

COPIES OR EXTRACTS
OF ANY
CORRESPONDENCE
RELATIVE TO
THE FALKLAND ISLANDS,

Since the last Papers laid before the House on
the 27th Day of August 1841 (No. 183).

Ordered to be printed 22d June 1843.

4

PLANS.

CHART of the FALKLAND ISLANDS, surveyed by Capt. ROBERT FITZROY, R.N. and the
Officers of Her Majesty's ship Beagle - - - - to face p. 38

SKETCH, illustrating the REPORT of Capt. R. K. DAWSON, R.E. - to face p. 46

PLAN of the SETTLEMENT at PORT LOUIS, EAST FALKLAND, surveyed and drawn by
Mr. R. ROBINSON, by order of His Excellency the Governor - to face p. 50

SCHEDULE.

No.	DATE.	SUBJECT.	PAGE.
1. Lord John Russell to Lieutenant-Governor Moody.	23d Aug. 1841	Transmitting Commission appointing the Lieutenant-Governor, with general Instructions as to the exercise of his powers - - -	1
2. Lord John Russell to Lieutenant-Governor Moody.	26th Aug. 1841	As to the Selection of a Port for the resort of Her Majesty's Ships; that Port William is more convenient than Berkeley Sound - - -	2
3. Lord Stanley to Lieutenant-Governor Moody.	12th Sept. 1841	Transmitting Letter from the Board of Admiralty, and Report from Rear Admiral Sir E. D. King, on the State of Affairs in the Falkland Islands -	2
4. Lord Stanley to Lieutenant-Governor Moody.	11th Jan. 1842	Transmitting Commander Sullivan's Letter to the Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners, relating to the Colonization of the Falkland Islands - - -	7
5. Lieutenant-Governor Moody to Lord Stanley.	16th Jan. 1842	Reporting the safe arrival of the Lieutenant-Governor and party at Port Louis on the previous day - - -	11
6. Lieutenant-Governor Moody to Lord Stanley.	5th Mar. 1842	Account of the Proceedings of the Lieutenant-Governor since his arrival - - -	11
7. Lieutenant-Governor Moody to Lord Stanley.	14th April 1842	General Report upon the Falkland Islands -	15
8. Lieutenant-Governor Moody to Lord Stanley.	30th April 1842	Requesting that Surveyors may be sent out as early as convenient, and enclosing a List of Surveying Stores which will be required -	39
9. Lord Stanley to Lieutenant-Governor Moody.	25th Jan. 1843	That Her Majesty's Government propose to complete the measures for the Colonization of the Falkland Islands; enclosing Estimate to be submitted to Parliament for establishment of the Government, and Copy of Report from the Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners -	40
10. Lieutenant-Governor Moody to Lord Stanley.	30th April 1842	Report upon Port William as the site of the chief Town - - -	49
11. Lieutenant-Governor Moody to Lord Stanley.	6th June 1842	Forwarding Statistical Tables, and Plan of the Settlement - - -	50
12. Lord Stanley to Lieutenant-Governor Moody.	23d Oct. 1841	Enclosing Proposals from Mr. Mowbray relative to rendering the Falkland Islands a self-supporting Naval Station; requesting the Lieutenant-Governor's Opinion on the Proposition -	54
13. Lieutenant-Governor Moody to Lord Stanley.	16th July 1842	Reporting upon Mr. Mowbray's Letter, recommending a Government Fishing Establishment at the Falkland Islands - - -	56
14. Lord Stanley to Lieutenant-Governor Moody.	25th Feb. 1843	Reply to preceding Despatch; Her Majesty's Government do not deem it advisable to enter on any such project on the public account -	58
15. Lieutenant-Governor Moody to Lord Stanley.	19th July 1842	Submitting for Consideration the importance of establishing a Court of Judicature, and of appointing a Chaplain and Colonial Surgeon for the Falkland Islands - - -	59
16. Lord Stanley to Lieutenant-Governor Moody.	26th Feb. 1843	Reply to preceding Despatch; that the Demands of the Lieutenant-Governor have been anticipated by Her Majesty's Government, and no time will be lost in selecting the fittest Persons to fill the respective Offices - - -	60
17. Lieutenant-Governor Moody to Lord Stanley.	1st Sept. 1842	Reporting upon the choice between Port Louis and Port William as the site for the chief Town in the Colony - - -	60

No.	DATE.	SUBJECT.	PAGE.
18. Sir John Barrow, Bart. to G.W. Hope, Esq.	14th Feb. 1843	Transmitting a Chart of the Falkland Islands, and Correspondence relative to the selection of Port Louis or Port William as the chief Port of the Colony - - - - -	62
19. J. Stephen, Esq. to Sir J. Barrow, Bart.	28th Feb. 1843	Transmitting Despatch from Lieutenant-Governor Moody, as to the relative merits of Port William and Port Louis, as the site of the future Capital of the Falkland Islands - - - - -	63
20. Lieutenant-Governor Moody to Lord Stanley.	1st Oct. 1842	That a Town has been laid out at Port Louis; requesting that it may be named Anson; reporting Sale of sundry Town Allotments - - - - -	64
21. Lord Stanley to Lieutenant-Governor Moody.	23d Feb. 1843	Reply to Despatch of 1st Oct. 1842; approval of naming the Town at Port Louis "Anson" - - - - -	64
22. Lord Stanley to Lieutenant-Governor Moody.	24th Mar. 1843	Transmitting Report of Land and Emigration Commissioners, recommending Port William as the Seat of Government - - - - -	64
23. Lieutenant-Governor Moody to Lord Stanley.	1st Oct. 1842	Forwarding further general Information concerning the Falkland Islands; and Amendments to former Report - - - - -	66
24. Lieutenant-Governor Moody to Lord Stanley.	10th Oct. 1842	Reporting upon Commander Sullivan's Letter to the Colonial Land and Emigration Board, on the subject of the Wild Cattle, and proposing a Plan of a more extended character, applicable either to a Company or Government - - - - -	73
25. Lieutenant-Governor Moody to Lord Stanley.	8th Nov. 1842	Laying before the Secretary of State the case of an improvident Agreement made in England by an Emigrant, and soliciting Instructions as to the Legality of such Contracts - - - - -	81
26. J. Stephen, Esq. to Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners.	15th Mar. 1843	Transmitting Copy of Despatch from the Lieutenant-Governor, with reference to a Contract made with J. B. Whittington, Esq. - - - - -	83
27. Lieutenant-Governor Moody to Lord Stanley.	10th Nov. 1842	Additional Remarks upon the formation, and early forwarding of a Surveying Party at the Falkland Islands - - - - -	83
28. Lord Stanley to Lieutenant-Governor Moody.	15th Mar. 1843	Reply to preceding Despatch, with respect to a Surveying Department for the Falkland Islands - - - - -	84
29. Lieutenant-Governor Moody to Lord Stanley.	16th Nov. 1842	Reporting the formation of a Plantation of Trees, and adding a few general Observations thereon - - - - -	85
30. Lord Stanley to Lieut.-Governor Moody	25th Mar. 1843	Reply to preceding Despatch - - - - -	85
31. Lord Stanley to Lieutenant-Governor Moody.	9th Mar. 1843	Enclosing Letter from the Secretary to the Admiralty with respect to stationing a Vessel of War at the Falkland Islands - - - - -	86
32. Lord Stanley to Lieutenant-Governor Moody.	13th Mar. 1843	Transmitting Report from Sir H. T. De la Bêche, on Specimens of Coal found in the Falkland Islands, and requiring further information on the Coal Formations in the Colony - - - - -	86
33. Sir John Barrow, Bart. to G.W. Hope, Esq.	7th Mar. 1843	Enclosing Report of an Analysis of Coal sent from the Falkland Islands - - - - -	86
34. J. Stephen, Esq. to the Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners.	20th Mar. 1843	Desiring the Commissioners to prepare, for the consideration of Lord Stanley, a plan for the management and sale of Public Land - - - - -	87
35. Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners to G. W. Hope, Esq.	28th Mar. 1843	Reply to preceding Letter - - - - -	88
36. J. Stephen, Esq. to the Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners.	4th April 1842	Conveying Lord Stanley's approval of the Regulations proposed by the Commissioners - - - - -	89

CORRESPONDENCE

RELATIVE TO

THE FALKLAND ISLANDS.

No 1.

(No 1.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Lord JOHN RUSSELL to Lieutenant Governor
MOODY.

No. 1.
Lord J. Russell
to
Lieut. Gov. Moody,
23d August 1841.

Sir,

Downing-street, 23d August 1841.

THE Queen having been pleased to appoint you to be Lieutenant Governor of the Falkland Islands, I enclose herewith Her Majesty's commission appointing you to that office.

In transmitting that instrument to you, it would be convenient in itself and accordant with the general practice, to accompany it by instructions accurately defining your powers as Lieutenant Governor of these islands, and pointing out the manner in which these powers ought to be exercised ; but it is impracticable to adopt that course at present.

First, as to the definition of your powers. The difficulty here is, that as you are to preside over a settlement to which Her Majesty's title rests on the ground of prior occupation merely, the general rule of law is, that the colonists there carry with them the law of England, so far as it is applicable to their situation. Now the law of England supposes a legislature composed, in part at least, of the representatives of the people, and courts of justice formed on the model of those of England ; but the Falkland Islands do not at present afford the means of representative institutions : courts of justice may before long be established ; but we have not sufficient information to enable us to point out in what manner this can best be effected. Without the sanction of Parliament Her Majesty cannot, in the exercise of her prerogative, provide any substitutes either for a legislature or courts of justice ; consequently the colony must for a time remain without a legislature or courts of justice. But you will turn your attention, immediately upon your arrival, to the means of administering law and justice within the colony. You will inform the inhabitants of the Falkland Islands, by proclamation, that the law of England is in force within the islands ; you will ascertain whether there are any persons in the islands fit to be entrusted with the functions of judges or magistrates.

In the commencement your government must be one of influence, persuasion and example, rather than of direct authority ; but in the exercise of moral rather than legal power, you must of course be guided by your own discretion, rather than by any precise instructions. As the head of the local society, and the representative of your Sovereign, you will, during the infancy of the settlement, probably find the means of maintaining peace, and promoting industry and mutual good will ; and to these ends, at the first, your exertions must be mainly directed.

The sum of 2,000*l.* is assigned for this service in the Estimates for the financial year ending on the 31st of March 1842 ; to that amount you will draw on the Lords of the Treasury, duly apprising their Lordships and myself of every such draft, and in your communications to me reporting fully the purposes for which each is drawn.

Of the sum so to be drawn by you, 600*l.* will constitute your own salary. The balance you will employ for such public purposes as may appear to you to be of the most indispensable urgency.

I am perfectly aware that many objects of the highest importance must be neglected for the present, and must so continue, until you are in possession of funds more adequate to the purposes of civil government. You will, therefore,

(148.)

B

clearly

FALKLAND ISLANDS.

clearly understand that these inconveniences, whatever they may be, must be borne for a time.

It is a growing opinion among naval and mercantile men, that a settlement on the Falkland Islands would be of essential service to our merchant vessels in the voyages from our more distant possessions. It may be that a mere guard, to occupy a post in the vicinity of the best harbour, is all that can be effected with advantage. It may be that a more extensive occupation by British settlers would lead to increased intercourse, and improved facilities for trade. These are questions which can only be decided by experience. It will be seen in a year or two whether the appointment of a person, with a title of authority, leads to a desire to colonise, and whether the attempt, if made by companies or individuals, is likely to prove successful.

It is the object of Her Majesty's Government to give increased protection and security to British commerce, and not to launch into a large expense for the sake of the mere territory contained in the Falkland Islands. Your despatches will be framed with a view to give information which may guide Her Majesty in her ultimate decision.

With regard to the sale and settlement of lands, I enclose for your information a Report from the Commissioners of Colonial Lands and Emigration, dated the 30th of March last. I adopt the conclusions contained in that Report on this subject, and you will for the present take them as the rule for your guidance.

For Report from the Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners, 30th March 1841, *vide* Papers relative to the Falkland Islands, presented by Her Majesty's command, ordered by the House of Commons to be printed, 27th Aug. 1841, No. 3, p. 19.

I have, &c.
(signed) J. RUSSELL.

P.S.—You will observe, that of the sum of 2,000*l.*, only 1,000*l.* has yet been voted; but the remainder will be included in the Estimates to be laid before the House of Commons in the approaching Session.

(signed) J. R.

No. 2.
Lord J. Russell
to
Lieut. Gov. Moody,
26th Aug. 1841.

No. 2.

(No. 3.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Lord JOHN RUSSELL to Lieutenant Governor MOODY.

Sir,

Downing-street, 26th August 1841.

I HAVE to acquaint you, that, having consulted the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty in regard to the selection which it might be proper to make of a port in the Falkland Islands for the resort of Her Majesty's ships, their Lordships have apprised me that Port William is a safer and more convenient harbour than Berkeley Sound; but that as long as the settlement remains in the latter, Her Majesty's ships will most probably resort there. If, however, a new settlement is to be made, you will, with the aid of a judicious naval officer, report on the most eligible places.

I take this opportunity to acquaint you further, that the Lords Commissioners have instructed the officer commanding the small vessel stationed at the Falkland Islands to co-operate with you in the execution of all such measures as you may deem necessary, with a view to the preservation of the lands, fisheries, and wild cattle from trespass or destruction.

I have, &c.
(signed) J. RUSSELL.

No. 3.
Lord Stanley
to
Lieut. Gov. Moody,
12th Sept. 1841.

No. 3.

(No. 1.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Lord STANLEY to Lieutenant Governor MOODY.

Sir,

Downing-street, 12th September 1841.

I TRANSMIT to you herewith a copy of a letter which has been received from the Board of Admiralty, covering copies of a report from Rear Admiral Sir E. D. King, and of various communications relating to the state of affairs in the Falkland Islands.

I have, &c.
(signed) STANLEY.

3d Sept.

Enclosures in No. 3.

FALKLAND
ISLANDS.

Sir,

Admiralty, 3d September 1841.

I AM commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, to transmit to you, for the information of Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Colonial Affairs, the inclosed copy of a letter from Rear-Admiral Sir E. D. King, commander-in-chief on the South American and Cape of Good Hope station, dated 3d July 1841, No. 33, together with copies of its enclosures respecting the Falkland Islands.

Encls. in No. 3.

No. 1, the first is from Captain Russell, of the *Actæon*, containing a report on the state of the settlement in Berkeley Sound, and particularly as regards the horses and cattle on the island, and on the measures taken by Lieutenant Tyssen to keep up a proper supply. The zeal and active exertions of this officer for the improvement of this settlement, he says, deserve the greatest praise.

No. 2, the next enclosure, contains the claim of a Mr. John Whittington to certain land, cattle, and other property, of which nothing is known in this department.

No. 3, is a correspondence with the above gentleman respecting the purchase of hides belonging to the Crown.

No. 4, the last enclosure referred to, is a copy of Lieutenant Tyssen's last report of his proceedings, and of the condition of the islands up to the 6th February last; and the Admiral concludes by approving of Lieutenant Tyssen's conduct and proceedings, but he suggests that, from many circumstances which he alludes to, whether the time may not have arrived to colonize these islands under a properly constituted government, with judicial authority to settle all questions of landed or other property.

Their Lordships direct me to desire that this part of the rear-admiral's despatch may be called to the particular attention of the Colonial Secretary of State, for any directions he may be pleased to give on the subject.

J. Stephen, Esq.
&c. &c. &c.

I am, &c.
(signed) JOHN BARROW.

(No. 33.)

Sir,

Southampton, Rio Janeiro, 3d July 1841.

I HAVE the honour to acquaint you, that since my letter, No. 25, of the 14th ultimo, I have been enabled to look more minutely through the various papers I found on my return here regarding the Falkland Islands, and as there are several of them that it may be desirable for their Lordships to be acquainted with, I beg to enclose copies for reference, if required.

The first is a report on the state of the settlement by Captain Russell, of the *Actæon*, dated the 14th of October last, which embraces a good deal of information on the principal points to which attention is likely to be drawn by the desire which I learn at present exists in England regarding the colonization of these islands. It is accompanied by a document in support of the claim of a woman residing there, named Antonina Roxa, to a share of the tame cattle at the settlement. Their Lordships may perhaps consider it worthy of their notice and directions.

No. 2.—The next enclosure is the copy of a correspondence between Lieutenant Tyssen, in charge of the islands, and a Mr. John B. Whittington, a settler, regarding a claim made by the latter to certain land, cattle, and other property, on the East Falkland Island, grounded, I believe, upon some agreement between him and Mr. Louis Vernet, formerly residing on the islands.

No. 3.—Enclosure 3 is a correspondence between the same parties relative to the quality and price of hides belonging to the Crown.

No. 4.—The fourth enclosure to this despatch is a Copy of Lieutenant Tyssen's last report of his proceedings and the condition of the islands up to the 6th of February last, in which he refers to one he had forwarded to you direct by the Essex merchant vessel.

As it appears by Mr. Tyssen's statements, corroborated by that from Captain Russell, that the horses on the islands trained for catching wild cattle are much reduced in number, and that those remaining are nearly worn out, and as he considers it indispensable that a fresh set of horses should be sent there as soon as possible, in order that a sufficient number of cattle may be taken in order to meet the probable demand for the ensuing season, I lost no time, on my arrival here, in sending directions to Commander Frankland, of the *Pearl*, now senior officer in the River Plate, to purchase and forward to Port Louis, from 16 to 20 horses, and six guacho saddles, according to Lieutenant Tyssen's request.

I also instructed Commander Frankland in the same letter, of which the Enclosure, No. 5, is a copy, to hire a party of guachos, should any volunteer for the islands, and send them by the same conveyance.

I am perfectly satisfied with Lieutenant Tyssen's proceedings and conduct, as far as they have come under my cognizance through his communications, and I have no doubt

(148.)

B 2

that

CORRESPONDENCE RELATIVE TO THE

FALKLAND
ISLANDS.

that he has done, and will continue to do, his utmost to fulfil the duties of his appointment; but the increasing number of residents, the disputes that are daily occurring, respecting the whale and seal fisheries, between the settlers and the American vessels resorting there, as well as the great concourse of merchant ships of all nations calling at Port Louis for refreshments, and in pursuit of traffic, together with the lively interest the settlement is rapidly creating, may probably induce their Lordships to take into consideration whether the time may not be now arrived when it would be greatly conducive to the prosperity of the islands, and beneficial to the public interests, to colonize them under a properly-constituted government, suitable to their peculiarities, with judicial authority to settle all questions of landed and other property, which cannot fail to arise where a great number of persons of different descriptions are collected.

To R. M. O'Ferrall, Esq. M. P.
&c. &c. &c.

I have, &c.
(signed) E. D. KING,
Rear-Admiral and Commander-in-Chief.

(No. 1.)

Sir,

Her Majesty's Ship Actæon, Berkeley Sound,
East Falkland, 14th October 1840.

AGREEABLY to your orders of the 15th August last, I put to sea in Her Majesty's ship under my command on the 18th of that month, and arrived at Monte Video on the 30th, when I immediately put myself in communication with Her Majesty's consul-general, for the purpose of carrying into effect, at that place, the orders I had received from you; but finding it impossible to obtain there what was required, I lost no time in proceeding to Buenos Ayres in furtherance of your orders; and after some difficulty, owing to the disturbed state of the country, succeeded in obtaining all the animals, &c. mentioned in your orders; viz., four entire horses, 12 ewes, two tups, 24 drakes and ducks, with hay and corn sufficient for their keep.

On the 25th September I sailed from Buenos Ayres, arrived at Monte Video on the 27th, and sailed thence on the 1st instant, in company with the Sparrow ketch; on the 8th anchored in Berkeley Sound, but owing to the boisterous state of the weather, the landing of the horses, &c. and the supply of provisions for the settlement, was not completed until this day. I shall now lose no time in proceeding to carry into execution your further orders.

I enclose my report of the state of the settlement in Berkeley Sound.

I have, &c.
(signed) ROB^t RUSSELL, Captain.

To Commodore Sullivan, C. B. Senior Officer.

REPORT upon the State of the Settlement in Berkeley Sound, East Falkland

ON my arrival here I took the earliest opportunity of visiting the settlement, and found its inhabitants to consist of 27 men and women, and 12 children. With the exception of the settlement house (which is a very miserable one), the whole of the habitations are mere hovels. Building stone is abundant, and lime might be made from shells, of which there are considerable quantities strewn on the shores; but the great drawback to erecting any permanent or comfortable dwellings, is the want of wood, there being none in the island; and as few vessels visit the port, that article cannot be obtained, unless Her Majesty's Government make some arrangement for its supply, which I think would repay them, if they wish to colonize these islands.

There is peat fuel in abundance, and the island, as far as I have been able to see, is well adapted for grazing, but for agricultural purposes, decidedly not, beyond the raising of vegetables, which in well sheltered situations, from what I can learn, thrive very well. At the present season of the year nothing in the shape of a vegetable is to be seen, the ground being covered with snow.

Having put myself in communication with Lieutenant Tyssen, and had his report respecting the wild horses lately caught and tamed, by which it appears they had turned out badly, I proceeded to inspect them, and found the Lieutenant's statement to be perfectly correct. It will be some years before they will be able to catch wild cattle on them, and the horses brought down in the Actæon to cross the breed, will not produce any material change for the better for a considerable period; the present run of horses being mere rats, without sufficient stamina in them. The old tame horses are completely done up; they were the property, as far as I can learn, of Don Louis Vernet, when the British Government took possession of these islands, and have been in constant use ever since. I am of opinion therefore, that unless horses fit for the work of the guachos be speedily imported, the settlement will scarcely be able to obtain cattle sufficient for its own consumption, much less to supply refreshments to any ships that may touch here for that purpose.

The guachos have brought in 76 head of cattle since I have been here, most of them young. They caught a larger number, but owing to the corrals being in such a ruinous state,

COLONIZATION OF FALKLAND ISLANDS.

5

state, 48 escaped, and from the badness of the horses they were unable to retake them. The Sparrow will go to St. Salvador Bay as soon as possible to repair the corrals.

FALKLAND ISLANDS.

	Remaining.
Number of horses, originally Vernet's, about 62	23
Number of horses bred in the settlement	3
Number of wild horses tamed	6
Number brought by Actæon, studs	4
Settlement, mares	20
— foals	3
— fillies	2
Tame cattle, including calves in settlement, (23 of which are claimed by Antonina Roxa)	80
Wild cattle	71
Sheep	19
Fowls	none
Ducks	22
Pigs	8
Hides	1,100
Untamed wild horses, old	6
— young	2

After the payment of all expenses up to the present date, there will remain a surplus of only 50 dollars; and from the information I could procure, it would appear that the expenses of the island are increasing, more particularly on the part of the guachos.

There appears to be a misunderstanding about some few cattle given to a settler here by the name of Antonina Roxa, by Lieutenant Smith, in payment for work done by her on Government account, which cattle she has not been able to make use of, in consequence of some orders emanating from you (which orders or directions are not to be seen here). These cattle have increased to the number of 23, which I have had separated from the rest of the head of tame cattle, for the purpose of ascertaining exactly the number claimed by this person as her original stock, and their progeny; for unless the question be soon settled, she will lay claim to the greater part of the tame cattle in the settlement.

I enclose herewith a copy of an agreement made by Lieutenant Smith with the said Antonina Roxa, which I procured through Lieutenant Tyssen, whose ability, zeal, and active exertions for the improvement of the settlement, both publicly as well as privately, deserves the greatest praise.

H. M. S. Actæon, Berkeley Sound,
14th October 1840.

(signed) ROBERT RUSSELL, Captain.

THIS is to certify that I made a verbal agreement with Antonina Roxa, in April 1834, if she would tame cows, that is, to make milch cows of those caught by the guachos, I would give her every other calf of every cow she tamed. I did this as I had no funds to pay her for her labour, and I followed in some measure the example of Mr. Louis Vernet, who gave the German families located under him every calf after the first. I thought that too extravagant, and only gave every other; and I do further certify that this woman's labour has been the means of my having so many tame cattle.

Her earnings, and the produce of them, are five cows, five cow calves, three oxen, and one bull, the whole of them known by my son and the capitay; that an account of every agreement has been rendered to the commander-in-chief for the information of the Government, and her right acknowledged.

Given under my hand this 6th day of April 1838, at Port Louis, Berkeley Sound, East Falkland.

(signed) H. SMITH,
Addl. Lieut. H. M. S. Dublin.

Witness, *Pierra Achille* his
mark. *Guillaume Gillivaci.*

(signed) H. SMITH.

(No. 2.)

Port Louis, East Falkland Island,
16th January 1841.

Sir,
I BEG to inform you, that I am duly authorized by George Thomas Whittington, esq. of 20, Adam-street Adelphi, London, to take possession of certain lands, cattle, &c. on the East Falkland Islands, comprising 10 square miles, in Section No. 3, with other rights and privileges appertaining thereto, as fully specified in the documents which I am prepared to show, and I have now to request your Excellency will think proper to put me into quiet possession of the said property on behalf and for account of the said George Thomas Whittington.

To his Excellency John Tyssen, Esq.

&c. &c. &c.

(148.)

I have, &c.
(signed) JNO B. WHITTINGTON.

B 3

CORRESPONDENCE RELATIVE TO THE

FALKLAND
ISLANDS.

Sir,

Settlement House, Port Louis, East Falkland,
18th January 1841.

IN reply to your letter of the 16th instant, in which you claim certain lands on the Falkland Islands on behalf of Mr. George Whittington, of London, I beg leave to inform you that I have no authority whatever from Her Majesty's Government to place you in possession of such lands.

I have, &c.

(signed) JOHN TYSSSEN,

Lieut. commanding H. M. K. Sparrow, and Officer
in charge of the Falkland Islands.To Mr. Jno. B. Whittington,
Port Louis.

(No. 3.)

(No. 24.)

Sir,

Settlement House, Port Louis, East Falkland,
5th February 1841.

HAVING been directed to dispose of hides lying in store at this place in the most suitable manner to Mr. Whittington, who had offered to my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty 8s. for the dry and 5s. for the salt ones, I proceeded to do so; but Mr. Whittington, on inspection, not finding them so good as represented, wrote to me on the subject, a copy of which letter I enclose; and being well aware that by keeping the hides in store they will gradually decrease in value, I embraced his offer, and have disposed of 324 at 4s. 4d. and 202 at 2s. 2d. each. Mr. Melville, of the schooner Montgomery, has taken 100 salted hides at 2s. 2d. each, being tolerably good; the remainder are very bad, and I intend using them for the settlement.

I have, &c.

(signed) JOHN TYSSSEN,

Lieut. commanding H. M. K. Sparrow, and Officer
in charge of the Falkland Islands.Thos. Ball Sullivan, Esq. C. B.
Commander, &c. &c.Port Louis, East Falkland Island,
29th January 1841.

Sir,

I HAVE examined the hides under your charge, and for which my brother in London proposed a price to the Admiralty; but from the state they are in, and their size and quality, it will be quite impossible for me to purchase them on those terms.

There are 324 sound dry hides, and 202 damaged dry ditto; for the former I now offer 4s. 4d. each, and for the latter 2s. 2d. each, and my bill on London for the amount, being the utmost it will answer my purpose to give for them.

The salt hides are in so bad a condition, that I must decline them altogether.

I have, &c.

(signed) JNO B. WHITTINGTON,

To his Excellency John Tyssen, Esq.
&c. &c. &c.

(No. 9.)

Sir,

Southampton, Rio Janeiro, 21st June 1841.

LIEUTENANT TYSSSEN, the officer in charge of the Falkland Islands, having represented to me that the horses trained for catching the wild cattle of the settlement are worn out, and requested that a fresh supply may be sent there as soon as possible, so that a sufficient number of cattle may be caught in time to meet the probable demand of the ensuing season, I enclose you a copy of the Lieutenant's letter, and as horses of the sort required are generally abundant and cheap in the Argentine and Oriental states, it is my direction that you purchase, either at Buenos Ayres or Monte Video, from 16 to 20 sound, young, and well-trained guacho horses, on the most favourable terms to the Crown, previously consulting with Her Majesty's minister or consuls on the subject, and attending to their recommendations regarding the best and most economical mode of proceeding.

You will also purchase six strong complete ricados or Spanish saddles, suitable to the work for which they are intended.

Whilst the selection and purchase of the horses are in progress, you will inquire for and provide a conveyance for them to the islands, which I presume may be readily obtained at a reasonable rate amongst the numerous trading vessels that are, I learn, at present waiting for employment in the river.

You will draw for the amount of these purchases on the accountant-general of the navy, transmitting the necessary vouchers.

As Lieutenant Tyssen expresses a desire to have a few experienced guachos sent to the settlement, you will endeavour to obtain five or six persons of that class, who may volunteer for the islands, entering into a written agreement with them as to the precise amount of their wages, and the time they are to serve.

