

WESTERN AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT GAZETTE.

(PUBLISHED BY AUTHORITY.)

TUESDAY, JULY 4, 1848.

[No. 141]

The following addresses were presented to His Excellency Lieut. Col. Irwin on his approaching retirement from the Government, namely:—

From the Inhabitants of the Town of Perth, presented by a deputation consisting of the Chairman of the Town Trust, the Sheriff, and the Registrar of the Civil Court.

To His Excellency Lieut. Col. Irwin K. H., Governor and Commander-in-Chief of the Territory of Western Australia, and its Dependencies, and Vice Admiral of the same.

May it please your Excellency.—We the undersigned Civil Officers, Members of Council, Magistrates, Gentlemen, and others, Inhabitants of the Town of Perth beg to address your Excellency upon retiring from the arduous and responsible duties which devolved upon you, on the decease of your predecessor.

The protracted illness of the late Colonel Clarke and the consequent unsatisfactory state in which the public affairs were left, together with the precarious and unsettled condition of the colony, rendered the administration of the Government a matter of no ordinary difficulty and anxiety.

We feel pleasure, however, in observing that the limited period of your Excellency's administration has been characterised by an active zeal in the public service—a zeal which initiated and perfected some highly advantageous public measures. Among others we would allude to the improvements in the Government system of education, the benefits of which have begun to evidence themselves throughout the colony, and also the judicious introduction from Singapore of Chinese laborers, who seem admirably adapted to our climate and purposes.

We cannot close this our respectful address without acknowledging the untiring solicitude and perseverance manifested by your Excellency in the advancement of the best interests of the town of Perth, the effect of which we believe may prove of main importance in its future progress.

In retiring from the high office you have honorably discharged, you will have the satisfaction of knowing, that you have not only exerted yourself to the utmost in carrying out the trust confided to you by our gracious Queen, but that you have been permitted, under Providence, to effect good to your fellow colonists.

With kind wishes to yourself and family,
We beg to remain &c.

(Here follow the signatures.)

To which His Excellency was pleased to make the following reply:—

Gentlemen.—I beg you will convey to the Inhabitants of the town of Perth the gratification I have derived from the address now delivered on my retirement from the administration of the Government.

The earnest hope that I should be enabled to promote the prosperity of the colony induced me to enter readily on the duties of so arduous and responsible an office, and cheerfully to encounter the difficulties peculiar to my position to which you have referred.

The approval of the Settlers of the measures of my Government conveyed in your address, and those of the country districts will considerably heighten the satisfaction I anticipated in resigning an office, from which though no personal benefits has accrued, I have derived the privilege of promoting the good of my fellow colonists, of which I am so kindly assured.

In acknowledging your approval of the measures of my Government, it is due to the Members of the Executive Council, to state the efficient aid I have at all times received from their advice and zealous co-operation.

In conclusion, Gentlemen, I have only to add my acknowledgements of your kind wishes for myself and family, and to assure you, that wherever my station hereafter may be, I shall ever take

a sincere interest in your welfare, and that of the colony with which I have been so long connected.

F. C. IRWIN.

To His Excellency Lieut. Col. Irwin K. H., Governor and Commander-in-Chief of the Territory of Western Australia and its Dependencies, and Vice Admiral of the same.

May it please your Excellency.—We the undersigned Magistrates, Clergy, Landholders, Gentlemen, and others resident in the district of the Swan, do hereby beg to approach your Excellency on your retirement from the office of Governor with sentiments of respect.

While we deeply deplored the circumstances which rendered it necessary for you against your private feelings to discharge the responsible and onerous duties of Governor of the colony, we at the same time fully sympathise with the difficulty of your position.

The uniform principles of integrity and honor which has actuated your conduct as a private individual, and which have been since fully appreciated by us during your temporary administration tended no doubt to sustain you through a period of no ordinary trial.

Though we are led to believe that you seek no approval except that of a higher power, nevertheless we would respectfully offer you our warm thanks for those public measures of your administration, which undoubtedly tend to the general advantage.

