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17

*Colonial Secretary's Office,
Perth, 18th April, 1876.*

HIS Excellency The Governor directs the publication of the following Despatch (with its enclosure) for general information.

A. O'GRADY LEFROY,
Acting Colonial Secretary.

CIRCULAR.

Downing Street,
13th January, 1876.

SIR,—I have the honor to transmit to you a copy of a despatch which I addressed last month to the Governor of New South Wales, being of opinion, as I stated in the first paragraph of that despatch, that I might most conveniently address to that Colony which had made the most extensive proposals with regard to further annexation (whether in New Guinea or elsewhere in the Pacific), those observations which had been called for by despatches which I had received from other Colonies on portions of the same subject.

I need not of course add that whilst embodying my general reply in a despatch addressed to one single Colony, I have given the fullest and most careful consideration to all the communications which have reached me on this matter from other Australasian Colonies, and I trust that the course which I have taken will not be thought inconvenient. I regret, however, that through an accidental delay this despatch has not been sooner addressed to you.

I have, &c.,
CARNARVON.

Governor Robinson, C.M.G.

NEW SOUTH WALES, No. 86.

The Earl of Carnarvon to Governor Sir H. Robinson.

Downing Street, 8th December, 1875.

SIR,—I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch, No. 52, of the 3rd June, in which you transmitted a Minute, signed by Mr. Robertson, on behalf of your ministers, recommending that Her Majesty should be advised, with as little delay as

possible, to take possession not only of New Guinea, but of the islands of New Britain, New Ireland, and a large number of other islands extending to a long distance in the Pacific Ocean, east and north-east of New Guinea. I have also received addresses in favor of the annexation of New Guinea from the Legislatures of South Australia and Queensland, and I am informed that a similar representation will be addressed to me from Victoria; but as the Minute of your ministers comprises a much more extensive proposal than has otherwise come before me, it may be convenient that I should address to you that general statement of the present views of Her Majesty's Government which it is convenient no longer to delay.

2. The principal reasons which have been advanced for the extension of British sovereignty over New Guinea and other islands of the Pacific, may be fairly summed up as follows:

(1) That their possession would be of value to the empire generally, and conduce specially to the peace and safety of Australia, the development of Australian trade, and the prevention of crime throughout the Pacific.

(2) That the establishment of a foreign power in the neighbourhood of Australia would be injurious to British, and more particularly to Australian interests.

3. But it is urged that although primarily of importance to Australia, it is as an Imperial question that this annexation should be considered; and I am further led to understand that those colonies which would derive most advantage, whether in a political or in a commercial point of view, from this step, are of opinion that no part of its cost should be defrayed from colonial funds.

4. I could wish that some facts had been stated, or some arguments adduced, to substantiate a view which will naturally be thought here to need proof. There is, I am satisfied, not only no disinclination, but a hearty willingness on the part of the people and Parliament of this country to accept, whether in expense or in political responsibilities, the common burdens of that empire of which they are justly proud, but it is simply impossible either for me to admit or, if even I were to make the admission, to persuade the English people that the Australian colonies have no special interest in the annexation of New Guinea, and that the responsibility of the measure rests exclusively with the Imperial Government. While, therefore, I am ready to give the fullest consideration to any advantage, if such can be shown, which would accrue to the empire at large from the acquisition of the very great area of country now

under consideration, I cannot at present perceive any ground other than that of its interests to Australia on which such a proposal could be seriously entertained. The proposal is made, it must be remembered, in the absence of any English settlements, I might almost say of any individuals of European race on this unexplored continent, and in face of the fact that the information which we at present possess respecting it, is extremely discouraging. Such trade, however, as would be developed in New Guinea and the adjacent islands, would principally benefit the Australian colonies, and it would not be easy to show that for such a purpose this country ought to incur a heavy expenditure unshared by any Australian colony.

5. Your ministers refer at some length to the facilities which would be given for repressing abuses and maintaining order by the establishment of British sovereignty throughout the islands. On this, again, I am bound to remark that it is only to a limited extent that this country can be deemed to lie under the obligation of controlling, single-handed and unassisted, those places in which British subjects, in common with the subjects of many other powers, carry on their trading business in the South Pacific; and on the other hand it will, I think, be admitted that England has shown no unwillingness to accept her full share of the expense, labour, and responsibility attendant upon the discharge of such a duty. She has, within the last twelve months, undertaken and carried out, in no grudging spirit, the duties involved in the annexation of Fiji, and she has created by Imperial legislation an adequate machinery for establishing and maintaining the authority of a High Commissioner over such places in the Pacific as it may from time to time seem expedient to bring under its jurisdiction. Your advisers will, in fact, find that the 6th section of the Pacific Islanders' Protection Act of 1875, (passed since their Minute was written) answers in effect most of the latter part of their suggestions. It will, under this Act, be in the power of Her Majesty's Government, should they think fit, to bring within the control of the High Commissioner the places referred to by your ministers as desirable for annexation; and it will thus be possible to punish crime, to supervise the local trade, and, it may perhaps be added, to learn by experience how far there are other places which it may be expedient or necessary to bring absolutely under British rule.