The horses should not be actually purchased until a passage for them be secured, to avoid the expense of keep.

You will forward to Lieutenant Tyssen a copy of the vouchers of purchases, of the agreement with the vessel for conveyance, and of that, with any vouchers you may procure, transmitting similar documents to me, with a report of your proceedings on this matter.

FALKLAND
ISLANDS.

Capt. Frankland, H. M. Sloop Pearl,
Senior Officer, River Plate.

I am, &c.
(signed) E. D. KING,
Rear-Admiral and Commander-in-Chief.

(No. 4.)

Settlement-House, Port Louis, East Falkland,
6th February 1841.

(No. 25.)

Sir,

SINCE my last communication to the Admiralty by the Essex, nothing of importance has occurred in the settlement which is not mentioned in my other communications. The gardens are looking tolerably well, turnip beds excepted. The young trees appear at present healthy; I have planted some others, which were brought me by Mr. Melville from the West Island. The guachos arrived from the camp, after being three weeks, with 100 head of cattle; but the poor old horses are in such a state, that I really imagine few of them will survive the winter; and, unless others are sent, it will be impossible to carry on the business of catching and taming the wild cattle. Gear for the horses is also much required, a demand for which, and other articles necessary for the settlement, I send herewith. The last recados, or Spanish saddles, sent from Rio de Janeiro, were very inferior, and not at all adapted for the work of the settlement. On the 30th of October last I gave permission to the capitaz of the guachos to proceed in his vessel on a cruise for two months, and told him if he brought any horses, which he thought of doing, I would give 30 dollars a head for every one landed. He has not yet returned; and I am afraid that either some accident has happened to him, or that he does not intend to return. I am now left with one Indian, a lad, and a woman called Antonina, whom I have been obliged these two last trips to send into the camp (she being willing), and therefore request that two other guachos may be procured, as the business of killing the cattle has much increased since the arrival of Mr. Whittington and his vessels, and have no doubt it will augment daily, as many vessels are expected to call at this port. I would recommend that guachos should be got from Buenos Ayres or Monte Video, and they should be men who thoroughly understand their business, as some of those here formerly were anything but guachos. I have no one at present to break in the horses. The horse-gear should also be procured at either of the above places, and the mission had better be entrusted to some one who is a judge of such articles, as the things required here for the hard work should be strong, and of the first quality. Those procured at Rio de Janeiro, which I demanded last year, are nearly worn out. The number of cattle in the settlement, including calves, is 230, and the average number killed weekly from six to seven. The sheep are looking remarkably well.

I beg leave respectfully to call your attention to the question of the cattle claimed by Antonina, who is naturally very anxious to know the result. I have considered it requisite to keep Mr. St. John, the senior mate, with me, as the rocks off the mouth of the Sound have been let, and vessels occasionally are seen cruising off that place. It is necessary to send a boat there, to prevent their taking the seals, and vessels arriving often require assistance in being piloted in coming up the Sound, and are apt to take the Channel if they follow the old charts. I beg leave to forward a journal of the proceedings of the settlement between the 7th of July 1840 and 6th February 1841; log of H. M. K. Sparrow between the 1st October 1840 and same date; check lists for crew of Sparrow employed on extra service, and a demand for articles for the settlement.

I have, &c.

(signed) JOHN TYSSSEN,

Lieut. commanding H. M. K. Sparrow, and Officer
in charge of the Falkland Islands.

To Thomas Ball Sullivan, Esq. C. B.
Commodore, &c. &c.

No 4.

(No. 3.)

* COPY of a DESPATCH from Lord STANLEY to Lieutenant Governor MOODY.

Sir,

Downing-street, 11th January 1842.

I TRANSMIT herewith, for your information and consideration, a copy of a letter which has been communicated to me by Her Majesty's Commissioners of Colonial Lands and Emigration, as having been addressed to them by Commander Sullivan, relating to various questions connected with the colonization of the Falkland Islands.

I am, &c.

(signed) STANLEY.

No. 4.
Lord Stanley
to
Lieut Gov. Moody,
11th Jan. 1842.

8th Jan. 1842.
15th Dec. 1841.

* For Lieutenant Governor Moody's reply to this despatch, *vide* p. 73.

FALKLAND
ISLANDS.

Encls. in No. 4.

15th Dec. 1841.

Enclosures in No. 4.

Colonial Land and Emigration and Office,
9, Park-street, Westminster, 8th January 1842.

Sir,

WE have the honour to transmit herewith, for Lord Stanley's information, the enclosed letter from Commander Sullivan, respecting the Falkland Islands.

In a settlement so recently formed as the Falkland Islands, the remarks of gentlemen who have enjoyed such opportunities of observation on the spot, cannot be otherwise than valuable.

The principal subject of Commander Sullivan's letter requires too great variety of local knowledge for us to undertake to pronounce an opinion upon his views respecting it; but we would beg leave to offer our suggestion that the letter be forwarded to the officer administering the government, for any use which he may be able to make of it in considering the difficult question of the management of the wild cattle, or indeed any of the other topics upon which the letter touches.

We have, &c.

(signed) T. FRED. ELLIOT.
EDWARD E. VILLIERS.

James Stephen, Esq.
&c. &c. &c.

Gentlemen,

Bridgetown, Totness, 15th December 1841.

I HOPE you will not think I am taking too great a liberty in offering to you a few remarks on the recommendations contained in your letter of 30th March 1841, to J. Stephen, Esq. respecting the colonization of the Falkland Islands. Having been there in the Beagle, under Captain Fitzroy, and having since commanded a vessel myself, employed carrying on the survey of the islands, I naturally take a very great interest in them, and this induces me to trouble you on the subject, supposing that if the plan proposed is not yet carried into effect (more especially as to the disposal of the wild cattle), you may not be unwilling to receive any additional information on the subject. The first point is, the most eligible spot to fix on as the seat of head-quarters of a settlement; for which purpose no port can be put in comparison with Port Louis, if the supply of ships calling at the islands is made the principal object; for at no other would ships be likely to touch, as it is so very easy of access, and can be entered and left with almost any wind, without any risk of getting on a lee shore, and without going among any of the numerous small islands which make the approach to many of the other ports more difficult for strangers. Port William, at the entrance of Berkeley Sound, is equally easy of access, but it can never be of any value as a port, beyond forming a stopping place either for the night or very bad weather for vessels going up Berkeley Sound to Port Louis, or for a fishing and sealing establishment. The reason of this is, that it is surrounded by very swampy land, which flanks the Quark Hills, and which is almost useless. There are a few narrow slips of better land, but not sufficient to supply a town of any size, or the vessels that would call there. I mention this because you seem to doubt whether it might not have been preferable to Port Louis as a situation for the principal settlement. Port Louis is also bounded on both sides by the same kind of swampy land, but between the two ridges and immediately round the settlement there is a large tract of good land, where cultivation on a small scale could be carried on for the supply of the town and ships, leaving grazing land sufficient for a supply of cattle for the same purposes. For the formation of grazing or agricultural farms to any extent, settlements must be formed on the extensive level country to the southward of the high range of hills which runs across the east island, or in the north-west part of the island, round the port of San Carlos, where tracts of land to any extent may be obtained, fit either for grazing or agriculture. In many cases thousands of acres of good land are so nearly surrounded by navigable creeks as to be easily cut off from the mainland by a ditch or fence, thus forming most desirable grazing farms, where cattle would be safely kept with little expense or labour. I almost fear to offer an opinion on the disputed question whether corn will ripen there or not; but if (as I have been informed since my return) the temperature is sufficient, provided the sun is not too much obscured, I think there can be little doubt but that corn would ripen. I have no hesitation in saying that the sun shines there two hours for every one it shines in England, though great part of the time it may be blowing a gale of wind. In proof of this I may mention, that from the first of November 1838 to the 1st of March 1839, a period of 120 days, 90 days were quite fine, and on 20 days more it was only showery, with long intervals of warm sunshine between; indeed out of the remaining ten days only four would be considered rainy days; yet residents on the islands assured me it had not been a finer summer than usual. The mean temperature of January and February was 53° and 51°, the maximum 67° and 65°. In previous summers the thermometer had been registered above 70°. I should myself fear the want of water for crops more than the want of sun, for so little rain fell during the summer, that most of the small streams and ponds were dried up in the cattle country to the southward of the hills, and large tracts were in consequence deserted by the cattle, where in the winter they had been very numerous.

With

With regard to the important question of the best course to pursue with respect to the wild cattle, will you excuse my taking the liberty of saying, that from the experience I had during six months I was surveying in the heart of the cattle country, I do not think the plan proposed of granting licences to catch cattle in particular districts can possibly be carried out in such a manner as to give satisfaction either to the government or the settlers. In some of the best districts the sight of a vessel or a horseman is sufficient to drive the herds of cattle many miles off, where they soon get mixed up with others; and if the owner of one district were to follow cattle of his own to the property of others, it would lead to innumerable disputes. In some few cases, with great care, some herds of cattle might be cut off and secured on points nearly surrounded by water; but then there would be little difficulty in catching, marking, and selling them, either to a person who would also take that piece of land, or who, after keeping them there long enough to become a little tame, would drive them to some other part. The guachos who were there in the government employ used to receive one dollar for each head of cattle they brought into the settlement, though a small number only were required during the year, and they had to drive them from 30 to 50 miles, crossing the high range, in doing which they lost more than half they had caught, and sometimes nearly all, in the swamps which extend even to the summits of the hills. Were a larger number required, and these merely taken from one part of the low country to another, they might be caught at a much lower price per head. If the government was to retain the management in their own hands, and supply the settlers with cattle at a fixed price, say from 2*l.* to 4*l.* per head, a large profit might be made, as after every expense (the heaviest of which would be taking horses down from Monte Video), I do not think it would cost the government above 10*s.* a head to obtain any number of cattle. The price at present charged to ships calling at the islands is 2*l.* a head, but they are generally small animals, of from four to five cwt., whilst a large portion of the wild cattle are double that size; a price, varying from 2*l.* to 4*l.* with the size of the animal, would therefore not be too high.

I do not think it would (as you suppose) be at all desirable to destroy the large number of bulls, which, having been turned out of the herds, wander in parties of from two or three to a dozen in number, over every part of the island. I understand that in the Pampas of Buenos Ayres they consider one year a sufficient time to change even an old bull, so as to make his hide and flesh of equal value with that of an ox; so that by cutting a large number of these bulls, after one year it would be unnecessary to kill the cows for the purpose of supplying the settlers, &c., which has hitherto been done, and which must still be done by new settlers, until a stock is reared, unless the bulls are made available for the purpose.

May I therefore take the liberty of suggesting, that it would be more desirable your second proposition, "That the government should keep the management of the cattle in its own hands," should be adhered to; that a small party of guachos (in proportion to the probable demand for cattle) should be placed under the governor; and that when a settler had taken a piece of land, and provided means for securing the cattle when once in his possession, the guachos should secure the number of cattle he required, and deliver them to him on his land; half of them should be bulls, which should be cut for him by the guachos, and all should be marked, both with the government and owner's mark, and their horns cut. The two or three tame cattle used by the guachos to assist in driving the wild ones, should be left with the herd sold; a stock of tame ones for this purpose would have to be kept on a government farm. When not wanted to catch cattle for sale, the guachos might be employed cutting the "outlying" bulls wherever they found them, and catching others to add to the stock on the government farm, from which settlers would be supplied (when small quantities were required) without sending out to catch wild ones. At first one of these establishments in the neighbourhood of the first settlements would be sufficient; and when required, others might be formed on different parts of the island. In addition to the guachos, a few cattle-keepers would be required, who might be taken from the settlers; and to each farm a capitay, or superintendent.

I will now endeavour to form an estimate of the probable expense of this plan; the superintendent might receive a fixed salary, or share with the guachos the head-money paid for the cattle caught; perhaps the former would be the best plan. I have no doubt that respectable young Englishmen may be found at Monte Video, or Buenos Ayres, who are accustomed to the management of cattle farms, and who would gladly accept such a situation, with a salary of 150*l.* a year.

Two cattle-keepers would be sufficient for each farm; their wages would depend very much on the state of the colony, but 50*l.* a year each would be the outside. The number of guachos would depend entirely on the demand for cattle; but allowing four at first, and making every allowance for bad weather in winter, rest of horses, &c., they would bring in, on an average, from 50 to 70 head every other week, or about 3,000 head in a year. This is a very low estimate, as three guachos have caught in two days 80 head, and in the next three or four days have gone to the opposite side of the island, and caught 60 more, though their horses were in a very bad condition. I will suppose that they receive one dollar a head for bulls, including cutting (this has hitherto been paid a dollar extra for), and half a dollar for cows, which would be quite sufficient.

I now come to the principal expense, viz., the taking horses down from Monte Video. At present there are few on the islands worth much, and the wild horses are not strong enough for the lasso, though by crossing their stock with horses from the Pampas, or from England, they will probably in a few years answer every purpose. Good horses may

FALKLAND
ISLANDS.

be obtained in the River Plate, at from 2*l.* to 3*l.* each, and if they were taken down to the Falklands in a ship of war, they might be landed there for less than 5*l.* each, probably under 4*l.*; a frigate would take down about 20 without difficulty, the passage being little over a week. For each guacho and the superintendent six horses would be required, or 30 for each farm, which, at 5*l.* a head, would be 150*l.*; but this must be divided among the number of years the horses would last, which at the very least would be four years. Perhaps one fourth of the number might be replaced by others yearly; their keep would cost nothing, as they are only fed on grass; so that 40*l.* a year would cover the expense, after the first outlay of 150*l.*

A small sum would also be required for the purpose of building a house and corral (cattle pen); but this might be done by the artificers of ships of war on the station, the wood being brought over from Terra del Fuego; I should think 200*l.* would be quite sufficient, and 50*l.* a year would keep all in good order. The whole expense would be as follows:

	£	s.	d.
First outlay for buildings and horses - - - - -	350	0	0
Annual Expense:			
Ten per cent. on first outlay - - - - -	35	0	0
Superintendent's salary - - - - -	150	0	0
Two cattle-keepers - - - - -	100	0	0
Catching 1,500 bulls (including cutting) at 4 <i>s.</i> - - - - -	300	0	0
Ditto - - cows - - - - - at 2 <i>s.</i> - - - - -	150	0	0
Annual repair of buildings - - - - -	50	0	0
One fourth of horses to be replaced - - - - -	40	0	0
Total Annual Expense - - - - -	825	0	0
Sale of 3,000 head of cattle at 3 <i>l.</i> per head - - - - -	9,000	0	0
Total Profit - - - - -	8,175	0	0

Or about 2*l.* 15*s.* on each head.

I think, gentlemen, this will show that at the lowest computation 2*l.* 10*s.* may be made by government for each head of cattle. If double the number of cattle were wanted, the horses and guachos must be doubled, the expense per head being the same. If after all it should be thought not advisable for government to take the management, no contract should be entered into either with a company, or for catching the cattle in particular districts (if that were possible), that would not bring a revenue of at least 2*l.* a head to the government of the islands. The yearly increase at present cannot be under 10,000 head of cattle, and is probably much more; that number might be sold yearly (if there were settlers enough to require them), at a profit of above 20,000*l.* without decreasing the present stock.

Should such an establishment be formed, and after all there should not be settlers enough to make it pay by the sale of cattle, a profit sufficient to cover the present expenses of the island may be made by killing a sufficient number of cattle, and sending home their hides and tallow, which, after freight, insurance, &c., would bring a clear profit of 1*l.* for each head. A small salting establishment might be added, for supplying the ships of war on both sides of South America and the Cape, instead of sending them salt beef, at an expense of 6*d.* per pound; many ships would also call there if they found they could get salt beef at about 1½*d.* or 2*d.* per pound. In fact, I do not see how any experiments made could possibly cause a loss to Government, even if not one single settler goes to the island.

I fear, gentlemen, I have been led on (by the interest I feel in the subject) to a much greater length than I ever intended. I have written it in such a hurried manner, that I have no doubt some objections may be made to some of the detail; but of the success of the main objects of the plan I should have no doubt were it tried.

If you think the subject worthy of your further consideration, I shall feel honoured by any communications you may please to make, or any questions you may think proper to ask. Had I been aware of the correspondence which has taken place, when I was in town a few weeks since, I should have taken the liberty of writing you on the subject; but it has only been known to me since my return home.

I have, &c.

(signed) B. J. SULLIVAN,
Commander, R. N.

The Colonial Land
and Emigration Commissioners.

FALKLAND
ISLANDS.

No. 5.

(No. 1.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Lieutenant Governor MOODY to Lord STANLEY.

My Lord,

Port Louis, Falkland Islands, 16th January 1842.

I HAVE the honour to inform your Lordship of the safe arrival of myself and party at these islands, happily without any case of sickness or accident of any description.

We came to an anchor in this port yesterday afternoon, and as this despatch will be forwarded by the brig Susan, Alley, master, bound for Rio de Janeiro, and to sail early to-morrow morning, I am unable to convey to your Lordship any further information of importance by the present opportunity.

I have, &c.

(signed) R. C. MOODY.

Lieutenant Royal Engineers, Lieutenant Governor.

No. 5.
Lieut. Gov. Moody
to
Lord Stanley,
16th Jan. 1842.

No. 6.

(No. 5.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Lieutenant Governor MOODY to Lord STANLEY.

My Lord,

Government House, Port Louis, Falkland Islands,
5th March 1842.

I HAVE the honour of forwarding for your Lordship's information the following account of my proceedings since I arrived at these islands.

The brig Hebe anchored in Port Louis on the 15th January, and I immediately went on shore to confer with Lieutenant Tyssen the naval officer in charge of the islands.

I expressed to Lieutenant Tyssen my wish to visit Port William, with the view of ascertaining whether it might not be advisable to make my selection at once between it and Port Louis, as the place of immediate residence; and as it formed part of my instructions to obtain the aid of a judicious naval officer in forming my opinions as to which port is the best adapted to be the chief one in the islands, I requested Lieutenant Tyssen to accompany me thither overland; he readily acceded to my request, and dispatched two marines to recall H. M. K. Sparrow from Port Pleasant.

In the interval of waiting for the ketch, I occupied myself in reading the official correspondence connected with these islands, during the period of their being under the charge of the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, referring to Lieutenant Tyssen for such further information or elucidation as he could afford me.

The Sparrow arrived at Port Louis on the evening of the 19th, and got under weigh the following morning for Port William, having on board a portion of the detachment of Royal Sappers and Miners.

Lieutenant Tyssen and I started at daybreak on the same day, and rode leisurely overland, enabling us to inspect the country on our route.

From the length of the day, we arrived in sufficient time to examine a portion of the harbour of Port William.

Assisted by Lieutenant Tyssen, I continued my inspection of the port, landing at many points, and turning the ground to examine the nature of the soil and subsoil. While we were thus employed, Mr. Halloran, the master of H. M. K. Sparrow, was engaged in sounding the harbour, and particularly the entrance and inner water of the lagoon.

I take the liberty of referring your Lordship to my general report, in which my observations upon this subject will be fully expressed; at present it may be sufficient to mention, that after a careful inspection of the port, and consideration

(148.)

C 2

of

No. 6.
Lieut. Gov. Moody
to
Lord Stanley,
5th March 1842.

1842:
Saturday, 15th Jan.

Thursday, 20th Jan.

Friday, 21st Jan.

FALKLAND ISLANDS.

of the subject on every point, I am of opinion that Port William is much better adapted as the site of the chief town in this colony than Port Louis; but I did not consider that it would be advisable for me to act upon this conviction, and fix my residence there at once, from the lateness of the season, which would not afford me sufficient time to settle myself and party before the winter commenced. I was, moreover, desirous of availing myself of the short time which remained before it would become necessary for H. M. K. Sparrow to sail for Rio de Janeiro, to visit in her as much of the islands as possible, Lieutenant Tyssen being ready and obligingly anxious to afford me every assistance in his power.

1842:

Friday, 21st Jan.

I returned to Port Louis overland.

Saturday, 22d Jan.

I formally landed, under a salute from Her Majesty's ketch Sparrow, was received at the beach with due honours by Lieutenant Tyssen, and proceeded to the Government-house, where the few residents being assembled, I addressed myself to them, explaining as much as I thought proper of the views of Her Majesty's Government concerning these islands, in so far as I have had the honour to be informed.

The only points upon which I deemed it necessary to lay any stress were, first, to remove the erroneous ideas that might still linger in the mind of any one concerning Mr. Vernet's fancied claims upon Great Britain: I have been given to understand that some of the residents have claims upon Mr. Vernet, many of his paper dollars being in their possession, and some even in the government treasury of the colony, handed over to me by Lieutenant Tyssen. The second point was, to dispel the dread they appeared to entertain of my being sent to make great changes, by which they would all become sufferers. I hope that this fear no longer exists, as I took some pains to explain to them that the views of Government contemplated their welfare, peace, and security. A French whaler, the Fannie of Havre, commanded by an American of the United States, was in the port, but he did not attend the meeting.

Sunday, 23d Jan.

Sunday.

Monday, 24th Jan.

I proceeded to take over from Lieutenant Tyssen all the stores belonging to government, a list of which, with remarks, will be forwarded with the report. I also inspected the herd * of cattle and troop of horses belonging to government, and ordered certain cattle belonging to different individuals, and grazing with the government herd, to be branded with their owners' names, and which was accordingly done in my presence.

I may here remark, that hitherto permission has been granted to settlers to herd their cattle with those belonging to government: this practice originated in kind consideration of the poverty of the settlers, and their inability to keep their own cattle separate, from the want of proper inclosures.

Tuesday, 25th Jan.

Wednes., 26th Jan.

Thursday, 27th Jan.

Friday, 28th Jan.

Saturday, 29th Jan.

Sunday, 30th Jan.

During this period every opportunity was taken to continue the landing of the stores from the brig, the weather being in general very boisterous; by Saturday evening every thing was landed.

Sunday.

Monday, 31st Jan.

From Monday the 31st of January to the 10th of February I was principally engaged in making general arrangements for the future duties of my party, and employed the intervals of the time which elapsed before I could feel myself justified in leaving them, in examining different portions of the country within reach.

Thursd., 10th Feb.

Embarked on board Her Majesty's ketch Sparrow, and sailed the same day for the West Falkland.

Friday, 11th Feb.

Arrived late in the evening at White Rock Harbour, West Falkland.

Saturday, 12th Feb.

Landed and examined the soil; also landed at two islands, upon which it was supposed that coal might be found; but I only discovered what may be

* The herd of cattle here mentioned, is the herd kept up for the supply of beef to the settlement and to ships; they are brought in from the wild herds in the interior by the guachos, for whose service are the troop of horses also alluded to.

termed "charred peat," the islands having been burnt some years previously.

FALKLAND
ISLANDS.

At midday got under weigh, and after repeated endeavours to reach Port San Carlos, in the East Falkland, we were obliged to return, the tide and wind being too strong against us to enable us to weather Fanning's Head. This might frequently happen to others, not so well manned as we were, and consequently it would be one objection to any place in Falkland Sound as the site for the chief town.

Early in the morning of this day, while in White Rock Harbour, two men hailed the vessel from the shore, and on coming on board proved to be two Americans of the United States, who had ran away from the American brig Enterprise fourteen months ago, she being then at the southern extremity of West Falkland; they were examined in my presence, and I take the liberty of enclosing a letter addressed to me upon the subject by Lieutenant Tyssen. The medical officer on board the Sparrow reported them to be in perfect health: this fact speaks very favourably for the healthiness of the climate, and even of its mildness in winter in general; because the last (the one to which they were exposed) was unusually severe, and this past season has been worse than any summer yet known to the inhabitants of ten years standing.

12th Feb. 1842.

In my general report, I shall take the liberty of writing very explicitly concerning the Tussac plant, upon which they partially existed. It is a large grass, of inestimable value to these islands, affording the most nourishing sustenance to cattle, horses, sheep, and pigs, and the roots are grateful food for man, whether raw or boiled; it grows luxuriantly in the worst peat-bog, and loves the spots most exposed to the sea-breeze and spray. It is in abundance on all the shores.

We got under weigh from White Rock Harbour, and, passing Fanning's Head, anchored in Port San Carlos; the remainder of the day was too wet to land.

1842:
Sunday, 13th Feb.

During these three days the weather was very fine, and I was enabled to inspect some portion of this part of the East Falkland with great care. There were many cattle in the neighbourhood, and the land in many places is of excellent quality.

Monday, 14th Feb.
Tuesday, 15th Feb.
Wednes., 16th Feb.

This port, though not extensive, will be always a favourite one with coasting vessels, from its great security, and the shelter it affords.

We weighed, and passing down a portion of the Sound, or, more correctly speaking, Straits, between East and West Falkland, anchored in Sussex Harbour, near Mount Osborne, in East Falkland. We landed in the evening, and I examined the land in the neighbourhood.

Thursd., 17th Feb.

I started early in the morning, and, after passing over about five miles of remarkably good land, ascended Mount Osborne, the highest mountain in the islands.

Friday, 18th Feb.

The view from the summit being very extensive in every direction, and the day remarkably fine, I was enabled to obtain a good knowledge of the general features of the country.

With my glass I also saw many herds of wild cattle; at one time during our ascent we were quite surrounded by them.

Weighed from Port Sussex, and sailed for Port Howard in the West Falkland. It was nearly a calm, and we only reached Port Howard late at night.

Saturday, 19th Feb.

Weighed from Port Howard, and passed down the Straits (called Sound in the charts), through the numerous low islands, all apparently of good soil, and anchored between an island and the south-west extremity of East Falkland. Towards the evening the fine weather, with which we had hitherto been favoured, entirely deserted us, and on the whole of the following day I was compelled to remain on board from the extremely boisterous state of the weather.

Sunday, 20th Feb.

Monday, 21st Feb.

The weather continued stormy, and finding it a matter of some uncertainty, if not impossibility, whether we could proceed further to the south without remaining many days in our present bad position, the commander considered it advisable to bear up for Port San Carlos, which we reached in the evening. I was gratified to find Her Majesty's surveying ketch Arrow, Lieutenant Robinson, R.N. commander, in the port, partly in the hopes of meeting with us, as

Tuesday, 22d Feb.

FALKLAND
ISLANDS.

he had noticed a beacon fire which we had lighted on Fanning's Head in order to attract him; but he had not seen it for some days after it had been lighted, or he would have been there before.

Wednes., 23d Feb.

Lieutenant Robinson visited me on board the Sparrow, and I questioned him concerning the advantages of Port William as a port, as well as the advantages of all the other ports with which he was acquainted. It gives me great pleasure to be able to inform your Lordship that I received from him and Mr. Bodie, master of the Arrow, much valuable information; I feel greatly indebted to Lieutenant Robinson for the manner in which he took every pains to put me in possession of the local knowledge he has of these islands; and he has greater advantages in that respect than any one else, from being always on the move among them, carrying on the valuable nautical survey.

From Mr. Bodie I also gained much information concerning the numbers of the wild cattle, and I am inclined to rely more upon his report in this respect than upon that of any one else, as he has traversed much of the islands on foot, and is an experienced cattle-hunter, the crew of the Arrow having to supply themselves with fresh beef by hunting.

Mr. Bodie has also been in the Arrow from the commencement of the survey, and, from his carrying on much of the out-of-door details, he has traversed nearly the whole coast of the east islands, and consequently had frequent opportunities of seeing the herds. He thinks that the number of the wild cattle are about 30,000; but at the same time expresses his opinion with great hesitation, as, he justly observes, it is a very difficult matter to determine.

Thursd., 24th Feb.

Weighed anchor and steered for the south arm of the San Carlos River, which is a deep indentation of the sea, almost unconnected with the river. Her Majesty's ketch Arrow accompanied us. The weather continued to be stormy.

Friday, 25th Feb.

I landed and examined the ground in the neighbourhood, Lieutenant Tyssen and Lieutenant Robinson accompanying me.

Saturday, 26th Feb.

The weather still stormy, and the wind against our getting down the Straits.

Sunday, 27th Feb.

The Arrow returned to Port San Carlos.

Monday, 28th Feb.

We got under weigh and beat down the Straits as far as the north-west islets, but hard gales obliged us to put back to the south arm of the San Carlos River.

Tuesday, 1st Mar.

I determined upon returning to Port Louis as soon as the crew of the Sparrow had killed what Lieutenant Tyssen considered to be a sufficient number of cattle to supply the ship's company with fresh meat rations.

Wednesd., 2d Mar.

The men brought in the cattle they had killed on the day before.

Thursday, 3d Mar.

Weighed for Port Louis.

Friday, 4th Mar.

Arrived in the morning at Port Louis.

Saturday, 5th Mar.

Engaged in preparing despatches and letters against the time of Her Majesty's ketch Sparrow sailing for Rio de Janeiro.