That it may please Divine Providence to permit you to live long among us, with health and happiness is the sincere wish of

Honored Sir,

Your Excellency's dutiful Servants and fellow Settlers,

(Here follow the signatures).

To which His Excellency was pleased to make the following reply:—

Gentlemen.—I beg to express the satisfaction with which I have heard the address you have been deputed to present me from the Inhabitants of the Swan district.

On assuming the administration of the Government, I was not insensible to the difficulties of my position to which you refer; but I cheerfully undertook the office, trusting that however arduous it might prove, my efforts to advance the interests of the colony, would through the Divine aid be attended with success.

In the address you have presented and in those I have received from other parts of the colony, I am assured that these hopes were not unfounded, and that my administration has been appreciated by the Settlers. Here it is fit I should express how much I am indebted for the valuable aid, which I have on all occasions derived from the Members of the Executive Council.

With reference to the late lamented Governor, Col. Clarke, whose death you deplore, I may say from having long enjoyed his friendship, that, as he was an invalid during his brief sojourn here, those, who had not previously known him, could little estimate the loss sustained by the colony, in the removal of such a man from the head of affairs. His admirable qualifications for his high office were manifested in St. Lucie, and when, after two years residence Col. Clarke resigned the Government, men of all ranks and parties united in lamenting the departure of a Governor, whom they regarded as a father. In a letter I had by the last English mail, the writer mentions having heard a distinguished Officer of the army state that he had resided in Jersey near Col. Clarke, when the latter commanded the 46th Regiment, and that he never knew a case in which the powerful influence of a consistent christian character told more perceptibly on the reverence and attachment of the soldiers.

In conclusion Gentlemen I have to thank you for your kind wishes for the welfare of myself and family, and our continued residence among you, and I beg to assure you of my sincere desire for

your best interests, and the prosperity of your district, with which I have been so long and intimately connected.

F. C. IRWIN.

(Presented by Thomas Peel, Esq.)
To His Excellency Lieut. Col. Irwin, Senior Member of the Executive Council, and Acting Governor of Western Australia, &c.

We, the undersigned inhabitants of the Murray district, entertaining a high sense of the promptitude and zeal displayed by you whilst administering the affairs of this colony, cannot permit you to resign the great trust without an expression of our warmest approbation.

Actuated as we believe you to have been by an earnest desire to follow up the policy designed by your predecessor, the late Col. Clarke, had he been spared, with the scanty means at your command, we consider you have accomplished as much as could reasonably have been expected from any individual holding in trust the reins of our colonial government.

We beg to congratulate you on the rapidly improving Sandal-wood trade, and the flattering prospect we enjoy of an extensive market for our Mahogany in India; and especially are we thankful that you have resolved to move a great impediment to commerce by re-establishing a weekly Postal communication with the Outports and Southern settlements.

We rejoice to report a good harvest and our very great success in cultivating the Vine along the coast; stock of all descriptions are rapidly increasing; and under the fostering arm of Providence, aided by the Chinese so judiciously introduced by your Excellency—a class of laborers admirably calculated for the cultivation of those productions to which our soil and climate are so well adapted, we yet hope at no remote period successfully to overcome the many difficulties we have had to wrestle with.

With these lively impressions we repeat our assurances of esteem, and have the honor to subscribe ourselves.

[Here follow the signatures.]

To which His Excellency was pleased to make the following reply:—

Gentlemen,—I have received, by the hands of Mr. Peel, your address on my approaching retirement from Office, with feelings of unmixed satisfaction. At a period when no interested motives could have influenced such a declaration, to be assured by a portion of my fellow colonists that my administration of the Government has gained their approbation. To learn they not only appreciated my motives, but considered my efforts to promote the general interests of the colony had been as successful as circumstances permitted, was a communication as gratifying as unlooked for.

The candour of your conduct is in this instance the more marked, from your district being one of those suffering under the postal arrangements of the past year, and your remonstrance to the Government on the subject having proved unsuccessful.

