

# WESTERN AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT GAZETTE.

(PUBLISHED BY AUTHORITY.)

FRIDAY, AUGUST 13, 1841.

[NUMBER 266]

*Colonial Secretary's Office, Perth.  
August 10, 1841.*

THE Governor has directed that the following depositions of Mr. Eyre, relative to the unfortunate event which occurred in the course of the overland journey from Fowler's Bay to Albany, shall be published for general information. It affords the strongest testimony which could be required to the fearless energy and determination of the traveller that after his little party should have been thus seriously diminished, and he and his sole companion left almost destitute in the midst of a wide and untravelled desert, he still should have persevered in and accomplished the object he had set himself to perform.

It also bears honorable testimony to the good conduct of "Wylie," the native of King George's Sound, who remained faithful to his white friend when forsaken by his countrymen, although, doubtless, like them he too had his fears whether they would ever survive the hardships and difficulties of this fearful journey.

*By His Excellency's command,  
PETER BROWN.*

*Colony of Western Australia } Copy of the Deposition of Mr. Edward J. Eyre of Adelaide to wit.*

*Taken this 8th day of July, 1841, before me, Peter Belches, one of Her Majesty's Justices of the Peace in and for the Colony of Western Australia. Sath—*

That, on the 25th February, 1841, I left Fowler's Bay with a party consisting of an Overseer named John Baxter, an Aboriginal native of King George's Sound, known by the name of "Wylie," and two Aboriginal natives of the colony of New South Wales, known by the names of "Joey" and "Yarry," with a view to proceed overland to Western Australia.

That at the time of our departure from Fowler's Bay, the party were provided with provisions calculated to last for nine weeks, at a rather limited allowance per week; but, that, from the barren and arid nature of the country we had to traverse, it soon became evident that our journey would occupy a much longer period than I had calculated upon.

That it consequently became incumbent upon me to reduce the allowance of provisions to the whole party to a very low scale a few weeks after commencing the undertaking.

That from the long continuance of this desolate region, and the consequently reduced state of our horses, delays became more necessary to recruit the horses, whilst the provisions (though husbanded with extreme frugality) were rapidly disappearing, until at last it became imperative upon me to have one of our horses killed as a supply of food for the party—on the 16th April.

That the meat of the horse thus killed was issued in daily rations to the boys of five pounds each of solid raw flesh, or four pounds of solid cooked meat, being more than double the quantity consumed daily either by myself or the overseer.

That on the 22d April I discovered that the native boys had been in the habit of stealing the provisions during the night for

many days; and, on the day in question, to punish them, I deducted from their day's allowance, the quantity that had been stolen during the previous night, and which I had ascertained to be four pounds weight. Immediately after breakfast all the three boys set off to leave the party, and endeavour to reach King George's Sound alone. I did not attempt to detain the elder boys, but would not allow the younger one, named "Yarry," to accompany them, as I imagined him to be only misled by the others. The two older boys proceeded on their route to the westward along the coast, but on the evening of the 25th April they again made their appearance at my camp after an absence of four days, expressing contrition for their misconduct, and begging to be received again into the party as they had found it impossible to procure either food or water for themselves in the direction they had gone. They were freely forgiven, and received into the party again, proceeding onwards with it on the 27th April. We were now about to traverse a country in which we knew there was little probability of water being found for many days. This circumstance, added to the scanty quantity and very inferior description of food we were able to procure for our horses, made it absolutely necessary that those animals should be watered every night to prevent their rambling. This was a most important duty, and one which was invariably performed (with the exception of one single night) solely by myself and the overseer alternately. On the night of the 29th April, I was engaged in this duty, having left the Overseer and the three native boys to go to rest at the camp. About the hour of ten, p.m., I was looking towards the camp, which was scarcely distant one-fourth of a mile, when I was startled by the flash, followed by the report of a gun. I immediately called out, but received no answer; and at once hurried to the camp. I was met by the native "Wylie" calling out, "Oh dear, oh dear," and asking me if I had heard the report. Upon reaching the camp, only a few minutes after the shot had been fired, I was horror struck at beholding my unfortunate overseer extended on the ground, and apparently lifeless, a few yards in advance of where he had been sleeping, whilst the camp was deserted by the two boys, "Joey" and "Yarry." Having ascertained that poor Baxter was insensible, and in the last convulsions of death, from a ball wound below the left breast. I turned to procure my gun and reconnoitre the camp. To my amazement I found our small stock of provisions had been plundered, and all the serviceable fire arms, consisting of two double-barrelled guns had been taken away, with some ammunition. Finding that my unfortunate fellow traveller was beyond all human aid, I left the appalling scene and proceeded with the boy "Wylie" to watch the horses during the remainder of the night, since the only chance of saving our own lives depended upon preventing these animals from rambling; they had already been three days without water, and we had still one hundred miles to travel before there was the slightest prospect of any being procured. Upon the morning of the 30th April, after examining