I have to regret exceedingly that the unusually bad state of the weather should have so much frustrated me in the prosecution of inquiries upon which to found my general report to your Lordship, and as there appears to be no prospect of the weather improving before the winter completely sets in, I fear that I shall be prevented from making further excursions to any distance by land, and there are no vessels to convey me by sea.

What I have seen, however, with the information upon which I think I may rely, will enable me, I hope, to forward a faithful and a full report concerning the adaptation of these islands to the purposes of colonization.

I have, &c.

(signed) R. C. MOODY, Lieut. Governor.

FALKLAND
ISLANDS.

Encl. in No. 6.

Enclosure in No. 6.

Her Majesty's Ketch Sparrow, White Rock Harbour,
West Falkland, 12th February 1842.

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to acquaint your Excellency that this morning, observing two persons on the beach at this place, I sent a boat for them, and brought on board two seamen, late belonging to the American brigantine Enterprize, who left that vessel some time since on this island, and beg leave to enclose their statements for your Excellency's information.

I have, &c.

(signed) JOHN TYSEN,
Lieut. Commanding.

To his Excellency Richard C. Moody, Esq.
Lieutenant-Governor of the Falkland Islands.

Henry Whiteman, native of Great Britain, aged 18 years, and *Samuel Profit*, native of New Providence, U. S., aged 24 years, state:—"That on the 18th or 28th of December 1840, they left the American brigantine Enterprize, John Green, master, in company with another seaman named John Bray, that, to the best of their knowledge, they landed with the brigantine's dinghy in Queen Charlotte's Sound, West Falkland; that the cause of their leaving the said brigantine was discontent at their treatment; that John Bray, after various disagreements amongst themselves, separated from them about two and a half months after their landing; that they subsisted on the wild fowl of the island, seals, roots of the tussock (daily), and the berries of the heather; that they were healthy and did not experience any very severe weather (in comparison with the winters in the United States); that, with the exception of two days, they ate their victuals raw, being unable to procure fire; that at times they were attacked by the warrahs or foxes, and killed 12 of them."

When they were brought on board H. M. ketch Sparrow, at White Rock Harbour, they were in a good state of health, but from the middle downwards were without clothing, and the upper parts were barely covered with rags.

12th February 1842.

(signed) JOHN TYSEN,
Lieutenant Commanding.

No. 7.

(No. 14.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Lieutenant Governor MOODY to Lord STANLEY.

No. 7.
Lieut. Gov. Moody
to
Lord Stanley,
14th April 1842.

My Lord,

Government House, Port Louis, Falkland Islands,
14th April 1842.

I HAVE the honour to lay before your Lordship the following Report upon the Falkland Islands, in which I have chiefly considered the prospects they offer to British subjects desirous of emigrating.

With regard to the use of which they could be made to merchant vessels sailing round Cape Horn, and indeed to whalers and all other vessels in these seas, in affording them a port for refit and refreshment, I fully concur in the opinions expressed by the Commissioners of Crown Lands and Emigration in their letter addressed to Mr. Under Secretary Stephen, dated 22d August 1840.

The geographical position of the islands is so convenient, the numerous harbours in them so excellent, especially the most leeward one, Port William, that the advantages they could be made to afford to shipping in these seas has never failed to strike all persons who have given their attention to the subject, commencing with Lord Anson, the first person that appears to have drawn the public attention to the great value of this portion of the British dominions. It will be only necessary for me to add upon this point, that even now many ships do call in for refreshment, particularly American, and French vessels commanded by Americans; and from all that I have been able to learn from masters of vessels trading round Cape Horn, and from other sources, many more vessels would call in, if they were sure of receiving the assistance they might stand in need of in the way of provisions or repairs. By vessels from the Australian colonies such a half-way port will be highly valued when the islands are better known.*

For Report from
Colonial Land and
Emigration Commis-
sioners, 22d August
1840, vide Falkland
Island Papers, ordered
to be printed 27th Au-
gust 1841, No. 3, p. 7.

Advantages to
shipping.

* Vessels can at present obtain plenty of beef and water; the first very cheap (2d. per lb.), and the latter very expeditiously and readily. For further refreshment, fresh fish and wild fowl are in the greatest abundance, as well as many antiscorbutic plants, wild celery, sorrel, and an excellent spinach. These wild vegetables and wild fowl, with good water, may be obtained in any harbour among the islands.

FALKLAND ISLANDS.

The fear of the difficulty in making these islands, arising from long-established prejudices and want of good charts, is now fast dying away. The admirable nautical chart commenced by Captain Fitzroy, and continued by Lieutenants Sullivan and Robinson, Royal Navy, now affords a means of acquaintance with these islands not surpassed by that of any ports or harbours in the world.

An inspection of this chart will show how full the islands are of excellent harbours, and how completely all the hidden dangers are naturally buoyed by the kelp.

One objection that masters of vessels make to calling, is the delay in beating up Berkeley Sound to the present seat of government, the prevailing winds being westerly, and generally strong. The same objection does not apply to Port William, which is easy of access and egress at all times, and a few tacks would bring any vessel to a secure and convenient anchorage.

Military strength.

Any comments upon the political importance these islands derive from their geographical position would be superfluous from me in addressing your Lordship, but it may not be out of place to notice that, in addition to their advantageous position, nearly all the most important harbours in the Falkland Islands possess, from their formation, and that of the ground enclosing them, exceedingly great natural strength in a military point of view.

Previous to stating the opinions, I am inclined to entertain concerning the prospects these islands afford to persons desirous of emigrating, I take the liberty of laying before your Lordship the following general description of them, their climate, and natural productions, as such description will offer for your Lordship's information the chief data upon which I have formed those opinions.

Geographical position.

The Falkland Islands, situated between 51° and 53° south latitude, and 57° and 62° west longitude, consist of two principal islands, the East and West Falkland, with a considerable number of others of different sizes, clustered around them and in the straits between them.

Length, breadth, and areas of the islands in the group.

The greatest length of East Falkland is about 95 miles, the mean 85; the greatest breadth about 53 miles, the mean may be averaged at 40. The West Falkland is about 80 miles in length; the width varies considerably, but 40 miles may be considered the greatest, and 25 miles the mean.

The remaining islands, about 200 in number, vary very considerably from sixteen miles in length by eight in breadth, to mere islets of half a mile in diameter.

The whole group is deeply and variously indented by sounds, bays, harbours, creeks, and inlets; perhaps there is no spot in the whole world so singularly irregular in its coast-line, and so full of harbours and creeks as the Falkland Islands. This formation diminishes the area considerably, but at the same time it presents more than counterbalancing advantages.

The area of East Falkland may be roughly computed at about 3,000 square miles; the area of West Falkland, the nautical survey of which is not yet completed but in progress, may be estimated at about 2,000 square miles; and the whole group, East and West Falkland, with all the surrounding islands, at about 6,000 square miles.

Map.

East Falkland is the island best known at present, and with the aid of the accompanying Map, I trust that I shall be enabled to explain its physical features.

Description of the surface of East Falkland.

A chain of high hills, called the Wickham Heights, and which may almost be termed mountains, runs across the island in a due east and west direction from Port William to Port Sussex. Mount Osborne, the highest hill in the range, is stated in the nautical chart to be about 2,300 feet above the sea, the other hills vary in height from 800 to 2,000 feet.

The hills are nearly continuous, with but few passes between them, and their summits are either in ridges or points, but seldom rounded and never tabular. They are all formed of stratified quartz rock, and are extremely rugged at the summits, some of the rocks being of the most wild and fantastic forms.

To the northward of the Wickham Heights, and in a parallel direction, is a lower range of hills of a similar character. Of this range Mount Simon is the highest, computed at 1,600 feet above the sea.

The hills on the south side of Berkeley Sound are in the same line as the Mount Simon range, but separated from it by an arm of Salvador Bay.

Between

Between the Simon range and the Wickham Heights is a longitudinal valley, about three miles in width and 25 in length*, extending from the arm of Salvador Bay to the northern base of Mount Usborne, from thence it inclines to the northward, and completely separates the two ranges.

These two ranges may be considered as the mountain land of East Falkland, and extending completely across the island, they render the communication from north to south difficult by land, not so much on account of their height and steepness as from the ruggedness of what can only be styled the "streams and fields of stones," which together with patches of mountain bog, cover a great portion of the tops and sides of the hills; hereafter, however, good roads may be constructed with facility, and of a gentle ascent. The stones on the mountain sides are of a convenient size for the bed of a roadway, and to form dry stone embankments; when broken they would also make good road metal for a macadamized surface.

There is another chain of hills to the northward of the Wickham Heights only partially continuous, the general direction of which is also east and west. It extends along the north side of Berkeley sound, and from Port Louis trends away to Marville Bay; further on to the westward are occasional hills and high ground in the same general direction.

Between these last-mentioned hills, marked *a.* and *b.* in the map, and the Simon range, is the opening of Berkeley Sound, and the extensive Port Salvador, with its numerous arms.

Between Berkeley Sound and Port San Salvador the ground is comparatively low and undulating, with many vallies and watercourses. From the shores of Port San Salvador to the mountains on the south and the hills on the north, the ground is of the same character.

The north coast of East Falkland from Cape Dolphin to Cape Carysfort, and extending back to the hills *a. b.*, is but slightly elevated, with a rocky shore and continuous line of cliffs, of from 40 to 50 feet in height: the surface of the ground is undulating.

The ground round Fanning's Head is generally hilly, and the head is a fine bold hill, rising abruptly from the sea: it is a prominent object from all parts of the Straits between East and West Falkland.

The character of the country to the south of the Wickham Mountains is extremely simple; from the base of the mountains to Eagle island inclusive, it is one continued undulating plain, deeply indented by sounds, harbours, and creeks; there is no decidedly flat land, but a series of shallow vallies, each with its rivulet. The shores are either muddy or sandy †.

All the islands to the south and in the Straits partake of the same character. The contrast between the country north and south of the Wickham Mountains is very remarkable. Port William readily communicates with either, being at the eastern extremity of the dividing range.

Of the interior of West Falkland there is not much known; the information I received from the two Americans who were taken on board of Her Majesty's ketch Sparrow, while I was at White Rock Harbour ‡, was of too vague a nature to be much relied upon, although from their account they must have crossed and re-crossed it in many places during the 14 months they were wandering upon it.

General description of the surface of West Falkland.

From the coast the island appears upon the whole to be more hilly, and the hills to be more rounded, lumpy, and isolated than those in the East Falkland. Those which I have seen appear to possess the same geological character, viz. varieties of quartz rock; and their height may be assumed as varying from 800 to 1,800 feet, but none appear to be so high as Mount Usborne.

The principal range § is on the eastern side of the island, and runs in a contrary direction to those in East Falkland, its general bearing being north and south, and extending from White Rock Harbour to Fox Bay, parallel to the coast line, and at a distance from it of about three miles.

There is also a very remarkable rugged ridge of quartz rock, about 150 feet

* Which I have named "Matson Valley" in the Map.

† Chiefly muddy.

‡ Vide Despatch, No. 4, 5th March 1842.

§ Which I have named the "Hornby Hills" on the accompanying Map.

FALKLAND
ISLANDS.

in height, which rises abruptly from the sea, and follows the coast line from above Port Howard to Fox Bay, a distance of about 40 miles. Between this ridge and the range of hills is a longitudinal valley, intersected occasionally by high land (the roots of the range). Port Howard and Shag Harbour are in this valley, and their entrances are through very narrow openings (about 400 and 200 yards in width respectively*) in the ridge. Edgar Ridge, farther to the south, appears to be of a similar character, and the opening into Port Edgar is not more than 280 yards in width.

The north coast of West Falkland consists of long islands, extending east and west, with narrow openings between them, of which Tamar Pass and the entrance to Port Egmont are the most remarkable.

Upon these islands are isolated hills, of conical and lumpy forms, rising abruptly from gently undulating ground.

The islands further to the westward, called the Jasons, are hills of this abrupt character, and from 800 to 1,200 feet in height.

The two Americans before alluded to described many extensive plains, which they crossed; but I am inclined to think that there is not by any means so great an extent of plains or gently undulating ground in the West as in the East Falkland.

The west coast of West Falkland is not much known, except to whalers and sealers. Mr. Melville, an active and enterprising settler at the Falkland Islands, who has sailed much in all the bays, and is better acquainted with the coasts than any one in the colony, describes it to be more variously and deeply indented by the sea than even the coasts of East Falkland.

The single line defining the boundary of North, King George, Queen Charlotte, and South Bays, I am informed, is not to be depended upon. The nautical survey now in progress has not yet extended to this portion, but it is sincerely to be hoped that nothing will occur to prevent its entire completion. This is the most valuable side of the whole group for whaling and sealing, and a correct chart would be of invaluable service to vessels so engaged.

I am informed that the hills on the south coast of West Falkland appear to be in masses, and their termination at the coast line to be lofty rugged cliffs.

The sounds on the east coast of East Falkland are Berkeley, Choiseul, Adventure, and the Bay of Harbours (which may be considered as a sound), all running into the land in a westerly direction.

Berkeley Sound, the most northerly, is about four miles wide, and 17 miles long. At the head is Port Louis, the site of the present settlement; there are two other bays also at the head, Uranie Bay and Johnstone's Harbour.

The entrance to Port Louis is intricate, through the Narrows, particularly with the prevailing winds; but the port, though large, is secure, with good holding ground, and sufficient depth of water throughout for the general class of merchant ships.

Uranie Bay and Johnstone's Harbour are more open, but have good anchorages.

Choiseul Sound is about 35 miles to the southward of Berkeley Sound; it is five miles wide at the entrance, and 27 miles in length; it is full of harbours, of which Mare Harbour, Victoria Harbour, Darwin Harbour, and Arrow Harbour, are the principal, besides many sheltered coves and creeks.

Lively Island, seven miles in length by five in width, extends partly across the entrance, but there is a good passage both to the northward and southward of it.

Adventure Sound is 16 miles to the south of Choiseul Sound, and has within it the following good harbours, Fox, Barrow, and Sullivan, besides others on the north shore not named in the map.

Long Island extends across the entrance of the sound, and the only passage, four miles in width, is to the northward; the south opening is full of reefs and rocks †. The sound extends into the interior, to a distance of about 18 miles.

The Bay of Harbours is about four miles wide at the entrance, and 11 miles in length; and, as its name implies, is made up of good harbours.

Besides these sounds on the east side, there are the following excellent har-

Sounds and har-
bours.

* Between high-water mark on both sides.

† A complete barrier without the smallest opening.

bours;

bours; Port William, the most leeward port in the islands, Port Harriet, Port Fitzroy, and Port Pleasant, Low Bay, and Bull Road.

Generally the coast is much indented, and to a stranger there is some intricacy in the passages to the different anchorages on the east coast, excepting in the case of the Bay of Harbours, and Port William, and Berkeley Sound.

On the south side of East Falkland there are some anchorages, one particularly on the north side of Eagle Island, called Jack's Harbour*.

On the west coast of East Falkland there is no good port to the north of Fanning's Head, but immediately round it, and within the Straits, is Fanning's Harbour, a very excellent one in every respect.

The San Carlos river falls into the Straits a little to the eastward; and at a short distance up the river, about six miles from Fanning's Harbour, is Port San Carlos, a secure and well-sheltered port, with deep water, but rather small †. The south arm is in the same neighbourhood, and is also an excellent harbour ‡.

Twenty-four miles to the southward of Fanning's Harbour is Sussex Harbour, running due east to the foot of Mount Osborne. This, like most of the others, possesses all the requisites of a good harbour, well sheltered, deep water, and good holding ground; it is also easy of access and egress; excellent land, and many herds of wild cattle are in the neighbourhood.

Grantham Sound immediately adjoins Sussex Harbour; it appears to be dangerous, and difficult of navigation, and has no good harbours within it. The waters of Grantham Sound nearly meet those of Choiseul Sound at Darwin Harbour; the little isthmus that divides them being only one mile in width §, and having two fresh-water lagoons, 400 yards in diameter, upon it; sealers frequently carry their boats across it.

To the south of Grantham Sound are the following good harbours; Swan Island Harbour, Port King, Wharton Harbour, Findlay Harbour, Ruggles Bay, having within it Moffit's Harbour and Danson Harbour.

The north side of East Falkland is deficient in good harbours, the only one being Port San Salvador, the entrance to which, called Marville Bay, is intricate and narrow; it may also be called a blind harbour, difficult for strangers to make out from the sea. There are no dangers within Port San Salvador; deep water throughout, and it has many sheltered anchorages; it is very extensive, being about 25 miles in length; no exact breadth can be assigned to it, as by a glance at the chart it may be seen that it is composed of a number of arms, running up into the country in every direction.

On the west side of West Falkland are the following harbours:—

White Rock Harbour, which is well sheltered, and easy of access and egress. This harbour is particularly serviceable to vessels from the northward endeavouring to pass through the Straits, when the tide sets to the northward through the entrance, as it generally runs with such velocity, that without a commanding breeze in their favour, most merchant vessels would experience great difficulty. White Rock Harbour, which is close at hand, and can always be made, is at such times very convenient to wait for the turn of the tide.

Eight miles to the southward of White Rock Harbour is Many Branch Harbour, which is well sheltered with deep water, but it is confined and difficult of access from the narrowness of the entrance.

Port Howard, the next port to the southward, is at a distance of about 10 miles from Many Branch Harbour; it is an excellent port in every respect except its entrance, which is very narrow, being only 400 yards in width.

To the south of Port Howard is Shag Harbour, the inner portion of which, through the remarkable ridge before alluded to, is too narrow and confined to be of much service to vessels, but the outer portion is a secure anchorage.

Fox Bay is very much exposed, affording no sheltered anchorages for large vessels, nor has it sufficient depth of water throughout; there is, however, a

* Adapted for small vessels, marked c in the Map.

† Adapted for coasters and small craft generally.

‡ These three are, in fact, one fine harbour.

§ The land also is only elevated 20 feet above the sea in the highest part.

FALKLAND ISLANDS.

small harbour within it available for small vessels, and which will be clearly pointed out in such new editions of the nautical chart as may be published.

Port Edgar, to the west of Fox Bay, and only six miles distant, is a remarkably good harbour when once entered, but it has the defect of being difficult of access with the prevailing winds, the entrance being only 280 yards in width* between two bold headlands. As to security and room when within, it is surpassed by none in the Falkland Islands, perhaps not equalled.

Port Albemarle and Albemarle Roads are secure and sheltered anchorages. These are the two anchorages likely to be of most service to vessels entering the Straits from the southward.

Port Stevens is an extensive port, being about 10 miles in length by $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles average breadth, with deep water throughout; but it has a narrow intricate entrance of about 400 yards in width; there are many well sheltered harbours within it.

Of the coast on the west side of West Falkland I have already mentioned that there is but little authentic information, therefore the outline showing the different bays on the accompanying map cannot be relied upon, it merely serves to indicate that the coast is of that general form.

On the north the principal harbour is Port Egmont, the site of the former settlement; it is a good anchorage, but as a harbour it is defective from its very great expanse.

Tamar Harbour is not a good harbour, as the entrance is narrow; rapid tides prevail through it, and there are rocks in the passage.

Pebble Sound is studded with islands, which would render its navigation difficult to strangers.

Of the harbours in the islands to the west of West Falkland, the most important one to be noticed is Coffin Harbour in New Island.

New Island is about six miles in length and about three quarters of a mile in width; it is the most windward island of the whole group, and Coffin Harbour is on the leeward side of it; within the harbour is a small island which completes the shelter of the anchorage from all winds.

This island is the favourite place of shelter for all whalers in these seas. Weddell writes favourably of it as a wintering place.

By the foregoing notice of the harbours in the Falklands, it is shown that there are no less than 10 or 15 known good ones†, besides the multitude of coves and inlets which will be of service to coasters; it is also highly probable that other good harbours on the west coast of West Falkland may come to light in the progress of the nautical survey. The whole of them possess watering places easy of access.

Rivers.

Of rivers there are but few in the Falkland Islands. The San Carlos in the East Falkland is the largest known one; it is very winding, and only about 30 miles in length, navigable for boats to a distance of about eight miles, and for that distance the width may be averaged at 100 yards.

The sources of the San Carlos appear to be many small streams, draining all the country to the west and south-west of the western extremity of Port San Salvador, also part of the country to the northward. The river is fordable at third kraal marked *d* in the Map; but it is in general a deep stream, with high banks. The bed is of a red sandy gravel, and in spots muddy.

The Arwyo Malo, or Matson River, is another large stream, which drains the long valley, described as separating the Simon range from the Wickham Heights. It rises at the foot of Mount Osborne, and running in an easterly direction falls into an arm of Port San Salvador, a distance of 18 miles. It is not navigable, and as it is completely a mountain stream, it often becomes difficult and dangerous to cross, by reason of sudden floods swelling it into a deep and rapid river.

Fresh-water ponds and rivulets.

These two are the only rivers in East Falkland. I am informed that there is also another in West Falkland of about the same size as the San Carlos, which falls into King George's Bay, at a spot marked *E* in the Map. Rivers, however, can scarcely be needed in a country so fully and variously indented by the sea as these islands are. For the purpose of fresh water, the want of rivers is

* Carefully measured by Lieutenant Robinson, Royal Navy, during this last summer.

† Not including the small harbours which have been enumerated.

amply supplied over the whole country by many small fresh-water lakes or ponds, varying in size from 30 yards to three or four miles in circumference, and by innumerable springs and rivulets.

As I have not yet been able to traverse the islands sufficiently, I cannot give as complete an account of their geological formation as I could wish, and as the importance of the subject demands; but I am inclined to suppose, from general causes, that the formation of the whole of the islands is of a similar character to those portions which I have examined. In East Falkland the mountains and hills are formed of stratified quartz rock.

The strata is in general highly inclined, in many places quite vertical, and sometimes contorted in a singular manner. The tops of the hills are generally very rugged, crowned with pinnacled rocks, giving an air of great wildness to the scene.

At the base of the hills, and on the plains, the formation is clay-slate, of every variety, alternately with strata of sandstone, much of which is extremely friable, especially at the south of West Falkland, where it occurs in beds of great thickness.

The thinner beds to the northward, in East Falkland, are much more compact; among the slates are many well adapted for roofing.

The inclination and bearing of the strata are various, and sometimes singularly ruptured, contorted, and displaced. The whole of the lower lands appear to be of clay-slate; and I think I may safely say, that it never rises to the higher hills, which are invariably of quartz rock.

A peculiar feature in the geology of these islands are the streams of stones which appear as though flowing down the sides of the hills; no other term can convey the idea better than that of "stream"; sometimes the streams are only 20 or 30 feet wide, and in some places they spread out to be a quarter of a mile in width.

The stones are of quartz rock, and are of every size, from one foot cube to four or five feet, but generally about three feet cube; this will convey an idea of their size; not that I mean to say they are always cubical in form.

The edges of the stones are but little worn, and they lie together in the greatest confusion; edges and angular points uppermost; though the general surface is uniform, and never in ridges.

There are a few islets here and there of turf and heather, which have managed to take root, but generally the interstices are not filled up in any way, either by smaller stones or earth, and consequently walking over them requires care, as it is stepping from one angular point or edge to another. The "streams" are of a great depth, and water, the sound of which can be distinctly heard, is generally flowing at the bottom. The bottom of a valley about 10 miles from the settlement, is entirely covered with these stones; an area of about three and a half miles by one mile.

The character of the rocks of these islands being so decidedly primitive, and the same appearing to prevail throughout, I am inclined to fear that although mines of valuable ore may be discovered, yet that those useful materials, limestone and coal, will be sought for in vain.

I can only state this with uncertainty, until I shall have been able to visit the north and west coasts of West Falkland; because caves with stalactite formations have been described to me as existing in Pebble Island, and elsewhere, besides extensive sandstone formations to the south. I do not, however, build much hope upon the first, because the pebbles from Pebble Island are all siliceous, many of them being very beautiful specimens of onyx and bloodstone.

The climate of the Falkland Islands is peculiar in one respect, namely, the almost constant winds of a very drying nature. The first circumstance, however, which deserves notice is its extreme salubrity, the enjoyment of perfect health is experienced by every one after they have resided here for a few weeks, and become accustomed to the diet, which consists almost entirely of animal food.

My own party, who have had to undergo great exertions, and frequent exposure in the late rainy weather, have suffered from severe colds, resembling influenza.

The two Americans who had been wandering for 14 months in the West Falkland, living upon wild geese and the roots of the tussac grass, were found in perfect health, although the seasons had been unusually inclement.

FALKLAND
ISLANDS.

Temperature.

The illness of another party who had been wrecked, and had suffered much, arose from constant exposure in a small open boat, and great bodily fatigue, with want of food. Accidents are as likely to occur here as elsewhere, nor can I say that constitutional ailments would be mitigated, in the case of pulmonary complaints most probably not.

The temperature is more equable than in England, seldom rising to the same heat in summer, nor falling so low in winter; it ranges from 30° to 50° in winter, and from 45° to 70° in summer, but during the past summer (which, by the united testimony of every person in the settlement has been an unusually inclement one) the temperature only once reached 70°, and was seldom above 65°.

In Captain Fitzroy's work it is stated that the temperature has been known to be as low as 22° in winter, and as high as 80° in summer. The log book of the settlement shows the temperature to have been as low as 18° one night during last winter. There are conflicting opinions about the temperature, and as much depends upon the position of the thermometer, and the regularity of the observations, I cannot give an opinion as to which is the most accurate. My own observations will be the mean of five thermometers, but the position of the house is elevated and exposed.

Ice and snow.

There is but little ice or snow in the winter, the first seldom exceeds half an inch in thickness, excepting in very severe winters; the latter is rarely more than ankle deep, and remains a very short time upon the lower lands. There is very little foggy weather, and thunder and lightning are extremely rare.

Rain.

Light passing showers are frequent, but a day of constant rain seldom happens. The total amount of rain which falls in the year is probably less than in England, certainly not more.

Wind.

The prevailing direction of the wind at the Falkland Islands is from the west. From its almost daily occurrence and frequency from one quarter, it may be compared to the regular breezes in tropical climates; like them also it generally commences at nine, blows strong, often amounting to a gale through the day, and dies away at about four or five in the afternoon. The nights are generally calm, and the contrast of the bright, still, early mornings and calm evenings with the stormy mid-day is very great; so frequently is this the case that I arrange my working parties, at least those connected with the water, accordingly. I have, however, seen many days perfectly calm and serene throughout during a residence of three months, and in a summer admitted by every one to have been unusually bad. It is also true that there have been many nights and days stormy throughout.

I have before me two accounts of the direction of the winds at different times of the year, and the kind of weather accompanying them. The two accounts are diametrically opposed to one another, and from the opportunities possessed by the observers, as well as their character, both are entitled to be considered as correct. At present therefore I cannot offer further information upon this head than that the prevailing wind is from the north-west to the south-west, and very seldom easterly; that northerly winds bring gloomy wet weather, and that hard gales may be expected from the south-east to the south-west, but that they are generally over within 24 hours. Both accounts agree in stating that there is more wind in summer than in winter.

I have now to describe what may be considered as the most important item in the calculations of the farming settler; viz., the quality of the soil, and its productions.

Character of the
soil.

I have dug up the ground in many places, and where the surface presents different aspects, and I found the following general cases.

The soil is of a very fine dark, almost black, peaty quality, compact, and from six inches to two feet in depth, lying upon a subsoil of red gravelly clay where the underlying rocks are the clay-slate. This gravelly clay is of course the rock in different stages of decomposition; the stones being pieces of rock which crumble between the fingers. This soil and subsoil extend over by far the greater portion of East Falkland*, and the subsoil varies very much in its tenacity and fineness. In many places, from the nearly equal mixture of silica and alumina, it may be called sandy clay. On the quartz rock formation the

* Of the West Falkland, I cannot at present report so positively.

subsoil is chiefly a stiff dirty white clay, and this prevails upon the mountain land. Nowhere have I seen sand as a subsoil, although the sea-shores of the quartz districts are of the finest white sand; the shores of the clay-slate are generally mud mixed with shingle.

As may be expected from so tenacious a subsoil upon the quartz hills, and the prevalence of springs and clouds, the soil upon the quartz formation is generally wet and swampy, yielding coarse wiry grasses and mosses, with frequent deep beds of peat. The subsoil at the bottom of the deep beds of peat, where any opportunity has occurred of examining it, is very tenacious clay, and no where white sand, as is generally the case in Ireland. As the subsoil upon the clay-slate is more porous, the surface of the ground in those districts is generally drier, the soil more earthy, and the grasses are of a good quality; although even there are many spots of swampy land and peat bogs of a few feet in depth, the first arising from springs and little rivulets not finding a ready escape—causes quickly removed by even a partial draining. Where the soil is very thin, the grasses are few, and heaths, balsam plants, and a kind of wild unproductive strawberry plentiful. Such land as this*, though capable of great improvement by cultivation, and would at once yield good crops of turnips and potatoes, is not adapted for immediate occupation by settlers (requiring labour). The soil of this poor land is not stony and sterile, but light gravelly clay, the stones in which are extremely friable. I understand from an experienced sheep-farmer, lately arrived, that two acres of it would probably maintain one Southdown sheep, but that by the ordinary process of paring and burning and sowing with artificial grasses, it would at once become medium pasture-land, and eventually good pasture. Much of the land in the immediate neighbourhood of the settlement was evidently of this character formerly, the sward upon which is now thick and verdant.

