Clerk

Port Arthur

6th Oct 1868

Copy of this Memo to Coxswains Horlock & Anderson

Endorst on Memo as to whether Medicines for '68 and '69 have been rec'd at Port Arthur
The Medicines for the year 1868-69 have been received at Port Arthur – No price list was received with them.

sd Geo. Dinham

S. M. O.

Oct 5th 1868

The Civil Commandant

For the information of the Acting Comptroller General

sd J Boyd

5/10/68

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Memorandum

The Civil Commandant has to acknowledge the receipt of Messrs. Belbin & Dowdell's letter of the 25th ult & in reply begs to intimate, that the timber purchased by them & not yet removed from Port Arthur, is very much in the way & causes considerable inconvenience to the works. The commandanr therefore hopes that it may be removed as soon as possible – not later than the 10th prox. which will be upwards of 8 months from the time of sale.

sd J boyd

Civil Commandant

Port Arthur

7th October 1868

Messrs. Belbin & Dowdell

Hobert Town

John Mellor "Aboukir"
Tried Hobart S Ct. 24th Oct 1865. 4 yrs. Imp't carried out P A 2/1/66

Memo

The Prisoner named above states that he was employed as Writer at the House of Correction in Hob't Town, during ten weeks prior to his arrival here & applies to be allowed Task credit for that period.

Will the superintendent be good enough to inform the civil Commandant of the amount to be placed to Mellor's account.

sd J Boyd
Civil Commandant
10 Octob'r. 1868

The Supt.
House of Correction for Males
Hobart Town

Endors't on memo from Supt. of Ho: of Correction for Males Hob't Town respecting the amount of remission to which John Cooper "P. Bon" is entitled
On completion of

[Page 675]

his minimum period vizt. 7½ years from date of sentence – this man would be entitled to be recommended to the Comptroller General for a remission of 15 days each year of his sentence or 150 days – in addition to his Task work credit on account of his good conduct at Port Arthur. The Balance, after this remission had been deducted from his unexpired period, on lapse of 7½ years by time he would have to complete.

sd J Boyd
Civil Commandant
Port Arthur
10/10/68

The Supt.
Ho. of Correction for Males Hob't Town

Endors't on Petition of John Faithfull per "Asia" 6th an Imp'l. Pauper – to be granted a Free Pardon

The Petitioner is an industrious well conducted man. He is at present an inmate of the Pauper Depot at Port Arthur

sd J Boyd
Civil Comandant
13/10/68

Endors't on Memo respecting observations by the Acting Milt'y. Store Officer in charge Hob't Town with reference to the Annual Demand for 1869 & '70.

Report furnished apposite to the several items

sd J Boyd
Civil Commandant
12/10/68

The Acting Comp. Genl.

[Page 676]

Memo'

The Civil Commandant has to report the arrival at this port on the 13th inst. of the Brig "Chanticleer" from Hob't Town for timber on account of Messrs. Belbin & Dowdell.

sd S. C. Tapp

Chief Clerk

for Civil Commandant

Port Arthur

14/10/68

The Acting Comp. Gen.

Endors't on Mr Lawson's application for leave of absence to proceed to Hobart Town by the "Harriet" & return the next trip.

Mr Lawson's duty can be performed by Asst. Keeper Smith should the Civil Commandant think fit to approve of his application.

sd Geo. Dinham

S. M. O.

Oct. 11th 1868

The Civil Commandant

I have no objection

sd J boyd

Civil Commandant

10/10/68

The Senior

Medical Officer

Port Arthur

Memo'

~~It sometimes happens~~

The Civil Commandant recommends that 3^d per superficial foot may be fixed as the charge for boards used in making Coffins for persons dying at the Coal Mines Establishment on this Peninsula, and the labor of a Carpenter for one day at 4/- for making each of such coffins. These

[Page 677]

These charges are necessary for insertion in the annual accounts.

sd J Boyd

civil Commandant

17/10/68

The Acting
Comp. Genl.

Port Arthur

17th Oct. 1868

Gentlemen

In accordance with my telegram to you this forenoon, I now have the pleasure to inform you that the The "Chanticleer" sailed for Dunedin at 5.30 am today.

5,000 Palings and 6,000 Posts & Rails were shipped to your order and for which I herewith enclose a bill of lading.

I have the honor to be

Gentlemen

Your Obed't Servant

sd J Boyd

Civil Commandant

Messrs. Belbin & Dowdell

Hob't Town

Endors't on the Effective Prisoners' Ration Voucher for the month of Sept. 1868

Memo'

It is observed on examining the enclosed Return that on 3 Thursdays during the month a portion of the Convicts have received Fresh Meat, instead of Salt Meat.

The scale of rations provides the issue of Salt Meat on Thursdays, it is requested that explanation be afforded why salt meat has not been issued in accordance with the scale.

Commis't Office

Hob't Town 16/10/68

sd John J. Tramp

for the Asst. Com. Genl.

The Civil Com't

[Page 678]

Fresh pork the produce of the Station had necessarily to be issued for consumption by the Prisoners at Port Arthur on the 3 days in question as it could not be made into bacon & would not keep fresh.

sd J Boyd

Civil Commandant

17/10/68

The Asst. Com. Genl.

Hobart Town

Memorandum

The Civil Commandant has to report the Brig Chanticleer from port Arthur on the 17th Inst. laden with timber on a/c of Messrs. Belbin & Dowdell as illegible herewith.

sd T C Tapp

C Clerk

for Civil Commandant

Port Arthur 18/10/68

The Act. Comptroller General

Endorst. on classification paper of Daniel Aherne per Emma

To be worked outside the Prison under Constable Jackson and to take his meals and sleep in the Prison. He must be closely searched on returning from labor.

sd J Boyd

Civil Commandant

21/10/68

The Keeper

Separate Prison

Endors't on letter from Mr M. Dunphy respecting a report in Hob't Town that Jos. Geo.

Wheatley per "Henry illegible" was dead.

The Prisoner Wheatley is quite well at present.

sd J Boyd

Civil Comt.
21/10/68

Mr Martin Dunphy
Hobarton

[Page 679]

Memorandum

It is requested that a supply of the printed forms specified in the margin may be sent to Port Arthur as soon as possible.

sd J Boyd
Civil Commandant and Coroner
Port Arthur
12st Oct. 68

The Act. Comp. Genl.
Hob't Town
[In the margin:]
Coroner's Inquests
Forms of Caption
Coroner's A/cs
Surgeons do.
Warrant to inter

Port Arthur
21st Oct. 1868
Memorandum

The Civil Commandant has to report that on Monday last the 19th inst. the individual named in the margin was found dead in a water closet at Eagle Hawk Neck Station, where he had been employed for the last 13 months as a Watchman and Woodcutter.

A Coroner's Inquest was held yesterday and a verdict returned of died ~~died~~ by the visitation of God of disease of the heart & its membranes.

sd J Boyd
Civil Commandant

The Acting Comp. Genl.

[In the margin:]
Connor Patk.
F by S
"Kinnear"
Groom Age 53
Roman Catholic
illegible 8 yrs. Imp't.
Effect. Coll.

Port Arthur
21st Oct 68
Sir

I have the honor to enclose herewith Caption of an Inquest held by me at Eagle Hawk Neck Station yesterday

[Page 680]

on view of the body of Patrick Connor per "Kinnear" a prisoner under sentence who was found dead in a Water closet at that Station on Monday last the 19th inst.
The verdict of the Jury was "died of by the visitation of God of disease of the heart and its membranes and not otherwise".

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your Obed't. Serv't.
sd J Boyd
Coroner

Mr J Buckley Esq.
Registrar Supreme Court

Hobart Town

The Attorney General's Minute in Re Jno. Walker's case – per Larkins ret'd to Comp. Gen'l's Office having been first read to Larkins as requested thereon.
24/10/68

[in the margin:] Copy Filed in this Office

Endors't. on Petitions of W'm. Tinks per "Georgian" & John Hoffman per "M. of Hastings" (Pass Holders – Imp'l Paupers) to be granted Conditional Pardons.
24/10/68

Memo'
The Stores specified on the annexed Requisition together with those already purchased & supplied make one half of the amount shown on the Annual demand for the current year.
sd J Boyd
Civil Commandant
24/10/68

The Acting Comp. Gen'l.

[In the margin:]
Linseed Oil & Whiting

[Page 681]

Endors't on Petition of Geo. Gould per "Admiral Cockburn" (C. T. Imp'l. Pauper) to be granted a Free Pardon.

Forwarded to the Comptroller General, Gould's police record is not at Port Arthur
sd J Boyd
Civil Commandant
27/10/68.

Long Bay
24/10/68

Sir
I most respectfully resign my situation as Assistant Overseer of this Establishment from the above date.
sd
E Sweeney
Assistant Overseer
The Civil Commandant

Endorsement

Submitted and recommended to be accepted.

The conduct of the Assistant Overseer and his wife has been very unsatisfactory of late which I should have been obliged to report had Sweeney not tendered his resignation.

sd J Boyd

Civil Commandant

28 Oct '68

Ass't Compt. General

Civil Commandant's Office

Port Arthur Tasmania

27th October 1868

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated 18th June last enclosing a draft on the Union Bank of Australia Hobart Town for the sum of Fifty

[Page 682]

Pounds Stg. for Archibald Hadwin, a pauper of this Establishment, whose receipt for the same I herewith beg to enclose agreeably to your request.

I have the honor to be

Sir

Your Most Obed't Ser'vt

sd J Boyd

Civil Commandant

H. A. Ewer Esq.

Solicitor

Liverpool

England

Endors't on requisition of Director of Public Works dated 24/10/68 for Shingles &c.

100,000 Shingles will, if possible, be ready by the beginning of the year and also the Lightwood boards – the remainder of the Shingles, with the battens, can be furnished during the months of January and February.

sd J Boyd

Civil Commandant

30th Oct. '68

[Written over at an angle:]

Copy of Requisition with Comy. Storekeeper.

Endors't on Petition of Edw'd Hardy Bell per Westmoreland respecting a sum of money stated by him to be in the hands of the Gov't.

The Petitioner is undergoing a sentence of 10 years Imprisonment.

sd J Boyd

Civil Commandant

31/10/68

Referring to the prisoner named in the margin who was tried on the 22nd inst for misconduct – I have to state that from what I have heard since I believe him to be innocent & would therefore

[In the margin:]

Boucher Jno."Mj Elphinston" P. A. 22/10/68

Sentenced to 14 days S. C.

for misconduct

[Page 683]

wish him discharged from the "Model"
sd J. K. Lewis J. P.
24/10.68

The Civil Commandant

Endors't on the preceding memo'
I recommend that the remainder of Boucher's sentence of 14 days S. Conft.
be remitted, he has been released.
sd J boyd
Civil Commandant
24/10/68

The Acting
Comp. Gen'l.

Memo'

The Civil Commandant desires to bring under the consideration of His Excellency the Governor, the case of the Convict named in the margin, who, in accordance with the order of the Governor in council dated 7th Novr. 1862, has been confined in the Separate Prison since the 5th of that month to the present time viz. 2188 days – without any offence having been recorded against him. For a considerable time past the treatment of the Prisoner has been modified in order to lessen the severity of his confinement and he has also been allowed the highest scale of rations.

Looking at the long period of confinement & his apparently improved conduct & disposition, the Command't recommends that he may now be released from the Prison.

sd J Boyd
Civil Commandant
Port Arthur
31/10/68

The Acting
Comp. Genl.

[In the margin:]
Geo. Welch
"Theresa"
[also]
(Police record and illegible forwarded)

[Page 684]

Safety Cove
Nov 2nd 1868

Mr Gibbons begs to inform the Civil Commandant that the contractor's pigs are destroying a large quantity of the early potatoes leading to the 4 acres and they will have them all if they are not kept off – also the sheep continue to come on the grain & cannot be kept off, and his geese has commenced pulling up the potatoes & cabbage plants.

There are also 1 & sometimes 2 horses & 2 head of cattle also belonging to the contractor running at this Station.

Sd D. Gibbens in charge

The Civil Commandant, Port Arthur

Immediate

Mr Mansfield

I enclose a report just received from Mr Gibbens, which, as you are aware is not the first by many upon the same subject.

I ask you again to be good enough to keep your animals upon your own premises & thereby avoid cause for unpleasantness which I much regret should be given.

I shall be both sorry & disappointed if this appeal to you is disregarded, as you must be aware that I cannot allow the public crops to be destroyed by your live stock

Sd J Boyd. CC Port Arthur, 2/11/68

Mr. Hy Mansfield

Contractor, Safety Cove.

[Page 685]

Endorsement on Mr Ahernes report respecting the transfer of prisoners' accounts into the New Ledgers

This work appears to be progressing so slowly that another Clerk must be employed in transferring the accounts which I wish to be completed by the end of the present month

Sd J Boyd. CC 2/11/68

The Chief Clerk

Endorsment on petition of William Jinks per Georgiana – a pauper – for a Condl Pardon – dated 24/10/68

Colonial Conditional Pardons are not now granted but the petition will be submitted for considerations – The Commandant will be good enough to call for a medical report as to the man's health.

Sd C.J.Belstead

Comptroller General's Office

27th October. 1868

The Senior Medical Officer is requested to furnish report upon the state of health of Pauper William Jinks

Sd J Boyd CC [Indecipherable]. 1868

[In margin] Vide next page for the whole of the correspondence

Endorsion Invoice of Lamp Glasses &c

Memo

The lamp glasses will suit – as will also the horse shoe nails.

The whalebone is by far too large & is consequently returned – the size of whalebones required is 1/16th inch square – similar to that furnished in July 1867

Sd J Boyd CC 5/11/68

The

Asst Comm Genl

Hobart Town

*James Boyd (Civil Commandant, Port Arthur) - Office letterbook, 1866-1869 from Tasmanian Papers, 1821-1877
Tas. Papers 315*

Mitchell Library, State Library of NSW

[Page 686]

Memorandum

The Civil Commandant has to report that in compliance with the instructions of the Acting Comptroller General dated the 21st ulto, he has this day forwarded to the House of Corrections for males Hobt Town per schooner "Harriet" and under escort of a Constable twelve (12) prisoners whose names and ships are given in the margin – the Warrants under which they are held and their police records have been transmitted with them to the Superintendent of the Establishment.

Sd J Boyd CC Port Arthur
6th Nov. 1868

The Acting Comptroller General
Hobart Town

[In margin]

John Meek "Hyderabad"
Jno Draper "Cornwall"
Wm Hisby "Cornwall"
John Deakin "Palmyra"
John Buchanan "Ratcliffe"
Henry Roberts "Rodney"
Fredk Rozelle "as Boss, "indecipherable"
Jas Lands "Isabelle"
GAeo Morris "Eagle"
Wm Burley "Elphinstone"
Hamlet Kelsall "Sea Horse"
Wm Taylor "Medina"

Dry Store indecipherable for the half year ended 30th June 1868 forwarded to the Acting Comptroller General this day per schooner "Harriet" – with a memo stating that the Return of "material supplied to Public Bodies & Private indecipherable during the period " would be prepared & furnished as soon as possible after receipt of the list of prices from indecipherable

6 Nov 1868

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Endorst on petition of 10th Jinks per "Georgiana"
Impl Pauper to be granted a Conditional Pardon upon a life sentence

Forwarded & recommended

Sd J Boyd CC 24/10/68

Colonial Conditional Pardons are not now granted but the petition will be submitted for consideration - The Commandant will be good enough to call for a medical report as to the mans` s health

Sd C.J.Belstead Comp.Gens Office 17/10/68

The Senior Medial Officer is requested to furnish a report upon the state of health of Pauper Wlm Jinks

Sd J Boyd CC 4/11/68

*James Boyd (Civil Commandant, Port Arthur) - Office letterbook, 1866-1869 from Tasmanian Papers, 1821-1877
Tas. Papers 315
Mitchell Library, State Library of NSW*

Mr Jinks Esquire

This pauper has much improved in health since his arrival at Port Arthur & I consider him able to earn his livelihood

Sd Geo Denham S.M.O. Nov 6th 1868

Returned to the Acting Comptroller General with the medical report as requested.

Sd J Boyd CC 6/11/68

Parsonage
Port Arthur
November 9th 1868

Memo
Mr Eastman presents his compliments to

{Written sideways over the text}
For what complaint – is he invalided
Sd C J Belstead 10/11/68

Referred to the Senior Medical Officer
Sd J Boyd 12/11/68

Wm Jinks was invalided at Longford in October of this year for an affection of the back – probably lumbago. – He states he was for three months under medical treatment for this affection of his back & that he was then invalided and sent to Port Arthur & he is now quite recovered & is employed daily in the garaden

sd Geo Denham S.O. Nov 12th 1868

[Page 688]

to the Civil Commandant and has the honor to inform him that having to perform a marriage at Salt Water River on Wednesday morning, he will be unable to read prayers at the Penitentiary or attend at the New Prison on that day for the usual service, but if the Civil Commandant will please to appoint any one to read the services in Mr Eastman`s absence he will have much pleasure in giving the person appointed every direction respecting the duty to be performed

sd George Eastman, Chaplain

James Boyd Esq CC

Endorst on above
The Commandant presents his compliments to the Rev Mr Eastman & furnishes a list of Officers available for the performance of Divine Service tomorrow
The Chaplain will be good enough to select as many as he may consider necessary for approval.
Mr Aylett, Mr Tapp, Mr George Whittington, Mr Downward, Mr Markham

Sd J Boyd CC 10th Nov.1868

The Revd George Eastman

Memo

The Civil Commandant regrets not having any knowledge of the numbers of the cheques stated to have been abstracted from Jas Murray late a constable of this Establishment. Duplicate certificates as to pay due have never been granted – Mr Murray had better apply to the Commissariat Hobt Town for the numbers of the cheques and his pay

Sd J Boyd CC 11/11/68

Mr. Jas Murray
Albert Inn
Corner Liverpool & Argyle Sts.
Hobart Town.

[Page 689]

Parsonage Port Arthur, Nov 10th 1868

Mr Eastman presents his compliments and thanks to the Civil Commandant and has the honor to propose for his approval that Wm Tylett be appointed to read prayers at this Penitentiary.

Wm George Whittington at this Separate Prison and Mr Markham at the indecipherable – each of these officers being familiar with the time and nature of the service.

I have the honor to be Sir,

Your obedt servnt George Eastman Chaplain

James Boyd Esq CC

Endorsement

The Commandant has much pleasure in approving of the arrangements proposed by the Chaplain the several officers have been informed accordingly

J Boyd CC 10 Nov 1868

The Rev. Geo Eastman

Mr Boyd presents his compliments to Mr Dunn and has the pleasure to enclose a cheque for £60.19.0 being the amount subscribed on Tasman's and Foresters' Peninsular towards the testimonial for His Excellency Colonel Gov Browne.

A list of the subscribers with their contributions will be forwarded by next post.

Sd J Boyd Port Arthur, 11th Nov.1868

Jas A Dunn Esquire
Honorary Treasurer
Governor Gore Browne
Testimonial Fund
Hobart Town

[Page 690]

Memo

The Civil Commandant has to acknowledge the receipt of Mr Mansfield's letter of this date and enclosure, relative to the issue of Meat produced upon the public farms of this Peninsula.

