

WESTERN AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT GAZETTE.

(PUBLISHED BY AUTHORITY.)

FRIDAY, APRIL 12, 1844.

[NUMBER 401]

*Colonial Secretary's Office, Perth,
April 3, 1844.*
His Excellency the Governor has been pleased to appoint C. R. Hinds, Esq., to be a Magistrate of this Territory.
*By His Excellency's command,
PETER BROWN.*

*Colonial Secretary's Office, Perth,
April 11, 1844.*
His Excellency the Governor has been pleased to direct the publication of the following Quarterly Report of C. Symmons, Esq., Protector of Natives.
*By His Excellency's command,
PETER BROWN.*

Perth, March 31, 1844.
SIR,—I have the honor to transmit my first Quarterly Report for the year 1844.

It is gratifying to be enabled to inform His Excellency the Governor of the continuance of those friendly feelings which have now so long marked the relations between the settlers and the aborigines. During the late fruit season some petty thefts have as usual occurred, but their repetition has been promptly checked by the summary punishment of the delinquents.

On the 26th ultimo, in consequence of an express having reached Perth from Jinjilup, a farm belonging to W. L. Brockman, Esq., situated about 50 miles to the N.E., I proceeded on the following morning to that station, accompanied by the proprietor, the acting Colonial Surgeon, and the Native Interpreter. Mr. Brockman and myself there entered into a judicial examination of the circumstances connected with the death of the native Wabbamarra, who had died shortly after having been struck on the head by a person named Stoodley, bailiff on the farm at Jinjilup. From the depositions of witnesses it would appear that the blows had been inflicted in the heat of passion, and under the impulse of self-defence, the native having assumed a threatening attitude with his "dowak" (or heavy throwing stick), after receiving some slight strokes with the thong of a whip, for his refusal to quit the cooking fire of the whites. On the post mortem examination by the acting Colonial Surgeon, a discoloration of the occipital bone rendered it presumable that concussion of the brain had been the cause of death; the dreadful state of decomposition of the body rendering a very minute examination impracticable.

The result of our inquiry was, the committal of the accused James Stoodley to take his trial on the charge of manslaughter at the ensuing Quarter Sessions.

Deeply as this unfortunate event is to be deplored, it is most gratifying to mention, that so entire was the conviction on the minds of the exasperated natives of our intention to see them righted, so implicitly did they rely on our good faith, they rigidly refrained, during a period of seven days, from the slightest aggression or hostile demonstration, but awaited patiently the arrival of the authorities. This self denial is the more conspicuous when we consider that the injured tribe consisted of many daring and reckless characters; that the deceased was their leading man; together with the numerical weakness of the whites (two men and two boys), the temptation of the plunder of a large flock of sheep and herd of cattle, and the totally isolated position of the station.

The native schools are satisfactorily progressing, and although difficulties, the natural consequences of the endeavor to civilize a body of youthful savages, are constantly besetting us, they have hitherto been

grappled with and successfully overcome. The most hazardous, and yet the most interesting period of this our experiment is fast approaching, now that many of the pupils have attained the age when the passions are more fully developed, and the desire of emancipation from control begins to assume the mastery.

To endeavor to obviate this difficulty, it is proposed forthwith to marry the eldest of the pupils, making the best arrangements our position will permit to ensure them a comfortable subsistence, and thus deprive them as much as possible of any inclination to return to their brethren of the bush; while on such as are of a somewhat less advanced age, we expect that the ceremony of betrothing them to each other will act not only as a check to misconduct, but as a stimulus to future well-doing.

The results of the only marriage hitherto solemnized between two pupils of the establishment (mention of which was made in my report for the year 1842), have been extremely gratifying. The girl, who had been reclaimed from the bush at an age more advanced than the rest of her companions, thereby greatly enhancing the difficulties of her civilization, and whose natural disposition was wayward and untractable, now cheerfully conforms to all the regulations of the Institution; and the recent birth of a child has evidently tended to operate a still greater and most beneficial change on her feelings and character.