In all cases where the peaty soil has become mingled with the subsoil, as in the bottoms of many of the vallies by the sides of streams, and almost always at the embouchures of the streams into the different arms of the sea, running inland, the soil is of the richest quality and the grasses remarkably thick and verdant. I fell in with much of this land in the neighbourhood of Port San Carlos, Port Sussex, and at the base of Mount Usborne (south side); it is also frequent on the shores of Port San Salvador, and I am inclined to suppose that there is much of it on the plains to the south of the Wickham Heights, both from report and from the circumstance of the formation being clay-slate, with broad shallow vallies, and also on account of the many herds of large cattle in fine condition which are always found there†.

I find it a difficult matter at present to give a near approximation to the truth in stating the proportions of good and bad land; but judging from the information I have derived from different sources, and arguing upon the principles which I am inclined to generalize from the observations I have personally been enabled to make, I am of opinion that the following division may be considered tolerably exact.

No. 1. Three-twentieths of remarkably good land in the openings of vallies by the arms of the sea and at the sides of some streams, being a mixture of peaty soil and gravelly clay resembling dark brown loam, and yielding luxuriant pasture, of which one acre, even in its present wild state, would probably feed four sheep.

No. 2. Eight-twentieths medium land, good soil though of a peaty nature, from one to two feet in depth upon a subsoil of gravelly clay more or less tenacious, at present yielding an abundance of nutritious grasses (though rather coarse), and capable of very great improvement merely by the close feeding and manuring of sheep and cattle, and partial draining where water lodges. One acre of this land would at present feed from three to four sheep in summer and two in winter.

No. 3. Five-twentieths poor pasture land, yielding a scanty herbage and an abundance of heaths and balsam plants; but capable of very great improvement

* See paragraph No 3, below.

† A colonial schooner has just arrived in the port from Patagonia, and has on board an abundance of beef, loaded with fat, which the crew procured with ease on the plains at the south of East Falkland, by hunting with dogs, and I have sent her back for a supply for the settlement.

FALKLAND
ISLANDS.

by labour in paring and burning, and sowing with artificial grasses. At present it would require two acres of this land to maintain one Southdown.

No. 4. Four-tenths deep bog and stony land, wholly unfit for cultivation, but generally useful as supplying peat for fuel and stones for walled enclosures and roads. Fortunately much of the first is generally diffused in spots, so that fuel would always be attainable at an accessible distance in any part of the island.

There are no low-lying level swamps or salt-marshes, at least none have yet been met with; all the wet swampy land lies in such manner that it can be drained without the least difficulty, and this kind of land is generally in spots or patches of a few acres in extent, and not in extensive districts.

Grasses.

The surface of the country is covered with a long and apparently coarse grass, but the horses, cattle, and sheep feed upon it very readily, biting it very close where the soil is of a superior quality; and I infer that the grass must be very nourishing from the size and fatness of the wild cattle, the excellent appearance of the sheep, and the sleek coats, fine limbs, and plump condition of the naturally indifferent breed of wild horses. Where the sheep and cattle constantly graze and feed it down close, this long grass gradually disappears, and a short thick sward of sweet grass, mixed with white clover, takes its place; this occurs particularly in the neighbourhood of the settlement, and the appearance of the sheep fully testify to the excellence of the pasture.

The brown moorish look which the country presents always deceives the casual visitor; it arises chiefly from the wild uncultivated state of the pasturage. The cattle have so wide a range that the grass is never thoroughly fed down, but grows in lumps, fresh shoots continually springing from the same root and running to seed, leaving the withered stalks and blades standing for a considerable time.

In the favourite haunts of the cattle and horses, the surface, though still in a wild neglected state, has a greener and more luxuriant look than the general appearance presents.

I have remarked that, wherever the surface of the ground has been fired, the old roots being destroyed, a tender sweet young grass springs up, and the cattle and horses frequenting the spot, the pasturage is much improved. Even the worst peat bogs are covered with grasses, though coarse, and many of them wiry; but in no place have I seen the surface of the bog lands uncovered, as in Ireland and Scotland.

I may remark that the bogs in the Falkland Islands are the black peat bog, in contradistinction to the red bog; that they are very compact, and burn with great intensity when dry. The spots where a horse cannot cross are few, and a man may traverse the bogs anywhere without difficulty.

Such is the general character of the pasture in these islands; but there is another indigenous grass of inestimable value, and which deserves the particular attention of every person connected with grazing and sheep-farming, even in England, but more especially Scotland and Ireland: I allude to what is here called "Tussac."

Tussac.

The tussac is a gigantic sedgy grass, of the genus *Carex**. I measured the length of the blades, and found them to average seven feet in length and three quarters of an inch in width; some, in favourable situations, are longer, and if cultivated with care, they would probably flourish still more vigorously. The plants grow in bunches close together, and as many as 250 roots spring from one bunch. In old plants the decayed roots of successive shoots form a cushion of dry entangled fibres, which raise the bunch from the ground. This cushion sometimes attains to a great size and height, so that a person standing in a patch of old tussac may be quite sheltered and concealed. The cushion is dry and inflammable, and where the wild cattle and horses have completely destroyed the plants by eating down to the very roots inclusive, these lumpy accumulations of decayed fibres are left encumbering the ground with a multitude of hummocks, easily removed, however, by fire.

* The Antarctic expedition, under Captain Ross, is at present at the Falkland Islands, for the purpose of wintering and carrying on a series of interesting observations. At my request, Mr. Hooker, assistant-surgeon on board Her Majesty's ship *Erebus*, and botanist to the expedition, has kindly favoured me with the following full description of the Tussac grass.—See Enclosure to this Despatch.

The grass growing in large tufts upon the high base of decayed roots resembles, at a distance, a diminutive grove of thickly clustered palms, and from the dark green and luxuriant appearance given to the smaller islands, clothed with tussac, the richness of tropical vegetation is forcibly recalled to the memory.

All the other species of the genus *Carex* are described in botanical works as coarse and rank, and by no means adapted for fodder, but it is very different indeed with this species; that it is sweet flavoured, tender, and most nourishing, is evident from the avidity with which all animals feed, and the rapidity with which they fatten upon it; cattle, horses, sheep, and pigs alike. For about three or four inches the roots are very agreeable to man, being crisp and of a sweetish nutty flavour, very much resembling the heart of the palm tree in the West Indies, which is called the mountain cabbage.

There is an island* close to the settlement, which is fringed with the tussac grass for a breadth of about 200 to 300 yards, the remaining portion being wiry coarse grass and moss on wet land. Lean cattle turned upon this island become fat in two or three months, and the miserable old horses that return from the cattle-hunting expeditions dreadfully out of condition, soon pick up and become quite fat upon the tussac which grows there.

The two Americans who wandered upon West Falkland for 14 months lived upon the root daily, and formed their huts of what I have termed the cushion, rolling one to the small doorway or opening when night came on.

The long blades of the grass make but an indifferent thatch, as it is much too brittle to last when dry; there are no fibres sufficiently tough or coarse for this purpose. I may notice that cattle and horses will readily eat dry tussac when they cannot procure it fresh; but an ample supply of it can always be obtained, as it is green and luxuriant all the year round.

The bounty of Providence causes this extremely nutritious grass to grow most luxuriantly in the rank peat bogs by the sea-shore, where any other, even of the most inferior quality, could scarcely live. I may say that by far the greater part of the coasts of these islands are fringed with it in many places to the breadth of half a mile; all the smaller islands are completely covered with it. It grows readily between clefts in the rocks, out of shingle and sand, close down to high-water mark; but it is most luxuriant where there is a depth of wet peaty bog. Whether it will grow upon boggy land further than half a mile from the sea, can only be determined by experiment; at the proper time I shall try it, and I entertain the most sanguine hopes that it will succeed, though perhaps it may not grow so luxuriantly as by the sea-shore.

If it should succeed upon inland bogs, such land could be made to yield as much nutriment for cattle as any other.

I am informed that a similar species of sedgy grass is to be found in the Straits of Magellan, the Auckland Islands, and many other places in the southern hemisphere; but unlike its northern relations, the southern *Carex* appears everywhere to be tender, full of nutriment, and the favourite food with all cattle.

A serious blank in the vegetable productions of these islands, is the total absence of trees, excepting upon some spots on the West coast of West Falkland, where there are a few dwarf evergreen trees, of a hard close-grained wood; they are about 12 feet in height, and their trunks, which are very much contorted, are about 20 inches in circumference. They bear bunches of beautiful and fragrant flowers.

I have not seen them, but from the description given to me, I can only consider them as shrubs, and neither of sufficient size nor numbers to be serviceable to the colony.

Driftwood, suitable for fuel, and some few pieces, perhaps available for posts and rails, is in abundance upon the southern shores of these Islands. It is most probably washed from Staten Island and Terra del Fuego.

There is a very bushy shrub, called here the fachinal, which grows very thickly in the vallies. The height is from two to five feet, and the thickness of the stem varies from half to an inch in diameter. These shrubs form admirable covers for the myriads of rabbits in the neighbourhood of Port

* Long Island.

FALKLAND ISLANDS.

Louis, and I am inclined to think that they would not be a bad nursery for woods. I have remarked that wherever the fachinal grows luxuriantly, the land is of an excellent quality (peaty soil in intimate union with the gravelly clay subsoil); so that it may be taken as a general rule by the first settlers, that where the fachinal bushes are plenty and look vigorous, the land is very good.

The wood is brittle, and therefore will not form good brooms, nor wattling for hurdles; they might be planted in rows in gardens and potato-grounds, to break the force of the winds.

Heaths.

There are a few varieties of heaths, one of which is much used to light the peat-fires, and for fuel generally; it is very inflammable, and burns with intensity, even when green. Of another variety a tea is made, which is much used, and apparently relished, by the settlers; hence it is called the tea-plant. Of the other vegetable productions, the balsam-plant* may be noticed; it is a roundish and lumpy plant, growing to four or five feet in diameter, of a pale green colour, and apparently a smooth surface, but upon examining it, it is seen to be composed of a multitude of small stems closely compacted together; the surface is sufficiently smooth and firm to form an excellent natural ottoman for the tired pedestrian; the plant is very inflammable, and when dry may be used for fuel; in the summer a thick glutinous substance exudes from it, which is here used as a balsam for wounds. Of what value it may be in itself, I know not, but I observe that the soil upon which it grows is generally thin, and apparently poor. I believe that the plant is very common on the Andes, and many parts of Patagonia.

Sorrels, &c.

There are a variety of wild sorrels, one of which, when boiled or baked with sugar, is scarcely to be distinguished from gooseberries; there is also an excellent wild spinach, which is plentiful by the sea; it is not surpassed by the garden spinach; wild celery is also in abundance. There is a small berry, called here a strawberry, which grows upon a plant resembling the strawberry, but the fruit itself is similar to, and tastes like, a half-ripe mulberry.

It is commonly reported that the orchilla weed is to be found in the Falkland Islands; such, perhaps, is the case, but hitherto I have been unsuccessful in my search for it, nor have I been able to obtain a specimen of any found here by any one.

Cultivated vegetables.

Of the cultivated vegetable productions, turnips, cabbages of all sorts, lettuces, radishes, and potatoes grow to great perfection, especially the first; the "swedes" grow remarkably well and give an abundant crop; I have scarcely anywhere in England seen turnips to equal them, certainly not to surpass them.†

I am of opinion that with proper attention, cultivation, and good seed, all the common garden productions would succeed.

Of the probable success of fruit trees, I cannot give a decided opinion, but there is no reason to suppose why the hardy sorts, such as apples, gooseberries, and currants, should not answer.

It has been proved that flax will grow well, but hemp has not been tried.

Wild animals.

The number of the different species of wild animals indigenous to the Falkland Islands is very few; the only quadruped is the warrah or wolf-fox, which is about the size of an English hound, but slender, with long legs. It has always been supposed that they are dangerous, from the fearless manner in which they will venture to approach any person, but I am informed by many well acquainted with their habits, that they will do this more from ignorance of the power of man, and strong curiosity, than from ferocity, and that they may be very easily driven away. They will advance and take a piece of meat from the hand, if offered to them. Young ones are easily tamed. There are not many in the northern part of East Falkland, and all of them could be easily, and should be soon, exterminated, as they are large enough and sufficiently daring to attack lambs.

Upon the West Falkland I am informed that they are more numerous, and smaller, with finer fur than in East Falkland. The fur of the East Falkland fox is very thick and handsome, though not remarkably fine.

* Bolax Gummifera.

† The same opinion was expressed to me by a practical sheep farmer immediately after his landing.

Of rats and mice there are not many, and they are chiefly in the neighbourhood of the settlement. The rabbits, which together with the rats and mice have evidently been imported, are literally in myriads in the vallies near the settlement, and are easily caught by dogs. Many skins were formerly exported, and it appears to have paid well.

The hair and fur seals which were formerly so abundant in these islands have decreased considerably in number, in consequence of the wanton destruction at all times of the year when they can be met with ; neither old seals nor pups are spared by the sealers. Seals.

The hair seals are the most numerous, and although their skin is not of great value, yet combined with their oil, which is of a very good quality, the taking them may still yield a good return.

I am informed upon very good authority, that the common or black whales are still numerous in the vicinity of the Falklands, particularly upon the west coast of West Falkland, and that vessels from New Island, the present rendezvous of many whalers, can be upon a good fishing ground in a few hours.* Black whale.

There is an abundant supply of fish at the entrance of most of the creeks opening into the harbours, but there is no great variety. Those generally caught are a kind of grey mullet, and the smelt ; both are very excellent, and grow to a great size, the first often weighing 14 lbs. but averaging seven or eight pounds, and the latter one pound and a half, but averaging a quarter of a pound. Fish.

I may notice that a small kind of trout is plentiful in some of the streams and fresh water lagoons.

I have not seen nor heard of any shell-fish except clams and mussels, but both of these are in great abundance ; the latter have the inconvenience of being full of very minute pearls, about the size of a pin's head.

Of wild fowl there is a great abundance of the following kinds :

Wild fowl.

The kelp, brent, and upland goose, all very fat, and the two latter excellent food ; two kinds of wild swans ; two kinds of snipe, one very large ; four or five kinds of duck, one of which, the loggerhead, is not good to eat, as it lives almost entirely upon fish ; teal are very numerous upon the fresh-water ponds.

These wild fowl are so tame, especially the geese, that the most indifferent sportsman may speedily lade himself with more than he can carry. In unfrequented places they may be knocked down with a stick.

Of other birds, the most common are shags, penguins, rock-hoppers, sandpipers, gulls, Cape hens, whale birds, albatrosses, owls, and a large kind of carrion hawk, and rooks, both very daring and destructive in the poultry yard. The latter is well described by Darwin. (See Voyages of the Adventure and Beagle, vol. 3, page 67.)

A common bird in the neighbourhood of the San Carlos River, is the hell-diver, a beautiful species of grebe. The land birds are very few ; one like the English robin, but much larger, has a note similar to a thrush.

The extraordinary degree of familiarity shown by the birds in these islands, impresses itself very much upon the mind of a stranger at his arrival.

Of insects, except a very few flies and spiders, I do not think that I have seen or heard of any : an entomologist would find the Falkland Islands a very barren field indeed.

I have seen no frogs nor reptiles of any kind.

Of the animals brought to these islands, and now become wild, those of the first importance are the cattle and horses ; the rabbits I have already noticed. There are some pigs of an indifferent breed upon a few of the smaller islands, but I do not believe that their increase keeps pace with the unsparing attacks made upon them by the sealers and whalers frequenting these seas. I cannot obtain any authentic account of goats being upon the islands ; if there were any formerly, it is probable that they have shared the fate of the pigs. It is reported that there are still some few wild dogs in the interior, but many were

Domestic animals
which have
become wild.
Cattle and horses.

* There are but few, if any, British ships engaged in the whale fishery round these islands ; but the fact of the black whale being plentiful is well known and appreciated by many foreign vessels, who pursue their occupation with great secrecy and success.

**FALKLAND
ISLANDS.**

destroyed last winter in consequence of the reward* set upon their heads, and it is probable that very few remain.

The wild cattle, the progeny of the tame ones which have been landed upon the islands from time to time, may be estimated at about 80,000 in number. This number is the mean of many reports which have been made to me by persons who have traversed the islands in different directions. That there may be more is very probable, because many would always be concealed from view†, by the formation of the ground in general‡, which is a succession of longitudinal vallies varying from 100 yards to half a mile in width, separated by rising ground of the same width; the depth of the vales may be about 40 feet. It is in the bottoms of these vallies that the best grass and shelter is to be obtained, and a view into several of them at one time is almost impossible. Coronel, the late capitaz of the Guachos, and who was considered very active and intelligent in his vocation, computed the number at that time (a year since) at 40,000; such is also the opinion of the majority of the settlers. It may appear strange that there should be so few after the lapse of so many years, with such excellent pasture (evidenced by their fat condition), but allowance must be made for the wanton destruction that has been carried on until very lately by the crews of whalers and sealers. There is good foundation for the report that one person in particular killed great numbers for their hides alone.

Out of this number of cattle it is probable that fully one half are bulls.

The cattle appear to be of several breeds, but all are long-horned, with fine clean limbs and coat. The greater number would be admired even in England. I am informed by those who have seen the herds on the banks of River La Plata, that these which must be descended from cattle imported from thence, greatly surpass them. The bulls attain a great size and are magnificent looking animals. They are all very wild and difficult to capture, at least so say the Guachos of these islands; but I am inclined to think that the regular Guachos of the Pampas, upon properly trained horses, would neither find it so difficult or dangerous as it is reported.

The cows are easily tamed for milking by a fearless person, but they are apt to stray unless constantly watched.

The beef is fine grained, firm, and exceedingly well flavoured, and when cut from a wild animal in the interior, fat; particularly when there is tussac in the neighbourhood of their grazing ground. When first brought into the settlement, they are generally out of condition from the treatment they receive in the capture and afterwards; but they very quickly recover, and eventually fatten.

The cream from the milk is very rich, and the butter equally so; but the cows yield only a small quantity of milk under the present system of management.

The cattle are found in the greatest numbers, and in the finest condition, upon the plains south of the Wickham Heights; but there are many herds upon the shores§ of Port San Salvador, and in the neighbourhood of Port San Carlos.

Formerly there were a great many to the north of Berkeley Sound, but repeated hunting, and the close neighbourhood of the settlement, have driven them away; there are a few, however, still remaining.

I may notice that the hides are considered by competent judges to be much superior to those shipped from Buenos Ayres, but that they are spoiled by the manner in which they are taken from the animals and afterwards prepared.

Of the number of wild horses, 3,000 may be considered a near estimate.

* Twelve dollars a head.

† It frequently occurs that neither the tame cattle nor horses can be found for two days, although grazing within two miles of the settlement, the hollows are so numerous.

‡ Particularly in those districts where the cattle are most numerous; and it is a common circumstance to come suddenly upon a large herd in some sheltered valley, that is perhaps not half a mile wide. A section of the ground would be somewhat thus:

§ The present hunting-ground for the supply of the settlement.



This is the opinion of Lieutenant Tyssen, the naval officer lately in charge of the Falkland Islands, and he devoted much attention to the subject.

The wild horses are always in good condition, with fine coats and clean limbs; but they are naturally a poor ugly breed, about 14 hands high, low shouldered, cat-hammed, and with large coarse heads. This is the general character, but there are some very fair exceptions. The colts reared at the settlement turn out serviceable and hardy. It is generally supposed that they have but little stamina, but there can have been no fair means of judging whether they have or not, the treatment of them being such that few horses in the world could undergo it without giving way.

The wild horses are found in the country on both sides of Berkeley Sound, but chiefly on the south side, between Port William and Port Louis, and never south of the Wickham Heights.

The few sheep that have been imported into the colony feed upon the short sweet grass immediately round the settlement, and are in very fine condition, especially some Leicesters and Southdowns belonging to Mr. J. B. Whittington (a settler), which are in remarkably good order, with long heavy fleeces, the weight of which I cannot state.*

There are two breeds belonging to the government; one the poor long-legged indifferent breed of South America, and the other a great improvement upon the same presented to the government by P. Sheridan, Esq., of the Estancia de los Sajones, Buenos Ayres.

Such is the condition of the few sheep at present in the colony†; but there can be little doubt that sheep-farming would answer well upon a large scale, as there is an abundance of nutritious pasture; the winters are much milder than in England, although the summers are not so warm; and with regard to the wetness of much of the land, there are large districts where the surface is always firm and dry enough to remove all fear of foot-rot. In nearly every allotment of land there would be both high land and meadow for alternate grazing, which is an advantage not to be overlooked. I am informed that the breeds which would be the best adapted to the climate are Leicesters and Southdowns.

The value which in England is beginning to be attached to the wools of the Alpaca and Vicuna, and the great similarity that exists both in climate and plants between the rocky hills of the Falklands and the native ground of the Alpaca, is worthy of the attentive consideration of the enterprising settler.

Fowls, turkeys, ducks, pigeons, and guinea-birds, thrive well in the poultry-yards, and pigs fatten upon the Tussac grass. Poultry.

By the foregoing general description of the Falkland Islands, together with notices of the climate and natural productions, I have endeavoured to lay before your Lordship the information upon which I have chiefly formed the opinions I entertain concerning the prospects these islands afford to persons desirous of emigrating, and which opinions I now venture to lay before your Lordship.

Summary.

It appears by the foregoing description, that the greater portion of the islands are clothed with grasses which must be very nutritious, judging by the size and condition of the live stock feeding upon them, and that there is an indigenous grass, the Tussac, which grows in abundance by the sea-shore, and upon pure peat, which is peculiarly nutritious.

It appears also, that the character of the soil and sub-soil is not one generally indicative of fertility, namely, peaty upon a gravelly clay subsoil; but it also appears that the depth of soil averages 18 inches, and that when mixed naturally or artificially with the subsoil, it becomes very fertile, yielding abundant herbage of excellent quality; that turnips and all common vegetables thrive extremely well; that the amount of rain is not greater, though perhaps more frequent than in England; that the summer temperature is lower than in Eng-

* These sheep have not suffered from diseases of any kind since their arrival.

† Since writing the above, Mr. Culey, a Lincolnshire sheep-farmer, has arrived with a flock of 200 sheep, and he expresses himself exceedingly well satisfied, both with much of the land, and the grasses, in their adaptation to sheep-farming.

**FALKLAND
ISLANDS.**

The islands adapted for grazing and sheep-farming.

land, and the weather uncertain, but that the winters are much milder ; finally, there appears to be a want of shelter, arising from the total absence of wood, and that winds are almost constant. So far, therefore, I am of opinion that, from the want of sufficient summer heat and shelter from the winds, the perfect growth and ripening of corn (at all events wheat) is at present questionable ; but that there can be no doubt, as it is now practically proved, that the islands are well adapted for grazing, breeding, and rearing all kinds of stock, as well as sheep-farming ; and I further think that such farming would yield an ample return to a large body of settlers without any great outlay of capital, as there is a considerable extent, say 4,000 square miles of land, yielding a good pasture at this moment. There are no obstructions to be removed from the ground before agricultural operations could be commenced ; the plough might be put into the ground at once.

It is also evident that a material improvement in the soil will rapidly follow the commencement of the simplest agricultural or even pastoral operations, such as the folding of cattle in successive enclosures, the short bite, constant close treading and droppings of sheep ; but if to these be added partial draining*, paring and burning, manuring with peat ashes and kelp, which may be obtained in any quantities all along the coast, and turning up the strong fine gravelly clay with the lighter soil upon it, the ground will then be converted from moderately good land into extremely fertile grass lands ; a greater portion of the surface of the country will become constantly dry, and a considerable amelioration in the summer temperature take place. I am inclined to suppose that this change of climate would be produced more rapidly in the Falkland Islands than elsewhere with similar operations, because of the constant and remarkably drying winds which prevail throughout the year. The rapid evaporation of moisture in these islands has always attracted the attention even of casual visitors. It is probable, that had it not been for these drying winds, the want of a higher temperature in summer, and the tenacious character of the subsoil, would have caused the whole country to have been little better than a succession of swampy bogs.

I am inclined to entertain the idea that a progressive improvement has been going on in the soil and climate of these islands, judging from the gloomy accounts formerly given, and, in many places, the earthy layer and nutritious grasses above what is little better than peat ; this gradual improvement I attribute partly to the extensive grazing of the wild cattle and horses, as well as the higher average temperature caused by the greater rarity of icebergs in the neighbourhood than formerly.†

Absence of wood, and how it is to be procured.

It appears also that there is a total absence of wood for the purposes of building, forming enclosures, and to afford shelter ; this is certainly a great disadvantage‡, and would become a serious evil were it not that wood is abundant in the straits of Magellan, about seven days' sail from hence, and four days back ; and there are many streams with which to work such simple saw-mills as are constructed in North America.

There is also a wood cutting and sawing establishment at St. Catherine's, on the coast of Brazil, about 18 days' sail from these islands, and at Chiloé, round Cape Horn, a distance of 20 days' sail. At either of these places planks and timber can be procured very readily, and at low prices. Timber may also be brought from New Zealand by vessels homeward bound. It might also be imported from bonded yards in London, ready sawn into proper scantlings for building, saving thereby the great expense of colonial labour. The price also would be reasonable, as the freight would scarcely equal, certainly not exceed, the duty paid in England upon the importation of foreign timber.

For the rougher work of posts and rails dry stone walls must be substituted, and stones are abundant everywhere. In the "streams" of stones before alluded to, they are of very convenient sizes for the purpose.

* The surface of the ground is undulating, and lays well for draining ; and all that would be required is to cut outlets for springs, the water from which occasionally lodges, and to clear the channels of the rivulets, which are always full of water, and frequently choked.

† Of the truth of this I have no further evidence than a universally prevailing opinion.

‡ In consequence of there being no trade in wood at present, the first settlers should all bring some description of portable house, if only one room 10 feet square, so arranged as to be easily put together.

The want of shelter which would have been afforded by extensive woods, is not so easily remedied; for many years to come shelter can only be obtained in the vallies, and by the construction of high embankments.

FALKLAND
ISLANDS.

There appears to be no reason why, in proper situations, and under proper management, trees should not grow.* The plantations must be upon a large scale, with trees adapted to the soil and climate, planted at the proper seasons, and protected by high embankments. Plantations.

The Scotch larch and firs, poplars, alders, willows, and the winter's bark and beech from Tierra del Fuego would probably thrive the best.

The experiment was tried before and failed, but I should not be inclined to despair upon that account; many experiments which fail at first succeed by some, perhaps apparently trifling, alteration in the mode of conducting it. Under the management of a person accustomed to the business I should not entertain the least doubt of success.

It appears that good building stone and roofing slate can be obtained with ease. The varieties of clay-slate and sandstone are the best adapted for houses, but the angular fragments of quartz rock in the "streams," so often alluded to, afford ready materials, with the stiff clay, for the immediate construction of shepherds' huts, and necessity will quickly produce ingenuity in forming arched roofs of stone and clay, covered with sods, as a substitute for wooden ones. Such massive little huts could be quickly constructed, and would offer great resistance to the strong breezes. Building materials.

Excellent bricks may also be made from the clay to be found almost everywhere, and would probably yield a good profit as an article of export to the River La Plata.

It has been shown that there is no probability of limestone being found upon the islands, from which to obtain lime for building and for agricultural purposes. It is true that clam shells may be gathered upon the shores, and burnt into lime; but this, as I am enabled to state from present experience, can only be done at a great expense. From the many interstices, it requires large heaps of shells to make even a small quantity of lime; and the high price of colonial labour to collect them would always cause lime to be a very dear article, if obtained in that manner. It is stated in Captains King and Fitzroy's work, the Voyages of the Adventure and Beagle, that at Tilly Roads, in St. George's Bay, on the coast of Patagonia, the principal part of the soil is composed of loose, sandy clay, with large fossil shells (some of them weighing 8 lbs.), imbedded in it. I fear that although this spot may afford an abundant supply for very many years, yet, as the shells would have to be collected by hand after being dug out, the price of lime obtained thus would be very expensive, more so than if imported from England, either ready burnt and slacked†, or in stone as ballast. The substitute for lime used in building at present in the colony is stiff, tenacious clay, well worked up with chopped tussac, and it answers well in thick walls. Almost all the lime used here is imported from Rio de Janeiro, being cheaper than collecting shells to burn. Lime.