And in reply, begs to refer the contractor to the Assistant Commissary General who will no doubt give the subject the fullest consideration

Sd J Boyd CC Port Arthur
11th Nov. 1868

Mr Henry Mansfield, Contractor for Fresh Meat, Safety Cove

Memorandum

The Civil Commandant has to report that in compliance with the instructions of the Acting Comptroller General dated the 21st ultimo, he has this day forwarded to the House of Correction for Males Hobt Town per schooner "Harriet" and under escort of a constable, 11 prisoners whose names and ships are given in the margin – the warrants under which they are held and their police record have been transmitted with them to the Superintendent of the Establishment

J Boyd CC Port Arthur 14th Nov 1868

The Acting, Comp Genl

[In margin]

John Day, "Hyderabad"
Penday [indecipherable], "Theresa"
Patk Tobin
"Ld Dalhousie"
Richd. Harrison "Aboukir"
Henry Read "L Kennaway"
Thos Grant "Guilludon:
Michl Kennedy "W Jardine" & "Sir [indecipherable]"
Joseph Wright "Equestrian"
Indecipherable Foy "D of Richmond"
Thos Hall "Rodney"
Thos Connor J Sournis
Maurice Fitzgerald "Ld Dalhousie"

[Page 691]

Memo

Mr Senior Constable Napier is hereby suspended from his office, pending the decision of His Excellency the Governor, for having at Port Arthur on the 12th day of November inst, been drunk and unfit for duty; and also for being on the same date grossly abusive to , and attempting to assault Mr James Aylett the Chief Discipline Officer of the Station

sd J Boyd CC Port Arthur 13th Nov 1868

Mar John Napier
Senior Constable
Port Arthur

Memo

The Civil Commandant regrets to report that he has deemed it necessary to suspend Mr Senior Constable Napier from his office pending the decision of His Excellency the Governor ; for having been drunk and unfit for duty at one o'clock P.M. on the 12th inst and also for having , at the same time, been grossly abusive to, and attempting to assault Mr James Aylett the Chief Discipline Office of the Station

The Conduct of Senior Constable Napier has been of such an improper character that the Commandant recommends his dismissal from the service.

*James Boyd (Civil Commandant, Port Arthur) - Office letterbook, 1866-1869 from Tasmanian Papers, 1821-1877
Tas. Papers 315*

Mitchell Library, State Library of NSW

Sd J Boyd CC 13th Nov.1868

The Acting Comp.Genl

P.S. the Commandant personally witnessed Senior Constable Napier's state of intoxication

[Page 692]

The Police record of Richard Callaby or Kellahy is forwarded for comparison & the Commandant is requested to be so good as report to this office if identified as the man tried in the name of Richard Kelly at Launceston

Prisoner Richd Kelly tried at Launceston has been identified as Richd Callaby per Lord Auckland.3.and the police record of Richard Callaby retained at Port Arthur – that of Richard Kelly is herewith returned to the Comptroller General's Office

Sd J Boyd CC PA
13/11/68

The Acting Comp.Genl

Memorandum

The Civil commandant has to report that the prisoner named in the margin who was tried at Port Arthur on 4th December 1864 for absconding and sentenced to 5 yrs Imperial and hard labor in chains, was released there from on the 11th inst upon the recommendation of the Senior Medical Officer

Sd J Boyd CC PA
14th Nov.1868

[In margin]
John Smith "Mangles"

[Written sideways across text]

Is this a temporary release or is it intended that Smith should be released from the unexpired portion of his sentence to chains?

Sd C J Belstead
17th Nov.1868

Will the Senior Medical Officer have the goodness to answer the question for the Acting Comp.Genl

Sd J Boyd CC 20/11/68

This prisoner is advanced in years & the subject of chronic rheumatism, he has also an umbilical rupture – I would recommend his release from chains altogether provided his conduct is satisfactory.

Sd Geo Denham S.M.O. 30/11/68

Under the report of the Senior Medical Officer, I recommend that, the unexpired portion of the sentence to chains passed upon John Smith per "Mangles" on the 4th August 1864 may be remitted

Sd J Boyd CC 21.11.68

[Page 693]

Port Arthur 18th Nov. 1868

My Dear Sir,

The Acting Senior Constable has just informed me that Dr Lewis intends trying the prisoner Aherne at two o'clock today.

It appears to me that this would be open to objection, as part of the charge against the convict is for repeated gross insolence & abuse to the Junior Medical Officer. I therefore think, and I hope that you will agree with me, that it would be very undesirable for the man to be brought before Dr Lewis in his Magisterial capacity for punishment – The same objection applies to myself - Under these circumstances, and as the prisoner could not impute any animas to you in reference to the sentence passed upon him, I shall feel obliged by your taking the case as soon as may be convenient to yourself.

Believe me,
my Dear Sir
Yours very truly
sd J Boyd

Dr Dinham JP

Memo'

Adverting to the suspension of Senior Constable Napier on the 13th inst. the Civil Commandant has now to inform him that, His Excellency the Governor having had the circumstances of the case before him, has approved of Mr Napier being dismissed from the Convict Service.

Mr Napier can be furnished with a passage to Hobart Town in the Govmnt schooner "Harriet" which will sail from Port Arthur on or about Saturday the 21st inst.

sd J Boyd
Civil Commandant
Port Arthur
19th Novbr. 1868

Mr John Napier
Port Arthur

[Page 694]

Port Arthur
20th Novbr. 1868

Memorandum

Note in margin:
Thomas Prosser
Free to Col.y

The Civil Commandant has to recommend that the individual named in the margin may be appointed Senior Constable at Port Arthur, vice John Napier dismissed, to take effect from the 14th inst.

Mr Prosser has been for a considerable time attached to the Civil Guard, in which his conduct and manner of performing his duties have given entire satisfaction.

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant

The Acting Comptroller General

Endorsement on letter from the Assist. Commissary Genl. requesting Constable Prosser to be sent to Hobart Town to appear before the Staff Officer of Pensioners to reply to certain questions sent from the Commissioners of Chelsea Hospital in reference to Prossers application for a "deferred pension" from the 9th Lancers.

Acting Senior Constable Prosser will proceed to Hobart Town tomorrow for the purpose herein referred to, but as he cannot be conveniently spared from his duties, I shall feel much obliged by the Assistant Commissary General allowing the Schooner "Harriet" to return with him as soon as possible.

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
20th Novbr 1868

The Assist
Commissary Genl

[Page 695]

Memo' on price list of timber, furnished from Port Arthur to Public Departments during the half year ended 30th June 1868, - as fixed by Board consisting of the Director Public Works & Lieut. Lloyd Royal Engineer Department.

Memo'

There are two important items for which no prices have been fixed on the enclosed lists viz.
Arras Rails
Palings of special and unusually large dimensions
viz. 8 ft in length 1" X 1" supplied for the New Norfolk Asylum.

This information is requested as soon as possible in order that the Returns may be closed.

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
Port Arthur
20/11/68

The Acting Comptroller General

Endorsement on letter from the Assistant Commissary Genl stating that Whalebone as per requisition of the 10th ulto: cannot be obtained.

Whalebone according to the sample sent by the Commissariat on the 4th inst, had better be obtained and it will be reduced at Port Arthur to the size required.

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
Port Arthur

20 Novbr. 1868

The Acting comptroller general

The Assist Comy Genl
(I think)

[Page 696]

Memorandum,

Note in margin:
Will.m Lee
ts Leatherland
"Gazelle"

The Prisoner named in the margin who was sentenced on the 4th Decbr 1866 at the House of Correction Hobart Town to 3 years Imprt and hard labor in chains for Escaping, having conducted himself well since his arrival at Port Arthur; and being in a weakly state of health, the Civil Commandant recommends that he, may now be released from chains.

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
Port Arthur
20th Novbr 1868

The Acting Comptroller General

Hobart Town

Memorandum,

Note in margin:
John Hartwell
as Hartwell
"Susan"

Cornelius Hester
"Equestrian"

The Civil Commandant has to report that in compliance with the instructions of the Acting Comptroller General dated the 21st ulto:, he has this day forwarded to the House of Correction for Males Hobart Town per Schooner "Harriet" and under escort of a Constable two, 2, Prisoners whose names and ships are given in the margin – the Warrants under which they are held and their police records have been transmitted with them to the Superintendent of the Establishment

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
Port Arthur
21st Nov. 1868

The Acting
Comptroler General

Hobart Town

[Page 697]

Memorandum,

I have to report that the fishing boat "Caroline" having on board a person named John Mooney with a lad whom he states to be his son, put into Port Arthur yesterday from stress of weather and to obtain provisions – Mooney had no licence – he stated that he left it in a box containing other papers, in his house in lower Collins Street where his wife resides and who can produce the licence.

As I have reason to doubt the correctness of Mooney's statements, I shall feel obliged if the Acting Comptroller General will be good enough to request the Police to call and examine the licence if it is to be found. In the event of such not being forthcoming, or if invalid I would suggest that the man Mooney be refused a licence should he apply for one as he has given considerable trouble in this matter. – I may add that Mooney further states that the boat belongs to Mr Wm Iken – old Wharf who knows him to be a licenced fisherman.

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
21st Novr. 1868

The
Acting Comp. Genl

Memo'

The Civil Commandant has to report that the Whaling Barque "Offley" put in at Safety Cove – near Port Arthur – on the 20th inst. from stress of weather – also, that upon requisition of Mr Richard Davis the Master of the said Barque duly sanctioned by Dr Crowther, the owner, a quantity of provisions has been supplied to the vessel – an account of which will be furnished to the Commissariat Hobart Town.

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
21st Novr. 1868

The Acting
Comp Genl

[Page 698]

John Howard
F. to C. per "Harrowby"
(under sentence of 2 yrs Impt.) & 1 year cumulative Total 3 yrs)(

Memo'

The Prisoner named above, who represents himself to be a first convicted man, is I strongly suspect, an old Convict – He states that he arrived at Melbourne from Liverpool in the ship "Hashemy" – Captain Roberts – in 1852; - that he remained in Melbourne until 1857 when he came to Hobart Town by the ship "Harrowby" – Captain Storie – that he was shewn in the ship's list of passengers as an Emigrant both from Liverpool to Melbourne and from Melbourne to Hobart Town, & paid his passage in each case; that he has since worked at his trade, shoemaking, and in his present name (which he asserts is the only one he ever went by) for Mr Macbeth of Liverpool St. & Mr Lumsten of Argyle St. Hobart Town.

I think that if a reference were made to the Custom House authorities at Melbourne & Hobart Town, it might be ascertained whether the man's statement respecting his having arrived as

an Immigrant is correct or not; & should it be found that his account is incorrect, he would probably then disclose some true particulars of his history & former condition.

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
Port Arthur
24/11/68

The Acting
Comp Genl

[Page 699]

Memorandum,

The Civil Commandat has the honor to submit for the Governor's approval, a revised copy of Regulations for the management of the Hospitals and Infirmary at Port Arthur.

The alterations embraced in the revision of these rules are shewn upon them in red ink, except where any portion has been cancelled which is marked in black; and, as will be observed, are only very slight, being of an unprofessional nature, and chiefly such as are necessary to provide for certain discipline and other changes which have taken place during the last 8, or 9 years; & also to render the instructions agreeable to the printed Regulations recently approved by His Excellency for the Penal & Pauper Establishments on Tasman's Peninsula.

It will not be necessary to have these Regulations printed as the few copies required can be prepared in manuscript.

sd. J. boyd
Civil Commandant
25th Novr. 1868

The Acting
Comp Genl

Memorandum,

Note in margin:
Hartwell John
"Susan"
P.A. 6/2/64
Disobed.ce of Orders
6 mos Impt & HL
agst Task work [indecipherable]

3 months remiss.n

The Civil Commandant recommends that the prisoner named in the margin, who was transferred to the House of Correction for males Hobart Town by the last trip of the Government Schooner "Harriet", may be granted the remission set under his name of the Port Arthur sentence of Impr.st and hard labor passed upon him provided, that his conduct during the remainder of his sentence be satisfactory.

The Commandant requests that the Keeper of the House of Correction may be informed of the approval of this recommendation -

sd. J. boyd
Civil Commandant
25/11/68

The Acting
Comp Genl

[Page 700]

Port Arthur
28th Nov.r 1868

Dear Sir,

I have the pleasure to transmit herewith copy of the Address to His Excellency Colonel Gore Browne C.B. which has been signed, and warmly supported by almost every resident upon Tasman's [indecipherable] Peninsula –

The names will be found to agree with those contained in the list of subscriptions forwarded to Mr Dunn the Treasurer on the 11th inst –

I remain
Dear Sir
Yours very truly
sd. J. Boyd

J. W. Browne Esq
Hon.r Secretary
to the Testimonial Committee

Memo'

The Assistant Commissary General requests that the following monthly returns may be forwarded to this Office immediately after the termination of each month, or so soon after as possible, to insure their being forwarded to England with the Account to which they relate.

* Return of Soldiers in Convict Hospital at Port Arthur
Do. of Free persons in Do.
Do. " persons in the occupation of free quarters
Do. " approved list of requisitions for Transport for the Asst. Com.y Genl

sd. Wm Bales
24/11/68.

The Acting
Comp Genl

The Commandant is requested to furnish these Returns by next post if possible

sd. C. T. Belstead
27/11/68 The

Note written across previous text:

Copy Forwarded to the Senior Medical Officer with the Civil Commandant's compliments – the two returns denoted thus * - # - are required to be [indecipherable] to the Asst Commissary General by the next post –

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
Port Arthur
30/11/68

The Senior Medical Officer

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The three first returns referred to will be furnishd as soon as possible after the end of the month as requested; but I have not any Knowledge of the other, as no such document has hitherto been required.

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
28th Novr 1868

The
Acting Comp Genl

Copy,

Note in margin:
Wm Curtis Anson

Recommended that this prisoner be released from the Separate prison, his health being indifferent

sd. Geo. Denham
S.M.O.
Nov 27th '68

The Civil Commandant

Memorandum,

The Civil Commandant has to report that in accordance with the recommendation of the Senior Medical Officer – the Convict above named has been released from the Separate Prison.

Curtis was detained therein under Magisterial recommendation dated 8th June last – vide Record annexed.

An approval of the release is requested – Record requested to be returned

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
Port Arthur
28th Novr 1868

The Acting
Comp Genl

Note written across previous text:

Submitted for the Governor's approval

sd. C. T. Belstead
2nd Decr. '68

Approved
sd. T Gore Browne

[Page 702]

Memorandum,

Referring to the Civil Commandant's report of the 21st inst: relative to the supply of certain Provisions to the Barque "Offley" Captain Davies of Hobart Town on that date, the Commandant encloses herewith ~~copy~~ copy of the Master's receipt for such.

The original papers upon which the issue was made have been forwarded to the Commissariat by the Commissariat Storekeeper at Port Arthur, and the Commandant has now to request that the Governor's authority for the said issue, may be obtained and furnished to the Assistant Commissary General, and a copy thereof transmitted to the Commandant

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
Port Arthur
28th Novr 1868

The Acting
Comp Genl

Memorandum,

With reference to the Minute of His Excellency the Governor, upon the excess in the cost of Convicts under sentence & of Lunatics at Port Arthur for the year 1867 as compared with 1866 – I have the honor to submit the following explanation – vizt.

Convicts under sentence

The cost of each convict under sentence in 1866 was £32..3..11

and Do Do Do in 1867 was £35..10..8¼
or an excess of £3..6..9¼

This arose from the following causes

1stly the sum of £679..3..9 pay & rations to the Civil Guard, which was a new & extra expense as compared with the year 1866, when the Guard was charged to the Imperial Government exclusively. 2ndly

[Page 703]

2ndly There were also sundry other extra items amounting in the aggregate to about £279 –

3rdly And to these foregoing sums the decrease in value of timber sold & of farm produce in 1867 vizt £378 – has to be added – making in all the sum of £1336 of an excess upon 1866

4thly From this excess, however, has to be deducted about £100, saved by the abolition of an Office for the year, & a very considerable reduction in the cost of rations under the new scales of dietary, from May to December 1867, which amounted to £384 – making together £484,- & reducing the extra expense to £852 or £1..16..6 per man.

5thly But, in addition to this sum, there has to be taken into consideration, the fact of the diminished number of men for last year, by which the divisor of the total cost of the Convicts was reduced from 494 to 466 – or 28 men – the charges for whom upon various items, had to be spread over the lesser strength, thereby increasing the net cost in excess per man to the sum of £3..6..9¼.

Lunatics

The cost of a Lunatic for 1866 was £34..1..8¼
and for 1867 £41..6..6
Difference £6..14..9¼

1stly This increase was owing, chiefly, to the pay & rations of 6 free Mechanics employed exclusively in erecting a new Asylum for the insane, having been charged to that class alone, & which amounted to about £630 or £6..16..11 per man

2ndly To this has to be added a very considerable sum about £1..13..3 per man resulting from the proportionate allotment to the insane [indecipherable] of various items

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items (which form general charges) having been much increased through the diminished strength of the Establishment

3rdly It will therefore be seen that the apparent excess was much larger than the amount actually charged, but by the adoption of the new scales of dietary a saving of about £1..15..5 per man was effected (including medical comforts) & thus the increased cost was brought down to £6..14..9¼ per Lunatic

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
Port Arthur
28th Novr 1868

The Acting Comp. Genl

Return of Materials supplied to Coll Govt & other public bodies to 30/6/68

Memo'

In forwarding the accompanying Returns, the Commandant begs to point out that, to render them complete it will be necessary to deduct the expenses of the sale by Auction of timber at Port Arthur in March last from the proceeds thereof & to insert the total of the Return.

Will the Acting Comptroller General be so good as to communicate the expenses of the sale to the Commandant for future reference.

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
1/12/68

The Acting
Comp Genl

24267

Endorst on Proceedings, of a Board appointed by His Excellency the Governor to report what prices should be charged for timber & material supplied to public Departments form P.A. during the half year ended 30/6/68.

Returned as requested

sd. J. Boyd

*James Boyd (Civil Commandant, Port Arthur) - Office letterbook, 1866-1869 from Tasmanian Papers, 1821-1877
Tas. Papers 315
Mitchell Library, State Library of NSW*

C. Comt
2/12/68

The Acting
Comp Genl

[Page 705]

Cornelius Hester "Equestrian"

This prisoner has Disease of the heart & Lungs & I recommend that his removal from chains be permanent

sd. Geo Denham
S.M.O.
Dec 5th 1868

The Civil Commandant

Submitted & recommended that the unexpired portion of the sentence to chains passed upon Prisoner Cornelius Hester per "Equestrian" on the 1st of Noovember 1865 be remitted.

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
5/12/68

The Acting
Comp Genl

Cornelius Hester F. by S. "Equestrian",

Hobt P.O. 17.9.64 Larceny 6 mos Impt & HL.
Hobt P.O. 3.10.64 Escaping 3 mos Do.
Deloraine 22.5.65 Larceny 12 mos Do.
L'ton 20.9.65 Escaping 3 yrs Do in chains
Hobt 1.11.65 Do 5 yrs Do Do

Memorandum

Instructions are requested as to whether the latter sentence of 5 yrs HL. in chains is to take effect from the date on which it was passed, or to be regarded as cumulative upon the previous sentence of 3 years in chains & commence upon the expiration of that sentence?