6. As, therefore, provision has been made in the manner which I have explained, for the exercise of some authority over British subjects in the places under consideration, the principal if not the only ground on which Her Majesty's Government could be pressed to come to so hasty a decision as is now urged in favour of further extending the Queen's sovereignty in the Pacific, would be the imminent probability of the annexation of New Guinea by some foreign state. I should regret any such intention on the part of any foreign power, but I fail to perceive any present indication of it. The United States have continued to adhere to their traditional policy of not acquiring dependencies remote from the continent of America; the German Government has, I am informed, very lately intimated that it has no intention of acquiring colonies, and this intimation had special reference to New Guinea, and if, contrary to all present expectation, any other European power should contemplate the acquisition of any of the Pacific Islands, it may be confidently supposed that it would not, without previous communication with this Government, assume jurisdiction over a place the expediency of annexing which to the British Empire is well known to have been formally recommended and to be under the consideration of Her Majesty's Government. To assume any other line of action would be to assume a course of conduct very little consistent with those friendly professions which Her Majesty's Government constantly receive from other Governments and states.

7. I request you, therefore, to inform your ministers that while Her Majesty's Government will continue to examine, by the light of such information as they may be able to procure, the arguments for and against the extension of British sovereignty over New Guinea or any other of the Pacific Islands, they are at present far from being satisfied that such a course is expedient, and see no reason for hastening a discussion on so important a question. In the meantime, with a view to avert as far as possible the disasters, bloodshed, and mortality which are likely to arise out of the speculations of trading com-

panies or *quasi* military expeditions, and also with a view to reserve to the Crown that power which cannot properly be surrendered, and the abdication of which in former times, and in similar circumstances, has led to a very great trouble, loss, and expense, it is, I think, convenient that the warning contained in the enclosed letter addressed to the promoters of a projected Company, in London, should be made public in the colonies where similar schemes are, as I understand, already being proposed.

I have, &c.

Colonial Office to Edward Schubert, Esq.

Sir, Downing Street, October 30, 1875.

I am directed by the Earl of Carnarvon to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 9th instant, transmitting the prospectus of a proposed Association, to be styled "The New Guinea Colonizing Association," with a draft of proposed rules and regulations for the guidance of an expeditionary force, and requesting that this project may receive the moral support of Her Majesty's Government, and such legal recognition as the promoters conceive could be given to it by the enrolment of the expeditionary force under the Volunteer Act and the appointment of certain members of it as Justices of the Peace for the Island of New Guinea.

2. His Lordship has attentively examined the scheme laid before him by you, and regrets that he is obliged to consider it one to which he can in no way give the approval which you seek. Even if the information at present possessed by any persons in this country were such as to afford any assurance, or even any confident expectation, that an expedition such as is projected would not result in commercial failure, in loss of health and life to its members, and in serious disturbances among the native tribes of the island (the probability of any of which consequences would impose a heavy responsibility on a Government which should lend it the weight of an official recommendation), it would be Lord Carnarvon's imperative duty to object very strongly to the leading features of the proposal on public and constitutional grounds.

3. Even if New Guinea were a part of the Queen's dominions, it would be impossible to entertain the suggestion that a number of persons, brought together by the love of adventure or the desire of profit, should indiscriminately, and without a searching scrutiny into the personal fitness of each, be enrolled or commissioned as members of a military or *quasi*-military force, whose services within this island could be accepted by, and whose proceedings would be invested with the high sanction of Her Majesty. For service in an unknown country abounding, as far as has been ascertained, in the gravest physical difficulties, and inhabited by a numerous, powerful, and warlike population, a force would need to be very differently constituted.

4. So, also, with regard to the appointment of magistrates, Her Majesty's Government could on no account accept as suitable persons to discharge the duties of magistrate in any part of the Queen's dominions, the unknown conditions of which demand tried experience and special attainments, such persons as a Company might select as its leaders, chaplains, or medical officers.

5. His Lordship directs me to add that he would be glad if, consistently with his duty, he could conclude with this expression of his inability to give to the Association that support and recognition which are desired, and leave the members of it to undertake, on their own responsibility, the risks of an enterprise which they appear to think likely to prove remunerative. The position, however, in which Her Majesty's Government now stands with regard to New Guinea is not such as to leave them free to sanction, even tacitly, the acquisition of land within the island by British subjects.