Fuel is abundant in the form of excellent peat, which is of the black kind, and extremely compact. When well dried it makes a bright fire, and gives out great heat. Fuel.

If compressed with Lord Willoughby d'Eresby's peat-compressing machine, the peat would be materially improved, and much quicker dried for immediate use or stacking; and if charred after compression, would perhaps answer well for steam-engine furnaces; but, for the forge, I think that it would still be necessary to import coal.

That the peat may be exported with advantage to the River La Plata is probable, as it is well known that fuel is both scarce and expensive at Buenos Ayres and Monte Video.

In addition to the chief occupation to which the attention of the greater number of settlers would naturally be directed, namely, grazing and sheep-

* The common furze thrives luxuriantly at Port Egmont, growing very thick and bushy from the ground, and to the height of five or six feet. Some young plants near Port Louis are also very vigorous.

† To prevent danger.

FALKLAND
ISLANDS.

Whale fishery.

farming, there are other branches of industry, the pursuit of which would be attended with profit in the Falkland Islands.

It appears that there is a great abundance of black whales round the Islands, but more particularly on the west coast of West Falkland, in the neighbourhood of New Island.

Large vessels, as receiving ships, might lie in the principal harbour, or call at stated times, while the fishery was prosecuted by smaller vessels, such as schooners, upon the principle so much and so successfully carried on by the Americans in this neighbourhood. It is commonly reported that the whales are scarce here, but the assertion is circulated for particular ends, and is disproved by the fact of numbers being caught actually in the bays, and vessels quickly filling upon this ground. The fishery is carried on with great secrecy, and very successfully, by many foreign vessels.

Sealing.

That the fur seal will return to their favourite haunts if a respite be given to them, is proved by Mr. Melville, who rents from Government the seal rocks at the entrance of Berkeley Sound. The rookery was nearly destroyed when he commenced the management of it upon his own account. He has given it a respite of a twelvemonth, and watches it constantly, and the seals are now returning, and will probably reward him very profitably for his enterprise.

The same plan could be extended by renting or selling to individuals Sedge Island Cay, the Jasons, New Island, and other rookeries among the islands. It is well known that the Isle of Lobos, in the River Plata, yields a large revenue in consequence of its being carefully preserved.

There is a report, but I can find no good foundation for it, that cod fish are caught between the Falkland Islands and the mainland, and that a fishery might be successfully carried on.

Salting fish.

There is a small fishing establishment near Port Louis, for the purpose of salting the grey mullet, which is plentiful in all the creeks, and exporting it to Rio de Janeiro; but it does not appear to be valued in the market. It is a very fat and delicate fish; and I am given to understand that it has not sufficient firmness to stand the salting necessary to keep it for warm climates, without losing its fine flavour; probably some mode of drying under sheds may be adopted to overcome this disadvantage; if so, this would become a very profitable branch of industry to the settler.

Salting beef.

The great readiness with which all meats take salt in these islands, and the fine quality of the beef, seems very forcibly to invite speculation in that way, in order to supply the Brazilian market, and perhaps even as far as the West Indies. At the same time, however, it must not be forgotten that it would have to compete with the low priced jerked beef from the Pampas; and therefore, perhaps, as an article of food for the negro slave, none would be demanded, although it might be purchased by the classes of persons above that condition. Corned rounds of beef from the Falkland Islands have been prized at the tables of a few in Rio de Janeiro, to whom they have been sent as presents. Shipping in these seas, including the naval service, could always be supplied from here with salt beef of an excellent quality, and at a low price. It might also be sent to parts of Australia, where meat will not take salt well.

Export of wool.

I have noticed the very superior quality of the milk and butter; hence good cheeses could be exported. The wool from the sheep would always find a market in England.

Imports.

Among the staple imports must always be flour, timber, and lime. The first might always be imported from the ports in Chili or North America. Rice, coffee, sugar, and farina could be imported at very low prices from Rio Janeiro. The expenses, therefore, to a settler, would be but little in the necessaries of life, excepting wearing apparel.

Communications.

There appears to be very little difficulty in forming communications from one part of the country to the other. There are many passes in the principal chain of hills through which roads could be led without any great ascent, and good materials for constructing them are abundant everywhere.

Few bridges of any size would be required for many years, as the streams are very small and easily passed. The Matson river, at times, and the San Carlos would be the only exceptions. There are only two extensive districts of bog-land with which I am acquainted, but roads could be made across them without difficulty, as they are by no means what are commonly called flow-bogs; all the other tracts of bogs are in spots of but a few acres in extent, and

can be passed by without making any considerable detour. The readiest mode of communication will, however, be generally by boats and small coasters, upon account of the many deep indentations of the sea.

The disposal of the wild cattle to the best advantage for the settler as well as for the government is a subject to which I have given particular attention; and it appears that the following are the only modes which can be adopted; but only the first and last ensures the preservation of the cattle, which, for the future welfare of the colony, is of the highest importance.

Undoubtedly the best mode, if it can be effected, is to sell all the wild cattle, horses, and pigs in one mass to a company, or an individual, who shall at the same time become extensive purchasers of land, an extent sufficient to ensure that the purchase of the cattle is not for immediate profit, to the injury of the colony hereafter, by slaughtering for hides and tallow, but that it may be a basis upon which to carry on extensive farming operations, or to retail with profit to poorer settlers, the company undertaking the expense and trouble of capturing and taming in the first instance. The animals should be sold by government as they stand, "wild," the only restrictions being that the company undertake to get them together in herds under management by a certain time, or that they be confined to the district of land purchased, and that they be bound to supply beef to Government,* and Her Majesty's ships that may call, at a fair contract price, which shall be previously agreed upon. This contract should not extend beyond a period of four or five years; but such a contract would be necessary to prevent exorbitant demands, as the company for that time would be the only owners of disposable cattle.

The second mode is by granting licences to capture to any actual purchasers of land, upon the payment of a fixed sum.

The third mode is to consider the cattle as wild beasts, and allow the enterprising settler to capture at will.

The fourth is, for Government to capture and kill, as heretofore, but upon an extended and well-arranged plan.

These are the four methods for the disposal of the wild cattle noticed by the Commissioners of Colonial Land and Emigration in their letter addressed to Mr. Under-Secretary Stephen, dated 30th March 1841, and I fully concur with them in recommending the first, if a respectable company could be induced to undertake it; it would at once do away with the necessity of a government farm, and it would be an excellent arrangement for a company, as one great difficulty and probable risk in commencing their farming operations, the importation of cattle, except a few bulls and stallions of a good breed, would be removed.

The company would only require to build a few turf or dry stone corrals (quickly run up by their guachos, who are accustomed to build their own on the Pampas,) at different places upon their allotment, and bring from the neighbourhood of Buenos Ayres an intelligent capitaz or two, with a proportionate number of guachos and trained lassoing horses. The allotment also might be so selected, that although consisting of 80,000 or 100,000 acres, it may be bounded upon all sides by the sea, excepting an isthmus of a few miles in width. I have stated before that I consider the number of cattle to be about 30,000 in number, of which perhaps half are bulls. The horses are reported to be about 3,000. The time which it would take to drive the whole of the above within the allotment must of course vary according to the number and intelligence of the capitaz and guachos, as well as the goodness of their horses; but it is most probable that 20 guachos and two capitazes with 100 horses (to be purchased at the Estancias in the neighbourhood of Buenos Ayres at 20s. a piece, if selected by the purchaser,†) would be able to drive all the herds of cattle and troops of horses into the allotment in two summers, or at the farthest three, particularly if the company purchased two allotments, one to the northward and one to the southward, so as not to have to cross the Wickham Mountains, by which some would be lost or injured.

There are a few corrals already built to the northward of the Wickham Mountains, and these would be lent to the company by Government. All the

FALKLAND
ISLANDS.

Disposal of wild
cattle.

For Letter of the
Colonial Land and
Emigration Commis-
sioners, 30th March
1841, *vide* Papers rela-
tive to the Falkland
Islands, ordered by
the House of Com-
mons to be printed,
27th Aug. 1841,
No. 3, p. 19.

* In certain quantities as rations.

† But they must never be lost sight of when once purchased.

FALKLAND ISLANDS.

horses are to the northward of the mountains, but the greater proportion of cattle are to the south.

When the animals are once driven within the allotment, half the number of men and horses would be sufficient to watch them and capture them, either for the purpose of killing, selling, or taming.

I have endeavoured to estimate the price which the Government might fairly expect to receive from a company for the whole (wild pigs on Eagle Island, in number about 500, included), and I venture to suggest that they be offered for 30,000*l*. This is certainly a very small sum, being about the value of their hides, the average of which exceed in size and quality those shipped from Buenos Ayres;* but I am induced to recommend so low a sum, as it would be a great encouragement for a company to undertake the management of a valuable property in a manner conducive to the general welfare of the colony; and it would at once relieve the Government from extra duties, which could be better carried on by private individuals upon their own account. I venture to suggest also, that the Government require the company to purchase at least 150,000 acres; the money to be laid out in the same manner as that derived from other sales of land, namely, the conveyance of emigrants; the survey and local improvements, particularly the formation of "bridle-roads," of a small width; for the present 100,000 acres of the above allotment should be in one block.

Such a block would be the whole of the land to the northward of Berkeley Sound, including a portion of the settlement at Port Louis, shaded red in the accompanying Map. By the nautical survey of the coast line, it appears to contain 101,520 acres, as nearly as possible; and it should be estimated as that content in any agreement, so as to obviate the necessity of a re-survey, the expense of which might be deducted from the price affixed by Government on the land in the colony.

Of this allotment $\frac{1}{3}$ may be considered deep bog; $\frac{1}{3}$ wet at present, but good land in itself, bearing grasses, and capable of great improvement by the extensive operations of a company; $\frac{1}{3}$ thin soil, with scanty herbage;† $\frac{1}{3}$ medium land, available for grazing at once, but by being systematically depastured would soon be converted into very excellent grass lands; $\frac{1}{3}$ remarkably good land.

I have drawn the boundary line of the proposed allotment so as to include the present government-house,‡ garden, and out-buildings, which, although small, and out of repair, would yet be very serviceable to an establishment at the commencement. The boundary would also abut upon the allotments of the future village of Port Louis, in which a few stone-built cottages are already constructed. It is also in Fish-house Creek that the mullet and smelt are caught in the greatest numbers, and it is there where a small fishing establishment is at present carried on. It will be observed that the only land boundary to the above block of land is from Government-house to Port San Salvador, a distance of about two miles, and easily enclosed.

Should it be considered that the quantity of indifferent land is not counter-balanced by the advantages of site, and the possession of the present government buildings, garden, and good land in the neighbourhood, a deduction from the purchase-money could be easily arranged; and it is certainly true that much of the land would not be purchased by an ordinary settler. For the remainder of the company's allotment, I would recommend that the peninsula at the southern extremity of East Falkland be portioned off, adding Eagle Island, upon which are the pigs. All this allotment consists of the best land about the islands,§ and contains 76,880 acres.

I not only advocate the sale of the cattle, horses, and pigs to a company, because it would be a mutual advantage to them and to the Government, but because I also think it would materially benefit the poorer settler, as he would be enabled to purchase an improved breed and tame cattle from the company

* The thickness and weight of the bull's hides (often weighing 70 and 80 lbs.) might perhaps be objected to in the general hide market; but the average, I am given to understand, are of an excellent quality as well as size.

† See No. 3, p. 23; two acres required for one sheep.

‡ I have included the present government house, because I contemplate a removal to Port William; but should Port Louis be adopted as the site of the chief town, it would be necessary to construct a new government house, and then a better site could be chosen.

§ By report; I have not seen it.

at much lower price than it would cost him to capture and tame cattle with his own limited means.

The second mode of disposal, namely, granting licences to capture, upon the payment of a fixed sum, would only benefit the wealthy capitalist, as far as forming a herd; the poorer settler, unable to capture and keep, would kill indiscriminately for present use, by the rifle or aid of dogs, or both, which could be effected, and is constantly done at present without any difficulty. The slaughter and waste which would then ensue would be very detrimental to the interests of the colony generally, although affording immediate food to a few settlers. To regulate the payment of licences according to the number caught, and to prevent indiscriminate slaughter, would I fear be quite impracticable*.

Allowing the animals to be considered as wild beasts, and suffering any person to capture and kill without a licence, would have all the disadvantages of the second mode proposed, and be an unnecessary sacrifice on the part of Government.

The last mode is, that of Government continuing to capture and sell as heretofore, but upon an extended and improved plan. This certainly from its speculative character is objectionable, when any other equally advantageous to the general interests of the colony can be adopted; but in case that an arrangement with a company cannot be effected, and that the tide of emigration is not likely to flow in too fast, it is certainly a mode far to be preferred to either the second or third, and it could be conducted without difficulty after a short time, and would amply repay the small outlay. It should be managed by a bailiff or steward (to be paid out of the proceeds†), selected for the purpose, and who shall have previously visited the Estancias in the neighbourhood of Buenos Ayres, to inspect their system, and to procure an intelligent capitaz, guachos, and well-trained horses. A small barrack of one room would be required for the men, with corrals and enclosures, to be built by them, with dry stones and sods (no mortar) for the cattle and horses; these, with plenty of good horse-gear, would be almost everything required, excepting a cattle-shed, calf-house, and a herdsman or two for the tame cattle; neither stables, shoeing forges‡, barns, straw-yards, nor any of the usual accompaniments of a well-appointed English farm would be required; simply well-trained horses and a proper number of efficient guachos, with enclosures to prevent the animals from straying. There should not be fewer than one capitaz, 10 guachos, and 60 good horses. The supply of fresh and salt beef to ships calling, and cattle partially tamed to settlers, would far more than repay the cost of the establishment, and the interest of the first outlay in proper buildings, besides having the effect of greatly promoting the welfare of the colony. The farm could be so arranged and situated as to be easily sold by auction when settlers could take the place of Government in the sale of beef. I consider that the expense of establishing such a farm would be covered by a thousand pounds for the first outlay, and that it would afterwards more than maintain itself.

I have given the fullest consideration to the letter from the Colonial Land and Emigration Board to Mr. Under-Secretary Stephen, dated 30th March 1841, and particularly to that part relating to the sale of land; their suggestions upon that head being adopted by Lord John Russell, and referred to in the instructions laid down for my guidance by his Lordship, it is therefore with the greatest deference that I venture to submit the following alterations for your Lordship's consideration:

Sale of land.

For Letter of the Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners, 30th March 1841, *vide* Papers ordered to be printed 27th August 1841, No. 3, p. 19.

In forming my opinions as to the price of land to be sold to settlers, I have considered,

1st. That it should be sufficient to bring out labourers, with a due proportion of artificers, in the numbers of nine to a farm of 640 acres.

2dly. That it should pay the expenses of the survey.

3dly. That a portion should be devoted to the general funds of the colony; but chiefly to be applied to the formation of roads, bridges, and other public works.

* The crews of vessels land and kill cattle, particularly large calves, without any difficulty; three men and two dogs are sufficient. This is a notorious fact.

† So much upon every animal killed or sold.

‡ None of the horses are shod here.

FALKLAND
ISLANDS.Expense of con-
veying emigrants.

With regard to the first, it is difficult to say at what price emigrants from England could be imported. The length of voyage may be considered to average three months, but with the best description of vessel, such as have lately been employed, and indeed built expressly, I believe, by the New Zealand Company, the voyage would probably be performed in about two months and a half. The voyage to Australia averages four months, and the charge is about 18 $\frac{1}{2}$ l. It is true that at present there is no return cargo from the Falkland Islands, but cargoes may always be obtained from round Cape Horn, at three to four weeks' sail from hence (at good freights); cargoes are also sure from the River Plate at the proper seasons, about a fortnight's sail from hence, or from Rio de Janeiro. I am therefore inclined to agree with the Commissioners of Land and Emigration in thinking that 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ l. per head would be a sufficient remuneration, and be the sum demanded after a short time.

This sum, at nine labourers and artificers for a farm of 640 acres, would be at the rate of 3s. 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ d., say 4s. per acre.

Expense of survey.

The expenses of an allotment survey in this open country, if carried on by at least five parties engaged at once, each consisting of one surveyor and three chainmen, with a lad to attend the tent or small portable house,* baggage, and three baggage horses, and to cook, ought to be amply covered by 3d. per acre, if the lands are bought up nearly as fast as surveyed.

I propose for your Lordship's approval, that the plan to be adopted be the one recommended by Captain Dawson, Royal Engineers, in the Report made by him to Lord John Russell, dated 22d December 1840.

With some modifications, it is the simplest and readiest which could be adopted. By Captain Dawson's mode, taking a block of country ten miles each way, the measurement of five linear miles would allot 1,600 acres; this is rather less than by the American plan, commonly followed; but by closing at every mile it ensures great accuracy, and prevents future disputes, litigation, &c.

Allowing for detailed surveying along the coast line, bad days and winter, suppose that the out-of-door survey can only proceed at the average daily rate of 1 $\frac{1}{4}$ mile, † linear measurement; this would allot 400 acres per diem by each party, consisting of,

1	Surveyor at 12s. per diem, and rations at 2s. ditto	-	-	0	14	0
3	Chainmen (labourers) at 3s. per diem, each, and 2s. per diem for rations	-	-	0	15	0
1	Lad to attend horses, &c.	-	-	0	3	0
	Allowances for repairs of tent-house, harness &c. &c., camp kettles, &c.	-	-	0	3	0

Thus the actual cost of the out-door party will be $\frac{15}{4}$ s. = 1d. per acre.

If the survey proceeds at the average daily† rate of 400 acres, the five parties will lay out for allotment 62,600 acres annually.

Therefore if 3d. per acre be charged for the survey, 1d. would cover the expense of the out-of-doors parties, and the remaining 2d. would give an annual sum of rather more than 5,000 $\frac{1}{2}$ l.; sufficient, I should imagine, to cover the expense of the salaries of surveyor-general, two or three clerks in the office, besides the costs of instruments, stationery, and wooden building for an office and dwelling.

The total area of the islands I have computed at 6,000 square miles; it is probable that for a long time it would not be necessary to allot more than two-thirds, and this could be done by five parties at the above rate in four years.

* Such as is employed upon the trigonometrical survey in Scotland, and manufactured by Mr. Manning of Stepney, for about 24 $\frac{1}{2}$ l. They are 12 feet in length by 9 feet in breadth, and the officers of engineers have no better shelter upon the summit of Scotch mountains, with snow around them. They would be better adapted for this country than tents, which I do not recommend.

† This is the very lowest rate at which it ought to proceed in so very open a country as the Falkland Islands, even allowing for all the bad weather proverbial to the place.

‡ Working days (Sunday not included).

The number of parties must depend upon the influx of settlers, but I do not think that there should be fewer than five.

I have alluded in terms of praise to the nautical survey now in progress and near its completion, and I have examined into its accuracy to ascertain whether it might be rendered available to supersede the necessity of a re-survey of the coast line, and I am of opinion, that although invaluable for nautical purposes, it is not sufficiently accurate in its minor details to calculate correctly the areas of the coast allotments.

The survey has been carried on for nautical purposes solely, and the method pursued has been that usually adopted in such surveys, namely, determining the position of a few leading points by observations of longitude and latitude, the intermediate prominent points by angles taken with instruments (both of which has been done in this case with great accuracy, I believe), and filling up the outline joining these prominent points, partly by observed tangent lines, and partly by sketching with the eye, but not by actual measurement with the chain, and taking offsets in the manner usually pursued in land surveys, where greater accuracy is required in the detail. The plotting is also upon far too small a scale* to determine the areas by reduction on the drawing.

The nautical survey, as a general guide, will be very valuable, however, to the officer to whose charge the surveying department may be entrusted.

I have stated that but few bridges would be necessary in these islands; the harbours generally are excellent, needing no breakwaters nor improvement of channels, and but simple landing piers or jetties, as there is deep water close in shore, and only a rise of tide of about eight feet; the country is open and accessible in every direction; good materials for roads are abundant everywhere; and in a pastoral country, with a great facility of water carriage, bridle roads would be sufficient at present; therefore the public works for the improvement of the colony, which would be required for many years to come, can be neither numerous nor expensive. If 3s. 9d. per acre be put upon the land for this purpose, and two-thirds of the whole content of the islands be sold, it will raise a sum of 480,000*l.* for this service alone.

Expense of public
works of construc-
tion.

I have now stated that I consider 4s. per acre is sufficient for the conveyance of emigrants to the colony, that 3d. per acre is sufficient to cover the expenses of the survey, and that 3s. 9d. per acre upon two-thirds of the land in the colony will yield a sum of 480,000*l.* for general expenses. This gives a total sum of 8s. per acre, which I venture to suggest for your Lordship's consideration as the price to be fixed upon the land in this colony, instead of 12s. per acre, proposed by the Commissioners of Colonial Land and Emigration. The sum I have ventured to propose is undoubtedly very low, but still it appears to be sufficient to cover the expenses it is intended to meet, and every inducement is requisite to overcome the deeply-rooted and generally prevailing prejudices against these islands, the first head against which appears to have been made by captain Fitzroy, in his excellent and generally correct account contained in the second volume of the Voyages of the Adventure and Beagle.

Price of land per
acre.

I have also given my attention to the area and prices proposed by the Commissioners of Colonial Land and Emigration for the allotments in the chief town and suburbs, and I take the liberty of suggesting the following alterations for your Lordship's consideration, as being better adapted to the place and the circumstances of persons likely to become colonists.

That 600 allotments of a rood each (50† feet by 218) be laid out. That those round the market-place, and in front of the principal landing, be sold for 25*l.* each, and the remainder for 15*l.* That 500 suburban allotments of 25 acres be laid out in the neighbourhood of the chief town, and sold for 50*l.* each; and that the allotments in the country towns and villages be laid out in half-acres, at 7*l.* each.

The selection of the site for the chief town is a subject to which I have given my attentive consideration, and upon which I have the honour to report in an accompanying despatch, No. 17. I regret that I should feel myself under the necessity of delaying the formation of my opinion upon this point, but it is one of such grave importance, and the report which I have lately received

Site of chief town.

* One inch to a nautical mile.

† Fifty feet of frontage.

FALKLAND
ISLANDS.

from Lieutenant Robinson, R.N., commanding Her Majesty's ketch Arrow, differs so much from the opinions expressed by the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, conveyed to me in a despatch which I had the honour to receive from the Right Hon. Lord John Russell, dated 26th August 1841 (p. 2.), and in which opinions I fully concurred after my visit to that port in company with Lieutenant Tyssen, soon after my arrival, that I am induced to wait until a survey shall be made (it being a question of capaciousness), and I shall have visited the port again in company with Captain Ross, R.N., commanding the Antarctic expedition, and at present in these islands for the purpose of wintering.

The choice however lies between Port Louis and Port William, and allotments will be laid out in either long before the arrival of settlers can take place; a few of the suburban allotments will also be prepared, but from the smallness of my party, the many indispensable duties to be performed by them, and the intervening winter, it can scarcely be expected that many country allotments will be laid out.

Settlers best
adapted to the
colony.

The settlers best adapted to colonize these islands would be from among the industrious population of the Orkneys and Shetland islands, accustomed to a hardy life, and as much seamen as landmen; but all settlers from grazing and sheep farming districts would find land and climate admirably adapted to the kind of farming to which they have been the most accustomed. Brickmakers from the districts where bricks are burnt with peat, as in Huntingdonshire, would also be very useful.

Since my arrival I have received a notification of the desire expressed by some English residents at Buenos Ayres and Monte Video to emigrate to these islands, and requesting to be informed of the terms upon which land would be sold. They would probably bring many sheep from thence, as they are cheap*, although of an indifferent breed, and the passage is short.

Period of the year
at which settlers
should arrive.

I will take the liberty of concluding by recommending that settlers should arrive at these islands in the interval between the 1st of October and the 1st of January, but not later than February, and that they should reckon upon a voyage of three months' duration in the common class of merchant ships.

I have, &c.

(signed) R. C. MOODY,
Lieutenant-Governor.

Enclosure in No. 7.

† TUSSAC GRASS of the *Falkland Islands*.

GENUS CAREX.

Spicæ sexu distinctæ, masculæ una-plures, Carex spicis masculis sub 2, lineari-elongatis obtusis, femineis, 6-8; summis sessilibus infimis pedunculatis erectis ovali-oblongis, squamis lanceolatis ad apicem bifidis, longe aristatis, achenio obovato obtuse trigono bidentato.

Carex trifida, Curt. Sprengel Syst. Reg. V. iii. p. 829. "Tussac grass" of Weddel. "Tall sedgy grass, called Tussac," Fitzroy's Voyage, p. 260. Probably the "Tussac grass" found on Philip Barneveltdt's Islands, Lennox, and Noir Islands; also on the Ildefonsas and Diego Ramirez, vide King's Voyage, *passim*. The strong bladed grass found in the S. Georgias, by Cook; it ought to exist in the herbaria of Freycinet's and D'Urville's Voyages.

A large species, of handsome growth and appearance, often lining the coasts from a little way inland to high-water mark, in large, close, and dense tufts; flowers in January and February; roots densely matted, of thick fibres, forming large hemispherical or conical tufts, raised one foot above the ground.

I have counted 215
in a common tuft.
R. C. M.

Stems very numerous, 50 to 60 together, stout, erect, creeping or ascending, sometimes branching at the base, two to four feet long, pale green, one inch in diameter.

Leaves sheathing at the base; the *sheath* smooth, triangular, with the angles smooth, five to eight inches long, pale glaucous green; *ligula* short, membranous, pale brown; *lamina*

* Picked ones about 7d. a piece.

† For a description of the true Tussac grass, vide p. 70.