our stores left, I ascertained that about 26 pounds of bread, a one-gallon keg of water, and a few other things, belonging principally to the overseer, had been taken away by the two boys, in addition to the two double-barrelled guns and ammunition. The melancholy occurrence took place on the summit of the high cliffs bounding a portion of the Great Australian Bight, and situate in about longitude 125 deg. 40 min. East, and about latitude 32 deg. 30 min. South. The night of the 29th was clear and moonlight, with a cold frosty air. The two boys "Joey" and "Yarry" have been living in my service for a great length of time, and have been reared with the greatest kindness. I have never seen the Overseer ill use either of them, nor do I think that he was unnecessarily strict in exacting the very little service the boys were required to perform, and I can in no way account for the inducement which has led them to the perpetration of so fearful a crime, unless that, impelled by a desire of satisfying their appetites, they had stolen the provisions with a view of leaving the party and endeavouring to return to Fowler's Bay, where they were aware a considerable supply of provisions had been left as a dépôt to fall back upon in case of need, and that, upon the Overseer's awaking whilst they were in the act of plundering the camp, one of the boys had fired upon him to prevent his interference. This impression is strengthened from my having found the poor man stretched upon the ground upon his breast, with nothing but his shirt on, and only a few yards in advance of where he had been sleeping. At the same time, I fear much that the violence was premeditated, in the event of the man's awaking; and, my conviction is, that the gun had been deliberately loaded for that purpose prior to the robbery;—this conviction rests upon the circumstance of my having found two loose cartridges near the fire where the boys had lain down, together with the ramrod of the rifle, which had been taken out for the purpose of charging one of the double-barrelled guns, as its own ramrod was too short for that purpose; the latter had also been left upon the ground as useless. These were found when I first came up to the camp, and so short a time had elapsed between the firing of the shot and my arrival at the place, that they could not have been made use of for the purpose of reloading after having shot the poor man. Upon the morning of the 30th April, I proceeded on our route ten miles, and then encamped until the afternoon. Shortly before sunset, and whilst about to proceed again upon our route by night, the two boys made their appearance in the distance, having tracked us up during the day. I endeavored to get near them, but they would not let me approach at all, retreating and dodging among the bushes as I advanced, but incessantly calling out to "Wylie," for the purpose, as I imagined, of inducing him to leave me and join them. The elder boy, "Joey," had my double-barrelled gun with him at the time. Finding I could neither come near them, nor procure any of the property they had stolen, I proceeded onward on my route to the westward, accompanied by "Wylie." I have never seen or

heard any thing of the two boys since that period, and make no doubt but that they would endeavor to retrace their steps to Fowler's Bay for the sake of the provisions we had left there.

EDWARD JOHN EYRE.  
Sworn before me, at Albany,  
King George's Sound, this  
9th day of July, 1841,  
P. BELCHES, J. P.

Colony of Western Aus- } Information of  
tralia to wit. } "Wylie," taken  
before me, Peter Belches, one of Her Ma-  
jesty's Justices of the Peace in and for the  
Colony of Western Australia, taken accord-  
ing to the Act of Vict. No. 8, this ninth day  
of July, 1841.

I left Fowler's Bay with Mr. Eyre, and another white man called Baxter, also two black lads named "Joey" and "Yarry," belonging to the Sydney country. Mr. Eyre told me, when we left Fowler's Bay, that we were to walk to King George's Sound. After we had been walking a long distance, "Joey" and "Yarry" often told me that we would never get to King George's Sound, as we would die in the bush, and wished me to leave Mr. Eyre and return with them to Adelaide. One night Baxter, "Joey," "Yarry," and myself were sleeping at the hut, when Mr. Eyre was away some distance watching the horses, which he used to do in turns. After I had been asleep some time, I was awake by the noise of a gun having been fired. I jumped up very much frightened, and ran to Mr. Eyre, and called out to him, "have you heard the gun?" he was then running toward the sleeping place, and asked me what was the matter; we went immediately to the tent where we saw Baxter lying on the ground, breathing heavily; he was wounded in the breast, where a ball had entered; he never spoke after our arrival at the tent, and in a short time he was dead. "Joey" and "Yarry" were gone from the camp before Mr. Eyre and myself got to it, and they took away with them five flour dampers, some tea and sugar, a keg of water, two double-barrelled guns, some ammunition, and a cartridge box; also, our tobacco and pipes. We, immediately after finding what had been done, left the place, and went forward for King George's Sound. On the following day we saw "Joey" and "Yarry" following us; "Joey" had a double-barrelled gun with him, and "Yarry" had also one. I heard them crying like a native dog. Mr. Eyre tried to get them close to us, but they ran away among the bushes, but we never saw any more of them, but proceeded on our road to King George's Sound.

Declared before me, at Al-  
bany, King George's Sound }  
this 9th day of April, 1841,  
P. BELCHES, J. P.

Colonial Secretary's Office, Perth  
July 19, 1841.

WITH reference to a notice bearing date the 11th May last, addressed to the Holders of Land in Occupancy whose licenses of occupation have expired, requiring them without delay to prove to the satisfaction of the Government whether or how far the conditions of assignment have been performed: Notice is hereby given, that all such lands, as are above described, for which no schedule of improvements actually effected, or notices of the necessary improvements being in progress, may be sent in within three months from this date, will be considered as having reverted to the Crown for non-performance of the conditions of assignment.