The Act of Council 27th Decb: No 20 does not specify that such sentences are to be cumulative upon previous existing sentences

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
4th Decr 1868

The Acting
Comp General

Hobarton

Note written across previous text:

Warrants herewith

Will the Attorney General be good enough to state whether this sentence is cumulative

sd. T. Belstead
8th Dec '68
Comp. Genl Office

The sentence of 5 yrs is not cumulative

sd. W. L. Dobson
8th Dec. 1868

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Port Arthur
2nd December 1868

Sir,

I have the honour to submit for the consideration of His Excellency the Governor the continued misconduct of the Prisoner named in the margin.

This man was received at Port Arthur in September 1864 under a sentence of Penal Servitude for Life (commuted from Death sentence) for "Wounding his wife with intent to kill and murder".

Aheran's conduct, almost from the day of his reception, has been extremely & continuously bad – in fact he is, without any exception, the most incorrigible Prisoner I have ever had under my charge.

Since his arrival he has committed, or attempted to commit, 4 assaults upon Officers of the Establishment, one of whom was the Clergyman of his own church. He has been 27 times charged with disobedience of orders, 5 times for wilfull destruction of public property, 4 times for insolence & abusive language to Officers, 3 times for Idleness, and 3 times for misconduct of a peculiarly disgusting character; but numerous as these offences are, they merely indicate an imperfect outline of the Convict's generally insubordinate behaviour. Very few days have at any time passed on which he has not been guilty of some misconduct or violation of the rules.

He has been subjected to various & frequent punishments, including heavy chains & close solitary confinement, and he is so obstinate that he will not enter an ordinary prison cell – preferring the refactory.

I have repeatedly resasoned with

The Acting
Comp General
Hobart Town

Margin notes:

Dan Ahearn per "Emma"

Police record herewith

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with the man, and used every argument & means within my power to induce him to amend his conduct, but in vain & when advised to allow his Clergyman to visit him, he has not only refused to do so, but has applied the worst language towards that gentleman.

The Convict has during his imprisonment been three times under medical observation for insanity, & on each occasion pronounced by the Senior Medical Officer to be sane. He has also at the request of His Excellency the Governor, examined by the Surgeons of H.M. Ships "Falcon" & "Challenger" on the 28th March 1866 & 10th February 1867 respectively, & declared by each of them to be of sound mind.

His case, however, is of a most remarkable character, & while he may not be actually be lunatic, there is, I think, reason to conclude that his mind is of such an exceptional & unimpressionable cast, that ordinary treatment & punishments have entirely failed for a period of four years to produce any change or good result.

It is, therefore, quite useless continuing to take the prisoner before Magistrates & having sentences passed upon him.

Under these circumstances, & in order that the Convict may not be any longer allowed to indulge in his desire to remain in the dark refactory cell, I have deemed it necessary to cause a large strong apartment, well lighted & ventilated, together with a separate exercise yard to be prepared for him, and I now recommend that, he may be removed thereto, being placed upon the ordinary Prison diet & regarded as a sem-lunatic, the Prison Medical Officer, who has charge of the insane, visiting him

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him, in his discretion, instead of the Junior Surgeon to whom the Prisoner is always grossly abusive.

I have the honour to be
Sir
Your most Obedient Servant
sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant

After reading the foregoing remarks of the Civil Commandant respecting the prisoner Daniel Ahearn I cannot but fully concur in the recommendation as to his further treatment believing as I do that continuance of solitary confinement in a dark cell must eventually lead to some aberration of mind.

I do not see anything at the present time to induce me to believe that this man is other than sane. I regard him as a man who has lost all hope in this world & consequently is defiant & reckless – had I reason to believe his mind was affected I should consider the Hospital for the Insane the proper place for him.

The entire medical control of this prisoner I willingly undertake.

sd. Geo Dinham
S.M.O.
Port Arthur
Dec. 4th 1868

[Page 709]

Memo

An Infusion of the tea issued to the Prisoners & complained of by them was tested by me yesterday & I consider it to be a very unsatisfactory article, & that a better description of tea should be supplied.

sd. Geo Dinham
S.M.O.
Decr. 8 68

Endorsement on the above.

Forwarded to the Commissariat Storekeeper with the Civil Commandant's compliments.

sd. J. Boyd
8 Decr 1868

Memorandum,

The Civil Commandant requests approval for the release from chains of the two Prisoners named in the margin. Forster on account of his improved conduct and the length of time he has been wearing chains; and Welch, in consequence of his being now released from the special modified treatment he was undergoing in the Separate Prison by order of His Excellency the Governor.

Police Records herewith.

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
9/12/68

The Astt
Comp Gen.

Endorst on Memo requesting the sentence under which Clempson Hill per "Equestrian" is held at Port Arthur.

Tried L'ton S. Ct. 4th Oct 1866. Breaking & Entering a store & thereupon 5 yrs. Imppt.

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Comt
9/12/68

The Acting
Comp. General

Margin note:

Forster Wm "Equestrian" 1/8/63 Further orders chains Magistrate recommnd.

Welch Geo "Theressa" 16/4/66 Further order chains Governors order

The following is overwriting on this page:

This man was convicted as Timothy Hill & should be referred to by that name as there is also a man named Clempson Hill by the same ship.

sd. C.J. Belstead
11/12/68

This man's warrant & police record are herewith forwarded for correction. It will be noticed that he is held under the name of Clempson Hill alias Albert Edward per Equestrian.

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commdt
19/12/68

The Acting
Comp Genl

[Page 710]

Port Arthur
9th December 1868

Return showing the number and description of Cattle, Sheep, and Swine which will probably be fit for slaughtering on or before the end of January or middle of February next, also the quantity of Butter and Eggs likely to be available for issue in lieu of fresh meat during the same period.

No. of Cattle	Description	Estimated Aggregate Weight – lbs	Total Weight lbs
5	Oxen	2750	2750
5	Steers	2000	2000
6	Cows	2400	2400
6	Heifers	2400	2400
8	Wethers	400	400
60	Ewes	3000	3000
12	Swine	840	840
		13,790	
	Butter 450 lbs equal to 1350 Fresh Meat	1350	
	Eggs no. 1350 “ “ 225 do.	<u>225</u>	
	Total	15,365	

or 85 1/2 Weeks supply in lieu of Salt Beef

Weekly average issue of Salt Meat about 180 lbs

sd. J.Boyd

Civil Commandant

The Asst. Comm Genl

Hobart Town

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Endorst on correpondence respecting Paupers being permitted to remain on board the “Harriet” the night previous to sailing

The paupers could not be properly accommodated on board the “Harriet” at night, as there is no shelter for them, excepting the hold containing the cargo, which would be seriously injured, if not partially destroyed, by the disgustingly dirty and diseased condition in which these persons usually are – and there would also be great risk of the wines & spirits being broached during the night.

I recommend that a Paupers' Ward be provided at the Penitentiary on the Brickfield's Depot.

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
12/12/68

The Acting
Comp Genl

Endorst on John Mooney's application for a Fishing Licence

I have no objection to the applicant having his fishing licence renewed, although he gave me some trouble by coming into Port Arthur without a licence on a recent occasion.

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
14/12/68

The Acting
Comp Genl

[Page 712]

Port Arthur
15th Dec 1868

Sir,

I have the honor to recommend that the situation of Third Clerk at this Establishment may be reduced on the 31st inst, and that one of the Constables now receiving 2s/-per diem may be allowed an extra shilling a day and employed in performing the duties now devolving upon the Clerk in question

By this arrangement the sum of £73.15.0 would be saved to the public annually.

Mr M P Aherne who fills the office of 3rd Clerk entered the Convict Service in April 1865

I have the honor to be Sir, Your most obedt Servt
Sd J Boyd CC

Acting Comp.Gen

Endorst on list of officers belonging to the Convict Establishment Tasmania.
Herewith

Sd J Boyd CC 19/12/68

The Acting Comp.Gen

Endorst on Petition of Thos Smith as Archer per " John Calvin'

This man's conduct has been good whilst he has been at Portt Arthur – The night watches to which he refers well performed in addition to his daily labor – Under these circumstances I beg to recommend that he be granted a remission of 3 months - An 8 years sentence is reduced, according to rules to 6 years

Sd J Boyd CC 19/12/68

The Acting Comp. Gen

[In margin] Police Record & CGM dated 6/8/61

[Page 713]

Memorandum,

A few days ago the Master of the Cutter " Duke of Edinburgh " was compelled from stress of weather, to put in at this port, when a small supply of rope and iron had to be issued upon his requisition to enable the vessel to put to sea

The Civil Commandant requests authority for this issue, & recommends that 25 per cent may be charged upon the Invoice price of the stores supplied in order to repay departmental & other incidental expenses - also, that such per centage may be charged in all similar issues thereafter

Sd J Boyd CC 19/12/68

The Acting Comp.Gen

[In margin]

Payment including this percentage has been recd for these stores

Memorandum

Will the Assistant Commissary General have the goodness to cause delivery vouchers to be furnished for the 6 Dictionaries received on requisition dated 8th July last, in order that the said Books may be brought on the Store Account for the current half year

Sd J Boyd CC Port Arthur 19/12/68

The Asst Commissary General & -A,
Hobart Town

[Page 714]

Rate of money earnings & industrial letter of Prisoners transferred to the House of Correction for Males on the 22nd May, 8th & 17th June, & 3rd July 1868 - also copy of monthly scale of money & task work credit to take effect from 30/6/68, & amended scale of prisoners earnings to commence 30/6/68 - forwarded to the Superintendent House of Correction for Males, Hobt Town.

19/12/68

Memo

Having laid the application for a paid attendant named briefly before the S.M. Officer he refuses to take any more invalids as attendat on the insane

This was to replace Donaley that was required in the Constabulary

Sd J Lawson
H Keeper. 23/12/68

The Civil Commandant

The man Brierly was applied for by the Head Keeper - applicaton herewith

Sd J Boyd CC 23/12/68

To the Senior Medical Officer
With the Civil Commandts complts

Endorst on resignation of Mr Asst Overseer Hawkins of 23rd Decr 1868

Submitted & recommended to be accepted

Sd J Boyd
CC 23/12/68

The Acting Comp.Gen.

[Page 715]

Memo

I have the honor to recommendt that Constable Walter Whittington , may be appointed Assistant Overseer in succession to Mr Edwin Hawkins resigned from this date Constable Whittington is a brother of the Keeper of the Separate Prison and of the Dry Stores Keeper at this Establishment

Sd J Boyd CC PA 23rd Ece 1868

The Acting Comptroller General

Receipt for £10-2-11 money earnings paid to Mr Fletcher per Hindustan is forwarded to the Supt H of Corrs for Males, Hobt.Town with the Civil Commandant's compts

Sd J C Paph C Clerk 22/12/68

Endorsement on application of Asst Overseer Ashton to be allowed to retire according to the regulations of the Service on the ground of ill health
Will the Senior Medical Officer have the goodness to report upon the state of health of Assistt Overseer Ashton

Sd J Boyd CC 24 Dercr 1868

The Senior Medical Officer
Port Arthur

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Port Arthur
26 December 1868

Return having the number and description of Cattle, Sheep and Swine which will probably be fit for slaughter between the present date and the end of February next, also the quantity of butter and eggs likely to be available for issue in lieu of fresh meat during the same period.

No of cattle &c	Description	Estimated aggregate weight lbs	Total weight lbs
5	Oxen	2750	2750
4	Steers	1600	1600
6	Cows	2400	2400
6	Heifers	2400	2400
5	Wethers	250	250
60	Ewes	3000	3000

12	Swine	840	840
----	-------	-----	-----

13240

Butter 360lbs equal to 1080lbs Fresh Meat 1,080
Eggs No 900 “ “ 150 Do 150

Total 14470

sd J Boyd.
Civil Commandant,

The Assistant Commissariat General
Hobart Town

[Page 717]

Port Arthur
24th December 1868

Sir

I have the honor and regret to inform you that I have been in a very bad state of health for some time back, having been on the Sick List four times within the last three months I feel that I cannot continue the performance of my duties as Assistant Overseer of the Establishment with satisfaction to myself or the public.- and as I am getting weaker daily, I humbly request I may be allowed to retire according to the Regulations of the Service.

I am Sir, your very humble Servant
Sd G Ashton
Assistant Overseer

The Civil Commandant

[In margin]

Mr Ashton entered the convict Service as a Constable on the 18th July 1866
Sd J B

Will the Senior Medical Officer have the goodness to report upon the state of health of Assistant Overseer Ashton

Sd J Boyd CC 24th December 1868

The Senior Medical Officer Port Arthur

Assistant Overseer Ashton is in a very indifferent state of health & to the best of my knowledge has been so from the time of taking office at this Establsihment, he having been a frequent applicant for Medical attention & medicines from that period to nearly the present time

Sd Geo Dinham S.M.O. Decr 28th 1868

The Civil Commandant.

[Page 718]

Endorsement on preceding

*James Boyd (Civil Commandant, Port Arthur) - Office letterbook, 1866-1869 from Tasmanian Papers, 1821-1877
Tas. Papers 315
Mitchell Library, State Library of NSW*

Submitted & recommended that Mr. Ashton be allowed to retire from the Convict service, and if he cannot be granted compensation, which I apprehend from the tenor of the medical reports to be impracticable that he be permitted to go on leave of absence for six weeks from the 1st prox, at the end of which period his connexion with the Department shall be terminated

Sd J Boyd CC 29/12/68

The Acting Comp.Genl

Commissary Tasmania
Hobart Town 8th Decr 1868

Sir

In order to prevent delay in the settlement of the accounts for Timber and Materials supplied from Port Arthur to the Army Departments in Hobart Town, I have the honor to request that instructions may be sent to the Commandant at Port Arthur to furnish a priced statement of such materials immediately after the close of each quarter, in order that the amounts recovered from Army funds may appear in the expenditure of the period during which the materials have been used.

I have the honor to be Sir Your most obedt Servnt
Sd Henry Bartlett A.C.G.

The Comptroller General

[Page 719]

The Commandant is request to comply

Sd C.J.Belstead
Comp. Genls Office
10/12/68

Endorston preceding

In order to enable the Civil Commandant to prepare the returns in question he has to request information on the following points

1. Are the prices recently approved, for materials &co furnished from Port Arthur during the half year ended 30th June last, to be taken for the current half year?
2. As the return of all materials furnished during the whole of the year 1868 will be ready for transmission by the middle of next month - will it be necessary, also to render separately, the returns for the quarter ended 31st inst.
3. And for the future – will it be necessary to render yearly returns after having furnished the same information quarterly ?

sd J Boyd CC PA 30th December 1868

The Acting Comp.Genl

[Page 720]

Port Arthur
30th Decr 1868

Memo

Will the Acting Comptroller General be good enough to cause 3 copies of the Act of Council 32nd Vict. No.11 to be furnished to this office as soon as possible – also the following portions of the Govt Gazette to complete the file 1868 – pages 367 to 368 ,479 to 481, 521 to 522, 807 to 814, 1325 to 1352 inclusively

J Boyd CC

The Acting Comptroller General

Endorsement on memo from the Senior Medical Officer as to when the new No.8 ward can be occupied by patients

Referred to the Foreman of Works

Sd J B 31/12/68

This ward is completed & can be occupied at once

Sd Geo Smith FW

The Civil Commandant

For the information of the S.M.O. with the Commandts complts

Sd H Byd 31/12/68

The Senr.Medl Officer.

[Page 721]

Memo

I have much pleasure in certifying that Mr Michael P Aherne has been employed at this Establishment chiefly in my office, since the 29th April 1865, and that his conduct and attention to his duties have at all times merited my entire approval
Mr Aherne leaves the service in consequence of his situation having been discontinued, and carries with him my best wishes for his happiness and advancement in life.

Sd J Boyd CC
Tasman Peninsula
Tasmania

31st Decbr 1868

Certified that Mr Edwin Hawkins has ben employed as Constable, Paid Attendant of insane and , Assistant overseer at Port Arthur Tasman`s Peninsula from the 13th of Octbr 1866 to 23rd Decbr1868 when he resigned
I always found him sober, energetic and intelligent

Sd J Boyd CC

Port Arthur
31st Decbr 1868

Endorsement on application of Jno Smith pr Richmond to be invalidated

Referred to the Acting Comptroller General should not this man's maintenance be a charge upon Imperial Funds.

Sd W Tarleton 29th Decr 1868

Can the Commandant give any information as to the

[Page 722]

the state of this man's health when he was a pauper at Port Arthur

sd C J Belstead 30 Decr.1868

This pauper left Port Arthur about the 3rd of Decbr last in very good health – He had been employed as a wardman in the hospital for 18 months previous to leaving PA. His sight was imperfect but not so bad as to prevent him from earning his livelihood. I have never known him to require any medical treatment & I regarded him as a remarkably hale and vigorous old man

Sd Geo Dinham SMO
Jany 2 1869

Returned to the Actg Comptroller General with the Senior Medical Officer's report in Smith's case – He arrived here on 11/3/67 was discharged on 3/12/68 upon his own application to earn his living

Sd J Boyd CC 2/1/69

Acting Comp. Genl

Memo

Will the Actg Comptroller General have the goodness to furnish a dozen sheet Almanacs for the use of the public offices at Port Arthur and for outstations

Sd J Boyd CC PA 6/1/69

Acting Comptroller General

[Page 723]

Endorsement on invaliding paper of Wm Dickenson

Forwarded to the Acting Comptroller General for the necessary approval
Applicant has been employed as a Constable at Port Arthur for some time past and as his health has recently become very bad he is now quite unfit for further duty, he is also unable to proceed to Hobt Town,
Under these circumstances he was brought upon the Pauper account on the 1st instant, He is a patient in hospital

Sd J boyd CC 4/1/69

Acting Compt General

Receipt for Mr Bryant's money earnings £4.1.5 returned to Suptdt H of Corrections Hobt .Town

Book of dog licenses returned to the Colonial Auditor showing 45 licenses issued on Tasman's Peninsula at 5/0 each £11-5-0

Return of £11-5-0 dog license money forwarded with the usual printed form of Declaration to the Assr Colonial Treasurer by post
6/1/69

[Page 724]

Memo

The Civil Commandt recommends the temporary release from chains of the Prisoner named in the margin consequent upon his removal to the new cell approved of for his confinement

Sd J Boyd CC PA 2nd Jany 1869

The Acting Compt.General

[In margin]

Dan Aherne Emma
PA 5/10/65 Causing grievous bodily
Harm, 5 yrs HL in chains

Will the Senior Medical Officer be so good as to report whether he sees any objection to this recommendation being submitted for approval

Sd J Boyd CC

I quite agree with the Civil Commandant that it is desirable this prisoner should not wear chains while confined in the new cell

Sd Geo Dinham SMO
Jany 2 1869

Civil Commandant

Endorsement on letter from the Foreman of Works in refernce to prisoner Jno Hartwell per "Lucan"

Frowarded for the information of the Keeper of the House of Correction for Males Hobt.Town , in reference to the money given up by prisoner Hartwell on his arrival from Port Arthur. That money was no doubt obtained dishonestly and had been concealed at the time he was searched; it is therefore in my opnion forfeited to the public.

