

WESTERN AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT GAZETTE.

(PUBLISHED BY AUTHORITY.)

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[NUMBER 443]

*Colonial Secretary's Office, Perth,
February 10, 1845.*

His Excellency the Governor has been pleased to direct the publication of the following report which has been received from F. Helpman, Esq., commanding H. M. Col. schooner *Champion*, on his return from exploring the coast to the northward, between Champion and Gantheame Bays.

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

*H. M. Colonial Schooner Champion,
Gage's Roads, Dec. 19, 1844.*

SIR,—I have the honor to report my return from a recent exploration to the northward, having visited the coast between Champion and Gantheame Bays, with a view to ascertain the position of the Hutt River Estuary, as well as to examine the coast between these localities; and I beg to furnish the following details on the subject for the information of His Excellency the Governor.

I coasted close in from Champion Bay, collecting angles and soundings, until in lat. 28° 16' 30" S. the low ridges of sand along the shore induced me to land, being then (as I concluded from the latitude given by Capt. Grey) in the immediate vicinity of the estuary. On reaching the summit of the highest coast hill, I found myself abreast of the centre of the inlet, which was void of water, but presented the appearance of a continuous sheet of salt as far as the eye could reach. Passing over the coast ridges, I came down, in about half a mile, to the edge of the estuary, and followed it in a southerly direction for about two miles, when I ascended another hill, from which I could clearly see the south end of it, which was covered with the same description of incrustation of salt.

A gorge at the south-east corner of the estuary is, probably, where the Hutt River discharges itself during the rainy season, but there was no appearance of water in any part of the flat, which was about two miles wide between the hills and the S.E. shore of the inlet.

Observing that the north extremity of the estuary, as seen from the hill just referred to, presented some slight appearance of water, I was induced to examine it, and found the sand ridges on the coast extremely low, nearly destitute of herbage, but giving the idea of having had water passing over them. This I judged to be the case from a few blades of very coarse grass, which were laid flat on the ground as if from the effect of running water.

From the highest point of these ridges, notwithstanding the smoke from the numerous native fires, the whole north end of the inlet was plainly seen to be covered with salty incrustations, similar to those previously referred to.

I conceive the point of land near which these latter observations were made, and where I landed the second time, to be "Shoal Point" of the chart; but, except that it is very low, I see no cause for its name, as the water was deep close to it, and having only a few rocks close off its extreme west point, within a quarter of a mile of the shore.

Following close in from Shoal Point, the coast is perfectly clear of dangers; but I observed no opening in the hills indicative of a river, nor could I discover any bay or place of shelter for shipping to resort to.

"Red Point," which is the western entrance of Gantheame Bay, is a very bold headland of considerable elevation, it is circular, and about 4 miles in extent. I

landed at the east end of the red sand cliffs, taking a specimen of the rock.

The land to the northward from this promontory is of a white sandy appearance, having ridges of sand hills along the coast of moderate altitude.

The low state of the barometer, and the strong northerly winds, induced me to keep the vessel at a considerable offing. During the day the breezes were very fresh, and had it not been for the whale boat with which I was furnished, I should not have been able to effect a landing on any part of the coast which came under my observation. Under these circumstances, I was compelled most reluctantly to abandon the idea of spending much time in examining the interior.

The very dry state of the Hutt at this season seems to indicate that but little water flows into it at any time; and I am disposed to fancy, that the lagoon, or estuary, owes its formation to the breaking in of the sea over the low sand hills during the tempestuous gales of the winter months, more especially towards the north end of the inlet, where the sand ridges are lower than any other part of the coast in that vicinity.

On my return I visited the south island of the Abrolhos, where, from the immense numbers of sea birds, I was in hopes of realizing the secondary object of my search,—namely, the discovery of guano; but, although the ground was literally covered with the young birds, and the old ones rose above our heads almost in sufficient quantities to darken the air, I could discover no sign of any such deposit. The only thing having any affinity to this valuable manure being a description of peaty soil, of which I brought a sample away.