THE
FALKLAND ISLANDS,

Surveyed by CAPT^y ROBERT FITZ ROY R.N. and the

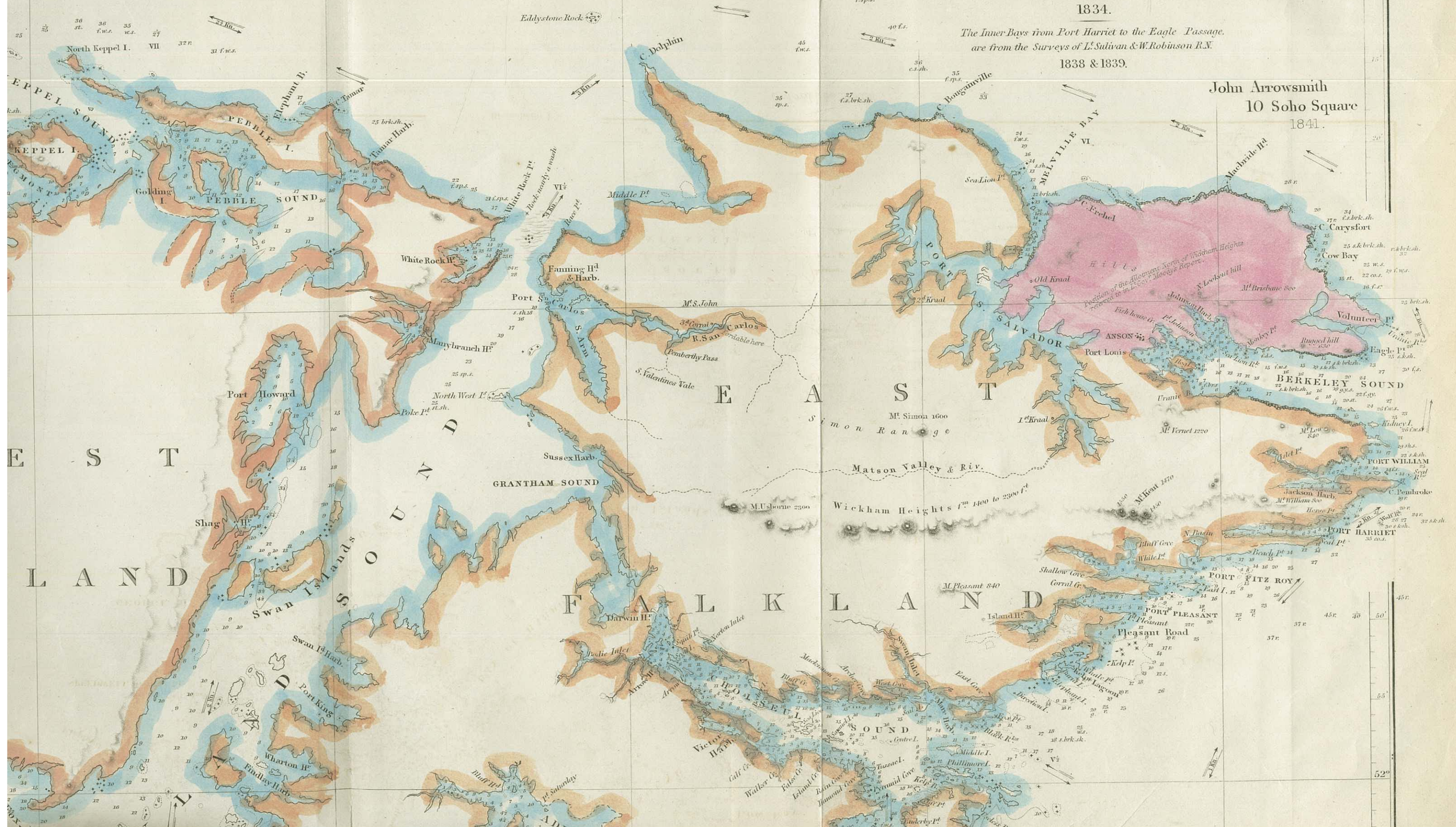
Officers of H.M. Ship Beagle

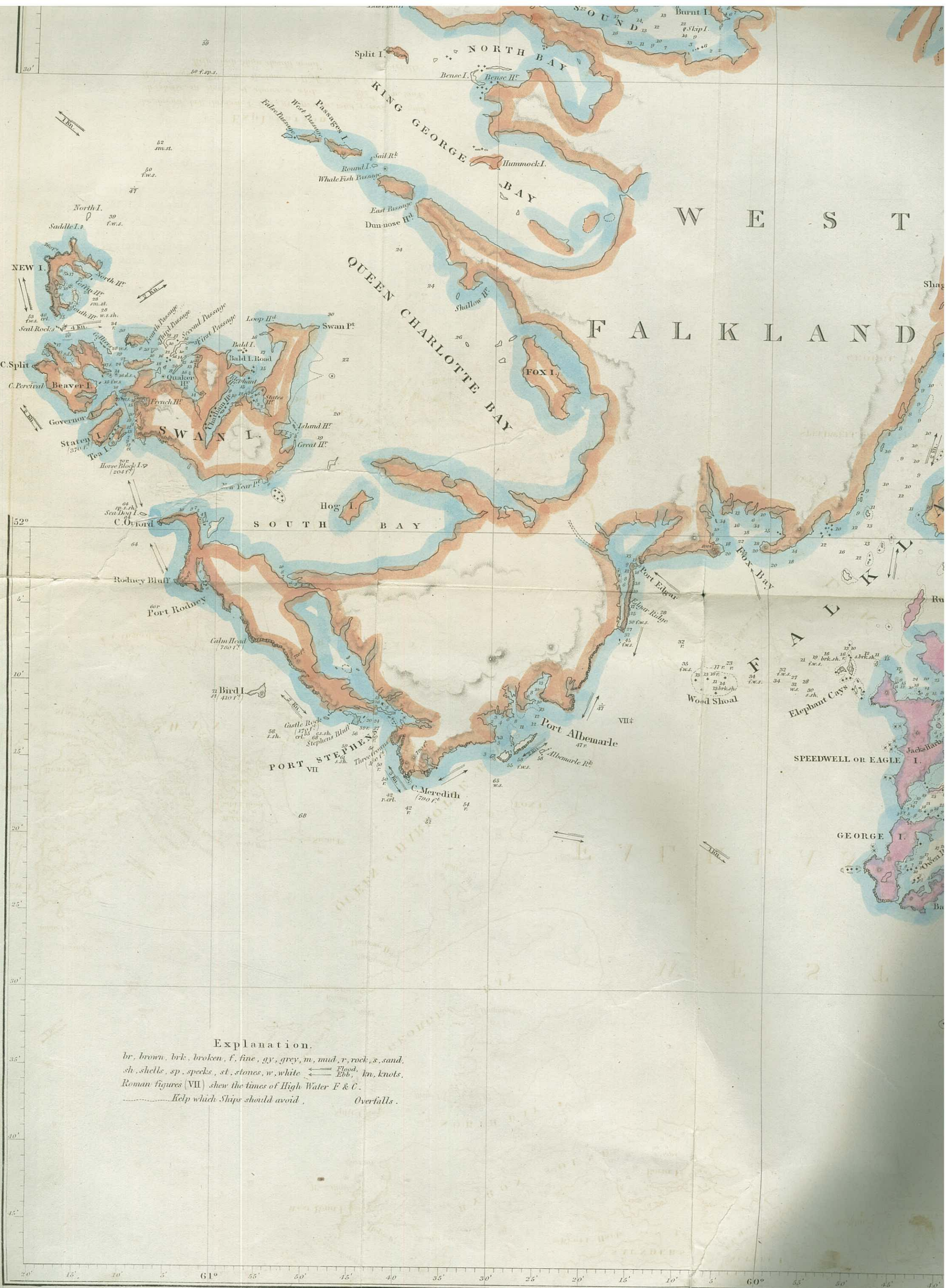
1834.

*The Inner Bays from Port Harriet to the Eagle Passage,
are from the Surveys of L^t. Sullivan & W. Robinson R.N.*

1838 & 1839.

John Arrowsmith
10 Soho Square
1841.





Explanation.

br. brown, brk. broken, f. fine, gy. grey, m. mud, r. rock, s. sand,
 sh. shells, sp. specks, st. stones, w. white
 Roman figures (VII) shew the times of High Water F & C.
 Kelp which Ships should avoid, Overfalls.



Beauchêne I.

Ordered to be Printed 22^d June 1843.

Soho Square.

five to seven feet long, linear, gradually acuminate, keeled below, plane above, the margins slightly recurved, and, as well as the keel, scabrid under the lens, surface smooth but not glossy, soft and succulent, lurid green, trigonous towards the point. *Spikes* leafy, the leaves longer than the spikes, suberect aggregated or generally distant, conspicuous, eight to ten in number; the upper *male*, slender, erect or inclined, pedunculated, generally two in number, of which the terminal one is the longest, linear, cylindrical, obtuse, an inch and a half long, three lines broad; *female spikes* robust, larger and much broader than the male, generally six in number, the upper shorter and sessile, the lower pedunculated, peduncle short, obtusely trigonous, three quarters to two inches long, four to five lines in diameter, scales membranous or scarious, lanceolate, concave, entire at the margin, bifid and awned at the point, dark chesnut brown shining with paler striæ, the awn twice as long as the scale, scabrid. *Achenium* pedicellate, obovate, turgid, smooth, obscurely striated, trigonous, the angles rounded, pale brown when ripe, acutely bifid at the summit, shorter than the scale; styles three in number.

The other common grass is a well known one in Europe, first described as *Arundo alopecurus*, by M. Gaudichaud, in the Annales des Sciences Naturelles, vol. i. p. 103, from specimens brought home by Captain Freycinet.

FALKLAND
ISLANDS.

No. 8.

(No. 13.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Lieutenant Governor MOODY to Lord STANLEY.

Government House, Port Louis, Falkland Islands,
30 April 1842.

My Lord,

IN the report upon the colonization of these islands, dated 14th April 1842, which I have the honour of forwarding by the present opportunity, I have touched upon the allotment survey, its probable cost, 3*d.* per acre, and the mode in which I propose that it should be conducted.

I have also stated what I am inclined to consider should be the strength of the party to conduct it efficiently, rapidly, and economically; namely,

- 1 Chief Surveyor.
- 5 Assistant ditto, employed continually in the field.
- 2 Clerks for the office.
- 15 Labourers as chainmen.
- 5 Lads to assist ditto.

Should your Lordship be pleased to approve of the above, I am further desirous of drawing your Lordship's attention to the importance of forwarding the party to the colony as soon as your Lordship may consider it convenient, with a proper equipment of stores for their maintenance and the performance of their duties, including portable wooden cottages.

I hope, in the course of the winter, and before their arrival, to have some land surveyed and ready for allotment in Port Louis and the neighbourhood, and also at Port William, and to inspect different parts of the country which I have not yet been able to visit, so as to determine previously the districts which should be opened out first; but the fulfilment of this latter duty must depend upon a small vessel of war being sent to supply the place of H. M. ketch Sparrow, recently left for Rio de Janeiro, or whether I may be enabled to hire some small vessel, which is a matter of great uncertainty. Probably the whole of the town and a few country allotments may be laid out, but my party is too small, and our duties far too multifarious, to expect much beyond that.

I hope that I may be pardoned for dwelling strongly upon the qualifications of the surveyors which may be sent. Scientific men, or men of general education, are not so much required as persons known to be well practised in the very simplest operations of surveying, and accurate in their work. To carry on an allotment survey needs no great acquirements, but simply steadiness, accuracy, and strict obedience to the orders of the chief surveyor, and I should not hesitate to recommend for this duty, soldiers of the corps of Royal Sappers and Miners who may have been employed upon the trigonometrical survey in Ireland, but that I am certain they cannot be spared from the important service upon which they are at present engaged.

(148.)

F 4

I have

No. 8.
Lieut.-Gov. Moody
to
Lord Stanley.
30th April 1842.

FALKLAND
ISLANDS.

I have a corporal* in the detachment under my command who has been employed upon the trigonometrical survey, and who would be available at present for the office, and could in a short time qualify himself for the field.

The surveyors should be desired to name their own chainmen, and bring them out from England, as the surveyor's duty would be somewhat facilitated if he had chainmen whom he had already drilled to that duty. I may notice that the supply of surveying stores† which I have brought out with me will not obviate the necessity of an additional quantity being supplied, as per accompanying list, No. 2.

I do not recommend that the detachment of Royal Sappers and Miners should be employed as chainmen because they are all artificers, carpenters, masons, bricklayers, and smiths, and good workmen at their different trades.

Their present working pay is 1s. 6d. per diem, whereas civil artificers in a colony would require 7s. or 8s. per day, and simply labourers‡, but of an intelligent class, would answer sufficiently well for chainmen after a little drilling. I therefore propose to occupy the most part of my detachment in different necessary Government works of construction, both on the score of economy and efficiency, and to look for chainmen from England, should your Lordship be pleased to approve of their being forwarded to me.

Mr. Robinson, who accompanied me from England in the capacity of storekeeper and clerk, is a surveyor by profession, and in the intervals of his other duties is engaged in carrying out my views by surveying the ground, and is the actual surveyor at present engaged in laying out the town allotments.

Should your Lordship be pleased to entrust him with the duties of the surveying department under my general directions, it would only then be necessary to forward from England the five assistant surveyors, two office clerks, and 20 chainmen, and he being on the spot, and well acquainted with the ground by that time, could at once allot their different tasks.

But it would also be necessary that some person should be sent from England to relieve him from the duties of storekeeper and clerk in my office, so as to enable him to devote his whole attention to the survey.

I have, &c.
(signed) R. C. MOODY,
Lieut.-Governor.

Enclosure in No 8.

Enclosure in No. 8.

LIST No. 1. contains a Return of SURVEYING STORES at present in the Colony, and available for the Surveying Department.

LIST. No. 2. contains a Return of SURVEYING STORES required to carry on an Allotment Survey of the *Falkland Islands*, in addition to the above.

No. 9.
Lord Stanley
to
Lieut.Gov. Moody,
25th January 1843.

(No. 12.)

No. 9.

EXTRACT of a DESPATCH from LORD STANLEY to Lieutenant-Governor MOODY.

Downing-street, 25th January 1843.

I HAVE had under my consideration your general Report on the present state of the Falkland Islands; and I have now to acquaint you that Her Majesty's Government propose to complete the measures in part carried into effect by my predecessor for the colonization of those islands.

It is my intention to apply to Parliament in the ensuing Session, for the

* Corporal Richardson.

† A list of which I have the honour to enclose.

‡ Young men from 20 to 25 or 30 years of age.

requisite authority to establish a legislative power there; and I have recommended to the Lords Commissioners of the Treasury also to apply to Parliament for the means of maintaining an establishment of Government, of which I enclose to you an estimate.

I further enclose for your information and guidance copies of a Report and of its enclosures, which I have received from the Commissioners of Colonial Lands and Emigration, on the topics which form the subject of your own Report.

The price of special lands can hardly of course be determined till the site of the capital or seat of government is decided on,—a subject on which I propose to await the further information promised by you.

The question of the disposal of the wild cattle is one of some difficulty. On that head I should not be disinclined to treat with a company; but as the main object is to supply vessels with fresh meat at a moderate expense, I should not feel myself justified in establishing a monopoly, without security against the abuse of its privilege.

I trust that I may have it in my power to apprise you, at no distant period, of the nature of the stores which will be sent to you in the course of the present year, in compliance with the requisitions transmitted in your despatches of the 30th of April and 3d of May last; but it is not my intention to direct any steps to be taken for the disposal, either of the land or the cattle, until it is in my power to give fuller information to the public than I can at present, as to the legislative power and the establishment which it is proposed to provide for these islands.

Enclosure 1. in No. 9.

Encl. 1. in No. 9.

ESTIMATE of the Sum which will be required for maintaining the Government of the FALKLAND ISLANDS, during the Twelve Months ending on 31st March 1844.

Four Thousand Three Hundred and Fifty Pounds.

	£	s.	d.
Governor	600	0	0
Magistrate	400	0	0
Chaplain	300	0	0
Surgeon	300	0	0
Surveyor	200	0	0
Clerk	150	0	0
Labour and Survey, including Charge for Pay and Subsistence of Party of Sappers and Miners, to be refunded to Board of Ordnance	600	0	0
Expense of Civil Government	2,550	0	0
Stores	800	0	0
Building and Works	1,000	0	0
	£ 4,350	0	0

Colonial Department, }
March 1843.

G. W. HOPE.

Enclosure 2. in No. 9.

Encl. 2. in No. 9.

Sir,

Colonial Land and Emigration Office,
9, Park Street, Westminster, 10th December 1842.

WE have the honour to state, for Lord Stanley's information, that we have considered the full and clear Report which has been received from Lieutenant-governor Moody concerning the Falkland Islands, and the capabilities which they possess as a place for settlement.

The results we gather from it are, that the climate is healthy but rigorous; that the soil, though not fertile, is easily improvable; that cattle readily grow fat upon the natural grasses, which are found upon the greater portion of the islands; and that as a settlement the chief island is well suited to pastoral, but not to agricultural purposes. It further appears that but little outlay would be required of the settler in taking possession of his land, as neither timber nor obstructions of any kind have to be removed, while the utmost facility of communication will be found, both from the openness of the country, and from the

FALKLAND
ISLANDS.

numerous bays and creeks which in every direction penetrate deeply into the country. Animal food of several kinds is abundant, and there would appear to be no want of esculent vegetables; but flour would have to be imported. Stone, slate, clay for bricks, and fuel are also to be found; but timber and lime must be imported. The seal, whale, and common fisheries offer a fair prospect of advantage to persons engaging in them. It is not to be overlooked, that as the principal object of the settlement is to afford a port for refit and refreshment, with all the necessary accommodation, the number of ships which will in consequence resort to the colony will afford a ready means of supplying the settlers with the articles of import which they require, and furnish in turn an extensive market for the provisions which they will have to dispose of. Upon the whole, as has been before represented, there seems reason to expect that a small community of hardy and industrious settlers might prosper upon these islands.

Whenever Her Majesty's Government shall think proper to open them to the public as a field for colonization, we would venture to suggest that we should be authorized to publish at the same time the descriptive parts of Lieutenant-governor Moody's Report. Before this step is taken, however, it will be necessary to consider and settle certain questions connected with the preliminary arrangements. The chief points to which we refer are the following:

1. The Government of the Colony.
2. The Survey of the Lands.
3. The Price of Land.
4. The Site of the Capital. And,
5. The Wild Cattle.

1. The Government of the Colony:

On the 30th April 1841 Lord John Russell caused certain proposals for forming an establishment at the Falklands, to be submitted to the Lords Commissioners of the Treasury, and informed their Lordships that, if those proposals were concurred in, it was his intention to propose to Parliament a Bill, giving legislative power to the governor for three years. On the 19th July 1841 the Lords of the Treasury expressed their concurrence in the suggestions thus made to them, which involved an annual expenditure of 3,750*l.*, but we believe that at that late period of the session the Bill which had been contemplated was not brought before Parliament. This step, therefore, we apprehend, if the intention of Her Majesty's Government should not be altered, would have to be taken before the systematic colonization of these islands can be proceeded with.

In the meantime the Lieutenant-governor has been established at his post since the month of January last, and a small population, partly from this country and partly from South America, is collecting round him, and, from his statements, is not unlikely to increase. He has with him one gentleman, who acts as storekeeper and clerk, and ten sappers and miners, together with a serjeant and corporal of the same corps. No person, however, has been appointed to the office of magistrate, which was provided for in the estimate proposed by Lord John Russell and sanctioned by the Lords of the Treasury. We would recommend that if Parliament should pass the Bill by which the colony would be placed on a proper and permanent footing, that some gentleman of legal attainments should be forthwith appointed to the office. We would further beg leave to renew the suggestion which we made in our Report of the 30th March 1841, and which we observe is also somewhat earnestly made by its Lieutenant-governor, that for the present the protection of a small vessel of war, such as has been hitherto stationed at the Falklands, may not be withdrawn. The lawless character of the crews of many vessels frequenting the harbours of these islands renders such protection, in our opinion, very necessary in the early days of the settlement.

2. Survey of Land:

Upon this subject we attentively considered the observations and suggestions which have been made by the Lieutenant-governor in his various reports. It appeared to us, that the scale upon which he proposed to undertake the survey was too extensive, compared with the demand for land which may be expected on the part of the public, and therefore, that the expense to be borne exclusively by this country would be proportionately and unduly great. Accordingly, as we observed that it was intended to employ Captain Dawson's method of survey, as proposed by him for New Zealand, we thought it might be desirable to refer to that gentleman such portion of the Lieutenant-governor's reports as related to the proposed survey, and to the surveying establishment and stores which he had applied for.

Our object was to ascertain whether any cheaper method than that proposed for New Zealand could be devised for the Falklands, or if not, whether the strength of the surveying parties, the rate of progress, and the general expense of carrying out the original plan, as laid down by Lieutenant-governor Moody, appeared to be correct. We have the honour to enclose copy of the letter containing the questions which we proposed to Captain Dawson, and of the reply which we have received from him. It will be perceived that Captain Dawson considers that the plan previously suggested by him should be adopted as the general rule, and he calculates, that in giving effect to it, one surveying party might set out a district of 13,000 acres, in sections of one square mile each, in 14 days, at a cost of one halfpenny per acre. When large blocks, however, have to be disposed of at once, he thinks that a less accurate plan might be adopted, by which a block of about the same size as in the former case might be divided into three sections in the space of seven days, at an expense of one farthing per acre. He also shows that the town, together with an extensive district around it, might be laid out in 22 days, by one party, at an expense of three farthings per

per acre. In answer to our question he further states, that one surveyor, with his attendant labourers, should be expected to measure from 15 to 20 square miles, or from nearly 10,000 to nearly 13,000 acres per month. This rate of progress appears to us to be amply sufficient to meet all the demands for land which are likely to arise. We would accordingly recommend, as there is sufficient time for measuring the land before it can be offered for sale to the public at large, that only one surveying party should be employed instead of the five recommended by the Lieutenant-governor. It would further, in our opinion, be desirable, with reference to the strict economy which Lord Stanley would doubtless desire to be observed, that the surveys should be conducted under the general superintendence of the Lieutenant-governor, and that the gentleman now acting as storekeeper, but who is by profession a surveyor, should be employed as head of the surveying party engaged in actual measurement; and that this party should be composed of such sappers and miners as could be best spared from the works upon which the Lieutenant-governor states they are usefully engaged. It would appear to us, therefore, quite unnecessary that any additional strength for this service should be sent out from this country at the public expense. The only addition to the general establishment which it would be desirable to make would be a clerk, for whom provision was included in the estimate, which was approved last year by the Lords of the Treasury. We also think that the salary to the surveyor should be 200*l.* instead of 300*l.* as stated in the estimate. This latter sum was probably named for this officer upon the supposition that the general superintendence would devolve upon him. We have proposed 200*l.*, as it was the amount of salary sanctioned for the surveyors who have been sent out to the Australian Colonies and to Ceylon. The amount of stores for the survey department required by the Lieutenant-governor appeared to us to be beyond the wants of the force which it would be desirable to employ. Captain Dawson has agreed in this opinion, and the experience in his department upon this subject is so great, that we should venture at once to recommend for adoption the list as reduced by him, and appended to his letter. The arrangement now proposed will not, as it appears to us, render necessary any increase in the estimate for the ensuing year. £500 has been the sum before named for labourers, and if 100*l.* be taken off the salary of the surveyor, it might, we should apprehend, be made available to the surveying service generally, if required. The wages and rations of the one surveying party to be employed would amount, upon the Lieutenant-governor's estimate of daily expense, to about 280*l.* per annum; while the annual expense of the detachment of sappers and miners is estimated, we believe, at 374*l.* We are not aware from what source it is intended to defray this latter sum; but if it be decided that it is to be paid out of the money voted by Parliament for the colony, it is then to be considered, that as a portion of the 280*l.* estimated for the wages and rations of labourers on the survey would be expended upon the sappers and miners employed on that service, the sum of 374*l.*, estimated for the whole expense of the detachment, would be proportionately diminished; and thus the two sums would be brought within the 600*l.*, which it is proposed to consider applicable to the employment of labour. As soon, moreover, as any land was sold, a portion of the purchase-money would be used to meet the expenses of the survey. We would take the liberty of recommending, that Captain Dawson's letter should be forwarded to Lieutenant Moody, for his information.

3. The Price of Land:

Lieutenant-governor Moody has entered into calculations to show that the sum of 8*s.* per acre for ordinary country lands would produce sufficient money to meet the expenses of a due amount of emigration, of the surveys, and of the public works. Another and important consideration would be the price which is likely to be obtained; but as from such means of information as we possess there appears no reason to think that any person would be willing to pay a higher price for land at the Falklands than the one here named, we would agree with the Lieutenant-governor in recommending its adoption. At the same time, as the disposition to purchase can only be ascertained by experience, and after the colony has been thrown open to settlement and a government formed there, we think it would be desirable that it should from the first be made known that the price would be liable to be raised as soon as a certain quantity, say 10,000 acres, had been sold. With respect to the town and suburban allotments, we would offer no objection to the rate of price which is proposed for them by the Lieutenant-governor, but it appears to us not desirable to limit the extent of the town lots to one quarter of an acre. The earlier land regulations of the Australian colonies fixed half an acre for the town lots, and, as a general rule, we think that a less extent would not be convenient to purchasers, who might be expected to require yards or gardens adjacent to their houses. Particular cases of exception might doubtless occur, and be decided by the Governor. With regard to the land immediately surrounding the town, we should recommend that the divisions marked out in the sketch which accompanies Captain Dawson's letter should be followed; the plan seems to offer every facility for the surveys, and the variation in the size of the allotments would probably be found advantageous in disposing of them. We would beg leave to suggest that as soon as 100 of the town allotments had been sold at the fixed price, the remainder should be put up to auction whenever it was thought desirable to bring them into the market.

4. The Site of the Capital:

This apparently will depend upon the decision of the question, which of the two principal harbours now in use offers the greatest advantage in point of accessibility and accommodation

FALKLAND ISLANDS.

tion to vessels resorting to the islands. Lieutenant-governor Moody, and Lieutenant Tysen, R.N., would apparently much prefer Port William, while Lieutenant Robinson, R.N., who has been engaged for three years in surveying the coasts, recommends Port Louis, as more advantageous in respect to capacity and security than any other Port in the Falkland Islands. Captain Sullivan, R.N., also, who was at the Falklands with Captain Fitzroy, and afterwards commanded a vessel engaged in the nautical survey, in a letter addressed to our Board, expresses his opinion that no port can be put in comparison with Port Louis; and he considers the neighbourhood of Port William ineligible for the site of a town, as the ground is of a very swampy character. Captain Fitzroy, though praising highly the accessibility of Port William, yet apparently considered that the chief settlement might be formed with advantage near either port. We find, however, that it was the Lieutenant-governor's intention to revisit Port William in company with Captain Ross, commanding the Antarctic expedition, and to cause a survey to be made of it, considering the question to be one of capaciousness. We believe that no further report has yet been received from him on the subject. We conclude that wherever the capital and chief port shall be fixed, due attention will be paid to the desire expressed by the Lords Commissioners of the Treasury, in Mr. Trevelyan's letter to the Colonial Department, of the 30th October 1840, that no property shall be alienated which may be useful for the establishment of naval depôts or other public purposes; and that the Lieutenant-governor, in conjunction with the naval officer in command, will decide upon the spots to be reserved for the use of the navy, should the Lords of the Admiralty think proper at any time to use the colony as a naval station.

5. The Wild Cattle:

We agree with the Lieutenant-governor that the best plan, upon the whole, would be to dispose at once of all the wild animals, including the horses, &c. to a company, should one be formed for the purpose of taking part in the colonization of the islands, but to require, as a preliminary condition, that the company should purchase the tracts of land best suited for the confinement of the animals, as for instance, those nearly surrounded by water, and to enter into an obligation to bring them under management within a certain specified time. We are convinced that until they become private property, it will never be possible to protect them.

The sum which it is proposed to ask for all the animals of an useful kind now upon the islands is 30,000*l*. As some part of this sum must be considered as payment for the horses and other animals, the price per head for the cattle, which are reckoned at the least at 30,000, would be less than 1*l*. per head; a sum which, we may remark, has generally been considered as below the real value. Captain Sullivan, in the letter from which we have already quoted, considers that no contract should be made in respect to the cattle that would not bring to the Government "a revenue of at least 2*l*. per head." The wholesale character of the transaction, however, as proposed by the Lieutenant-governor, and the expediency of relieving the Government from the expense of management, might render the price named sufficient. On the other hand, again, so little can be known of the desire which exists, or may arise, to invest capital in the colonization of these islands, that until full information as to their condition and the intentions of the Government respecting them is made known, it is impossible to say whether even the price above named, with the conditions which it would be proper to annex to the purchase, could be obtained. The safer course, it appears to us, would be not to fix the price until the public had had an opportunity of considering all the authentic information respecting the colony, and the advantages it affords, which can now be furnished from the Lieutenant-governor's Report.

In the meantime the management of the cattle must remain, as heretofore, in the hands of the Lieutenant-governor, who, we observe by his despatch of the 22d May, had found it necessary to write to the British Consul at Buenos Ayres for a small reinforcement of guachos and horses, to be employed for a limited time in capturing such animals as are required. There would appear little reason to doubt that any moderate expense incurred by the Government on this account would be repaid by the ready sale of the meat and hides of the animals, which, to diminish the expense of management, should be disposed of as far as possible by wholesale. We do not think, however, that it would be desirable that any operations should be undertaken on so extensive a scale as that mentioned by the Lieutenant-governor in his General Report, in which an outlay of 1,000*l*. in establishing a government farm is contemplated. Should it prove that no individual or company was willing to purchase, or even take the management upon lease of the cattle, we think it might be desirable, whenever the public lands shall be sold, to require every purchaser of country land to take at a fixed price a certain number of cattle, in a proportion to the extent of his land, to be named by the Lieutenant-governor, and with such number of males to females as might be appointed by the same authority. The animals would be caught and delivered by the guachos of the government.

In conclusion, we would beg to recapitulate the suggestions we have made as to the first steps which have now to be taken in respect to the settlement of this colony.

1. That a bill should be proposed to Parliament to provide for the government.
2. That the protection of a small vessel of war, such as has hitherto been stationed there, should be continued.
3. That a clerk and store-keeper, acting under the Lieutenant-governor, should be sent out to relieve the surveyor, who is at present performing the duties of those offices.

4. That the charge for the surveyor and labourers taken together should remain the same in the future estimate as in the one printed in the papers laid before Parliament on the 27th August 1841.

5. That Captain Dawson's report should be forwarded to Lieutenant-governor Moody for his information.

6. That the operations of the Lieutenant-governor, in respect to the wild cattle, should be confined as much as possible to the capture and delivery of such animals as may be required by the settlers and the crews of vessels; and that in any case care should be taken that no risk of loss to the public should be incurred by the management of them.

We have, &c.

(signed) EDWARD E. VILLIERS.
JOHN GEORGE SHAW LEFEVRE.

(Copy.)

Sir,

Colonial Land and Emigration Office,
9, Park-street, Westminster, 12th Nov. 1842.

I am directed by the Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners to transmit to you an extract from the General Report of the Lieutenant-governor of the Falklands, and also a copy of one of his despatches, dated 30th April 1842, both of which relate to the arrangements which it will be necessary to make for effecting the survey of the waste lands in that colony.

The Board would feel much obliged to you if you would take the suggestions of Governor Moody into your consideration, and report your opinion respecting them. It may be right that I should mention that, with a view to settlement, the lands in this colony appear to be principally calculated for grazing purposes, and that tracts of land rather than small farms are therefore likely to be required by individual purchasers. There are no trees whatever on the islands, and consequently there will be no obstruction from that cause to the progress of the surveys.

With these observations I am to state that the following are the points to which the Board would request to draw your attention with reference to the enclosed papers.