Sd J Boyd CC 9/1/69

Thomas Reidy Esq

[Page 725]

Memorandum

*James Boyd (Civil Commandant, Port Arthur) - Office letterbook, 1866-1869 from Tasmanian Papers, 1821-1877
Tas. Papers 315
Mitchell Library, State Library of NSW*

The prisoner named in the margin has completed upwards of two thirds of his sentence of Penal Servitude and in consideration of his meritorious conduct in having apprehended an absconder- Martin Hainsbury per Rodney – on the 2nd of July last, the Civil Commandant recommends that the unexpired period of his sentence may be remitted and that he may be discharged to Hobart Town by first opportunity
General conduct at Port Arthur good,

Sd J Boyd CC PA
9th Jany 1869

Acting Comptroller General

[In margin]
Bernd Nulty ,Rodney
[Indecipherable] SB 6/1/59
Robby under arms, 15 yrs P.S.
(a commutation)
P.A. 16/7/63 Using threatening language ,14 days S.C.
Present unexpired perod 5 years- less 3 days
Is allowed a remissn of one third by scale.

[Page 726]

I have this day seen the man named in the margin & he promises if released from the Separate Prison to give no further trouble & obey orders. I therefore recommend him to be released from confinement

Sd J. K. Lewis JP J.M.O.9/1/69

Civil Commandant

[In margin]
Porter John "Equestrian"

Memorandum

In accordance with the recommendation of the Convicting Magistrate, herewith attached, the Civil Commandant recommends that the prisoner named in the margin may be released from the Separate Prison, where he has been confined since the 22nd of Octbr last

Sd J Boyd CC PA 9th Jany 1869

Acting Comptroller General

[In margin]
Jn Porter as Orsin, "Equestrian"
Tried P.A.22/10/68, disobedt of orders.
14 day Solity Conft. & recommend to be afterwards confined in the Sep.Prison until further orders.

Certified that Mr Michael P Aherne has served under my order at this Establishment as Constable and Clerk from the 29th April 1865 to the 31st December 1868 during which period he discharged his public duties in a most correct manner and also with diligence and sobriety Mr Aherne has been granted leave of absence from (Indecipherable) to [indecipherable]

Sd J Boyd CC PA 9th Jany 1869

Indecipherable text overwritten sideways.

[Page 727]

Memorandum

Assistant Overseer Keith is informed in reply to his letter of yesterday's date, requesting to be furnished with copies of the deposition and decisions in the cases investigated by the Commandant on 6th inst – viz Mr Sullivan's complaint against Mr Keith and Mr Keith versus Mr Hill –Also, to be allowed 7 days leave of absence – that the Commandant declines acceding to his requests.

Sd J Boyd CC 8th Jany 1868 (sic)

Assistant Overseer Keith Port Arthur

Endorsement on authority dated 28/9/68 for the employment of tinsmith Edwd Payne per [indecipherable]

Edward Payne the tinsmith named in this authority left Port Arthur prior to the accept of the recommend

He was however, replaced by Mr Jones on the 24th Oct last. And as the 3 months extended employment will expire in a few days – the Civil Commandant recommends that a further extension of 3 months be sanctioned. There not being any prisoner available for the performance of the work required

Sd J Boyd CC PA 20 Jany 1869

The Actg Comp.General

[Page 728]

Commissariat Port Arthur
21st Jany 1869

Sir

I beg to inform you that the meat contractor has now on hand enough stock to supply the demands up to next Friday –January the 29th 1869

I have the honor to be sd [indecipherable] Commissariat

J Boyd Esq, CC PA

Endorsement

Forwarded for the information of the Superintendent of Agriculture – Arrangements will have to be made to commence slaughtering the Govt Stock on Wednesday the 27th ins.

A supply of about 2800 lbs of meat weekly will be required by the Provision Storekeeper for the whole Establishment as long as the Cattle, Sheep & swine lasts.

By [indecipherable] of Civil Commandant

Sd J Paph
C Clerk 20/1/69

Mr J – Luttrell Supd of Agriculture

[Page 729]

Port Arthur 23 rd Jany 1869

Sir

I again beg most respectfully to apply for 7 days leave of absence and to proceed to Hobart Town by this trip of the schooner

Sd Fredk A.Keith Assistant Overseer

The Civil Commandant

Assistant Overseer Keith cannot be spared at present

Sd J Boyd CC 23.1.69

Endorsement on list of Hard Wood Timber required in the erection of projected huts for military at Hobart Town.

Will the Commandant be good enough to report whether he has any timber available of the dimensions required

Sd C.J.Belstead
Comptroller General's Office
19th January 1869

The only timber now available to meet this demand is shown in the column of remarks vide accompanying correspondence on the subject

Sd J Boyd CC 23/1/69

The Acting Comptroller General

[Page 730]

[Port Arthur]
Jany 23 1869

I beg respectfully to call your attention to the nails which have lately arrivced at Port Arthur, being part of the demand for 1868-9

The No 81s which have been sent for shingle nails are totally unfit for the purpose and cannot be used as they would split the shingles.

The No 15's are also unsuitab le and will not drive into the timber without splitting it, unless holes were bored for them which would take double the time to perform the work

I am Sir. Your obedt servt. George Strutt F.W.

J Boyd Esq. CC

[Written sideways and over above text]

Referred to the military store officer.

Sd C J Belstead 26Jany 69

It would be advisable in future demands to state the description of nail required. It is not sufficient to give the number alone of the nail, but it should be stated whether "chisel pointed" or " [indecipherable] pointed' nails are required. This applies to all sorts of nails.

[indecipherable] be necessary to purchase the nails demanded as we have none in store if His Excellency the Governor should approve the requisition
Sd Hy Bartlett
9/1/69

I refer this to the Commandant before acting upon his memorandum of the 30th ulto on the subject – the memo is returned attached
Sd C J Belstead a2 Feby 69

A report is requested of the quantity of powder & ammunition demanded for 1869-70

Sd C J B

[Continuation of normal text]

Submittee for the information of the Acting Comptroller General
Sd H Boyd 23.1.69

(Accompanying the above was a requisition for 500 lbs of shingle nails and 500 lbs of Batten nails

Certified that Mr George Ashton has served under my orders as a discipline officer at this Establishment since the 18th July 1866, and that his conduct and attention to his duties have been satisfactory.

Mr Ashton leaves the Convict Service for the purpose of proceeding to some of the other Colonies with the view of improving his position, and in which I hope he may be successful

Sd J Boyd CC

Port Arthur 23rd Jany 1869

[Page 731]

Memorandum,

The Civil Commandant reports for the information of the Acting comptroller General that the Cutter "Duke of Edinburgh" from Hobart Town bound to Launceston put in at Port Arthur this morning through stress of weather; also that the Ketch "Alice Rostron" put in this afternoon from the same cause.

sd J Boyd
Civil Commandant
Port Arthur 23 Jany. 1869
The Acting Comptroller General

Hobart Town

Memorandum

In accordance with the recommendation of the Senior Medical Officer, the Civil Commandant has to report that he released the Prisoner named in the margin from the Separate Prison for which an approval is now requested.

Meagher ten out of the sentence of 14 days solitary confinement passed upon him on the 8th inst. for "Disobed'ce of Orders".

sd J Boyd
Civil Commandant
Port Arthur
21st Jany. 1869

The Acting Comptroller General

*James Boyd (Civil Commandant, Port Arthur) - Office letterbook, 1866-1869 from Tasmanian Papers, 1821-1877
Tas. Papers 315
Mitchell Library, State Library of NSW*

[In the margin:]
Will'm. Meagher
"Sir J. Byng"
31/5/64 – 10 yrs. Imp't

Port Arthur 8/1/69
Disod'd of Orders
14 days Solit'y Conf't.

Will'm Meagher)
Sir J. Byng)
Recommended that this Prisoner be released being rather low in condition
sd Geo: Dinham
S.M.O.
Jany. 18 / 69
The Civil Commandant

[Page 732]

Memo.
Will the Acting Comptroller General have the goodness to furnish the Civil Commandant with a duplicate of the decision of the Governor in council in the cases of the Convicts named in the margin in order to enable him to complete the files of decisions in cases of Life Prisoners at Port Arthur.
sd J Boyd
Civil Commandant
Port Arthur
23 Jany. 1869
The Acting comptroller General

[In the margin:]

John Shackleton
"indecipherable of Hastings"
4/12/55 Life P. S.
Ordered to serve 7 years
on Probation for a Free
Pardon from 24/3/66
sd G. Nairn
C General 3/8/66
Pat'k O'Hara
P. indecipherable:

Memo
The Warrant received with the Prisoner named in the margin on his arrival at Port Arthur on 16th August last having been mislaid, the civil Commandant will feel much obliged if the Acting comptroller General will be good enough to cause a duplicate thereof to be furnished as soon as convenient.
sd J Boyd
Civil Commandant
Port Arthur
23 Jany. 1869
The

Acting comptroller General

[Page 733]

Memorandum

The order has now been received for the discharge of the Prisoner named in the margin, whose sentence expires by lapse of time on the 26th inst. and who was reported on the 2nd inst. for discharge.

He will, however, be sent up to the House of Correction by the Schooner "Harriet" on Monday next when he will have one day of his sentence to complete.

It is requested that an order for his discharge may be forwarded.

sd J Boyd

Civil Commandant

Port Arthur

23rd Jany. 1869.

The Acting Comptroller General

[In the margin:]

David S Keats

"Aboukir"

Hob't S. C. 27/1/63

Burglary

6 yrs. P. S.

Memo

The Assistant Overseer Ashton having ceased to perform all duty at this Establishment, has entered upon the leave of absence allowed to him on leaving the Service. He proceeds to Hob't Town by the present trip of the Schooner; and as he informs me that his object is to reach Melbourne as soon as possible I would beg to recommend that he may now receive 6 weeks pay for the term of his leave.

He has been granted a pay ticket for 23 days of the present month.

sd J Boyd

Civil Commandant

Port Arthur

25 Jany. 1869

The Acting Comptroller General

[Page 734]

Memo

The civil Commandant has to report that the Convict named in the margin, whose release from the Separate Prison was approved on the 17th Nov'r. last, has this day voluntarily applied to be committed into this Establishment.

He assigned as his reasons for so doing his desire to guard against the consequences of his passionate and impulsive temper and to avoid any temptations to a break or otherwise misconduct himself which might arise from indecipherable associating with other prisoners.

As Welch is a most dangerous and excitable character, the Commandant has deemed it expedient to accede to his application, and now requests authority for the Convict's confinement in The Prison under the same modified form of indecipherable as he was at the time of his release.

sd J boyd

Civil Commandant

Port Arthur

23 Jan'y. 1869
The Acting Comptroller General

[In the margin:]

George Welch
indecipherable
28/10/56 Life Impt.
28/10/62 Life P. S.

Extract from Senior Medical Officer's Report book of the Lunatic Department.

20 per cent Flour issued in the place of 30 per cent without the knowledge or approval of the Senior medical Officer, such irregularity produces confusion in the Hospital Accounts.

sd Geo: Dinham

S. M. O. 24 Jany 1869

Forwarded to the Commissariat Storekeeper with the Civil Commandant's compliments

sd J boyd

Civil Commandant

25. 1. 69

[Page 735]

having no Fine Flour in store, I informed the Civil Commandant that I would have to issue 20 per cent in lieu – The commandant assented to this. I also informed the Wardmaster of the Hospital that 20 per cent Flour would be issued in lieu of Fine, as there was none of the latter in Store, and accordingly 20 per cent was issued from the 16th to the 21st instants inclusively and the 20 per cent Flour was of very good quality.

sd T, G. Garde

Commissariat

Port Arthur

25.1.69

The civil Commandant

Port Arthur

For the information of the Senior Medical Officer with the civil commandant's complts.

sd J Boyd

C. C.

26. 1. 69

Qr. Statistical Return Dated 25 January 1869

Proportion of net Expenditure Chargeable to

Colonial Government £12,069. 11. 0

Imperial Government 14,034. 1. 6

The Accounts have been inserted as requested.

(Signed) J Boyd

Civil Commandant

Port Arthur 27.1.69

The Acting Comptr. General

[Page 736]

Recommended to be released from the prison and placed to out door Employment.

(Signed) Geo. Dinham S. M. O.

January 27 1869.
The Civil Commandant

[In the margin:]

Edward Sullivan
as Sweetman
"Cadet"

Memorandum

In accordance with the recommendation of the Senior Medical Officer the Civil Commandant has released the Prisoner above named from the Separate Prison for out door labor, for which an approval is requested.

Sullivan was detained in the Prison under a Magisterial recommendation Dated 1st June last on account of his misconduct, vide Police Record annexed.

sd J boyd

Civil Commandant
Port Arthur 27.1.69
The Act'g Compt'r Gen'l

Endorsement on the query respecting the December Telegraphic Returns

The Return mentioned herein was the first that was prepared in this office during the present Gov. handwritten to indecipherable was posted on the 11th inst. It was addressed in the usual manner as a "Money Letters" to The Sup't. Telegraphy Hobart Town

10/10d was the amount enclosed with the Return, including the message of the 29th Ult.

Respt'y.

P K indecipherable

Acct. P A 27/1/69

The civil commandant

Forwarded for the information of the Sup't of Telegraphs with the Civil Commandant's compliments.

sd J boyd

Civil Commandant 27.1.69
The Sup't of Telegraphy Hob't Town

[Page 737]

Port Arthur 27 Jan'y 1869

Memo

I have to recommend that, in consequence of the Government schooner not now calling at Wedge Bay so often as formerly and it being necessary that that vessel should occasionally touch at Norfolk Bay for Passengers as also owing to the latter station being on the direct road to Hobart Town and a place where persons frequently stop on their journey to and from Port Arthur, the allowance of a shilling a day to the Constable at the Wedge Bay Station for providing refreshments to passengers per Schooner may be divided equally between the Constables at Wedge and Norfolk Bay Stations.

This alteration will not cause any additional expense and be a fair division of the present allowance.

I beg also to advise that the sum of a shilling a day granted to late Constable Bartley for supervising the Bush Sawyers and Splitters upon the Office of Sup't of Timber having been abolished in March 1867 may be allowed to Constable Blythe as a fit successor to Bartley who has been so advised.

sd J. Boyd

Civil Commandant

*James Boyd (Civil Commandant, Port Arthur) - Office letterbook, 1866-1869 from Tasmanian Papers, 1821-1877
Tas. Papers 315*

Mitchell Library, State Library of NSW

The Actg. Comptroller General

Memo

Assistant Overseer Keith's observations upon his daily report of Mechanics for the 28th inst. are not only objectionable and uncalled for, but are evidently intended to be disrespectful to the commandant.

Mr Keith is again cautioned to be more careful in abstaining from such improper and offensive conduct.

He is requested to confine himself strictly to the instructions given him by the Station Officer in the preparation of his daily report.

sd J Boyd

Civil Commandant

Port Arthur

29 January /69

Assistant overseer Keith

[Page 738]

Endorsement on Memo enquiring as to the likelihood of certain Boilers in the Military Store Department being required at Tasman's Peninsula.

None of these boilers are likely to be required for Port Arthur.

sd J Boyd

28.1.69

The

Acting Comptroller General

Receipt to Superintendent House of Correction for expirees earnings (Pollock & Mellor) £7. 0 . 6

30/1/69

Memorandum

Assistant Overseer Keith's letter of yesterday has been received. In reply he is informed that the Commandant is perfectly satisfied with the arrangements made by the Station Officer for securing the safe custody and orderly conduct of the Prisoners when attending Divine Service.

Mr Keith according to his own statement was guilty of great imprudence in disturbing the men after they had been seated in Church as by doing so they appear to have become excited and it was well that some most unseemly disruption to the service did not take place.

He must on no account exhibit such an utter want of judgement in future or the Commandant will have to take very serious notice of his conduct.

sd J. Boyd

Civil Commandant

2nd Feb'y. 1869

Assistant Overseer Keith

[Page 739]

Memo'

The Commandant has received Mr Keith's explanation of his neglect in having been 35 minutes late for duty last evening. There appears to be some excuse and under the

circumstances the Commandant will allow the matter to pass with a caution to Mr Keith to pay greater attention to the duty roster in future.

sd J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
2nd Feby: 1869

Assistant Overseer Keith

Memorandum

As the Nails and Rivets required upon the Annual demand for this Establishment for 1869-70 were specified according to Numbers, as on former occasions – I beg to submit the following description of the sorts required; prepared in accordance with the suggestion of the Directors of Convict prisons in England as per enclosed correspondence – “Mr Gambier to Mr Elliott” dated 6th October 1868 and I trust that this information may reach England in time to mean the despatch of the Correct Kinds, as some of the nails just received on the demand for 1868-9 are found to be quite unsuitable.

Horse Shoe Nails:

No 9 should be 2¼ in long pick pointed weight 100 to the lb
10 " " 2½ " " " 90 "
11 " " 2¾ " " " 70 "

Nails

14	"	2	"	chisel pointed	100	"
15	"	2½	"	"	80	"
19	"	4	"	"	30	"
81	"	1½	"	"	200	"
94	Beads	1¼	"	"	800	"
95	"	1½	"	"	470	"
98	"	2½	"	"	80	"
Cleats	"	1½	"	"	100	"

Rivets, Size No 12, for Tinsmiths use –

Correspondence

[Page 740]

Correspondence from England on the subject, herewith returned

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
Port Arthur
30th January 1864

The Acting Comptroller General

Report of the quantity of Powder and Caps demanded for the use of the Convict Establishment at Port Arthur for the years 1869-70 –

Large Grain – lbs – 90
Powder Fine Grain – lbs – 25
Halls Glass – lbs – 12

Colts Revolver – No. 2000
Caps Double Barrel Rifles Joyces No 18 - No. – 2000

*James Boyd (Civil Commandant, Port Arthur) - Office letterbook, 1866-1869 from Tasmanian Papers, 1821-1877
Tas. Papers 315
Mitchell Library, State Library of NSW*

sd J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
Port Arthur
3rd February 1869

The
Acting Comptroller General

Hobart Town

[Page 742]

Memorandum,

I find upon examining the Officers' Complaint Book that the following entry has been made by Assistant Overseer Keith for last month.

"No complaints and nothing to report – On hearing from His Excellency on his visit to the Peninsula is however most humbly solicited. F. Keith" –

I have to point out to Mr Keith that while there can be no objection on my part to any Officer having an interview with His Excellency the Governor when visiting the Establishment, the book ordered by the 14th section of the Regulations to be kept for the entry of complaints or reports of irregularities, is not the proper place in which requests should be submitted.

Assistant Overseer Keith is therefore directed to immediately expunge the request referred to from the Complainant Book, and to address his application in the usual manner, as provided for by the 44th section of the Regulations.

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
4th Febr: 1869

Assistant Overseer Keith
Port Arthur

Separate Prison
1st Febr: 1869.

Note in margin:
James Williamson
Sir J Byng.

Recommended that this Prisoner be released from the Separate Prison.

sd. George Dinham
Senior Medical Officer

The Civil Commandant

Memorandum

[Page 743]

Memorandum

Note in margin:
James Williamson
"Sir J. Byng"
P.A. 8/1/69 Disobce
of Orders 30 days
Solitary Confinement

In accordance with the recommendation of the Senior Medical Officer, copy of which is annexed, the Civil Commandant reports that he released the Prisoner named in the margin, from the Separate Prison, where he had been confined since the 8th ulto, under sentence of 30 days Solitary Confinement, passed upon him on that date for "Disobedience of Orders", in positively refusing to perform any work.

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
Port Arthur
3rd February 1869

The
Acting Comptroller General

Hobart Town

Port Arthur
6th Feby 1869

Sir,

Note in margin:
Nos. 1 to 4

With reference to your letter of yesterday's date, enclosing, for my selection, four samples of Nails offered for the Service at Port Arthur in reply to your advertisement, I have the honor to inform you that those marked Nos 1 & 3 upon the sample card will be most suitable for the requirements of this Establishment.