By His Excellency's command  
PETER BROWN.

Colonial Secretary's Office, Perth,  
August 12, 1841.

HIS Excellency the Governor is pleased to direct the publication of the following Rules and Regulations, which have been established for the management of the children attending the Native school, and who may be in service among the inhabitants of Perth.

By His Excellency's command,  
PETER BROWN.

### PERTH NATIVE SCHOOL.

SUPPORTED BY THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT  
AND THE WESLEYAN SOCIETY,  
COMMENCED IN SEPT.,  
1840.

PATRON—His Excellency the Governor.

BOARD OF MANAGEMENT,  
The Committee of the Wesleyan Society,  
Perth, viz.—  
The Reverend John Smithies, Wesleyan  
Minister,

John Wall Hardey,  
Joseph Hardey,  
Henry Trigg,  
George Lazenby,  
Michael Clarkson,  
James Smith Clarkson,  
James Inkpen,  
M. Hutton,  
Frederick Waldeck,  
John Smith,  
Richard Rowland,

GEORGE SHENTON, Secretary.

Visitor on the part of the Government,  
CHARLES SYMMONS, ESQ., Protector of  
Aborigines.

#### TEACHERS.

Francis F. Armstrong,  
Mrs. Armstrong.

### RULES AND REGULATIONS

FOR THE MANAGEMENT OF THE CHILDREN  
ATTENDING THE SCHOOL, AND WHO  
MAY BE IN SERVICE AMONG THE IN-  
HABITANTS AT PERTH.

1. The boys and girls out at their various situations are expected to wash every morning, and, also, at noon, preparatory to their going to school. School time—two hours per day for the present: in summer from 2 to 4, and in winter from 1 to 3—Saturdays excepted.

2. The children are requested to sleep at Mr. Armstrong's, the Native Teacher's House, as they have been specially placed under his care by their parents; and the girls to return at sunset in summer and winter, and the boys at seven o'clock in summer, and at sunset in winter, as the best means of associating and keeping them together, and effectually separating them from the bush. The importance of this regulation, on account of evening instruction, is such, that a departure from it will subject the parties to the loss of the services of the boy or girl; a circumstance that the Committee sincerely hope will not occur. The boys and girls have separate sleeping apartments.

3. On the Lord's Day the children are to remain at Mr. Armstrong's, where they are supported at the joint expense of the Colonial Government and the Wesleyan Missionary Society, and to attend School and Divine Service morning and evening at the Wesleyan Chapel.

4. It is also respectfully requested that the parties employing the children will provide them with week-day garments, washing, &c., those worn during the Sundays being provided by the Government and the Wesleyan Society.

5. Should any of the boys or girls in service not suit their employers, or misconduct themselves, or be found loitering in the streets, it is suggested by the Committee, that complaint be made to Mr. Armstrong, and the matter will be immediately looked into, and the best means employed for their correction and improvement.

6. It will be expected that, in case any of the children are taken sick, they be sent to Mr. Armstrong's, where medical aid is provided by the Government; and, that one shilling be allowed by their owners for their support during their sickness (if not exceeding a fortnight), beyond that time the Committee will provide for them.

7. The children are to be allowed to have one day for a holiday every two months, for recreation and encouragement.

8. Mr. Armstrong will visit their employers once a month, or oftener, to make enquiries as to their general behavior, &c.  
G. SHENTON,  
Secretary.

Colonial Secretary's Office, Perth,  
August 4, 1841.

HIS Excellency the Governor has been pleased to appoint Robert Neill of Albany, Esquire, Deputy-Assistant-Commissary-General, to be a Magistrate of this Territory.

By His Excellency's command,  
PETER BROWN.

Colonial Secretary's Office, Perth,  
August 4, 1841.

### SALE OF ALLOTMENTS AT BUNBURY.

HIS Excellency the Governor has been pleased to direct the publication of the following notices, which have been issued by the Resident Magistrate of Leschenault, respecting the sale of certain Allotments in the Town of Bunbury.

By His Excellency's command,  
PETER BROWN.

Bunbury, July 13, 1841.

THE Sub-Collector of Revenue will put up for sale by public auction, on Tuesday, the 17th of August next, at One o'clock, the undermentioned Town Allotments—

Bunbury No. 6  
Do. No. 11  
Do. No. 59

For further particulars application to be made to the Sub-Collector or Assistant-Surveyor.

G. ELIOT,  
Resident.

Colonial Secretary's Office, Perth,  
July 22, 1841.

HIS Excellency the Governor has been pleased to appoint Francis Corbet Singleton, Esq., to the office of Resident Magistrate of the Murray River District, vice Captain R. G. Meares, resigned.

By His Excellency's command,  
PETER BROWN

Commissariat Office, Perth,  
August 11, 1841.

TENDERS in triplicate will be received in this Office on Wednesday, the 25th instant, from such persons as may be willing to contract for sundry repairs required at the Soldiers Barracks, Officers Quarters, &c., at Perth.

For further particulars application to be made at this office.

W. H. DRAKE,  
Dep.-Asst.-Com.-General.

Printed by CHARLES MACFAULL,  
Government Printer