1. Could you recommend that, due regard being had to accuracy, the lands intended for sale should be laid out in larger divisions than one square mile each?

2. In the case of lands which might be demanded on lease for pasturage, would there be any method by which an estimate of the contents of blocks, having some natural boundaries, could be obtained more cheaply or expeditiously than of the usual mode of measurement?

3. Is the strength and composition of each surveying party proposed by Lieutenant governor Moody such as you would recommend?

4. What is the amount of land which each such party should measure in a month, making allowance for days on which work might not be done, and supposing that no further subdivisions of the land than into square miles should be made?

5. Does the expense of each party appear to be correctly estimated by the Lieutenant-governor?

6. Would it be advisable in any manner to use the services of the sappers and miners (12 in number) now at the Falklands, in conducting the surveys?

7. With reference to the list of stores required by the Lieutenant-governor, what amount would, in your opinion, be reasonable upon the supposition that only one surveying party was sent out, and what proportionate increase should be made in them in the event of there being two or more such parties?

In addition to these questions, should you be so good as to reply to them, the Board would feel much obliged to you to add any general remarks upon Lieutenant-governor Moody's communications, which might seem to you desirable.

Captain Dawson, R. E.
&c. &c. &c.

I am, &c.
(signed) S. WALLCOTT, Secretary.

(Copy.)

Sir,

Somerset House, 20th November 1842.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the Receipt of your communication of the 12th instant, and having attentively considered the reports of the Lieutenant-governor of the Falklands, which the Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners then did me the honour to refer to me, I beg to report for their information as follows:

1. Supposing the system of surveying by squares to be adopted, as recommended by me for New Zealand, I should not consider it safe as a general rule to make the sides of the squares more than one mile in length, because, in the event of erroneous measurements,
(148.) G S which

FALKLAND
ISLANDS.

which must be expected sometimes to occur, the surveyor is required to measure back again the distances for the purpose of verification; and the re-measurement of any greater distance than a mile is attended with much inconvenience and loss of time. There is always danger therefore of the re-measurements being evaded, and expedients substituted of a less satisfactory nature.

Under favourable circumstances of flat and even ground, or in order to embrace tracts of hilly, rocky, or marshy ground, it would be practicable and sometimes even desirable to increase the sides of the squares to two miles in length: but such cases should always, in my opinion, be considered as exceptions to the general rule, and be specially sanctioned by the local government.

2. As regards the use of the natural lines of the ground for boundaries of sections, in preference to the arbitrary lines of squares:

The natural lines are: the lines of mountain ridges, the lines of streams, and the coast.

These are undoubtedly to be considered preferable to arbitrary lines on account of their permanence and the greater facility of identifying them upon the ground. The increased extent which such lines must give to the sections, and the difficulty of surveying them, are the chief objections to their general adoption.

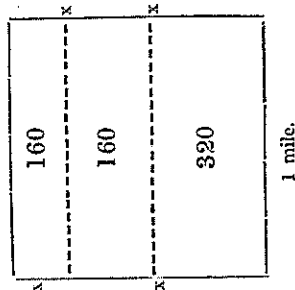
In the Falklands, which appear to be fit only for pasturage, and must for that purpose be occupied in large blocks, the objection as to increased size will not hold; and it remains only to be considered, whether the natural boundary lines of such blocks can be determined, and their acreable contents be estimated more cheaply and expeditiously than by the ordinary method.

On the annexed sketch, the coast-line of which is taken from Captain Fitzroy's chart, I have filled up a district (on the left hand or western side) to represent an imaginary subdivision into sections of from 800 to 2,300 acres each.

Through the middle of the district I have drawn a strong dotted line, which may be supposed to represent a main ridge, the line of which would have to be surveyed. Other dotted lines, descending from the main line between the streams to the coast, would also have to be surveyed for the determination of the streams; and a third set of lines, forming a circuit of the district, must be surveyed also for determining the coast.

This is the simplest system of measured lines which, under such circumstances, could be considered applicable and sufficient for the purpose. It will be seen that they do not, by any means, apply closely to the sinuosities of the coast line and streams; and that, in reality, to obtain even a tolerable degree of accuracy in the results of the survey, the measured lines must follow the natural lines more closely, and therefore traverse a greater number of linear miles than are represented by the lines on the sketch.

The length of the lines on the sketch however is, by measurement, 41 miles; and were the whole district to be set out in square miles according to the New Zealand system, the number of miles measured for the purpose would be only 42, being but one mile more than the former method would require. And while the survey of natural lines gives sections varying from 800 to 2,300 acres each, the system of squares would set out the whole district in sections of 640 acres each, capable of a further subdivision (without additional cost) into sections of 320 and 160 acres; all that would be necessary to effect this further subdivision being, that the surveyor should leave a mark on the ground at every quarter of a mile.



The advantage, therefore, is clearly in favour of the survey by squares; and if it be further taken into consideration, that this system of survey is the simplest possible, and requires scarcely any previous training of the persons employed, and that the other system of traverse surveying along the natural lines calls for a very considerable degree of skill and judgment in the surveyors, as well as care and nicety to avoid errors, and to supply proper checks on the accuracy of the work, I cannot hesitate to recommend the system of surveying by squares for the Falklands, whether the boundaries by natural lines be adopted or not.

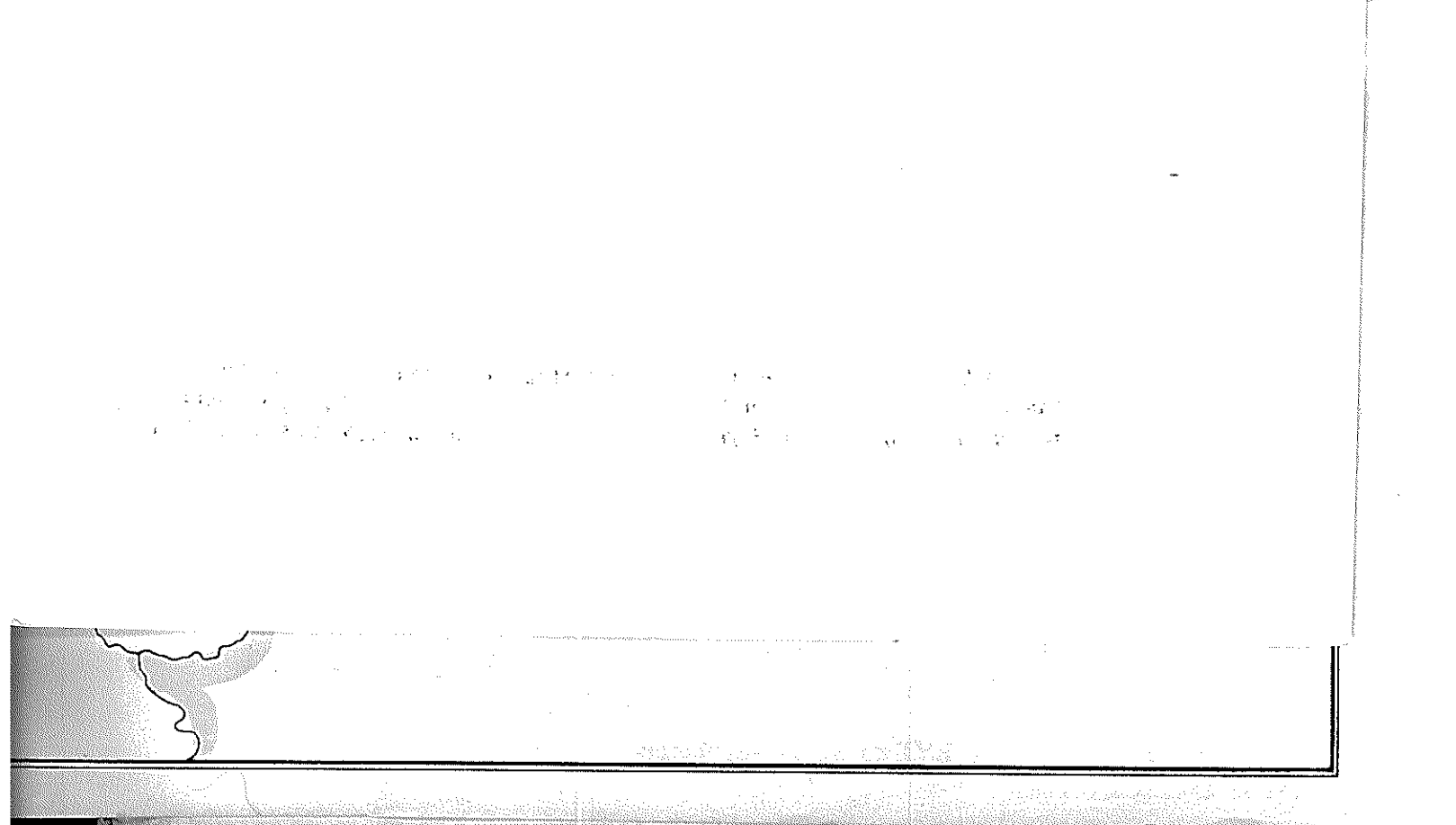
I conceive that in measuring along the sides of the squares sufficient observations would be made for determining the lines of streams and the coast, or that a very small additional amount of labour would supply what was wanting for that purpose, and certainly much less than would be required by the former system.

A fly-leaf of paper attached to the sketch affords the means of comparing the two systems.

This district comprises altogether about 12,900 acres, divided into twelve sections, the survey of which, by the measurement of 42 linear miles at the rate of three linear miles per diem, should be completed by one surveyor and his attendant labourers in 14 days, at a cost (according to Governor Moody's estimate of 1*l*. 15*s*. per diem), of 24*l*. 10*s*., or about one halfpenny per acre.

Supposing it then to be determined that the system of surveying by squares should be adopted as the general rule, I should still think it might be desirable, when very large blocks of country of 5,000, 10,000, or 20,000 acres each were to be set out, to depart from the general rule, and resort to the traverse system in preference.

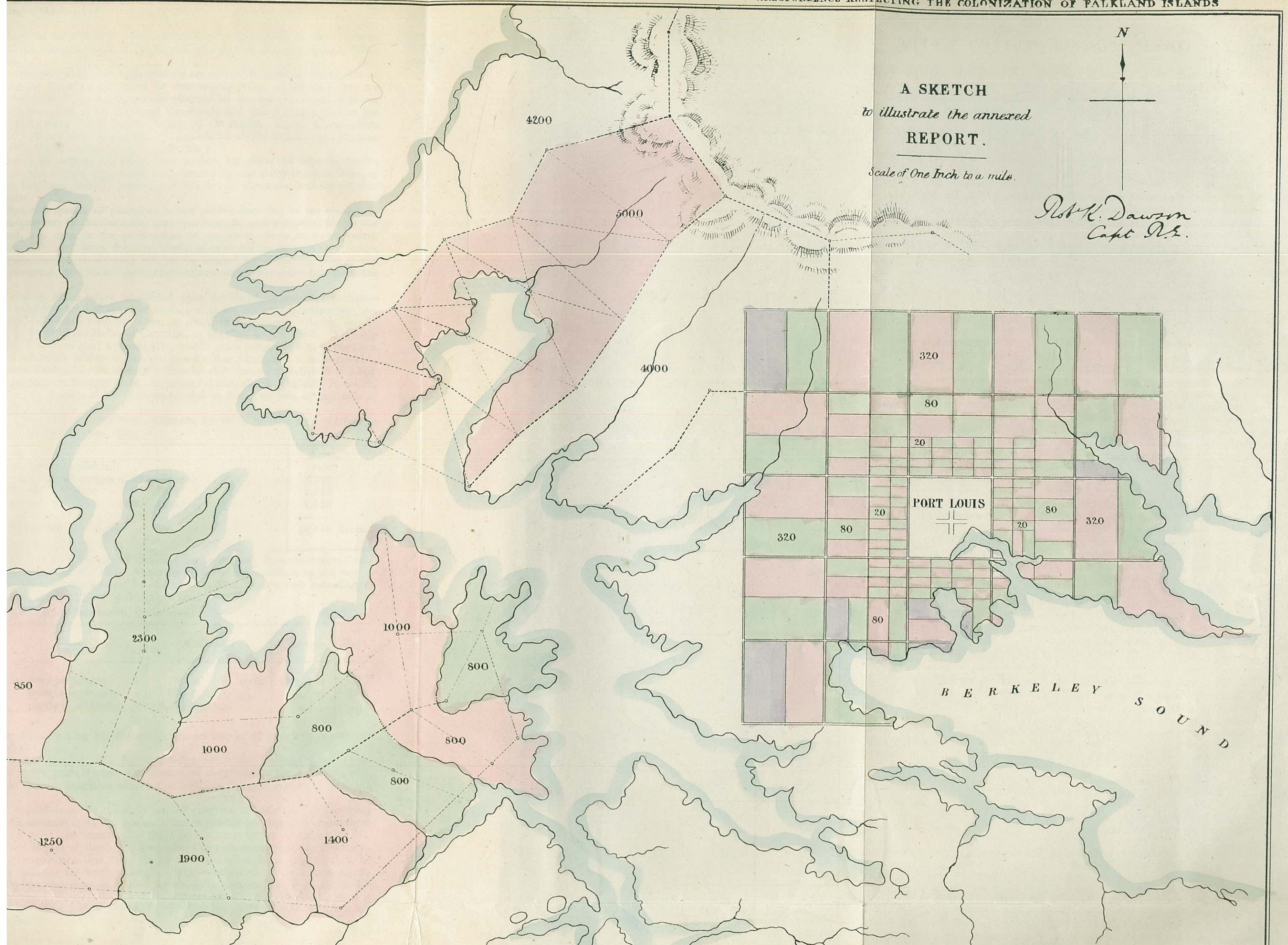
The



A SKETCH
to illustrate the annexed
REPORT.

Scale of One Inch to a mile.

Robt. K. Dawson
Capt. R.E.



The course which in such cases I should recommend is illustrated in the upper or northern portion of the annexed sketch, where three sections are set out, varying from 4,000 to 5,000 acres each.

The lines to be measured along the high grounds are marked by a strong dotted line on the sketch, and some of the observed angles for determining points on the coast line are shown by finer dotted lines. The angles actually observed for this purpose would of course be much more numerous than those shown on the sketch, and would extend also to the determination of points along the boundary streams of the blocks. In the example here given, the measured lines are made to represent the boundaries of the sections; but streams, when they can be determined easily, should be preferred.

The lines measured for setting out these three sections are about 20 miles in length; which, at the rate of three miles a day, should be measured by one party in seven days, at a cost (according to Governor Moody's estimate), of 12*l.* 5*s.*, or about one farthing per acre on the gross contents.

It will be seen that this system of procedure is less perfect than that of the squares, in leaving considerable portions of the boundary lines untraversed; and it requires far greater skill, and judgment, and care, in the performance of the work. It is to be supposed, however, that demands for such large detached blocks of land will be of rare occurrence; and that a close approximation to accuracy will not be insisted on if the interests of the purchaser can be protected by a liberal per-centage allowance on the estimated quantities sold.

The remaining district, which I have subdivided upon the sketch, is intended to represent the immediate neighbourhood of the chief town, and is set out in conformity with the suggestions of the Colonization Commissioners, as stated in the Papers relating to the Falklands, printed by order of the House of Commons on the 27th August 1841. The only difference being, that I have assigned a square mile, or 640 acres, instead of 500, to the town itself; and that the suburban allotments are comprised within a belt, half a mile in width, containing 1,720 acres, divided into 86 sections of 20 acres each, instead of a district of 1,000 acres, divided into sections of 25 acres each. In a second belt, also half a mile in width, I have arranged 33 rural sections of 80 acres each; and in the outer belt, of one mile in width, 22 other sections of 320 acres each.

The town itself will be set out in half-acre allotments, for which no estimate can safely be made here. The remainder will stand thus:—

		Acres.
	The town (undivided) - - - -	640
86	Suburban allotments of 20 acres each - - - -	1,720
33	Rural - ditto - 80 ditto - - - -	2,640
22	Ditto - ditto - 320 ditto - - - -	7,040
		<hr/>
		12,040 Acres.
TOTAL - - 141	Allotments, containing - - - -	

The actual measurements on the ground requisite for setting out these allotments (independently of the subdivision of the town) would be 66 linear miles, which, at the rate of three miles per diem, should be completed by one party in 22 days, at a cost according to the Governor's estimate of about three farthings per acre.

Combining this with the previous results, we have,—

Allotments.	—	Contents.	—	Days.
141	in the town settlement -	20 to 30 acres	set out in	22
12	" western settlement -	800 to 2,300 "	"	14
3	" northern settlement -	4,000 to 5,000 "	"	7

In all 156 allotments, containing 38,740 acres, to be set out in 43 days by one surveyor and his attendant labourers.

The above statement, coupled with the knowledge which the Colonial Land Commissioners possess as to the probable rate and amount of emigration to the Falklands, will, I should hope, enable them to determine what further addition, if any, should be made to the surveying staff.

In explanation of the difference in the daily rate of progress, as estimated by Governor Moody and myself, his estimate being but one mile and a quarter per diem, and mine three miles, I would beg to point the attention of the Commissioners to the testimony of Mr. Kingston, in the Third Report of the South Australian Commissioners, page 31, who states, from his own personal experience, that three linear miles per diem is not too much to be expected from each surveyor in South Australia. The information which I have subsequently obtained from persons engaged in that service, fully confirms that opinion; and if such be the acknowledged rate of progress in a country partially covered with wood, it cannot be considered too much to expect in the Falklands, where there is not a stick standing to obstruct the surveyor.

FALKLAND
ISLANDS.

3. The strength and composition of each surveying party appears to me very properly estimated by Governor Moody.

4. The quantity of land which each surveying party should measure in a month (the subdivisions not being less than one square mile each) should be from 15 to 20 square miles, allowing them to work at the rate of three linear miles per diem for 15 or 20 days. And the days not employed in the field should be sufficient for the rough projection of the work on paper.

5. The expense of each party appears to be very fairly estimated by Governor Moody.

6. I am of opinion that it would be highly expedient to apply the services of the sappers and miners, now at the Falklands, in survey duties to the full extent that they can be made available and useful for the purpose, as they, having been long trained to habits of strict discipline, might be expected sooner to fall into the general system, and to work it out with greater regularity. The Governor reports, that one of his sappers is already qualified to act as a surveyor; and one or more of the others might probably be qualified in a short time to act if required. With a view to this end, it might be advisable to send out civil artificers as emigrants to supply the place of the sappers thus withdrawn.

It should appear also highly advisable to send out a clerk and storekeeper to relieve Mr. Robinson, the chief surveyor, from the performance of such duties.

7. The list of stores, which is herewith returned, has been altered by me, to show the stores which should in my opinion be supplied in addition to those which the Lieutenant-governor reports to be now in his possession, on the supposition that one surveying party only is employed.

If two surveying parties be employed instead of one only, they would require, in addition, one four-inch theodolite, three Gunter's chains and arrows, one set of drawing instruments, one ivory protractor scale, one sketching case, one measuring tape; and so in proportion for every additional surveyor, with a trifling addition of stationery.

In conclusion, I would beg the favour of the Colonial Land Commissioners to bear in mind, that the suggestions herein offered are founded on general principles, the practical application of which may require considerable modification, and that a large measure of discretionary power must be confided to the local government.

From my personal acquaintance with Lieutenant-governor Moody, I am led to feel great confidence in his zeal and ability to carry out in the most satisfactory manner any system of survey that may be decided on here; or to modify and adapt it in the most judicious manner to the circumstances of the country in which he is placed.

I have, &c.

S. Wallcott, Esq.
&c. &c. &c.

(signed) ROBERT K. DAWSON,
Captain Royal Engineers.

Colonial Land and Emigration Commission.

List, No. 1.

SURVEYING STORES at present in the Colony, and available for the Surveying Department.

3 four-inch best theodolites, with tripods.	4 paper protractors.
5 best Gunter's chains and arrows.	2 angles and rulers.
100 feet of chain and arrows.	1 beam compass, with pen and pencil points.
4 ten-link staves.	1 three-feet brass standard scale.
2 twelve-feet staves, with vanes.	2 sketching cases.
2 ash poles, with shoes.	1 large drawing table for office.

(Supplied by Troughton & Sims, Fleet-street.)

List, No. 2.

SURVEYING STORES required to carry on an Allotment Survey of the *Falkland Islands*, in addition to the above.

2 Gunter's chains.	Brass protractor for office, one foot diameter.
1 set of mathematical instruments in skin cases (Elliott, Holborn).	12 paper ditto.
1 ivory protractor for the field.	1 station pointer.
2 sketching cases.	1 six-feet steel ruler, with standard inches marked upon it.
12 ink bottles for button-holes.	1 beam compass (large size) five feet.
12 asses' skins (pieces of, for sketching cases).	2 computing scales, same as at the Tithe-office, Somerset House.

150 *ash poles, with shoes (from 8 to 12 feet).
50 field books.
6 blank folio ditto.

Paper.

100 sheets of double elephant.
100 ditto of imperial.
"Mounted paper," the width (being anti-quarian lengthwise) four feet four inches, and the length 20 feet, to be obtained from Ruff, Hind-court, Fleet-street.

This would be a sufficient supply for the whole survey of the Falkland Islands.

100 sheets of tracing paper.
10 ditto of black-lead paper.
4 doz. Newman's H H H pencils.
4 doz. ditto H pencils.

This would last the whole time.

1lb. of Indian rubber.
200 pens (crow).
500 common pens.
100 steel pens, writing.
12 pieces tape.
2lbs. sealing-wax.

4 boxes wafers.
12 lead weights.
1 wafer stamp.
20 quires foolscap paper.
20 ditto, note ditto.
5 ditto blotting ditto.
4 portfolios, one large, two middling, and one writing.
12 balls twine.
1 inkstand.
2 penknives.
6 bottles of ink.
2 cakes of Indian ink.
1 colour-box complete, slide top, and 12 saucers, separate.
2 pieces of sponge.
12 sable brushes, of all sizes.
2 measuring tapes.
6 sketching boards, different sizes.
2 tables (common deal) panelled tops.
1 portable house, similar to those manufactured by Mr. Manning, of Holborn and Stepney, for the Ordnance Survey in Scotland; to be made strong, and easily taken to pieces and set up.

FALKLAND
ISLANDS.

No. 10.

(No. 17.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Lieutenant-Governor MOODY to Lord STANLEY.

Government House, Port Louis, Falkland Islands,
30th April 1842.

My Lord,

IN obedience to the orders which I had the honour to receive from the Right honourable Lord John Russell conveyed in a despatch from his Lordship, 25th August 1841, No. 3, I proceeded, soon after my arrival, to Port William, accompanied by Lieut. Tyssen, R.N., commanding H.M. ketch Sparrow, for the purpose of examining the port, to ascertain whether it was better adapted as the Site of the chief town than Port Louis.

The result of which examination was, that we both coincided in the opinions expressed by the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty conveyed to me in the above-mentioned despatch.

The selection of the site of the chief town is, however, a matter of such grave importance; that I considered it advisable to request Lieut. Robinson, R.N., commanding H.M. surveying ketch Arrow, to visit Port William, and after giving his attentive consideration to the subject, to acquaint me with his opinion, Lieut. Robinson having been engaged for three years in surveying the coasts of these islands, and being well acquainted with the facilities of most of the harbours. He has done so, and reports that he does not consider Port William sufficiently capacious within the points of security to be available for a naval, nor even a mercantile, station of importance; but that it is merely adapted for a few vessels at a time, touching on their passage, or for vessels in distress, unwilling or unable to beat up Berkeley Sound, and concludes by recommending Port Louis as more advantageous in respect to capacity and security for a port of importance, both in a naval and mercantile point of view (and it is to be presumed that it may become so eventually), than any other Port in the Falkland Islands; it is therefore my intention, after making a careful survey of the port (the chief objection being its want of capaciousness), to visit it again in company with so distinguished an authority as Captain Ross, R.N. commanding the Antarctic Expedition now wintering in the Falkland Islands, after which I shall again have the honour of reporting to your Lordship upon the subject, and proceed at once to lay out the streets and town allotments in one or other port, so as to be ready for the reception of emigrants when they may arrive.

I have, &c.

(signed) R. C. MOODY,
Lieutenant-Governor.

No. 10.
Lieut.-Gov. Moody
to
Lord Stanley,
30th April 1842.

* There is no wood at the Falkland Islands.

FALKLAND
ISLANDS.

No. 11.

No. 11.
Lieut.-Gov. Moody
to
Lord Stanley,
6th June 1842.

(No. 25.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Lieutenant-Governor MOODY to Lord STANLEY.

Government House, Port Louis, Falkland Islands,
6th June 1842.

My Lord,

I HAVE the honour of forwarding for your Lordship's information three statistical tables, showing the state of the colony on my arrival in January last.

Occasionally there have been a few additional residents for a short time, chiefly seamen; but the persons enumerated in the table appear to have the intention of permanently residing at the Falkland Islands.

Permission to erect houses was granted from time to time by the successive naval officers in charge, but it appears that upon no occasion has any grant of land, or "title" to such houses been made, directly or indirectly; and all the residents fully understand that they merely hold a temporary tenure. It is my intention immediately to put the settlers in full possession of the land upon which their houses stand, by the sale of allotments.

See Plan.

The accompanying Plan which I have also the honour to forward serves to indicate the relative positions of the few buildings at present in Port Louis.

My further acquaintance with the industry and steadiness of the few Scotch settlers (Highlanders from Argyleshire, last from Glasgow), at present in the colony, induce me again to take the liberty of drawing your Lordship's attention to the advantage of emigrants for these islands being selected from similar districts. The pastoral inhabitants of the hills and dales of the southern Scotch counties on the borders, would also be well adapted as settlers in the Falklands. They have the general character of being intelligent, steady, well-disposed men, and excellent shepherds; and the hardships they might have to undergo at the commencement of their residence would be trifling in comparison to what they constantly experience among their native hills during the greater part of the year.

I avail myself also of this opportunity to inform your Lordship that I have received private notifications of the desire entertained by some English residents in the provinces of La Plata, to send sheep in large numbers so soon as they can be assured of the intentions of Government concerning the colonization of these islands. I therefore venture to suggest for your Lordship's consideration whether it may not be advisable that an official notification of the intentions of Government should be forwarded from the Colonial Land and Emigration Board through the proper channels to the British authorities at Buenos Ayres and Monte Video.

An immense number of sheep could be imported from thence at a small expense, which, although, of an indifferent breed would form a valuable stock upon which to improve. The only necessary thing to be observed is, that sheep from those countries should arrive at the Falklands from the middle of November to the beginning of February.

If this precaution be attended to, they would not only thrive well, but improve considerably; this fact being proved by the appearance of the sheep presented to the government in these islands by Mr. Peter Sheridan, of Buenos Ayres.

I have, &c.

(signed) R. C. MOODY, Lieut-Governor.

PLAN
of the Settlement at
PORT LOUIS, EAST FALKLAND.

Surveyed & Drawn by
M. R. ROBINSON.

by order of
HIS EXCELLENCY THE LIEUT: GOVERNOR.

April, 1842.