About 20 miles N.W. of Jurien Bay I observed two small islands, about two miles in length, which I have laid down in the chart recently lent me by His Excellency.

Extensive reefs continue to front the coast from Cape Leschenault to Point Moore, where they gradually cease in detached pieces, rendering it highly dangerous and imprudent to hover too closely to the shore during the night. We coasted during the day about two miles outside of them, and hauled off at night fall.

I can but repeat my regret that the absence of any shelter for the vessel should have compelled me to limit my researches to such narrow bounds, but the unsettled state of the barometer made me fearful as to the safety of the schooner, and necessarily put an end to my exploration.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your most ob'd't humble serv't,

FRANK HELPMAN.

The Honorable the }
Colonial Secretary. }

*Colonial Secretary's Office, Perth,
January 28, 1845.*

Persons desirous of contracting for the conveyance of the Post Office mails from and to the undermentioned places, for one year from the 1st of April, 1845, are requested to send in their offers in writing to this Office before Tuesday, the 11th day of March next, endorsed "Tenders for the Conveyance of Mails":—

Between Perth and Fremantle daily.

Between Perth and Guildford daily.

Between Perth and Albany once a month.

Between Perth and Pinjarra once a week.

Between Pinjarra and Bunbury via Australind once a week.

Between Bunbury and Busselton once a week.

Tenders may also be sent in for the conveyance of the mail the whole way from Pinjarra to Busselton.

Between Guildford and Toodyay once a week, or between Guildford and Toodyay via York.

Between Perth and Albany, either as now carried by way of Guildford and the Williams; or by way of Pinjarra, once a month.

The several mails to be carried on horseback, or in light spring carts.

Parties tendering, or an authorised agent, to attend at this office on the day appointed for opening the tenders; and each tender is to bear the signature of two respectable persons willing to enter into a bond, with the contractor for the safety of the mails, and due performance of the contract.

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

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 the reign of Her present Majesty, 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 allotment of land in the District of the Toodyay, will be offered for sale by public auction, at the office of the Collector of Revenue in Perth, on Wednesday, the 19th day of February next, at the upset price affixed thereto, on the terms and conditions set forth in certain land regulations, dated the 14th June, 1843:—

Building allotment No. 1, on Toodyay town-site.—Upset price, £20.

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

JOHN HUTT,

Governor and Com.-in-Chief:

By His Excellency's command,

PETER BROUN,

Colonial Secretary

GOD SAVE THE QUEEN !!!

C O M M I S S A R I A T N O T I C E S .

*Commissariat Office, Perth,
Feb. 10, 1845.*

T E N D E R S F O R W H E A T .

THE Deputy Assistant Commissary-General hereby gives notice, that sealed Tenders in triplicate will be received at this office on Wednesday, 5th March, 1845, from such person or persons as may be willing to supply, for the use of Her Majesty's Service,

[550] *Five Hundred and Fifty Bushels of Colonial Wheat,*

(60) sixty pounds per bushel, the growth of the harvest of 1844, and to be delivered immediately.

The Wheat to be of unexceptionable quality, free from moth, smut, and drake, and to be delivered at such place as the Commissariat Officer in charge may direct,

free from any charge for bags, casks, portage, &c., to the Government, at the risk of the Contractor.

The Wheat to be subject to the approval of a Board of Survey before payment is made.

No tender will be accepted for a less quantity than (100) one hundred bushels, and the parties whose tenders are accepted will be required to enter into a bond, with two good sureties, for the due performance of their contract.

Payments for these Supplies will be made by Bills at thirty days' sight on the Right Honourable the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury, payable in London at par.

Any further information may be known on application at this office.

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

Commissariat Office, Perth,
Feb. 12, 1845.

SEALED TENDERS in triplicate will be received at this Office on Wednesday, the 5th day of March, 1845, at 12 o'clock, from such parties as may be desirous of obtaining Bills of Exchange on the Right Honourable the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury, payable in London at thirty days' sight.

The Bills will not be drawn, or tenders accepted, for any sum less than (£100) One Hundred Pounds Sterling.