The sample Card is herewith returned.

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your most obedt. Servt.
sd J. Boyd
Civil Commandant

D.A.b.f Troup

Hobart Town

[Page 744]

Memo' in reference to labor report

The paid Mechanics work is to be omitted in the daily report and returned weekly, in detail, as already directed.

The work of the Prisoners, Mechanics and Laborers, is returned in a vague and altogether too summary a manner. – The amount of work performed, whenever such can be specified, is to be shewn; and in the other cases not admitting of this accuracy, the progress of the work is to be stated concisely.

sd J. Boyd
Civil Commandt
10th Febry: 1869

Assistant Overseer Keith
through the
Station Officer

Endorsement on Invaliding documents of In Robinson per "Eliza" calling for report from Senr. Medl. Officer –

The disease for which this man was invalided at Port Arthur in Novbr: 1865 originated about the beginning of that year – his health afterwards improved & he was employed in various ways for nearly three years previous to leaving Port Arthur – he had occasional attacks of debility. – I found him to be a man disposed to make much of his aliments.

sd. Geo: Dinham
S.M.O.
Febry: 16. 69

Returned with the Senior Medical Officer's report

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandt
Port Arthur
17th Febry. 1869

The Acting Comptroller General

Reply to Query from Home respecting Books purchased for the Public Library or School sent by post to Ass. Commissy Genl.

Vide – Queries and Replies – Book
17/2/69

[Page 745]

Memorandum

I have inspected some Bacon to-day objected to by two of the Paupers who complain that it is rancid and not fit to eat. The Bacon in question is certainly of the very poorest quality, and I much doubt if it is fit for food. – I consider that such an Article should not be received from the Contractor.

The quality of the Bacon for a long time past has been very bad, and at least 20 perCent of it (including bone) has been unfit to eat.

(Signed) G. Dinham
S.M.O.
February 23rd. 1869.

The Civil Commandant

Endorsement on preceeding.

Forwarded for the information of the Commissariat StoreKeeper.

If there is any more of the same description of Bacon in Store, it had better be submitted to a Board or returned to Hobart Town, as Mr Garde may deem most advisable. The article complained of appears to be unfit for issue.

(Signed) J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
23.2.69

The Commissariat StoreKeeper
Port Arthur

The Bacon complained of herein was inspected by the Assist Cmmmissary General when that Gentleman was at Port Arthur and he desired me to make an allowance on the same of 5 per cent which I have done. I also beg to observe that about 25 lbs of the same quality of Bacon is now on hand in the Station Store.

(Signed) T.G. Garde
Commissariat
24/2/69

The
Civil Commandant

[page 746]

Mr Garde had better shew the Bacon remaining on hand to the Senr Medical Officer, and explain to Dr Dinham what the Assist Commissary General said, as to the percentage –

Signed
J. Boyd
Civil Comandant

24 Febry 1869.

The
Commissariat StoreKeeper
Port Arthur

CD. 62

Memo

The Colonial Secretary will feel obliged by the Acting Comptroller General ascertaining from the Civil Commandant at Port Arthur how soon he could send up 44,000 shingles which are urgently required for roofing of the Cow Sheds and stabling at the Queens Asylum.

The Colonial Secretary will be glad of an answer by return of Post

(Signed)

B Travers Solly
23rd Febry 1869.

The Acting Comptroller General

The Commandant is requested to furnish the information required by the Colonial Secretary having regard to the demands already received for Shingles of which a list is required.

(Signed)

C.T. Belstead
Acting Compt Genl
23rd Febr 1809

The
Civil Commandant
Port Arthur

The 44,000 shingles herein required could be furnished in 3 weeks from the date of an approved demand being received at Port Arthur. the only order for shingles now due is one for 180,000 for Launceston where are ready for shipment –

(sd) J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
24th Febr 1869

The
Acting Comptroller General

[Page 747]

Civil Commandants Office
Port Arthur
24th Febr 1869

Sir

I have the honor to acquaint you that Assistant Overseer Aspinsall has reported to me that, late Assistant Overseer Keith whilst under suspension from duty last week, called at his quarters and spoke at some length respecting his case; asked Aspinnall for his Book of Regulations which he (Aspinall refused – Keith then said in a jocular manner that if Aspinnall “would not give him the Book he would steal it” -

It also appears from the statements of Mr Aspinnall's Wife and some friends who were visiting her, that Keith actually took the Book from a shelf, and after reading some portion of it aloud, placed it in his pocket. – Aspinnall says that at this time he had gone upon duty and left Keith in his quarters. –

Under these circumstances there appears to be no doubt that the man Keith, who left the Peninsula on his dismissal being communicated to him, took the book of Regulations, without any permission, from Assistant Overseer Aspinnall's quarters and for some improper purpose, I therefore recommend that the pay due to him for 12 days in the present month be withheld until he returns the said Book which is the property of the public. –

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your most obed. Servt.
(sd) J. Boyd
Civil Commandant

The Acting Comptroller General

Memorandum

I have the honor to recommend that Constable Michael Cochrane of the Civil Guard may be appointed Assistant Overseer vice Keith dismissed. –

Cochrane is an active intelligent person 31 years of age, and has seen considerable service in the field whilst he belonged to H.M. 57th Regt & for which services he holds 2 medals and 1 clasp.

(sd) J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
Port Arthur
24th Feby: 1869

The Acting Comptroller General

[Page 748]

Memorandum,

The Civil Commandant recommends that Mr Joseph D. Hill 2nd Clerk at this Establishment may be appointed Assistant Schoolmaster at 1s/0d per diem – in succession to Mr M.P. Aherne resigned – from 1st inst:

Mr Hill is well qualified for the Office, and has had charge of the Prisoners' Evening School since Mr Aherne left Port Arthur. –

(sd) J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
Port Arthur
24th Feby: 1869

The
Acting Comptroller General

Return of the number of Bricklayers, Masons, Stonecutters & Quarrymen under sentence at Port Arthur forwarded to the Col. Treasurer thro' the Acting Comptroller general. Draft of Return filed.
24/2/69

Memorandum –

For some considerable time past much difficulty has been experienced in obtaining the services of competent persons to act as Attendants in the Hospital for the Insane at Port Arthur, and resort has been had to the Pauper class to fill the frequent vacancies – experience has shewn that these Paupers are most unfit persons to have the care of Insane patients, and I think their services should be dispensed with. At the same time I stongly recommend that some addition be made to the present rate of pay with the view of securing the services of a suitable class of persons for a lengthened period –

The present rate of pay is so little appreciated by the attendants generally that it has been a matter of common occurrence for them at once to resign upon being reprimanded for any neglect – These constant changes among the attendants, render the management of the Hospital a matter of much difficulty and are in many

*James Boyd (Civil Commandant, Port Arthur) - Office letterbook, 1866-1869 from Tasmanian Papers, 1821-1877
Tas. Papers 315*

Mitchell Library, State Library of NSW

[Page 749]

many ways prejudiced to the Inmates – As far as possible, the general character and peculiarities of each patient should be Known to the Attendants and this desideratum can only be attained by these persons connecting themselves with the Hospital for a long time –

One hundred and three persons are now under restraint in the Hospital may of them are very dangerous characters and several are addicted to the most horrible practices, requiring constant supervision – At present there are twelve attendants allowed – nine of them receive 2/- per diem and three receive 1/- per diem – it is seldom that the number is complete –

With the view of securing an efficient staff of attendants I would suggest the adoption of the following graduated scale of pay and number of attendants – vizt.

Eleven Attendants –
Two at 3/- per diem
Seven at 2/6 per diem
Two at 3/- per diem

Signed
Geo Dinham
Senr Med Officer
Port Arthur
27 Feby 1869

Forwarded to the
Civil Commandant for
transmission to Hobart
Town

(Transmitted)

The present staff consists of one head Keeper two under Do and twelve attendants – one under Keeper was reduced in Feby 1866 – there can be no doubt that the augmented stipends proposed by the Senior Medical Officer would prove an inducement to eligible persons to enter the service of the Lunatic Branch, and from the hope of promotion to a higher rate of pay to remain therein the increases recommended amount together, to £136.1/-s/6d per annum but from this, the sum of £37-4-1 has to be deducted for the pay & rations of the twelfth attendant, whom it is proposed to reduce, leaving the net increase £99.13.5

Under the circumstances I concur with the senior Medical Officer and recommend his proposal for

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approval.

(Signed)
J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
2nd March 1869

The
Acting Comptroller General

Memorandum,

The Civil Commandant reports that the man named in the margin who is this day discharged from sentence, has been retained as Shepherd for the Government Sheep on the Peninsular, in which capacity he has been employed for a considerable time past.

Davis is the most suitable person at Port Arthur for this occupation, and has expressed his willingness to remain.

Authority for his maintenance at this Establishment as a Colonial Pauper is requested.

(Signed) J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
Port Arthur
3rd March, 1869

The
Acting Comptroller General

Hobart Town

Margin:

David Davis
"Caledonia"
Colonial Invalid
under Sentence

[Page 751]

Memorandum,

I respectively beg to bring to your notice that the tobacco received from the Commissariat Store, short weight yesterday and this day $\frac{1}{2}$ an ounce of the proper quantity. The same was drawn by Mr. Frost and weighed in his presence.

(Signed) J. Lawson
Head Keeper
9.3.69

G. Dinham Esq.
Senior Medical Officer

This Memo of the Head Keeper is forwarded to the Civil Commandant the quantity of tobacco stated to be deficient alth. small in quantity is equal to two Rations.

(Signed) G. Dinham
S.M.O.
10. 3. 69

Referred to Mr. Garde – I understand that the weights had been adjusted if so how did the deficiency occur.

Sd. J. Boyd C.C.
12. 3. 69

The Commissariat Storekeeper

Memo

The weights and Scales have recently been adjusted and the Tobacco referred to was truly and fairly weighed according to the weight shown by the Requisition in the presence of the Under Keeper and myself.

Sd. T. Garde
Commissariat 12.3.69

In reference to the tobacco complained of by the Head Keeper as having been deficient in weight.

For the information of the Senior Medical Officer with the Civil Commandant compliments

Sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
12.3.69

Commissariat
Port Arthur 3 March 1869

Sir

Having a quantity of Lard in store and not being required by the Medical Department I issued the same to the Station Store to be issued from there in lieu of Suet having first obtained the Commandant's approval and it being pronounced good and fit for issue by the Senior Medical Officer, and I beg now to report the lard was refused by the Prisoners and would not be taken in lieu of suet.

I have &c
Sd. T. G. Garde
Asst. Storekeeper

I. Bartlett
Ass. Comm. General
Hobart Town

Referred to the Commandant – Could the Lard be issued in place of Suet on the days in which the latter formed part of the Ration – If not the Lard must be returned to the Storekeeper to be sold.

Sd. I. Bartlett Asst. Comp Genl
5th March 1869

The Lard altho wholesome and well suited for Pastry, does not make a substitute for Suet in the plain pudding allowed the Convicts and other inmates. The Prisoners have refused the Lard and I hardly think it prudent to risk any disturbance by forcing it upon them – under these circumstances I would suggest that the surplus Lard be sent to Hobart Town for disposal.

Sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
12 March 1869

The Asst. Comp. General

Hobt. Town

[Page 753]

Endorsed on proceedings of a Medical Board in the case of Thomas Jones per "Ld Auckland" for Lunacy

Thomas Jones per "Lord Auckland" was received from Impression Bay Station on 8th June 1857 as an convict chargeable to Imperial funds – vide transfer list signed by the Superintendent of the Establishment, herewith annexed which please to return.

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
15 March 69

The Act Comptroller General

Statement of John Williams per ship "Centurion" to His Excellency the Governor. Forwarded. This man very narrowly escaped conviction of murder in 1857. The case is well known to his honour the Chief Justice.

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
15 March 1869

Police Record herewith

Petition of William Turner per ship "Lord Sandwich" to his Excellency The Governor. Forwarded.

The Warrant under which this Prisoner is held at Port Arthur states his offence as "Shooting at with intent". The man Townsend referred to by the prisoner, upon being questioned by the Commandant, states that it was he and Turner who stabbed the Constable.

The decisions have been given in the Prisoner Turner's case – the Governor in Council declining to interfere on two occasions, and on the last viz 4 Decb 1867 the Governor in Council declined to reconsider his case.

Police Record herewith.

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
Port Arthur
15 March 1869

[Page 754]

Memorandum

The Civil Commandant presents his complements to Mr. Dunphy, and has to inform him in reply to his letter, requesting the Commandant to obtain the signature of Prisoner Jno F Wheatley as one of the Trustees of Robt. Emmett to a cheque which was enclosed, that Wheatley declines to sign the cheque until he receives an answer to his enquiry in the accompanying note as to how the money is to be appropriated to Emmett's use.

Under the circumstances the Commandant has retained the cheque until a reply is returned

sd. J. Boyd
CC
Port Arthur
17th March 1869

Mr. M. Dunphy
Stone Buildings
Hobt Town

Memo

I have the honour to recommend that Constable James Austin of the Civil Guard may be appointed Assistant overseer vice Ashton resigned

Austin served in H.M. 99th & 12th Regs & his discharge from the latter Corps shows that he was in possession of 5 good conduct badges.

He was also for several years Corporal of the Mounted Orderlies at Government House Hobt Town and is well known to the Honorable the Attorney General.

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
Port Arthur
17th March 1869

The Acting Comptroller General

Hobart Town

[Page 755]

The undermentioned Petitions are herewith forwarded to His Excellency the Governor as follows together with their records.

John McKay, "Hindustan". The Petitioner also labours under a Life Sentence – He has been a very bad character but his conduct has improved since September 1864. 20th March 1869

James Smith or Hayes, "O. Queen" This man was tried at the Supreme Court, Hob. Town the 1st Sep 1863 in the name of James Hayes per "St. Vincent" a free man, and sentenced to 6 years P. S. for Burglary and Stealing. He was afterwards identified at Port Arthur as James Smith per "O. Queen" a prisoner under an unpardonable Sentence of Life Transportation, and when his case was reported in June 1868 he was ordered by the Governor in Council to serve 12 months Probation for a recommendation for Conditional Pardon. His conduct at Port Arthur has been satisfactory. Police Record herewith. 19 March 1869

John Howard "Harrowly". The Warrant under which this Prisoner is held bears the endorsement that he is not to be allowed task work credit or Money earnings being "a determined absconder". Governor's approval dated 8. 5. 68. 19 March 1869.

John E. Collins – "Native". The conduct of petitioner since his arrival at Port Arthur has been quite satisfactory. 20 March 1869

Cornelius Hester "Equestrian". The conduct of Petitioner since his arrival at Port Arthur has been satisfactory. He is fortunate I think in not having to serve his last sentence of 5 years. 20 March 1869

Mark Summerfield, "Isabella". Summerfield was ordered to serve 2 years without offence for a free pardon from 27. 1. 68. His conduct at Port Arthur has been satisfactory since that time.

Signed J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
Port Arthur 20 March 1869

The Act Compr General

[Page 756]

William Tidey "Ratcliffe 2." The Prisoner Tidey was tried at the Supreme Court Hobt. 24 Oct 1865 and sentenced to 10 years Impt. for Attempting Bestiality Police record herewith. 19 March 1869.

Fredrick Ward "Rodney". This man was tried at P. Arthur on the 6 Oct 1865 for misconduct in being found with a fellow prisoner under very suspicious circumstances in the Officers Water Closet at the Lumber Yard, and sentenced 14 days Soly. Conft. & recommended to be kept in the Separate Prison for 6 Mos. afterwards- In consequence of this offence the Prisoner was classed as an S. T. or sep. treatt. character. He now applies to be released from sep. treatt. restrictions, but by the Compr. Genl's Memo of the 28 Oct. 1867 Prisoners convicted at P. A. of indecent offences, or where there is strong suspicion of their intention to commit such, are not (to) be allowed task work credit, and are to be treated in every respect as if they were received under sentence for indecent offences. 19 March 1869.

William Williams "York 2" This man when before the Governor at Port Arthur stated to His Excellency that he had received 3 sentences each of 7 years Transportation (1 for Larceny, 1 for Contempt of Court and 1 for changing his name) but that the Judge informed him that he would commute these sentences to one of Life for that if he Williams was Transported under 21 Years sentences he would not receive a Ticket of Leave for 12 years, whereas under sentence of Life he would be granted that indulgence in 8 years time. 17 March 1869

Fredrick Eley "Pest. Pomangee" Recommended with the exception of one minor offence in Oct. 1862. The conduct of the petitioner since his arrival at P. Arthur in Nov 1860 has been in every respect exemplary. 19 March 1869

William Morrison "Abouker" Hobt. Town P. Office 13.6.66.
Stealing Trousers 18 months Impt. and Hard Labor.
Tourkey 28.8.67 Felony receiving 6 mos. Impt. & H. Labour Hse of Conviction Hobt Town 5.10.67 Escaping 12 Mos. Impt. & H. Labour
Total 4 years & 6 months. No Money earnings or task work credit allowed. A determined Absconder [indecipherable] Order 28.4.68 Conduct since arrival at P. Arthur Bad

Sd J. Boyd Civil Commandant 20 March 1869.

[page 758]

John Porter as Orrin "Equestrian" Tried Hob. Town 3.9.61 Burglary 10 yrs P. Servte. 18 Port Arthur Offences 45 Months Hd. Labor. against task work credit and 49 days solitary Confinement. Note The Commandant told this Prisoner in the presence of the late Governor on the 19 Nov. 1867 that if he kept himself out of further trouble until the minimum period was completed (2nd March 69) he would be recommended for discharge in consequence of the injuries he received but instead of conducting himself properly he almost immediately

afterwards again committed himself and has had 6 offences recorded against him since that date. In all probability he will have to serve the whole of his sentence. He is one of the worst conducted men at Port Arthur.

20 March 1869

John Doherty as McDonald "Ld. Dalhousie." This man is held under several commutation sentences. He is a most dangerous character and quite unfit to be at large.

20 March 1869

Michael Hines "Blenheim" Hines 's Conduct has been without offence at Port Arthur since his arrival in May 1865.

Police record annexed

20 March 1869

George Avery "Ly. Kennaway" Avery was received at Port Arthur on 2 May 1865 and his conduct has been good. Police Record annexed.

Patrick Cavanagh "Rodney"

Police Record annexed- Cavanagh's Conduct at Port Arthur has been good.

20 March 1869.

Addressed to
The Actg. Compr. General
etc.

sd J. Boyd
Civil Commandant

[page 759]

Reply respecting the Monarch Steamer calling at Wedge Bay on Monday the 29 June
Endorsement

I see no objection if the passengers do not go beyond the grounds of the Old Station and the Master keeps a proper watch upon his vessel while at Wedge Bay.

sd J. Boyd
C. Commandant
20 3. 69

The Actg. Compr General.

John McVie per "Blenheim"

This man's Police Record is not at Port Arthur. I therefore regret that the information required cannot be obtained. He was received from Impression Bay when the general transfer of Lunatics took place on the 2nd May ~~1869~~-1857- by name James McVie-per "Blenheim".

On reference to the [indecipherable] Registers it appears that he was admitted at Impression Bay as a confirmed lunatic, under the same name, on 10 March 1855 after having returned from Norfolk Island.

sd J Boyd
Civil Commandant
Port Arthur
19 March 1869

The Actg Comptroller General

Endorsement on application of Ambrose Harrington to remove Guano from Hog Island.