6. As you are no doubt aware, the Governments of the Australian Colonies have addressed to Her Majesty's Government strong and formal representations in favor of the annexation of New Guinea by this country. Those representations are now being carefully considered, and, pending such consideration, it is not open to any independent and unauthorised association of Englishmen to take possession of, or to purport to acquire from the savages of the island, that land with respect to the acquisition of which on behalf of Her subjects generally the Queen is now being advised.

7. In the prospectus it is suggested that the Association should "purchase land from the natives," but in the rules and regulations there is no mention of purchase, the not unreasonable inference from which seems to be that it is now proposed to take by force the very large tracts of land required in order to make a grant of four (or in some cases five) square miles to each person joining the expedition. There is no evidence whatever respecting the power of the natives to enter into contracts which would be intelligible to them or binding upon them, or of their willingness to allow private settlers to occupy their country. But if there were no objections from the native point of view to so extensive an appropriation of territory, it would be impossible that any such acquisitions, or ostensible acquisitions, of land could be sanctioned and confirmed in the event of the territory hereafter becoming British. It is clear that, without the funds arising from the sale and lease of lands, it would be impossible to provide for the government of the country, and any persons who may now settle in the country, knowing that Her Majesty's Government is considering the question of annexing it, must distinctly understand that no acquisitions of land made previous to a decision on this subject, can be recognized to the prejudice of the Crown.

8. With reference to the concluding paragraph of your letter, I am desired by Lord Carnarvon to point out to you that although, as has already been observed, Her Majesty's Government could not permit the exercise of magisterial functions by persons connected with the expedition, there exists, under the provisions of the Pacific Islanders' Protection Act, 1875, a sufficient means of preventing and punishing abuses or outrages committed by British subjects upon the natives of New Guinea.

I am, &c.,
(Signed) W. R. MALCOLM.

Office of the Central Board of Education,
Perth, 13th April, 1876.

THE Central Board of Education has been pleased to appoint GEORGE ELIOT, Esq., R.M., Messrs. EDWARD SHENTON, ISAAC WALKER, and MICAH DOWNES to be Members of the Board of Education for the Geraldton District.

LAURENCE S. ELIOT,
Secretary.

Public Works Office,
Perth, 31st March, 1876.

TENDERS (endorsed "Tender for Latrines, Enclosure Wall, &c.") will be received at this Office until noon of Tuesday, the 18th April, 1876, from persons willing to erect Latrines and Enclosure Wall, &c., for the Police.

Plans and Specifications may be seen, and full particulars known, on application at the Office of Works, Perth.

The Government do not bind themselves to accept the lowest or any tender, and will require the guarantee of two responsible persons for the due performance of the Contract.

Forms of Tender may be had on application to the various Resident Magistrates, and at the Public Offices, Perth; and no tender will be entertained unless rendered on the prescribed form.

By Command,
RICHD. R. JEWELL,
Officer in charge of Works Department.

Transfer of Land Act 1874

TAKE NOTICE that Joseph Shaw of the City of Perth Solicitor's Clerk has made application to bring under the above Act the following parcels of land situate in the said City viz:

Suburban Lots Nos. 41 42 and 46 which Lots are more particularly described in the maps and books of the Survey Office and are enrolled respectively Nos. 1272 1309 and 1297 and so much of Suburban Lot No. 45 as is not the subject of a certain certificate of title numbered 12 in the first volume of the Register book of the Office of Titles.

AND FURTHER TAKE NOTICE that all persons claiming any estate right title or interest in the above lands or in any of them ARE HEREBY REQUIRED to lodge with the Registrar of Titles on or before the 10th of May next a caveat [whereof Forms may be obtained at the Office of Titles or of the Resident Magistrates] forbidding the said lands from being brought under the Act.

J. C. H. JAMES,
Commissioner of Land Titles.

April 13th, 1876.

Colonial Secretary's Office, Perth, 18th April, 1876.

HIS Excellency The Governor directs the publication of the following General Abstract of the Average Amount of the Liabilities and Assets of the National Bank of Australasia, for the Colony of Western Australia, for the Quarter ended 27th March, 1876.

A. O'GRADY LEFROY, Acting Colonial Secretary.

GENERAL ABSTRACT, shewing the Average Amount of the LIABILITIES and ASSETS of the NATIONAL BANK OF AUSTRALASIA, for the Colony of Western Australia, taken from the several Weekly Statements during the Quarter, from the 1st January, to the 27th March, 1876.