The Tenders must state in figures and words at length the Rate of Exchange offered in Specie for the Bills, and also the description of Coin.

For further particulars application to be made at this office.

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

Commissariat Office, Perth,
Feb. 13, 1845.

TENDERS FOR REPAIRS.

SEALED TENDERS in triplicate will be received at this Office on Wednesday, the 5th March, 1845, at 12 o'clock, from such person or persons as may be willing to contract for the performance of sundry repairs at the Officers' Quarters, Soldiers' Barracks, and Guard Room, viz.:-

Officers' Quarters.

To lay a floor in back verandah, and drain in the yard; fix a table in kitchen; and sundry other repairs.

Soldiers' Barracks.

To lay a floor in verandah, re-shingle the roof of kitchen, and sundry other repairs.

Guard Room.

To fix sundry pegs, and repair the fire-place, &c.

The whole repairs to be finished before the 30th April, 1845.

Separate tenders will be received for the Bricklayer's and Carpenter's work.

Two sureties will be required for the due performance of the contract.

For specifications of the work to be performed, or further information, application to be made to the Superintendent of Public Works.

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

Commissariat Office, Perth,
Jan. 3, 1845.

TENDERS FOR FRESH MEAT.

THE Deputy Assistant Commissary-General hereby gives notice, that sealed tenders in triplicate will be received at this Office on Wednesday, the 19th March, from such person or persons as may be willing to contract for the supply of such quantities of Fresh Meat (Mutton or Beef) as may be required by the Commissariat Department at Perth, Williamsburgh, Pinjarrah, and York, from 1st April, 1845, for (6) six or (12) months, for which payment will be made quarterly by Bill on the Right Honourable the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury, at thirty days' sight, and payable in London at par.

Two responsible sureties will be required for the due fulfilment of the contract.

Any further information may be known on application at this Office.

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

Commissariat Office, Perth,
Jan. 3, 1845.

TENDERS FOR TRANSPORT.

SEALED TENDERS in triplicate will be received at this Office on Wednesday, the 19th March, 1845, from such person or persons as may be willing to supply for the use of the public service, from the 1st of April, 1845, to 31st March, 1846, the requisite land and water transport to the following places—

Water Transport.

- From Perth to Cockburn Sound
- “ Owen's Anchorage
- “ Gage's Roads
- “ Fremantle
- “ Guildford
- “ Rottnest Island
- “ Pinjarrah

Land Transport.

- From Perth to York
- “ Williamsburgh

And from the above detailed places to Perth.

The tenders to express separately the price per cwt. to or from each station.

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

BANK OF AUSTRALASIA.

HALF-YEARLY return of the aggregate average amount of the Weekly Liabilities and Assets of the Bank of Australasia, within the Colony of Western Australia, from the 16th day of April, 1844, to the 14th day of October, 1844, inclusive. Published pursuant to the Royal Charter of Incorporation:—

<i>Liabilities.</i>	£	s.	d.
Bills in circulation not bearing interest	33	18	2
Notes in circulation not bearing interest	1,080	0	0
Bills and notes in circulation bearing interest	nil.		
Balances due to other banks	nil.		
Cash deposited not bearing interest	1,781	2	0
Cash deposited bearing interest	402	19	2

Total Liabilities within the Colony £3,297 19 4

<i>Assets.</i>	£	s.	d.
Gold, silver, and other metals Landed Property (<i>Bank premises</i>)	1,846	11	9
Bills of other Banks	429	9	4
Balances due from other Banks	nil.		
Debts due to the Corporation, including notes, bills, and other securities	19,421	7	10

Total Assets within the Colony 21,697 8 11

M. MACDERMOTT,
Manager.
W. TAYLOR,
Accountant.

RETURN or account pursuant to Act of Council of the average amount of Notes in circulation, and of Deposits in the Western Australian Bank for the quarter ending 31st Dec., 1844:—

	£	s.	d.
Average notes	1,680	0	0
Average deposits	8,487	1	11

RICHARD WELLS,
Cashier.

Printed by CHARLES MACFAULL,
Government Printer.