I am gratified to find your estimate of Chinese labour coincide with my own—I consider this country and climate particularly well suited for for Mediterranean produce—wine, oil, dried fruits, &c., to which I doubt not the attention of the settlers will ere long be principally directed, and for the cultivation of such produce, Asiatic labor is not only far cheaper but preferable to that of our native country.

From personal observations during a residence of a number of years in Ceylon, and all I have read and heard of the various nations of the East, I am satisfied that the Chinese laborer is the best suited for our wants, being strong, sober, and enduring, intelligent, cheerful, and contented. From possessing these qualifications, and the great facility and inconsiderable cost with which these people can be introduced here from Singapore, I look forward to the settlers being soon supplied with an abundance of such labor, and to a great increase of their prosperity in consequence.

I fully concur with you in considering that the very encouraging prospects of the colony form a subject for mutual congratulation and thankfulness to a bountiful Providence, and trusting that the realization of these prospects will speedily reward your long and arduous labors,

I remain, Gentlemen,

Your faithful servant,

F. C. IRWIN.

[Received by Post.]

To His Excellency Lieut. Col. Irwin, K. H. Governor and Commander-in-Chief of the Territory of Western Australia, and its Dependencies, and Vice Admiral of the same.

May it please your Excellency.—We her Majesty's loyal and dutiful subjects, the Magistrates, Clergy, Landowners and Inhabitants of Bunbury Australind and the adjacent parts in the district of Wellington in the said colony beg leave to address your Excellency for the purpose of offering to you, before you are superceded in the high office, you now fill, of Governor of this colony, by the arrival of the Officer whom her Majesty has appointed to that distinguished post, the expression of our respectful acknowledgments for the zeal and integrity with which you have exercised the authority and executed the important duties of Governor since they devolved upon you by the lamented death of Lieutenant Colonel Clarke.

We beg to assure your Excellency that although we may not have coincided in the expedience of all your measures, and one of them has been of most injurious tendency to our interests, we have never doubted the good intentions by which you have been actuated, and have entirely disapproved that continued opposition to your Government, and condemned those unjustifiable personal attacks which have been made against you.

We therefore avail ourselves of this opportunity on your going out of office of conveying to you the expression of our personal respect and sincere wishes that your Excellency may long continue to enjoy health, happiness and prosperity.

We have the honor to remain &c.

(Here follow the signatures).

To which His Excellency was pleased to make the following reply:—

Gentlemen.—I have been favored with your address on my approaching retirement from office, expressing your approval of my conduct in the administration of the Government, and in reply I have to thank you for the gratification I have derived from such testimony so honorable to yourselves suffering as you were from the effects of a measure, I felt it my duty to carry out in the past year.

In devoting my energies to the faithful discharge of the important duties that have devolved upon me, I have endeavoured to act in such a manner as appeared to me calculated to promote the best interests of the community, and to receive so favorable a testimony to the integrity of my motives, as that contained in your address, and in another lately received from the Inhabitants of the adjoining district of the Murray, is as satisfactory as unlooked for.

I remain, Gentlemen,

With warmest wishes for your increasing prosperity,

Your faithful Servant,

F. C. IRWIN.

General Post Office, Perth,
June 29, 1848.

List of unclaimed Letters.

- 1 Ellson, James
- 1 Fisher, Samuel
- 1 Logue, Major
- 1 Mills, Charles
- 1 Scott, Mr.
- 2 Smith, M. B.
- 1 Wills, Mr.

A. HELMICH,

Postmaster General.

*Colonial Secretary's Office, Perth,
June 30, 1848.*

His Excellency the Governor, is pleased to direct the publication of the last Quarterly Return of the Western Australian Bank of the Average amount of Notes in circulation.

Average Deposits £13,670 0s 0d.

Average Notes £3,732 0s 0d.

By His Excellency's command,

R. R. MADDEN,

Colonial Secretary.