*James Boyd (Civil Commandant, Port Arthur) - Office letterbook, 1866-1869 from Tasmanian Papers, 1821-1877
Tas. Papers 315*

Mitchell Library, State Library of NSW

I am unable to recommend - as all the Guano which may be on Slopen reef and Hog Island is required for the farms on Tasman's Peninsula.

sd J Boyd
Civil Commandant
20th March 1869.

The Astg Comptroller General

[page 760]

Endorsement on application of Mr [indecipherable] Graves for self and friends to land at Wedge Bay.

I see no objection to Mr Graves and his friends fishing and shooting in the vicinity of Wedge Bay for a day or two, but any vessel or boat waiting there for them will have to be closely watched by the persons in charge. It will also be desirable that Mr Graves should be informed of the Regulations in reference to the destruction of Deer horns of which may be seen near to Wedge Bay- vide 210 Section P.A.regulations- and that all intercourse with the convicts is prohibited.

Sd J Boyd
C. Commandant
20 March 1869

The Actg Comptroller General.

On application of Mr Belbin
Endorsement

I have no objection to the gentleman named by Mr Belbin landing at Salt Water River Station next week and shooting in that vicinity, or upon "The Mines" lands for a few days. It will be desirable for the party to be made acquainted with the Regulations in reference to the public deer- and that they cannot be allowed to hold any intercourse with the convicts on the peninsula.

Sd J Boyd
Civil Commandant
20 March 1869

The Actg Comptroller General

[page 761]

Endorsement

Thomas Jones per "Ld Auckland" was under observation from the 1st July 1868 until confined by a Board on the 24th ulto. There is not any rule on the subject, and I hardly think it would be possible to frame such, as there are so many different phases and symptoms of insanity, some of which are so undecided and followed by lucid intervals, that much continuous observation is absolutely necessary in order to determine the question whether the patient is really insane or not. This was the case with the man Jones, as explained to me by the Senior Medical Officer.

The only course open in these cases of observation is to leave them to the judgment of the Medical Officer in Charge, unless indeed the Acting Comptroller General might think it desirable to have a return of them periodically from the S.M.O. with a report of each man's improvement or otherwise.

*James Boyd (Civil Commandant, Port Arthur) - Office letterbook, 1866-1869 from Tasmanian Papers, 1821-1877
Tas. Papers 315*

Sd J Boyd
20 March 1869

The Actg. Comptroller General

Endorsement on letters forwarded by the Attorney General to the Actg Comptroller General for his views upon them - & referred to the Civil Commandant.

The writer of this letter is James Graham alias Haley per "...inga Packet" a confirmed criminal Lunatic held during Her Majesty's pleasure.

Sd J Boyd
Civil Commandant
Port Arthur
19 March 1869

The Actg Comptroller General

The writer of this is John Perrett alias Thomas Williams per "Ayete"- who was originally received at Port Arthur under sentence of 4 years P S from the L[indecipherable] 15/9/63 for "Larceny"- on the 3rd Novr.

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Novr. 1865 - he received a sentence of 3 years H L in chains for escaping from Eagle Hawk neck where he was employed as wood cutter- he was apprehended by the District Constable of Eagle Hawk neck at East Bay Neck- 15 miles from his station, and he had managed to change his clothing.

Perrett was granted a Colonial Conditional Pardon on sentence of Life Transportation passed upon him in Hobart Town on 28th Nov. 1834 for "Breaking and Entering" but is only a Ticket of Leave Holder while in the colony. On the 25 June 1868 the Governor in Council declined to interfere in his case. On 9 October '68 in reply to his application for leave to petition, the Acting Comptroller General informed him that if by improved conduct he could merit a more favorable report from the Commandant, his case might be submitted for reconsideration- since that date viz in 27-7-69 he received a sentence of 3 days Soly. Conft.for malingering. Police record herewith.

Sd J Boyd
Civil Commandant 20/3/69

The Actg Compr Genl.

The undermentioned Petitions are hereby forwarded to His Excellency the Governor, together with their Records.etc.

Thomas Bousill "Palmyra" Thomas Bousill was tried at the Launceston Qr Sessions on the 15 Sept. 1863 for "sheepstealing" and sentenced 8 years Penal Servitude. He has received two magisterial Sentences at Port Arthur- one for "Disobedience & Insolence" the other for having been Drunk and Incapable of working.
Conduct improved since March 1868.
23 March 1869

John Wheatley "W. Porcher" Wheatley's conduct at Port Arthur has been satisfactory. He was received here on the 1st August 1868 under Sentence of 8 years Imprisonment passed upon him at the Hobart Town Supreme Court on the 7 July 1868 for Horse Stealing.

sd J Boyd

*James Boyd (Civil Commandant, Port Arthur) - Office letterbook, 1866-1869 from Tasmanian Papers, 1821-1877
Tas. Papers 315*

Mitchell Library, State Library of NSW

Civil Commandant
25.3.69.

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Thomas Dean Pauper Petition forwarded
23. 3. 69

John Dwyer "Aboukir" In reply to the petition forwarded by Dwyer, the Governor in Council declined to interfere on the 27th March 1867 – His conduct since arrival at Port Arthur on the 21 June, 1866 has been satisfactory.

23 March 1869

Ralph Edlestone "John Barry"

This man has been ordered by the Governor in Council to serve 2 years probation for a Free Pardon. No offence since arrival at Port Arthur.

23 March 1869

J. W. Smith "Palmyra" Petitioner's conduct at Port Arthur since his arrival has been good.

23 March 1869

Richard Sales "Nile" Since the date of the order of the 12 months probation (25. 6. 68) Sales conduct has been satisfactory. The rule is that periods of probation ordered for Free or Conditional pardons, must be served by time and without offence.

23 mARCH 1869

Ephraim Dor "Layton" The Petitioner's conduct at Port Arthur has been satisfactory. 23
March 1869

Henry Stevenson " St. Charlotte" Stevenson's conduct at Port Arthur has been satisfactory.

23 March 1869

William Fox " Equestrian" Prisoner Fox's conduct at Port Arthur has been satisfactory.

Sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
23 March 1869

[Page 764]

Patrick Scarry "Elizabeth & Henry"

The man Scarry would have been entitled to a remission of 18 Months had it not been for the nature of his offence – but looking at the serious injury he received at the Public Works, and from the effects of which he still suffers – I beg to recommend his case to the clemency of The Governor, and that the Petitioner be allowed his discharge at the end of 5 years and 6 months if his conduct continues satisfactory. Previous conduct at P. A. has been good his time indecipherable. 24 March 1869

Charles Midson "M. Soames"

Midson's conduct at Port Arthur has been good.

24 March 1869

Richard Fishwick [indecipherable]

This prisoner arrived at Port Arthur in June 1865. His conduct at this establishment has been very bad. He has been 17 times tried Magistrately from the above date.

Sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
24 March 1869

The Acting Compr General

George Martin "Governor Philip"

Martin's conduct since his arrival at Port Arthur on the 17 April 1866 has been good. Minute of the Attorney General in this case is herewith annexed as well as Public Record & letter referred to by the prisoner

24 March 1869

William Blake "Ld. Auckland"

Blake's conduct at Port Arthur has been good.

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
24 March 1869

The Acting Comptr. General

[Page 765]

John Narnes "Magda"

Barnes has been without offence since his last arrival at Port Arthur on the 18 Decr.1868. He is a very bad character and unfit to be at large.

23 March 1869

John Nester "Hydrabad"

Petitioner has received two Magistrateial sentences at Port Arthur since his arrival in Dec.1964. His statement of a record having been authorized to be made in his favour for assisting to repel an attack on Dr. Lewis by a prisoner is correct. Nester's conduct has improved since August 1867. His general character has been very bad.

24 March 1869

Robert Douglas "RI William"

One offence has been recordered against this prisoner since his arrival at Port Arthur on the 2 of May 1865.

24 march 1869

Copy

Separate Prison P Arthur

Recommended to be placed at outdoor employment, his health failing.

sd. F. Dinham
SMO

Martin McDonald. Blenheim.
Ht. Town S. Court 7.7.68 10yrs indecipherable. House Breaking & Stealing , arrived at P. Arthur 1.8.68

The Civil Commandant

The Civil Commandant has to report that the above recommendation of the Senior Medical Officer in the case of Prisoner Martin McDonald has been carried into effect for which an approval is requested.

Sd. J.Boyd
Civil Commandant
Port Arthur
24. 3. 69

Period of Confinement to be 48 weeks from 1.8.68. Period undergone 33 weeks –
Uncompleted detention 6 3/7 weeks.

The Acting Compr. General

[Page 766]

George Welsh "Theresa"

The Prisoner named above has requested to be released from the Separate Prison.

This man only recently applied to be re-admitted into that Establishment. He is of a very dissatisfied restless disposition, and the Separate Prison is, in my opinion, the best and safest place for him (for his own interest) but as he was confined there for an unusually long period prior to his release in November, I think it might perhaps be as well to allow him out again.

Sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant

The Acting Compr General

Attorney General's decision dated 8th December 1868 in the Case of indecipherable – returned to the Acting Compr General.

27/3/69

Reply to a query on petition of W. Williams per "York".

W. Williams wishes to obtain a free pardon with a view to returning to England, if he should at any time feel inclined to do so.

W. Williams - "York"

27-3-69

Forwarded for the information of the Acting Comptroller General

Sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant 27-3-69

The Acting Compr General

I think there is very little chance of the man Williams ever returning to England.

Sd. J. Boyd
27-3-69

The Comp General

[Page 767]

I beg to state for the information of the Comp General that when Pauper Wall arrived at Port Arthur in Novr last the only article of private clothing he possessed was one oil slick – the rest was Government clothing – He was in a most filthy state indecipherable & in consequence of which the clothing he wore had to be burned. Wall was more aware of this at the time and knew when he left the Settlement on the 23rd inst. that he had no indecipherable clothing whatever in the Stores at Port Arthur.

Sd. W. Markham
Overseer Pauper Depot
27 March 1869

The Civil Commandant

Forwarded for the information of the Acting Compr General

Sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
Port Arthur
27 March 1869

The Acting Compr General

Application from John Forrest indecipherable 24.3.69

Endorsement

Applicant may come to Port Arthur by the first opportunity, and if eligible will be appointed to the Constabulary.

Sd. J. Boyd Civil Comt

The Acting Compr General

Application from William Stilwell for Employment 22.3.69

Endorsement

Stilwell may come to Port Arthur by the first opportunity, and if found to be eligible, he will be appointed to the Constabulary. He had better bring Certificates of Character as those he alleged to have forwarded have not been received, nor is there any instruction made of such in his

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his former application which was signed by Cst. Jones for the Inspector of Police.

sd. J. Boyd Civil Cmt
27.3.69

The Act Compr General

Endorsement on application from Constable Turncliff respecting indecipherable taken by him from William Morris per "Aboukir".

Referred to the Acting Comptroller General.

(Signed) J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
31st March 1869

The
Acting Comptroller General

Hobart Town

Endorsed on the application of the Very Rev A. Maguire for his servant to be allowed to sleep at his quarters.

The rule is that all servants shall sleep in the Penitentiary and I am not very desirous that such should be departed from, but seeing that the Revert Dean Maguire is far advanced in years and would be left alone at night, I recommend that a special approval may be given in his case. His late servant was a free Pauper.

(Signed) J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
31st March 1869

The
Acting Comptroller General

Hobart Town

Memorandum

The above named Pauper to receive a reply to his petition forwarded on the 24th October last for a pardon.

(signed) J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
30 March 1869

The Acting Comptroller General

Hobart Town

Margin:

Willm indecipherable
Georgeana
Pauper indecipherable

[Page 769]

The undermentioned Petitions are hereby forwarded to His Excellency the Governor, together with their Records.

Patrick Cavanah "Rodney" Police record annexed.

Under the rule in force at Port Arthur Prisoners convicted of indecent offences, are not allowed Task Work Credits but have to serve the full period of their sentence.

Cavanah's conduct has been good since his arrival at Port Arthur

(Signed) J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
Port Arthur
29th march, 1869

The
Acting Comptroller General

Hobart Town

*James Boyd (Civil Commandant, Port Arthur) - Office letterbook, 1866-1869 from Tasmanian Papers, 1821-1877
Tas. Papers 315*

Mitchell Library, State Library of NSW

Willm Kingston "Moffatt" Kingston's conduct at Port Arthur has been good. Police record annexed

(Signed) J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
Port Arthur
29th March 1869

The Comptroller General

Hobart Town

Jas A Parker "London" Police record attached

Petitioner's conduct at Port Arthur has been satisfactory.

(Signed) J. Boyd
civil Commandant
Port Arthur
29 March 1869

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Petitions forwarded to the Actg Compr General

Margin:

John Press
indecipherable

Endorsement

Forwarded – Police record annexed.

The Governor's order dated 8/5/68 endorsed on the warrant under which the petitioner is held is "that he (Press) receive no task creditor nor money earnings as he is a indecipherable absconder".

Press conduct has been without offence at Port Arthur.

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commt 3-4-69

The Act Compr General

Margin;

Issac Rogers
R.S. Forbes

Forwarded – On the 18 Jan 1866 last the petitioner was charged before indecipherable Asst Magistrate, with "misconduct" in making a false statement of a indecipherable & infamous nature against his fellow prisoners. Of this serious offence he was convicted and sentenced to 12 Mo Imprist – in extension to his former sentences.

The Civil Commandant is unable to recommend this case for any decision. It will be seen from the Police Record, herewith annexed, that in Dec 1866 the Prisoner was convicted of making a false statement reflecting upon the character of the Rev G.Eastman, Chaplain of

this Est. & sentenced 100 days Soly Conft. He seems to have a propensity for such acts of misconduct.

sd. J. Boyd
C Ct Port Arthur 3/4/69

The Actg Compr General

[Page 771]

Return of the strength of indecipherable at Port Arthur on 31st March from the year 1860 to 1869 inclusively – called for by the Honble The Attorney General – forwarded to the Acting Compr General.

For copy of return see Statistical Record.

Endorsed on Messrs Belbin & Dowdells application respectively the piles purchased by them.

The large files referred to by Messrs Belbin & Dowdell (5 in number) could be cut into 12 feet joists, quartering, and battens for 2/6 per 100 feet superficial and might be sent up by Schooner when convenient.

An authority for this, however, will be necessary should Messrs Belbin & Dowdell agree.

(Signed J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
Port Arthur
7th April 1869

The
Acting Comptroller General

Hobart Town

Memorandum

The Civil Commandant presents his complements to Mr. Dunphy and has to inform him that the Prisoner J. Heatley having now being made acquainted with the arrangements proposed for Robert Emmetts' being apprenticed to Mr. Cowburn & being satisfied with the same, assigned the cheque previously received and which is herewith returned, as also the agreement signed by Mr. Cowburn

(Signed) J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
Port Arthur
7th April 1869

Mr. R. Dunphy
Stone Buildings
Hobart Town

[Page 772]

Endorsement on enquiry respecting Constable Frerr

Frerr is a constable at Port Arthur and is living with a young person to whom he says he has been married and by whom he has three children. He admits the former marriage and will resign his situation to avoid dismissal.

(sd) J. Boyd
C.C.
7.4.69

The Acting Comptroller General

Endorsement on enquiry as to whether the Telegraph Station at Mount Augustus is still necessary.

The telegraph station at Mount Augustus is absolutely necessary for the safe and effective working of the Penal Establishment at Port Arthur - more particularly owing to the discontinuance of steam communication with Hobart Town.

(sd) J. Boyd
C. Commdt
7 April 1869

The Acting Comptroller

Endorsed on Dr. Dinham's application for leave of absence.

Forwarded for the information of the Acting Comptroller General. I have acceded to Dr. Dinham's request - the medical duties having been undertaken by the Junior Surgeon.

(sd) J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
7 April 1869

Reports in the cases of

James Bradbury per "Auckland"

conduct since 19th July/65 has been satisfactory - he appears disposed to avoid crime.

Peter Killeen [indecipherable]

conduct since 6th October/62 has been satisfactory - he appears to be changed for the better.

(sd) J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
5th April 1869

The
Acting Comptroller General

[Page 773]

Endorsement on petition of John Connors alias Watson "indecipherable"

This man's conduct since arrival at Port Arthur has been satisfactory. He is required by the Regulations to serve the full period of his sentence.

(sd) J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
Port Arthur
10th April 1869

Report on Thos. Smith as Archer per "indecipherable" for discharge on 22/4/1869

forward 110/4/69

Endorsement on petition of Matttn Keogh "St Vincent"
Tried Hobt indecipherable 31st May 1865 Wounding with intent to do indecipherable bodily harm. Life Impst.

Arrived at Port Arthur 27/6/65
21/4/68 threatening to assault Constable Smith in the execution of his duty 7 days Solitary Conft.
Police Record herewith.

(sd) J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
14 April 1869

Endorsement on enquiry respecting I. Connors per "E. Hungerford"

This man's name was not on the list of those who wished to see the Foreman, owing, as he stated, to a misapprehension on his part, he was therefore allowed to send a petition with the others.

(sd) J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
Port Arthur
16th April 1869

The Acting Comptroller General
&c &c &c

Application for Return of cost of Provisions in order to enable the Superintendence Return of 1868 to be completed.

Sd J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
18/4/69
The Actg Compr General

[Page 774]

Endorsement on enquiry respecting Jas. Sands per "Isabella"

The man's statement is correct. He was granted a special remission of 3 moths for apprehending an absconder & is consequently to be regarded as under sentence of 3 years & 9 months. If his conduct continued poor and he had remained at Port Arthur he would soon be eligible for discharge. His remission appears against his name in the transfer list of 5th Novmr 1868.

An abstract for the Remand also granted him is herewith forwarded as well as the certification from the Cf's office of the foreman's approval.

(sd) J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
Port Arthur
16th April 1869

The Superintendant
House of Correction for Males
Hobart Town

Memo

Will the Asst. Commissary General have the goodness to cause the Civil Commandant to be furnished with a detailed list of the stores marked thus + on the annexed Return – showing the cost of each item. This information is necessary in order to enable the Commandant to charge the stores against the respective classes of minutes.

Sd J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
17-4-69

The Accg Comr General

Memo to Acting Comptr Genl requesting that a cooper named Faulkner under sentence at Launceston might be transferred to Port Arthur – 17/4/69 .

[Page 775]

Memo

Will the Asst. Commissary General have the goodness to furnish the Civil Commandant with a receipt for the articles of Clothing sold to the Constables during the half year ended Dec. 1868, as per account rendered with a cheque for the amount of £12.7.5 $\frac{3}{4}$ on the 2 January last.

The receipt is required as a voucher to accompany the Dry Store Account for that period.

Sd J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
Port Arthur 20 April 1869

Forwarding petitions with their Records of the undermentioned Prisoners to His Excellency the Governor viz

Richard Sutton, a Native Endorsement

This Prisoner since his arrival at Port Arthur on the 28 February 1863 has had two offences recorded against him, but has shown much improvement of conduct since 23 May 1866.

Michael Ryan "Lord Dalhousie"

This prisoners conduct since his arrival at Port Arthur on the 13th June 1868 has been satisfactory.

Sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
Port Artur 29 April 1869

The
Act. Compr General

Forwarded Abstract of Money found on Prisoner Wm. Morrison by Constable Tunnicliff 18/-

The Abstract has been signed and is now returned Payment of these claims can be made thru the Commandant.