The friendly understanding between the settlers and the aborigines having now been so long uninterrupted, the office of Native Constable has been for some time past nearly a sinecure, and I have, therefore, with the concurrence of His Excellency, temporarily abolished that appointment in the more settled districts, giving the dismissed functionaries to understand, that, in lieu of their hitherto daily ration of flour, an ample remuneration will be given them on each occasion when their services may be required.

I am not aware that by this arrangement any pecuniary saving to Government will be effected, but I feel confident that it will be the means of ensuring a more zealous coöperation and increased activity in circumstances of difficulty.

The question having been frequently mooted as to the numerical increase or decrease of the population since the settlement of this Colony by Europeans, I have lately endeavored to procure such authentic information on the subject as circumstances and the scattered nature of the aboriginal population would permit.

From the result of these enquiries I am induced to believe, that, whatever numerical fluctuations may have occurred in certain districts, yet that the aggregate numbers are much as they were fifteen years since. From the salubrity of the climate, the absence of all contagious disorders, and the now rare occurrence of fatal hostilities among themselves, it might reasonably be inferred that a population under such favorable circumstances must rapidly increase. Such, however, is certainly not the case. But I shall not attempt to analyze this seeming anomaly further than by remarking, that the women seldom rear (even if they produce) more than one or two children; a fact possibly to be attributed to their ever roving habits, and consequent fatigue, their exposure to the hardships of the bush, and to the circumstance that the ceremony of weaning is usually postponed until the child has attained 4 or 5 years of age.

Such being some of the natural checks to

a rapid increase of population, it may be easy to infer that the mortality occasioned by old age, casualties, or the ravages (as in 1843) of the influenza, or other local disease, must naturally tend to equalize the proportion of births and deaths amongst the aboriginal tribes.

I have the honor to be, Sir,
Your very obedient servant,
CHARLES SYMMONS,
Protector of Natives.
The Honorable the }
Colonial Secretary. }

*Colonial Secretary's Office, Perth,
April 4, 1844.*
His Excellency the Governor has been pleased to direct the following table of the arrival and departure of the several Mails to be published for general information—

Perth to Fremantle every morning (Sundays excepted) at 8 o'clock.
Perth to Guildford every morning (Sundays excepted) at 8 o'clock.
Perth to the Canning every Thursday afternoon at 2 o'clock.
Perth to Albany on the 5th of every month at 4 o'clock P.M., and on the 4th when the 5th falls on a Sunday.
Fremantle to Perth every afternoon at 1 o'clock (Sundays excepted).
Guildford to Perth every afternoon (Sundays excepted) at 1 o'clock.
Guildford to York every Friday morning at 11 o'clock.
York to Toodyay every Monday morning at 7 o'clock.
Toodyay to Guildford every Tuesday morning at 7 o'clock.
Canning to Pinjarra every Friday morning at 7 o'clock.
Canning to Perth every Monday morning at 7 o'clock.
Pinjarra to Australind every Monday morning at 7 o'clock.
Pinjarrah to the Canning every Saturday afternoon at 2 o'clock.
Australind to Bunbury every Wednesday morning at 7 o'clock.
Australind to Pinjarra every Thursday afternoon at 2 o'clock.
Bunbury to Australind every Thursday morning at 7 o'clock.
Bunbury to the Vasse every Thursday morning at 7 o'clock.
Vasse to Bunbury every Wednesday morning at 7 o'clock.
Albany to Perth on the 20th of every month, and on the day following when Sunday falls on the 20th.
The York mail is closed in Perth every Friday morning at $\frac{1}{2}$ past 7 o'clock.
*By His Excellency's command,
PETER BROWN.*

P r o c l a m a t i o n .