LIABILITIES.			ASSETS.		
	AMOUNT.	TOTAL.		AMOUNT.	TOTAL.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.		£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Notes in Circulation	{ Not bearing Interest... ..	11035 12 3	Coined Gold and Silver and other } Coined Metals .. .. .	.....	53401 11 9
	{ Bearing Interest... ..			.....
	{ Not bearing Interest... ..	559 6 10		Gold and Silver in Bullion or Bars	
Bills in Circulation	{ Bearing Interest... ..		Government Securities .. .. .	.....
Balances due to other Banks	.. .. .	41 14 5	Landed Property, Premises, &c. ... ..	.....	225 4 6
Deposits.....	{ Not bearing Interest... ..	63798 6 5	Notes and Bills of other Banks .. ..	.....	518 11 5
	{ Bearing Interest... ..	33922 9 1	Balances due from other Banks .. ..	.....	709 8 6
		97720 15 6	Amount of all Debts due to the Bank, including Notes, Bills of Exchange, and all Stock and r'unded Debts of every description, excepting Notes, Bills and Balances due to the said Bank from other Banks .. .. .	.....	42851 2 4
Total Amount of Liabilities	.. .. .	109357 9 0	Total amount of Assets	.. .. .	97705 18 6

Amount of the Capital Stock paid up at the close of the Quarter ended 31st December, 1875 £750,000
Rate of the last Dividend declared to the Shareholders, .. 12 3/4 cent. p' annum.
Amount of the last Dividend declared £45,000
Amount of the Reserved Profits after declaring such Dividend £259,148 6s.

Perth, 10th April, 1876.

JOSEPH SMYTH, Acting Manager.

I, JOSEPH SMYTH, make oath, that to the best of my knowledge and belief, the foregoing Abstract is a true and faithful account of the Average Amount of Assets and Liabilities of the above Bank for the Colony of Western Australia during the period specified; and that the same was made up from the Weekly Statements thereof, kept in pursuance of the provisions of the Ordinance of the 30th Victoria, No. 9.

Sworn before me at Perth,
this 10th day of April, 1876. } E. W. LANDOR, Justice of the Peace.

JOSEPH SMYTH.

LAND SALES.

Crown Lands' Office, Perth, 18th April, 1876.

THE undermentioned Allotments of Land will be offered for Sale, at Public Auction, on the dates and at the places specified in the Schedule below, at one o'clock p.m.

SCHEDULE.

Date of Sale.	Place of Sale.	Description of Lot.	Number of Lot.	Quantity.			Upset Price.
				a.	r.	p.	
1876.							
May 3rd	Bunbury ...	Bridgetown ... Town	51				£3.
Do.	York	York Town	48				£10.
Do.	Perth	Kelmscott Sub.	P 27... ..	4	0	0	30s. per acre.

MALCOLM FRASER, Commissioner of Crown Lands.

Comptroller General's Office,
Fremantle, 15th April, 1876.

CERTIFICATES of Freedom have been issued to the undermentioned Convicts, whose sentences have expired:—

Reg. No. 6410 Thomas Phillips
 „ 8051 Thomas Leonard
 „ 9578 James Solomons
 „ 10022 William Miller
 „ 10103 Moses Pearson

HIS Excellency The Governor has been pleased to revoke the Tickets-of-Leave of the undermentioned Convicts:—

Reg. No. 7950 Michael Brady
 „ 9825 Daniel Molloy

W. R. FAUNTLEROY,
Acting Comptroller General.

NOTICE.

THE Court of Petty Sessions for the revision of the Electoral Roll of the Sussex District, is postponed from the 15th to the 18th May.

J. S. HARRIS,
Resident Magistrate.

Resident's Office, Vasse, }
31st March, 1876. }

WE, the undersigned, hereby notify that we have applied to the Swan Roads Board for the closing of the old road from the Main Swan Road to the Middle Swan Church, rendered impassable since March, 1875.

C. W. FERGUSON,
JNO. URQUHART,
Secretary, P. P. Orphanage.

Middle Swan, February 11th, 1876.

NOTICE.

I HEREBY give notice that I have applied to the Toodyay Roads Board for permission to close the road leading from Hawthornden to Roesland, upon the boundary of my paddock.

D. CONNOR.
Newcastle, 4th March, 1876.

I HEREBY give notice that I have this day applied to the Dongarra Roads Board for permission to close the track now running through my Horse Paddock.

LEWIS F. RIDLEY.
Irwin, 1st February, 1876.

I HEREBY give notice, that I have applied to the Swan Roads Board for permission to place a gate across the road (known as King's Road) entering at Tillage Lease No. 4790 and passing through Loc. No. 665, on Gingin and Moore River Road.

JOHN DEWAR.
Gingin, 3rd April, 1876.

The Government Gazette.

SUBSCRIPTIONS:—The Subscription will be at the rate of 5s. per annum, payable in advance. Subscriptions are required to terminate at the end of June or December; a less period than six months cannot be subscribed for.

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