Sd. J. Boyd Civil Commandant
19.4.69

The Actg Comptr General

[Page 776]

Referring to Hospital Returns Nos. 1,2,3, & 4 for March 69

These Returns were, as usual, furnished to the Resident Commissariat Storekeeper with the Hospital provision Account for March 1869, and were transmitted by him to the Commissariat Hobart Town on the 10 Inst.

Sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
Port Arthur 20.4.69

The
Actg Compr General

Memo

I have to report that I have acceded to the request of the Rev Mr. Eastman for a few days leave of absence to enable him to attend the present meeting of the Synod, and that arrangements have been made for the performance of the Chaplain's duties until his return.

sd J. Boyd
C. Commandant
21st April 1869

The Acting Comptroller General

Endorsement on enquiry as to injuries sustained by Pr. Deakin per "Palmyra" while at Port Arthur.

Pr. Deakin per "Palmyra" was admitted into hospital on the 6th February 1868 for a severe injury of the right eye caused by a blow from a cow's horn while working at the Settlement Farm & the sight of that eye was lost owing to the inflammation arising from the injury. He was discharged from hospital on March 3rd 1868.

sd J. Henrick Lewis
S.M.O.

The Civil Commandant

Forwarded for the information of the Acting Comptroller General. Deakin's conduct was in every respect satisfactory while he was at Port Arthur, viz from 17th April 1866 to 6th Novbr /68 when he was transferred to the House Of Correction for Males Hobt. Town

sd J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
Port Arthur

21ST April 1869

[Page 777]

Memo

Will the Actg Comptroller General be good enough to cause cattle hides to be supplied, on acquisition, as heretofore, by the Meat Contractor, for the purpose of being converted into leather for the use of this Establishment.

Mr Mansfield has stated on an application made to him for hides that, he has no contract for such and consequently declines to furnish any. It is absolutely necessary, in order to keep up the supply of leather from the Station Tannery, that hides should be obtained as required.

Signed J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
Port Arthur 21st April 1869.

The Actg Comptroller General

Endorsement on letter of the Foreman of Works respecting the necessity of a Tinman being employed at Port Arthur.

Will the Acting Comptroller General be good enough to cause a Tinman to be transferred to Port Arthur- if there be one available under sentence- otherwise a paid Tinman will be required.

Sd J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
23.4.69

The Actg Comptroller General

Endorsement on letter of Dr Lewis explaining how it was that Constable O Berne was standing in the road with the Life Prisoner [indecipherable] F. Morris instead of taking him at once to the jetty for exercise yesterday the 26th inst.

It would be much better not to give the Convict Morris any message - I found him and the Constable loitering about the Station and when the latter was questioned by me he could not give any intelligible account of his standing with the Prisoner where I found them.

sd J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
27th April 1869

The Junior Medical Officer

[page 778]

Endorsement on application of Andrew McCarthy for Fishing License.

No objection.

Sd. J. Boyd
C.Commandt.
26/4/69

The Acting Comptroller General.

Endorsement on application of Tom Barnes for employment at Port Arthur.
He may come down in about a fortnight for appointment to the Police.

sd. J. Boyd
C. Commandt.
28/4/69.

The Acting Comptroller General

Endorsement on letter of Mr Mansfield stating that future supplies of Hides will cost 17/- each.

Forwarded for the information of the Acting Comptroller General. A supply of hides is urgently required to save the purchase of leather.

sd J. Boyd.
C. Commandt.
28/4/69.

The Acting Comptroller General

Margin Note: Abraham Wolf "Tasmania"

Memo

Will the Acting Comptroller General be good enough to cause the Instruments of Pardon for the man named in the margin to be sent to him at Port Arthur where he begs to be allowed to remain until he can procure some private clothes from Hobart Town and also to be discharged from Port Arthur direct instead of from the House of Correction.

sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
28.4.69

The Acting Comptroller General

[page 779]

Referred to the Meat Contractor.

Sd. T. G. Garde
Comt. Storekeeper

Port Arthur 3.5.69

Thirteen sheep heads were supplied by me, one on the 9. Ultio (4) for of which were slightly infected with fluke in the least degree; the whole thirteen were rejected, and in consequence, I have not furnished any since, I have good reason to know that, the Sheep's heads are an objectionable supply to the parties receiving them, in consequence of the time and trouble of cleaning and considered at the time the fluke a mere subterfuge for their rejecting them.

Sd. W. Mansfield
5. May 1869.
Safety Cove

*James Boyd (Civil Commandant, Port Arthur) - Office letterbook, 1866-1869 from Tasmanian Papers, 1821-1877
Tas. Papers 315*

Mitchell Library, State Library of NSW

Commissariat Storekeeper P. Arthur

Referred to the provisions Storekeeper as regards the Contractor's allegations, that, Sheep's heads are considered objectionable

Sd J. Boyd
Civil Commandant

The Provision Storekeeper
7.5.69

I beg to state for the information of the Civil Commandant that, I have never found the Sheep's heads to be an objectionable supply, unless when found to be infected with fluke.

Sd. Thos. Todd
Provn. Storekeeper
8.5.69

The Civil Commandant.

[page 780]

Referred to Messrs Markham an Lawson, as to the Sheep's heads being considered objectionable for the reason stated by the Contractor.

Sd James Boyd
Civil Commandant

I beg to inform the Civil Commandant, that, I have am always glad to have Sheep's heads when the plucks are free from fluke as they make a great improvement to the soup.

Sd William Markham
Overseer

Memo
I beg respectfully to inform the Civil Commandant, that, I have never neglected to receive Sheep's heads and plucks when free from fluke for it is no trouble to me to see them cleaned and properly cooked.

Sd James Lawson
Head Keeper of Insane
8.5.69

I have referred the accompanying correspondence to the Provision Storekeeper and the Officers in Charge of the Paupers and Insane, as regards the latter part of the contractor's statement of the 5th Inst. and am unable to ascertain on what grounds that statement was made. Mr Mansfield will no doubt be prepared to

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to substantiate his assertions and I shall feel obliged by his doing so, in order that the necessary steps may be taken ~~four~~ for checking the negligence to which he alludes.

Sd J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
8 May 1869

The Comp. Storekeeper
Port Arthur.

[page 782]

Memo

I have to request the attention of the Commissariat Storekeeper to the fact that the Sheep's heads and plucks offered by the Contractor have been refused for some time past, owing to their being infected with fluke.

This is a great loss to the Pauper and Insane classes whose reduced diet is so much improved by the appurtenances referred to, besides, it is most desirable that sheep, suffering from the disease in question should be slaughtered for the use of the Establishment- especially at a time when the contract price is greatly in excess of the market value of the meat supplied, whether beef or mutton.

sd J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
Port Arthur
1st May 1869

The Commissariat Storekeeper
Port Arthur

Note *For remainder of correspondence side sheets attached.

Endorsement on application of Richd. Hourego for appointment at Port Arthur.

Applicant may come to Port Arthur in about 3 weeks but there are no quarters available for his Wife & children.

sd J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
1 May 1869.

The Acting Comptroller General

[page 783]

Will the Actg Compr. General be good enough to favor me with a copy of the Asst Compr. General's minute of the 27th ulto. for perusal, as I have not yet seen it.

sd J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
5.5.69
The Actg. Compt. General

Receipt for - 100 Bushs. Golden [indecipherable] Seed Wheat
100 Bushs. White Potato Oats
20 " Green Peas
Signed by Civil Commandant & returned to the Asst Commissary General

Endorsement of Application form for a Selection.

The Applicant (Wm Jenkins) may come down by the first trip of the Schooner "Harriet" for appointment to the Constabulary.

Sd J Boyd
Civil Commandant
5 May 1869

The Actg Compr General

Endorsement on letter of the Senior Medical Officer 27/2/69 recommending certain changes among the Attendants. of Insane.

Before I submit this question to the Governor, I should be glad if the Commandant would remit the scheme to the Senior Medical Officer for his reconsideration with a view if possible of meeting the difficulty without increasing the expenditure on account of the Lunatic branch at Port Arthur. I find that two shillings a day is the highest rate of pay given to Attendants or Wardsmen at the New Norfolk Hospital and the cost of maintenance of an individual in that Institution is considerably below that of the cost of a Lunatic at Port Arthur.

sd C.T.Belstead
Comptroller General's Office
30th March 1869
Remitted

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Remitted to the Senior Medical Officer as requested by the Acting Comptroller General. It would, perhaps, be better under the circumstances stated by Mr Belstead, to simply reduce the two 1/- s a day rates now vacant, and increase the third 1/-s rate to 2/-, also to fix two of the 2/-s class 3/-s each or four 2/6s .
By this arrangement a saving of about £21 per annum would be effected upon the present authorised expenditure (pay & rations) and the prospect of promotion held out to induce efficient attendants to remain in the service.

sd J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
7th May 1869

Senior Medical Officer
Port Arthur

Endorsement of the Asst. Col. Secretary's letter to the Actg. Comptroller General
Immediate

The Acting Comptroller General is requested to cause me to be furnished with the necessary particulars respecting the cost of all provisions for the Estt., as already called for to enable me to complete the Expenditure Return for 1868, and until which has been sent done, the information required by the Honble. the Colonial Secretary cannot be supplied.

Sd. J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
8 May 1869.

The Actg Comptroller General

Endorsement on decision of the Governor in Council respecting Jas. Moran "Ly. Franklin"

It is presumed that the two years referred to in this decision will be reckoned from the dates of the "Memo" viz. 21st April 1869, as the prisoner Moran's last offence at Port Arthur was on the 30th October 1865.

sd J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
8th May 1869.

The Actg Comptroller General

[page 785]

Endorsement on decision of the Governor in Council in the case of [indecipherable] Perrott
"Argyle"

Will the Acting Comptroller General have the goodness to inform the Civil Commandant whether the six months referred to in the decision is to be reckoned from the date of the "Memo" viz 21st April 1869 or from the date of the Prisoner's last offence at Port Arthur which was on the 27th Jany. last

sd J. Boyd
Civil Commandant
Port Arthur
8th May 1869.

The Acting Comptroller General

Memo

Will the acting Comptroller General have the goodness to cause a Cooper to be transferred to Port Arthur if there be one available under sentence, otherwise a paid Cooper will be required to make and repair articles for the Establishment as well as to comply with a requisition now on hand for the Colonial Government.

sd J Boyd
Civil Commandant
Port Arthur
15th May 1869

The Acting Comptroller General

(Overwritten on above Memo:)

Referred to the Commandant- Can the necessary work of the Establishment irrespective of requisitions for Colonial Service be carried on without employing a paid Cooper- it appears there is no man of that trade under sentence in the Colonial Establishmt.

sd C.T. Belstead
Comptroller General's Office
21st May 1869

I am endeavouring to keep the cooperage of the Establishment in repair by a handy man, but this will only do for a short time, as new articles and difficult repairs will soon be required. Under these circumstances the services of a Cooper will become indispensable irrespective of the demands from the Colonial Store Department.

sd J. Boyd
C. Commandant
26.5.69

Acting Comptroller General

Memo:

The Civil Commandant has to report that the cutter "Duke of Edinburgh" arrived here on the 16th Inst for [indecipherable] on account of the Public Works Dept at Launceston. The vessel

will leave [indecipherable] tomorrow morning-weather permitting- with a cargo of 100,000 shingles & 260 Battens.

Sd I.C. Tapp
C. Clerk
[indecipherable] P.A . 19.5.69
The Acting Comptr. General

[page 786]

Expenditure Return of 1868

Memorandum

In the Commissariats Return of amounts received to the credit of this establishment during 1868. There appears the sum of £15-6-2 for a surcharge paid by Mr [indecipherable] in September last.

In order to enable the commandant to proportion this amount amongst the several classes of inmates – the Assistant Commissary General is requested to be good enough to cause him to be furnished with the items of the said surcharge in detail

PJ Boyd Commandant.
19th May 1869

The Asst. Commissary General

Receipt for the Maste of the Cutter “ Duke of Edinburgh” for 100,000 shingles & 260 battens shipped for Launceston Public Works at Launceston – forwarded to Director of Public Works Hobart Town
19-5-69

Endorsement on correspondence respecting a debt due by Constable Green for rent owing to Mr Coggins Hobt. Town

For the acting Comptroller General –

Constable Green has given a deal of trouble respecting the maintenance of his wife and child and the rent of their lodgings.

He has been informed that unless he pays his debts his services will be dispensed with

Sd J Boyd
CC 17.5.69

[Page 787]

Endorsement on letter from the colonial Storekeeper requesting the tubs &c requisitioned for to be sent up –

The tubs &c cannot be furnished at present as there is not a cooper at Port Arthur

Sd J Boyd CC
20th May 1869

The Colonial Storekeeper

Endorsement on application of Mr Saml Smith for an increase of £12 a year to his pay

Forwarded and recommended – I have always found Mr Under Keeper Smith most attentive to his duties

Sd J Boyd CC
20th May 1869

Acting Comptroller General

Hospital for Insane
19th May 1869

Sir

The two patients named in the margin being boot and shoe makers by trade would it not be advisable to employ them at their trade in repairing boots in the asylum
A small room could be very easily made for them to work in – their minds would be more occupied working at the boot and shoe trade than anything else

Sd J Lawson
H. Keeper

To G. Dinham Esq
S.M. Officer

In Margin
Garrard J per "Atlas"
Tugnell George, Wm Jardine

[Page 788]

The patients Jas Gerrard and George Tugnell may be trusted with tools, they are willing to work at their trade & I think might be made useful

Sd Geo .Dinham
S.M.O.
May 19.69

The Civil Commandant

21st May 1869

My Dear Sir,

I regret that I cannot sanction the employment of the two lunatics named in the accompanying papers as shoemakers.

There is no precedent for such a course and I am sure you will agree with me that it is inexpedient to introduce dangerous articles like shoemakers knives into the buildings occupied by the insane.

Believe me
My Dear Sir, Yours very truly
Sd J Boyd

Mr Dinham . S.M.O.

Memo

The Civil Commandant has to notify to the Contractor that about 1900 pounds weight of fresh meat from station stock , will be issued during the first week of June next.

Sd J Boyd. CC Port Arthur
21st May 1869

Mr Henry Mansfield
Contractor for fresh meat
Safety Cove

[Page 789]

Endorsement on application of the Commissariat Store Keeper requesting a Board of Survey be convened to examine some sugar in the Commissariat Stores.
The Senior Medical Officer the Commissariat Storekeeper and the Station Officer will have the goodness to form a Board for the purpose herein mentioned, at any hour this afternoon which may be found most convenient

Sd J Boyd CC
28.5.69

The Senior Medical Officer & the other members.

Endorsement on query from Acting Comptroller General respecting sentences of Solitary Confinement passed under the Poison Act of 1868

By the 35th section of the "Act" every sentence is made cumulative

Sd J Boyd 2/6/69

The Acting Comptroller General

Endorsement on Medical Report called for in the case of Robt Spoll per "Wm Jardine" an applicant for the Pauper Depot

Forwarded to the Acting comptroller General

Sd J Boyd CC
2nd June 1869

[Page 790]

Hospital Port Arthur
May 29th 1869

Sir

Finding my health and eyesight has been failing for the last two years, I am unable to perform the duties of Medical Clerk & Dispenser satisfactorily and request I may be allowed to retire from the Public Service.

Your Most obedt Servant
Sd F Huxtable

George Dinham Esq J.P.
Senior Medical Officer in charge

HM Hospital Port Arthur
June 2 1869

Sir

I beg to forward Mr Huxtable`s letters of the 29th of May in which he requests to be allowed to retire from the Public Service.

It has been apparent to myself for some considerable time past that Mr Huxtable has with difficulty discharged the duties of dispenser & hospital clerk – not only has his sight become impaired but his mental powers appear gradually to weaken – His condition at times has caused me some uneasiness, he having been almost unable to perform his duties
I strongly recommend that his application be entertained

I am sir Your most obedt servt.

Sd Jas Dinham

Senior Medl Officer.

Transposed sideways across above text

Transmitted with Mr Huxtables letter to the Acting Comptroller General and recommended that Mr Huxtall be superannuated as he appears to have become quite unable to perform his duties in a satisfactory manner. He entered the Convict Service on the 24th of May 1860 as Schoolmaster at Port Arthur

Sd J Boyd CC

3rd June 1869

The Acting Comptroller General

[Page 791]

Observations on the Commissariat Statement of Provisions supplied to the Port Arthur Estbt from 1st Jan to 31st Dec 1868 .

Wheat. 1650 lbs - £4.15.4p should be £4.00.1p - This item appears to be a mistake - no wheat having been issued at this Estbt during 1868

Fresh Meat. 130,896 8/16 lbs £2929-14-2 $\frac{3}{4}$ - Should be at the rate calculated £2999-14-2 $\frac{3}{4}$ - Amount undercharged £70

Sugar – 71491 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs £99-19-1 Should be £94-19-1 Overcharged amount £5

Barley 4064 $\frac{1}{4}$ lbs £55-10-8 $\frac{3}{4}$ Should be £55-0-8 $\frac{3}{4}$ Overcharged 10/0 s

In the details of 12 and 20 per cast flour, there appears to be undercharged, as follows-

of 12 per cast 545 lbs - of 20 per cast 541 lbs

The total issued as per [indecipherable] account

Rest of page too scrawled to be worthwhile transcribing

[Page 792]

S.M.Officer`s reply to query on Edward Ricketts Case

Edward Ricketts case is progressing favourably and he will shortly be able to earn his own livelihood.

I recommended his remaining at Port Arthur until that time – He has been suffering from severe striature and inflammation of the bladder.

Sd J Geo Dinham SMO

5 June 1869

The Act. Compr.General

Port Arthur

5 June 1869

Memorandum

The Civil commandant having perused the Copy of the present Contract for Fresh Meat for this Establishment, submit the following provisions for insertion in the New Contract.

1. Instead of 4/7 lbs of Beef and 3/7lbs Mutton as at present, that 4/7lbs Mutton and 3/7lbs Beef be stipulated for one day in each week (Friday) being preserved for issue of salt beef to all inmates not exempted from such article of diet by the Medical Officer or by the scale of dietary.

2. That in accordance with the new scale of equivalents to which came into operation on 1 May 1867.

A bullocks head and tongue be equal to 7 lbs meat

- hocks & four feet - 3 lbs

- Sheeps head & Pluck - 1 ½ lbs

- Sheeps four trotters - ½ lb

And supplies whenever required – also beef or mutton [indecipherable] at per lb.

Sd J Boyd CC

The Actg. Comp.General

[Page 793]

Endorsment on Death Report of Peter Guppy, per “Equestrian”

The name and ship are correctly given in accordance with the Comptroller General's Authorities dated 10th & 18th August 1865 in reference to the funds on which the man was to be borne.

Sd J Boyd CC

4.6.69

The Actg.Comptr General

Civil Commandants Office

Port Arthur, Tasmania

3rd June 1869

Memo

With reference to the recent application of prisoner John I Morris now under sentence of life penal servitude at this Establishment for his certificates of character –The Civil Commandant has the honor to inform the Inspector General of Police that he has communicated to the prisoner the reply of the Officers in charge of Detection, dated Sydney 21st Ultmo No 69/72

The prisoner still asserts that he joined the Detective force in Sydney in July or August 1860 – was appointed by the Inspector General – Captain Mc Lorie – remained in Sydney about a week doing duty [indecipherable] Superintendent Harrison of the Dective force – was then transferred to [indecipherable] Bay and [indecipherable] Police Magistrate at which place he remained about 3 months – indecipherable] Capt Mc Donald of the “ Scotia” and obtained a [indecipherable] leave of absence to proceed to Tasmania- [indecipherable] for that time, but did not reurn although his leave was extended for another week.