*By His Excellency JOHN HUTT,
Esq., Governor and Commander-in-Chief of the Territory of Western Australia, and its Dependencies, and Vice-Admiral of the same.*

In pursuance of the authority in me vested by a certain Act of the Imperial Parliament of Great Britain and Ireland, passed in the fifth and sixth years of Her Majesty's reign, intitled "An Act for regulating the sale of waste lands belonging to the Crown in the Australian Colonies," I do hereby notify and proclaim that the following portion of land in the Avon District be offered for sale by public auction at the office of the Collector of Revenue, in Perth, on Wednesday, the 10th day of May next, at the upset price

affixed thereto, on the terms and conditions set forth in certain land regulations dated 14th June, 1843:—

Country Grant.

Location No. 49—comprising 250 acres, extending 46 chains W.S.W., and 54 chains 35 links S.S.E. from a spot 29 chains W.S.W. from the E. corner of Avon location No. 16.—Upset price 20s. per acre.

Given under my hand and seal at Perth, this 4th day of April, one thousand eight hundred and forty-four.

JOHN HUTT,
Governor and Com.-in-Chief.

By His Excellency's command,
PETER BROWN,
Colonial Secretary.

GOD SAVE THE QUEEN!!!

Proclamation.

By His Excellency JOHN HUTT, Esq., Governor and Commander-in-Chief of the Territory of Western Australia and its Dependencies, and Vice-Admiral of the same.

In pursuance of the authority in me vested by a certain Act of the Imperial Parliament of Great Britain and Ireland, passed in the fifth and sixth years of Her Majesty's reign, intituled "An Act for regulating the Sale of Waste Lands belonging to the Crown in the Australian Colonies," I do hereby notify and proclaim that the following portion of land in the District of Cockburn Sound be offered for sale by public auction at the office of the Collector of Revenue in Perth on Wednesday, the 7th day of April next, at the upset price affixed thereto, on the terms and conditions set forth in certain Land Regulations dated the 14th June, 1843:—

Country Grant.

Location No. 22, Cockburn Sound—containing 820 acres in form of a double square, lying north and south, and having for the N. boundary a water course running to the N.W. about 210 chains eastward of Mr. Peel's E. boundary, and in direction N.E. or thereabouts from Serpentine Farm. Upset price 20s. per acre.

Given under my hand and seal at Perth this twenty-first day of March, one thousand eight hundred and forty-four.

JOHN HUTT,
Governor and Com.-in-Chief.

By His Excellency's command,
PETER BROWN,
Colonial Secretary.

GOD SAVE THE QUEEN!!!

General Post Office, Perth,
April 9, 1844.

List of Unclaimed Letters.

- A
Henry Adams, H. O. E. Adams, Michael Ahern, Mr. Atkins.
- B
William Brown.
- C
Jesse Crocker, John Croker.
- D
William Dixon (2), James Dow.
- E
Alfred Evans.
- G
Edward Grapes.
- H
Capt. W. Hamilton, J. F. Harrison, Mr. Hawley, William Haydon, Robert Hicks.
- J
Charles Jakewy.
- K
F. Kemp, Daniel Kenyon.

L
Robert Lakin, Daniel Legg (2), W. Longmate.

M
George Martin, S. Martin, Capt. Martin Mackenzie, J. Milson.

N
Frank Nixey (2), C. Norman.

O
Michael O'neil, Mr. Orley.

P
John Parsons.

R
Mr. Regantley, Wm. Robertson, Wm. Robinson, Mr. Rollen.

S
Wm. Seaton, J. H. Smith.

T
George Turner.

W
Mr. Waller, John Willmill, William Wood.

H. CAMFIELD,
Postmaster-General.

GENERAL ROAD TRUST.

A SPECIAL Meeting of the Trustees of the General Road Trust will be held at the Court House, Perth, at 12 o'clock, on Wednesday the 1st May next, for the purpose of appointing a Chairman to the Trust in the room of J. W. Hardey, Esq., resigned, and for taking into consideration the appointment of a Surveyor and Engineer to the General Road Trust.

By order of the Trustees,
EDWARD PICKING,
Clerk to the Trustees.
Perth, April 11, 1844.

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