He also states that he handed to the Inspector General, personally, the [indecipherable] credentials at the time of his appointment, viz certificates from Charles Arthur – William Gibson and Lewis Woods Esquire. Dr Dunlevy & Mr [indecipherable]

Will the Inspector General have the goodness to cause the then reference to be made on the

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the subject and the result communicated to the Civil Commandant, who from the untruthful character of the man Morris, has some trouble as to his ever having been in the Police force

*James Boyd (Civil Commandant, Port Arthur) - Office letterbook, 1866-1869 from Tasmanian Papers, 1821-1877
Tas. Papers 315*

Mitchell Library, State Library of NSW

of New South Wales, at all, on possessed of the papers he refers to and which for some reason of his own, he now appears most anxious to recover

sd. Boyd CC

The Inspector General of Police
New South Wales

In reference to Mr Huxtable`s application to be superannuated – papers forwarded to the Senior Medl Officer with a request from the Acting comptroller General that the two medical Officers hold a board to report upon the state of Mr Huxtable`s health. 7/6/69

Proceedings of Medical Board in the case of Edwd Mooney per “ E Grey” recommending his being regarded as a lunatic forwarded per Schooner “ Harriet” 14/6/69

Certified that Mr William Markham has served under my command as Constable and Overseer for mosre than fifteen years and that he discharged his duties to my satisfaction Mr Markham now leaves the Convict Service in consequence of the reduction of his office and has my best wishes for his future welfare and successs in life.

Sd J Boyd. CC

Port Arthur
Tasmanian
12th June 1869

[Page 795]

Endorsement on Mr H.J.Warners letters respecting [indecipherable] wood –dated 3-6-69 Will the Acting Comptroller General have the goodness to ascertain the size of the cubes which Mr Warner requires

Sd J [indecipherable] CC 16.6.69

The Actg Comp.General

Receipt for Postage Imprest £3 detained to the Commissary General

Endorsement in telegraph message [indecipherable]
An amended return is herewith forwarded together with 3/5d cash. The balance one for May 1869

The telegram on the 29th from Dr Lewes was with [indecipherable] [indecipherable]

Sd J Boyd CC Port Arthur
15/6/69

The Sup of telegraphs

Copy of the Act, Compt General`s memo dated 14 June 1869 forwarded to Mr J Huxtable for his information

Sd [indecipherable] of the Civil commandant
[indecipherable]
Port Arthur 7/6/69

Memorandum

A board consisting of the Senior Medical Officer, the Commissariat Storekeeper and the Station Officer will assemble at the Commissariat Store at 11 o'clock tomorrow forenoon to examine and report upon the quality of some Ale which is reported by the Junior Medical Officer to be sour.

Sd J Boyd CC 17th June 1869

Written sideways across text

Extract

The board being [indecipherable] tasted the Ale in question find that although it [indecipherable] what [indecipherable] to the palette, the Ale is sound and fit for issue for the present.

The suggestion of the Senior Medical Officer

Rest of Extract – [indecipherable]

[Page 796]

Endorsement on query respecting sentences passed at P.A. on Sol Faulkner

None of the sentences referred to passed upon the prisoner Sol Faulkner at Port Arthur are cumulative upon his Supreme Court one of 5 years, but they will take away all his back work credit

Sd J Boyd

CC PA

19th June 1869

The Superintendent

H of Corr. For Males Hobt. Town

Memo

Constable Collis accuses Mr Cockswain Horloch and Constable Wandenberg of having cut off and stolen 3 ribs of pork from each side of the government pig that was cut up at [indecipherable] Island on the 8th ultimo.

That the three ribs in question were taken from each side near the kidneys and afterwards issued to Signalman Reynold by Mr Horlock

Mr Horloch will at once report July on the above accusation also append Constable Wandenberg's statement at the same time on the subject

P H Boyd CC PA

21/6/69

W Horloch Cockswain

[indecipherable]

Proceedings of a board in case of Edwd [indecipherable] per "Earl Grey"

Forwarded to the Senior Medical Officer for his information with the Civil Commandant's compliments.

P J Boyd CC

25/6/69

To be returned.

[Page 797]

John Blake- Argyle an invalid
CCPP in life

Tried P.A. 26-3-68 " [indecipherable] in making use of language of a disloyal & violent characters calculated to [indecipherable] persons to riot & in the occasion of the attempt to assassinate HRH The Duke of Edinburgh in Sydney-
Sentence 18 [indecipherable] impt with HL

Memo

The prisoner above named having conducted himself in a satisfactory manner since april 1868- The Civil Commandant recommends, [indecipherable] the peculiar circumstances of the case, that he may (indecipherable) be granted a remission of 3 months

P H Boyd CCPA
26/6/69

The Actg Compt.General

The Civil Commandant has to request information as to the price to be charged for lightwood boards supplied from this Establisihment to the Public Works Department at Launceston during the present quarter in order to enable him to close the accounts as soon as possible.

P J Boyd CC PA
26 June 1869

Written sideways across above text

Under the head "Boards" the price fixed by the board appointed for this pupose by the foreman is I find 7s/6d per 100 feet is the price fixed for Boards – hardwood – but the price at present required is for boards Lightwood

Sd Geo Dinham
For Civil commandant PA
10/7/69

[Page 798]

Extract from the Report of the Head Keeper of Insane
"The tobacco indifferent in quality of late."

Sd J . Lawson H Keepeer
5th July 1869

Forwarded for the information of the Commissariat Storekeeper with the Civil Commandant`s Compliments.
5th July 1869

We the undersigned Medical Odfficers of this Establlishment hereby certify that Mr.F.Huxtable has filled the situation of Dispenser & Hospital Clerk for nearly six years, and has served with diligence and fidelity to our satisfaction until incapacitated by reason of his failing sight and other infermities

Sd Geo Dinham Senior Medical Officer
PA 30th June 1869

Sd J Kenwick Lewis
Junior Med Office

Mr Huxtable also served at this Establishment as Schoolmaster from the 24 May 1860 to the 18th August 1863 and as Clerk of the Church from the 1st March 1865 to the 30th June 1869 and discharged his duties with diligence and fidelity to my satisfaction

Sd J Boyd CC PA
7 July 1869

Caption of Coroner's inquest held on [indecipherable] of the body of Stephen Davidge the Phantom a lunatic- this I am

Forwarded to the Registrar General
7/7/69

[Page 799]

Memorandum

With reference to the entry in the Crime Report of the 2nd inst relative to the Prisoner Edwd Hardy Bell absconding from Wedge Bay March the Civil Commandant has now to report that Bell did not abscond, his dead body having been found off the road leading from the Settlement to Wedge Bay.

An inquest was held on his remains by Geo. Dinham [indecipherable] Coroner and a verdict returned of "Died from natural causes – viz, general decay of nature".

Sd J boyd
Civil Commandant
The Acting Cimpptroller General

Hobart Town

Port Arthur
9th July 1869

My Dear Sir,

In consequence of the melancholy intelligence of the decease of Mr Nairn, I shall be obliged to proceed to Town with his daughters and to attend to the funeral

The Schooner is now on her passage to Wedge Bay and I intend leaving the Settlement tomorrow morning.

I shall therefore feel obliged by your taking charge of the Peninsula during my absence, as on former occasions you were kind enough to do.

I shall return on Wednesday or Thursday next. The Station and other officers have received the necessary instructions for carrying on the duties under your command until my return.

Believe me

My dear Sir

Yours very faithfully

Sd J Boyd
Civil Commandant
Dr Dinham
Senior Medl.
Officer.

[Page 800]

Endorsement on enquiry as to whether any price list had been received of the Medicines supplied for the years 1869-70

A Priced Invoice has been received.

Sd Geo. Dinham

*James Boyd (Civil Commandant, Port Arthur) - Office letterbook, 1866-1869 from Tasmanian Papers, 1821-1877
Tas. Papers 315*

Mitchell Library, State Library of NSW

SMO
10 July /69
The Acting Comptroller General

Endorsement on query respecting James Glover "Emp. Alexander" who petitioned for a Colonial Pardon

I believe this man will never be in a fit state of mind to be at large
Sd Geo. Dinham Senr. Medl. Officer
10 July 1869
The Acting Comptroller General

Memo
The Superintendent of Agriculture has reported that there are several head of Govt. cattle ready for slaughter – sufficient to make up a supply of about 2000 lbs of meat, and recommends the disposal of the same this month. Under these circumstances the Meat Contractor is informed by request of the Civil Commandant that the above supply of Station produce meat has been directed to be furnished during the last week of July instant into store at Port Arthur.
Sd H Papp
Actg. Acct.
Port Arthur
15-7-69
Mr H Mansfield
(undecipherable) Meat Contractor
Safety Bay

[Page 801]

Endorsement on Mr Frosti resignation
Dated 9 July 1869
Submitted for acceptance
Sd J Boyd
16-7-69
The Actg. Comptroller General

Requisition for carbine cartridges. [indecipherable] to "Rifle Ball" Cartridges last returned to the Military Stores Office. Also receipt for Seeds.
17-7-69

H. M. Hospital Port Arthur
17th July 1869
Sir, I am glad to be able to report very favourably of Mr Robinson's abilities as a Dispenser but at the same time I am doubtful if he is capable of compiling the Hospital monthly account current.
The late Dispenser (Mr Huxtable) appeared always to find this a difficult matter and one that interfered very seriously with his dispensing duties.
Under the circumstances I think if these documents for the future could be prepared in the Public Office and so relieve the Dispenser of this duty, it would be a very desirable change
I an Sir
Your obed't. Servt.
Sd Geo. Dinham
S. M. O.
The Civil Commandant

Submitted & recommended that the Hospital monthly accounts of commercial supplies be prepared in the civil Commandant's Office – the diet and extras rolls and copies of the daily requisition being furnished to the Commnadant for that purpose and to be transmitted as supporting vouchers.

Sd J Boyd
Civil Commandant 17.7.69
The Acting Comptroller General

[Page 802]

Copy
Colonial Secretary's Office
20th July 1869
Sir

I have the honor to request that you will obtain from the medical Officer at Port Arthur through the commandant a report upon the six Lunatics now in that Establishment chargeable to Colonial funds and a statement whether any special reasons exist why they should not be removed to the Colonial Hospital for the Insane at New Norfolk.

I have the honor &c &c
Sd Thos D [indecipherable]
For the Colonial Secretary
The Actg. Compt. Genl.

The Commandant is requested to call upon Dr Dinham for their report

Sd C T Welstead
20th July 1869
Referred to the Senior Medical Officer
Sd [indecipherable]
C Cn. 21-7-69
The Sen. Medl. Officer

Memo
I have much pleasure in forwarding to Mr Huxtable copies of the testimonials given upon his superannuation papers and trust they may be of use to him in every way connected with his future happiness & prosperity

Sd J Boyd
Civil Commandant
Port Arthur
Tasmania
21st July 1869

Correspondence respect'g. 6 Colo. Lunatics –
Referred to the Sen. Med. Officer – P J Boyd C Cn. 21-7-69
Will the Civil Commandant be good enough to furnish me with the names of the six men referred to. P J [indecipherable] [indecipherable] July 22 - '69 -

They are as follows -
Mark Davis – “Wm. Jackson”
John Hughes – “[indecipherable]”
John [indecipherable] – “[indecipherable]”
David Rickaby – “Eric”
Hector Roberts – “[indecipherable]”
Wm. or Geo. Whitehead – “Red [indecipherable]”

Sd J Boyd
Civil Commandant
Sd 23/7/69

The Senior Medical Officer

[Page 803]

Memo

I am not aware that Mr Mansfield has any claim by the Conditions of his Contract to a month's notice that meat the produce of the Station will be supplied. It is of importance to the public that the 3 stall fed cattle should be slaughtered at once and the meat issued during the present month as there would be a positive loss to the Government of from £18 to £20 were they to be kept longer – beside the stock of food is exhausted. None of the meat, however is [insert] not to be issued before the 25th Inst. which will be ten days from the date of the notice given the Contractor, who is only required to keep live stock to the extent of 7 days supply on the Peninsula

I have also to remark that there is not to be any change of Contractor under the new agreement which comes into force on the 1st proximo and therefore his present stock remains his property for [indecipherable] when required by him.

Sd P J Boyd

Civil Commandant

Port Arthur – 23-7-69

The Commissariat Store Keeper

Port Arthur

Endorsement on Telegram

The Returns of Colonial Prisoners maintained at Port Arthur during the year 1868 – also the [indecipherable] Return of the Est. during the same period showing the actual cost of the inmate are herewith enclosed

Sd J Boyd

Civil Commandant

Port Arthur

25-7-69

The Actg. Comptroller General

[Page 804]

Memorandum

The Civil Commandant has to report the arrival of the Cutter "Duke of [indecipherable]" last evening from Hobart Town for removing the household effects of the Junior medical Officer from Port Arthur Also the said vessel left the Settlement this afternoon with [indecipherable] for Launceston – the transport of the goods having been [indecipherable].

Sd J Boyd

Civil Commandant

P A 25-7-69

The Actg. Compt. General.

[overwritten diagonally] not forwarded

The Civil Commandant's Annual Report on the Establishment for the year ended 30th June 1869 forwarded by post on 24th July 1869

Copy

Comptroller General's Office

23rd July 1869

Memorandum

Before the Junior medical officer leaves Port Arthur I think it would be very desirable that a survey should be held of the Medical Stores, Instruments &c [indecipherable] in the Hospital

*James Boyd (Civil Commandant, Port Arthur) - Office letterbook, 1866-1869 from Tasmanian Papers, 1821-1877
Tas. Papers 315*

Mitchell Library, State Library of NSW

at the Est. and which have been accumulating for some years. With this in mind I have to request that the Commandant will direct the Medical Officers to act as a board for the purpose of surveying and reporting upon the condition of the Hospital Stores and instruments on hand with recommendations for their disposal in order that I may submit the same for consideration of His Excellency the Governor.

Sd C P Belstead

Act. Comptroller General

Endorsement

The Medical Officers are requested to hold the survey herein referred to sd j Boyd

Civil Commandant

26 July 1869

The Senior Medical Officer

Port Arthur

[Page 805]

Copy

Commissariat

Port Arthur 21 July 1869

Sir

I beg most resp'ly. To report that in consequence of not being furnished with the Hospital Diet Rolls and Vouchers until this day my Store Acc'ts. Have now been delayed as I presumed it was [indecipherable] to forward them to Hob't Town without the supporting Vouchers.

I have the honor &c

Sd J G Garde

Asst Store Keeper

R L [indecipherable] Esq.

Asst Compt General

Hobart Town

Submitted through the Actg. Comptroller General for the consideration of H. E. The Governor. The delay in the completion of the Port Arthur Store Accounts usually rendered on the 10th of each month but only received this day in consequence of the usual Hospital Diet Rolls not being furnished.

Sd R L [indecipherable]

ACGI

23/7/69

The Commandant is requested to explain the cause of delay in furnishing these vouchers.

Sd C P Belstead

23 July 1869

Compt. Genl. Office

Referred to the Senior Medical Officer for the explanation required by the Actg. Compt.

General

Sd J Boyd

Civil Commandant

26th July 1869

Endorsement on enquiry as to whether Pork would be received from the Slaughter House.

I am unable to sanction the reception of Pork in lieu of Beef or Mutton from the Slaughtering Establishment – as it is not only contrary to the condition of the Contract, but there is a strong prejudice to such meat

Sd J Boyd

C Commandant

The Commiss't. Store Keeper

Port Arthur.

[Page 806]

Endorsement on Return of Colonial Lunatics (Names given)
25 July 1869
The Actg. Complr. General

Endorsement on the case of Prisoner William Elliott "Asia" 6
From the accompanying list of decisions in Elliott's case it will be seen that the finding of the Board Vix: "That Elliott was of sound mind and responsible for his Acts and recommending his discharge from the Insane Dep't." was sanctioned by the governor in July 1865. For the present he is classed in this Office as a Convict under Medical ~~treatment~~ observation for Lunacy. It seems necessary that a Medical Board should take proceedings again in the case as soon as possible if the man be considered really insane.
Signed J Boyd C. Com't.
Port Arthur 28.7.69
The Senior Medical Officer
Port Arthur

Endorsement on application of Constable Muirhead for Under Keeper of Insane Vice Mr G W Frost resigned. – Forwarded to the Civil Commandant with the Senior Med. Officer's Compliments. 28.7.69
Constable Muirhead is a steady well educated married Man and has always been free. I recommend that he be appointed Under Keeper for Insane Vice Frost resigned.
Sd J Boyd Civil Comm't.
28 July 1869
The Actg. Compt. General

Endorsement on application for employment of James Simpson
Will the Actg. Comptr. General be good enough to cause the applicant to be informed that he may proceed to Port Arthur by the first opportunity
Sd J Boyd C. C.
21.7.69

[Page 807]

Port Arthur
29th July 1869

My Dear Sir,
Will you have the goodness to cause me to be furnished with a blank form of the Hospital Diet Roll, and [indecipherable] of the type sheet.
I hope you find that Mr Robinson can perform the necessary writing without assistance as it is of much importance that he [indecipherable] be competent in this respect.
The Accounts will, I presume, be more than he can accomplish, I shall therefore require the Diet and extra sheets for the present month, correctly labelled, on the 1st proximo, in order that the Accounts may be prepared in this office by the 8th of the month.
Duplicate blank forms of the Hospital voucher and [indecipherable] current will also be requisite

I am, My Dear Sir Yours very truly
P J Boyd CC

Dr. Dinham, Senr Medc Officer

Endorsement on application of Meat Contractor's Agent respecting the Conveyance of Meat from Safety Cove to Port Arthur.

I have directed the overseer at Safety Cove to have the Meat herein referred to conveyed to Port Arthur at once. It will be better for the future that the contractor make application to the Commissariat Storekeeper or to myself & not to the overseer of the farm for the conveyance of Meat when his own cart may be at the Out Station. This will save trouble and delay

Signed J Boyd CC
31 July 1869

The Commissariat Storekeeper Port Arthur

[Page 808]

Saturday Afternoon
31st July 1869

My Dear sir

I am much obliged for the blank forms of the Diet and typed sheets which I asked you for on Thursday last to cause me to be furnished with , and not having received them at one o'clock today, I [indecipherable] of the clock, to see you or the Dispenser about them. The latter appears to have heard nothing of my request to you, had misunderstanding as I suppose the message received from my clerk whose report on the subject I enclose herewith.

I am My Dear Sir, Yours very truly
J Boyd. CC

Dr Dinham , Senr Medc Officer

Port Arthur
30th July 1869

Sir

In compliance with your instructions I delivered a message to the Hospital Dispenser at 1 pm this day. I [indecipherable] the Civil Commandant required blank forms of Hospital Diet Roll and of the type sheets, as were called for by his letter of Thursday last to the Senior Medc Officer

Reply of the Dispenser

I will send them down by the messenger as soon as possible, or as soon as I can see the Doctor

Respectfully
[indecipherable]

The Civil Commandant

[Transcribed by Lynne Palmer, Rex Minter, Alison O'Sullivan, John Brooker, Ray King]