From Port San Salvador

Corral

Grave Yard

Old French Fort

Penny's Hut

Preston Villa

Captain Gardiner's House

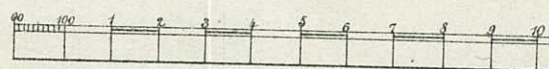
Garden House

Pigs Brook

The Watering Place

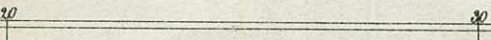
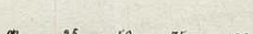
P O R T L O U I S

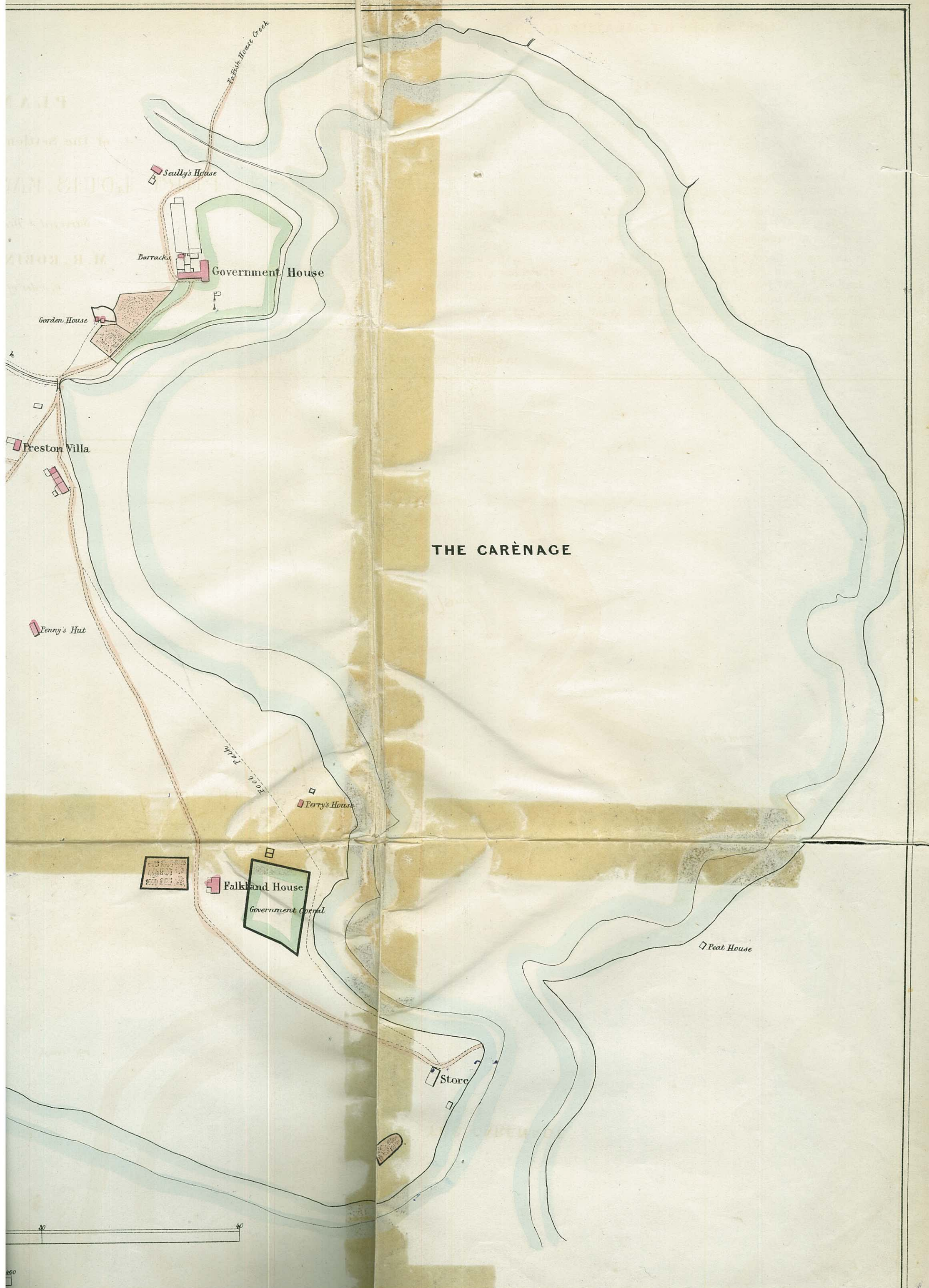
Links



SCALE OF CHAINS.

Yards





No. 1.—STATISTICAL TABLE, showing the NAMES, OCCUPATIONS, &c. of the Inhabitants of the *Falkland Islands* in January 1842.

(148.)

H 2

NAMES.	Age.	Native of	Occupation.	Date of Arrival.	Religion.	Quantity and Description of Stock.	Description of Residence.	Garden Ground attached.	Remarks.
John Bull Whittington	30	England -	-- merchant and ship-owner.	17 Nov. 1840	Protestant -	-- 14 dogs, 2 horses, 9 pigs, 12 sheep, 7 geese, 1 duck, 18 fowls, 1 turkey, 3 heifers, and 1 calf.	-- Falkland House, built of wood; it is commodious, in good repair; consists of 1 large store, 9 rooms, and various convenient domestic offices.	-- $\frac{1}{2}$ of an acre immediately in rear of the house, is in a good state of cultivation, and produces many vegetables.	Mr. Whittington brought out the whole of these persons from England, together with two brigs. The sheep are chiefly select specimens of Leicesters and Southdowns, for breeding.
John Markham Dean	26	England -	-- clerk and foreman to Mr. Whittington.	- - -	Protestant -	- - -	Falkland House	- - -	
Charlotte Dean (wife)	25	England -	- - -	- - -	Protestant -	- - -	ditto	- - -	
George Dean (son)	5	England -	- - -	- - -	Protestant -	- - -	ditto	- - -	
Frances Dean (daughter)	4	England -	- - -	- - -	Protestant -	- - -	ditto	- - -	
James Watson	33	England -	-- farm servant to Mr. Whittington.	- - -	Protestant -	- - -	ditto	- - -	
Mary Watson (wife)	30	England -	-- house servant to Mr. Whittington.	- - -	Protestant -	- - -	ditto	- - -	
Richard Madgwick	22	England -	-- servant to Mr. Whittington.	- - -	Protestant -	- - -	ditto	- - -	
Edward Bulliver	26	Cape Verd Islands	-- in the employment of Mr. Whittington.	- - -	Protestant -	- - -	ditto	- - -	
Francisco de Grasse	26	Cape Verd Islands	-- ditto	- - -	Protestant -	- - -	ditto	- - -	
Henry Hooper	15	England -	-- ditto	- - -	Protestant -	- - -	Fish-house-creek-house, built of turf; 2 rooms in good repair.	-- 20 perches in a good state of cultivation.	-- rents the Seal Rocks from government.
Andrew Annenson	48	England -	-- conducts Mr. Whittington's establishment for curing fish.	18 Dec. -	Protestant -	- - -	Fish-house-creek-house.	- - -	
Malcolm M'Innes	28	Scotland -	-- Mr. Whittington's fishing establishment.	- - -	Protestant -	- - -	ditto	- - -	
Edmund M'Innes	26	Scotland -	-- ditto	- - -	Protestant -	- - -	ditto	- - -	
Archibald M'Arthur	30	Scotland -	-- ditto	- - -	Protestant -	- - -	ditto	- - -	
Alexander M'Donald	25	Scotland -	-- ditto	- - -	Protestant -	- - -	ditto	- - -	
Edmund Kemp	21	England -	-- ditto	- - -	Protestant -	- - -	ditto	- - -	
Charles Melville	36	England -	-- principal owner of the schooner Montgomery, employed in sealing.	- left at the islands with Lieut. Smith, 1832.	Protestant -	-- 2 dogs, 1 cow, 1 calf, 1 horse, 12 fowls.	-- Preston Villa, built of stone and clay; consists of 4 rooms, and is in good repair. schooner Montgomery.	- - -	
Joseph Lee	45	England -	-- part owner of the Montgomery.	- ditto -	Protestant -	- - -	-- a small hut, built of turf.	- - -	
Richard Penny	40	England -	-- ditto	- ditto -	Protestant -	- - -	ditto.	- - -	
Carmelita (wife)	40	South America -	- - -	1824 -	R. Catholic -	- - -	ditto.	- - -	
Richard Penny (son)	3	Falkland Islands	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	

(continued)

No. 1.—STATISTICAL TABLE, showing the Names, Occupations, &c. of the Inhabitants of *Falkland Islands* in January 1842—*continued*.

NAMES.	Age.	Native of	Occupation.	Date of Arrival.	Religion.	Quantity and Description of Stock.	Description of Residence.	Garden Ground attached.	Remarks.
José Simon } Sons by Manuel Co- } former ronel - } husbands.	11	Falkland Islands	- - - -	- - -	- - -	- - -	- - a small hut built of turf.		
John Campbell	40	Ireland -	- - seaman on board the Montgomery.	1837 -	Protestant.	- - -	- - ditto.		
Francis Perry -	30	Bermuda -	- - part owner of the Montgomery.	4 May 1841	Protestant	- - 2 dogs and 12 fowls.	- - a small hut built of stone.		
Gregoria (wife)	28	South America -	- - seaman on board the Montgomery.	1830 -	R. Catholic	- - -	- - ditto.		
Richard M'Nab	42	Ireland -	- - seaman on board the Montgomery.	4 May 1841	Protestant	- - -	- - schooner Montgomery.		
John Carpenter	33	England -	- - ditto	- - -	Protestant	- - -	- - ditto.		
William Batey	28	England -	- - ditto	- - -	Protestant	- - -	- - ditto.		
William Johnstone	35	England -	- - ditto	- - -	Protestant	- - -	- - ditto.		
Henry Berry -	27	Ireland -	- - ditto	- - -	Protestant	- - -	- - ditto.		
John Johnson	23	Copenhagen -	- - ditto	- - -	Protestant	- - -	- - ditto.		
Fergen Detlef	20	Hamburgh -	- - ditto	- - -	Protestant	- - -	- - ditto.		
Andrez Petaluga	20	Gibraltar -	capitaz of the guachos	31 Mar. -	R. Catholic	- - 1 cow, 1 calf, 4 dogs.	- - a stone house: 2 rooms.		
Henry Mitchell	30	England -	guacho - - -	14 Apr. -	Protestant	1 dog -	- - ditto.		
John Scully -	35	Ireland -	- - cabalareitzo to the guachos.	6 Apr. 1837	R. Catholic	1 dog -	- - a well-built stone cottage; 2 rooms.		
Louis Despraix	24	France -	- - assistant to the cabalareitzo.	- - -	R. Catholic	1 dog -	- - with the guachos.		
Thomas Parker	24	England -	- - carter in the service of government.	14 Nov. 1841	Protestant	- - -	- - ditto.		
Antonina Roxa	35	Buenos Ayres -	- - washerwoman and milkwoman, and occasionally as a guacho.	about 1830	R. Catholic	- - 6 dogs, 17 cows, 6 calves, 7 oxen, 6 fowls.	- - a well built stone cottage of 2 rooms.		
Thomas Aggot	21	England -	- - herdsman of government cattle.	1839 -	Protestant	- - -	Government House.		
George Pike -	21	England -	- - [gardener of government garden.	- - -	Protestant	- - -	- - ditto.		
George Arrington	22	England -	- - labourer in service of government.	15 Jan. 1842	Protestant	- - -	in Perry's hut.		
George Taylor	21	England -	- - ditto	- - -	Protestant	- - -	- - ditto.		
Allen Fred ^k Gardiner	50	England -	lay missionary	24 Dec. 1841	Protestant	3 goats	- - portable wooden cottage.		
Mrs. Gardiner (wife)	23	England -	- - -	- - -	Protestant	- - -	- - ditto.		
Emily S. Gardiner	11	England -	- - -	- - -	Protestant	- - -	- - ditto.		
Allen Weare Gardiner	10	England -	- - -	- - -	Protestant	- - -	- - ditto.		
Marianne Costello	20	Ireland -	servant to C. Melville	4 May -	R. Catholic	- - -	Preston Villa.		- - Captain Gardiner intends residing among the Patagonians, and only waits at these islands for a passage.

(signed) R. C. Moody, Lieutenant-Governor.

No. 2.—TABLE showing the Number and Description of BUILDINGS in the *Falkland Islands*, January 1842.

DESCRIPTION OF BUILDINGS.	BY WHOM BUILT.	NAMES OF PERSONS LIVING IN EACH HOUSE.	GARDEN GROUND ATTACHED.	REMARKS.
Government House, in very bad repair; consists of five rooms and two garrets in the roof, and having attached to it some useful out-houses, for peat, &c. The walls are thick, but cracked, and built of stone and clay.	- - formerly the Roman-catholic chapel, supposed to have been built by Bougainville, in 1764.	- - the Lieut-governor, Mr, Robinson, Serjeant Hearnden, Corporal Richardson, Private Herkes, with wife and two children, R.S. & M., Thos. Hearnden, Thos. Aggott, George Pike, Robt. Ross, and William Livett.	- - three quarters of an acre of garden ground, producing many vegetables, and about an acre of paddock for horses.	- - a temporary wooden building is in progress of construction, the accommodation at present being very limited.
Barracks, built of stone and clay; consists of one room very small, and in bad repair.	when built unknown - -	- - Corporal M'Crae, Privates Sibbald, Turner, Campbell, Watts, Robinson, and Readdies, R.S. & M.	- - - ditto.	
Storehouse, built of stone and clay; dimensions 55 ft. by 19 ft.; roof very bad; on the beach at the entrance of the lagoon; also a small smithy in good repair.	when built unknown - -	- - filled with stores, chiefly belonging to Government.	- - - ditto.	
Falkland House, built of wood brought from England; consists of one large store and nine rooms, with various useful domestic offices.	- - built by J. B. Whittington, in November 1840.	- - J. B. Whittington, J. M. Dean, wife and two children, James Watson and wife, Richard Madgwick, Edward Bulliver, Francisco de Grasse, and Henry Hooper.	- - quarter of an acre of garden ground, producing many vegetables.	
Preston Villa, built of stone and clay; consists of four rooms, and is in good repair.	Charles Melville, 1839 - -	- - Charles Melville, Marianne Costello, Private Yates, R. S. & M., wife, and three children.	- - - ditto.	
Garden House, near Government House, built of stone and clay; consists of two rooms, in bad repair.	when built unknown - -	- - Private James Biggs, R. S. & M., wife, and four children.	- - - ditto.	
Scully's House, situated near Government House; a well-built stone cottage, of two rooms.	built by Scully in 1841 - -	John Scully - - - - -	- - - ditto.	
A long stone and clay building, near the beach consisting of four houses, two finished and two unfinished; one consists of two rooms, and the other of one room.	- one by Antonina Roxa, 1840, and the others by Government.	- - Antonina Roxa in her own house; and in the finished Government building, Andrey Petuluga, Henry Mitchell, and Thomas Parker.	- - - ditto.	marked (a) in the Plan.
Penny's Hut, a turf hut, in a bad state of repair; consists of one room.	Richard Penny - - -	- - Richard Penny, Carmelita Penny, and three children.	- - - ditto.	built out of former ruins.
Perry's House, a small stone hut, of one room, in bad repair.	Francis Perry - - -	- - Francis Perry, Gregoria Perry, George Arrington, and George Taylor.	- - - ditto.	built out of former ruins.
Fish-house-creek House, built of turf; consists of two large rooms, and is in good repair.	- - built by J. B. Whittington, in 1840.	- - A. Anensen, Malcolm M'Innes, Edmund M'Innes, A. M'Arthur, A. M'Donald, Edmund Kemp.	- - 20 perches, in a good state of cultivation.	- - it is about three quarters of a mile from the settlement.

(signed) R. C. MOODY, Lieut-governor.

No. 3.—TABLE showing the total Number of Persons, Houses, Garden-Ground, and Live Stock in January 1842.—FALKLAND ISLANDS.

	Number of Men.	Number of Women.	Number of Male Children.	Number of Female Children.	Inhabited Houses.	Houses otherwise occupied.	Houses in progress of Construction.	Quantity of Ground in Gardens.	Tame Horses.	Wild Horses (rough Estimate).	Tame Cows.	Tame Bulls.	Tame Calves.	Oxen and Heifers for killing.	Wild Cattle (rough Estimate).	Sheep.	Goats.	Fowls.	Geese.	Turkeys.	Ducks.	Pigeons.	Pigs.	Wild Pigs (rough Estimate).	Dogs.
TOTAL	52*	10*	7*	9*	10	1	2	acre. 1¼	43†	3,000	40	6	40	150 ‡	30,000	31	3	80	7	3	8	8	20	500	45

* Including the Lieut.-governor and party.

† The greater portion of which are worn out.

‡ Many have since escaped for want of guachos and horses.

(signed) R. C. Moody, Lieut.-governor.

No. 12.
Lord Stanley
to
Lieut. Gov. Moody,
23d October 1841.

(No. 2.)

No 12.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Lord STANLEY to Lieutenant-Governor MOODY.

Sir,

Downing-street, 23d October 1841.

13 October 1841.

I TRANSMIT herewith for your consideration, a copy of a letter which has been addressed to one of my Under Secretaries of State by Mr. G. M. Mowbray, with the view of explaining the means by which, in his opinion, the Falkland Islands might be rendered a self-supporting naval station; and I have to request that you will report to me any observations which you may think it right to offer on the statements contained in that letter.

I have, &c.
(signed) STANLEY.

Enclosure in No. 12.

Encl. in No. 12.

PROPOSALS relative to the FALKLAND ISLANDS, with a view to rendering them a Self-supporting Naval Station.

1. IN considering how to establish best a new colony, the first question that presents itself is, What is the nature of the climate, soil, and productions? It is not my purpose to adduce evidence as to how often these inquiries are fallaciously responded to, but to quote those authors on whose reports I answer the above question, so far as regards the Falkland Isles; these are De Bougainville, Weddell, and latterly, Captains King and Fitzroy. From the assertions of these navigators, all of them ranking very high in the estimation of their respective nations, it would appear that the climate is healthy yet tempestuous, the soil unproductive, and the natural productions are centred principally in their fisheries.

2. Whether it be expedient to render Berkeley Sound a free port, or otherwise, appears to me to involve considerations, in the disposal of which I am quite sure Her Majesty's advisers are better informed than their very humble servant; I shall therefore at once proceed with all humility to offer such suggestions as I conceive, under proper management, would encourage a hardy and seamanlike colony to settle in those islands, with every prospect of obtaining a comfortable subsistence.

3. Taking into consideration that the visits of ships, either on their homeward passage for water, or if damaged, to refit, would for several years, be comparatively few, principally owing to the force of habit in their commanders, we must search out some innate mode of subsistence, or the production of some element of exchange. Since the soil, under present accounts, does not present a fruitful source, we must turn to the cattle or the fisheries. As an element of exchange, in the article of cattle we are driven from the market by the superabundance in South America; their existence offers, however, great assistance to a young colony. *En passant*, I may here remark, that, from the marshy state of the soil, in all probability sheep would be destroyed by the disease termed rot, so that we cannot build on that foundation.

4. We then come to the fisheries, which in South America are unproductive, principally because the climate will not permit of their being cured by salting, and that they are also entirely deficient in the proper description of salt, although I believe it is notorious to those who have resided at Monte Video, Rio, or Buenos Ayres, that cured fish are esteemed a perfect luxury. I would suggest, therefore, that our attention should be directed to the fisheries at the Falklands; we are instructed by Captain Fitzroy that they are unlimited, and it is well known that the class of men who pursue this occupation regard sunshine as of very little moment.

5. Instructing the colonists then to procure an element of exchange with their nets, salting and drying the produce, for which the climate is admirably adapted, I would then forward it to Rio, Monte Video, &c. &c. selecting of course the most profitable market.

6. During the development of the above views, the real powers and value of the soil should be diligently and scrupulously tested in every possible way; sheltered situations should be selected and well considered before breaking ground, and every attempt perseveringly carried out to ascertain what productions may be successfully cultivated.

7. Although not specially noted by Captain Fitzroy, I am of opinion the valuable manure, guano, will be found in beds on these islands, and I am strengthened in this opinion from the circumstance mentioned by Fitzroy of the quantity of sea-fowl observed by him; and from Weddell's having successfully resorted thither in four voyages, and filled casks with their eggs, which he states were collected in a few hours. The peat, which by a very simple and economical plan may be drained, should be compressed for the use of ships putting in, whilst in its natural state, for the use of the colonists, particularly from the presumed absence of coal and dearth of wood, it would be invaluable.

8. Meat, flour, and peat being plentiful, there is no doubt but that the number of whalers who will then resort there would be very much increased, and very much to the increased value of these islands, since proper restrictions would be enforced to prevent the present wanton destruction of the cattle. The number of whalers that could entirely destroy the seal-fishery of upwards of 200 islands, must have been no less destructive to the herds of cattle on these islands when opportunity offered.

9. In due time encouragement might be given to the little traders and boat-owners on the western coast of South America, by receiving their guano in exchange for our manufactures, the passage through the Straits of Magellan occupying but a fortnight during the season.

10. The incipient fishery which I would propose to be established, should consist of the following persons:

Twelve stout able fishermen selected either from Hastings or Brighton, on account of their bold coasts	-	-	-	-	-	12
A carpenter, shipwright, boat-builder, cooper, bricklayer, and three or four well-disposed Irish labourers	-	-	-	-	-	9
An intelligent agriculturist	-	-	-	-	-	1
A superintendent	-	-	-	-	-	1
						<hr/> 23

The terms of their engagement should be as follows:

The fishermen should either be rated as able seamen for three years service, a free passage there, and at the expiration of the term, back if wished, or be allowed, as they now do, to share, the boat and nets one-half, and the crew the remainder, deducting a remunerating price for their huts and the provisions they may require.

The money which the boat and nets produced should revert to the liquidation of the interest of the outlay first, to the pay of the mechanics, &c. next, and finally to repay the outlay first incurred, which latter, if completed at the termination of the three years' service, the boats and nets, or if only partly repaid, then, on making good the remainder, or engaging in a reasonable term to do so, then the said boats and nets shall become the mutual property of the said fishermen, during their residence in the said islands.

The mechanics, artisans, and labourers to be engaged for three years, and to receive remunerating payment, less provisions from Government.

The estimate that I have formed of the cost of the material to equip this little band, is as follows:

	£	s.	d.
Three stout Deal-built, or Brighton boats, at 100 <i>l.</i> each	300	0	0
Furnished with nets, each 300 <i>l.</i>	900	0	0
Three lesser punts, complete	45	0	0
Two capstans, each 7 <i>l.</i> 10 <i>s.</i>	15	0	0
Timber for spits for drying, backs for salting, materials for huts and drying deeze, framed and ready for erection	250	0	0
Gardening and agricultural seeds and implements	50	0	0
A few peat-stoves, cooking coppers, slops, grindery, carpentering tools, and implements for building	200	0	0
Provision stores	100	0	0
Contingencies	200	0	0
	<hr/> £ 2,060	0	0

FALKLAND
ISLANDS.

I have now only a few observations to add, stating the reasons that induced me rather to make this application to Her Majesty's Government, than submit it to private enterprise. The only object of private speculation is immediate gain; the joint-stock problem is to obtain the greatest possible produce for the least possible outlay, in the smallest space of time, always incurring as little odium as possible, but, get money.

Now these principles, brought to operate on the Falklands, already weak in its soil, would utterly destroy the present germ of a naval station. Without any curb as to destroying the spawn, without any limit as to season in obtaining the different descriptions of fish, a company would doubtless return a very handsome per-centage, for a few years, to the shareholders at home, at the expiration of which term the scheme might be abandoned, and the Falklands again deserted. The same mischief has already accrued to the seal-fishery, from the indiscriminate destruction of the cubs by whalers; and it would be extremely imprudent to risk that which still remains as a chief source of maintenance to these islands. The proposed plan in a few months would indicate results, and from the observations made, and experience acquired, by these pioneers, such provisional laws might be made as would preserve the fisheries to their legitimate use, and avert wanton destruction. Let but the impetus be given, let a nucleus be formed on a firm basis, so that there may be no errors to retrace, and when it shall have become known, in the impoverished Orkneys, that their occupation may be profitably pursued at the Falklands, (and as I before mentioned, we have Captain Fitzroy's assertion to commence upon) and you may then establish at this port, important now in a geographical point of view, the materials for filling the service in the South Sea station with an effective marine.

To James Stephen, Esq.
&c. &c. &c.

I have, &c.
(signed) GEO. M. MOWBRAY,
22, Regency-square, Brighton,
13 October 1841.

No. 13.
Lieut.-Gov. Moody
to
Lord Stanley,
16th July 1842.

(No. 27.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Lieutenant-GOVERNOR MOODY to Lord STANLEY.

No. 13.

Government House, Port Louis, Falkland Islands,
16th July 1842.

My Lord,

IN obedience to your Lordship's orders, I have the honour to submit the following observations, which I have deemed right to offer upon the letter addressed to Mr. Under Secretary Stephen by Mr. Mowbray, in which he makes "certain proposals with a view to rendering the Falkland Islands a self-supporting naval station."

It appears to me, the object of Mr. Mowbray's letter is to point out that the above desirable object may be obtained by commencing with what I may term a Government fishing Establishment; but in so doing, and in endeavouring to establish its great importance, he unnecessarily and incorrectly, in my humble opinion, depreciates all other pursuits in these islands, more especially those connected with farming.

Taking the works of Bougainville, Weddell, and Captains King and Fitzroy as the sources of his information, he draws the conclusion that "the soil is unproductive, and that the natural productions are centred principally in their fisheries."

He also discourages the idea of sheep farming, but gives the climate of the islands due praise as to its healthiness.

I am aware that Mr. Mowbray states these opinions with deference, and refers to the above authors as his authorities; but I cannot say that I have so read the same works, particularly Captain Fitzroy's excellent, full, and generally correct account; and now my local knowledge leads me to entertain a still better opinion of the farming resources of the country, more particularly grazing and sheep farming.

With the exception of this material and to the colony injurious error, I consider that Mr. Mowbray has drawn up a good plan for an establishment which would advance the colonization of the islands, and give employment to a necessary and deserving class of men, should the Government be inclined to enter into the expense; but I cannot say that I am sanguine as to any great remuneration being derived therefrom by the government; and it is with great deference that I beg leave to suggest whether it is not wiser and more likely to lead to the general interests of the community, that Government should, after

the fullest consideration of any project, encourage and foster private enterprise* rather than take upon itself the prosecution of any operations of a speculative character. It is upon this principle that in a former despatch, dated 14th April 1842, I recommended Government to sell the wild cattle for a moderate price to any respectable company that might offer to purchase.

It is certainly true, from the prejudices these islands labour under being so deeply rooted and so widely received, years may yet pass away in this state of worse than stagnation unless some impetus be given by Government; I am therefore inclined to recommend that in the first place every encouragement should be given to private enterprise in this fishing speculation, the evils complained of as "resulting from joint-stock concerns" being kept in check by wholesome regulations; but if a general apathy to such an undertaking be decidedly evinced, I should then feel inclined respectfully to recommend Mr. Mowbray's plan, with some amendments, to your Lordship's favourable consideration.

It now only remains for me to state my opinions upon a few of the details in which I differ with Mr. Mowbray, and in which I am inclined to think he would, upon a further consideration, coincide with me.

I would recommend that the fishing and agricultural pursuits be kept quite separate, and that the latter should be incorporated with the Government farming establishment at present existing. That the artificers and labourers recommended by Mr. Mowbray to be sent out be placed under the orders of the acting clerk of works† I have appointed to execute the Government works under my immediate directions, to be employed chiefly for the service of the fishery, but also for general service when required.

That rations be issued by the storekeeper from the present Government store, in the same manner as to the rest of the Government establishment, until provisions can be purchased in the islands, of which there seems to be no prospect at present.

The fishermen to be selected from the Orkneys in preference to Hastings or Brighton, because the Orkney men are accustomed to the roughest weather to be found on the coasts of Great Britain, and are, in addition to being good seamen and fishermen, accustomed to tillage in a rough way. They are also proverbially well disposed, and I should imagine must be patient under hardships, from their daily experience of it.

I do not see why the labourers should be Irishmen; I presume it is on account of the fuel being peat, but the chief fuel in the Orkneys is peat, I believe, also; therefore labourers well practised at peat cutting could be obtained from thence with the fishermen. The person to superintend the drying and salting department should have been employed, if possible, in Newfoundland.

With regard to the pay of the fishermen and superintendant, I think that the simplest way would be for them to receive a very small monthly pay and provisions, under an engagement for three years, and to receive one-third of the profits by the sale of the fish; also, that at the end of three years the boats, nets, &c. should be sold to them by Government at a fair valuation, if they chose to take them; if not, they should be sold by auction, presuming that by that time there might be more settlers in the colony.

As the drying-houses and huts would be on Government land, they could only be sold with the land by auction, or according to the principle which may then be in operation for the sale of land in the colony.

The agriculturist included in Mr. Mowbray's list, I have already recommended in Despatch No. 14, 14th April 1842, under the name of Government steward; the services of such a person is very much needed, in case a company do not relieve the Government from the necessity of carrying on a Government farm; and it would be greatly to the advantage of the colony if he were accompanied by an intelligent Scotch gardener.

* Private enterprise, well managed, might meet with great success in this business.

† Sergeant Robert Hearnden, Royal Sappers and Miners.

FALKLAND
ISLANDS.

Mr. Mowbray's Estimate of the Expenses is as follows :

	£	s.	d.
Three stout-built Deal or Brighton boats, at 100 <i>l.</i> each	- 300	0	0
Furnished with nets for each	- 900	0	0
Three lesser punts, complete	- 45	0	0
Two capstans, each 7 <i>l.</i> 10 <i>s.</i>	- 15	0	0
Timber for spits for drying, backs for salting, materials for huts and drying deeze, framed ready for erection	- 250	0	0
Gardening and agricultural seeds and implements	- 50	0	0
A few peat stoves, cooking coppers, slops, grindery, carpentering tools and implements for building	- 200	0	0
Provision stores	- 100	0	0
Contingencies	- 200	0	0
	£2,060	0	0

Upon this estimate I have to remark, I think that the sum of 250*l.* would not be found sufficient to cover the expense of all the requisite buildings, &c. ; it would probably amount to 400*l.*

The gardening and agricultural tools and seeds, if to be on anything like a serviceable scale for the colony, should be estimated at 200*l.* ; and at least 450*l.* should be allowed for provisions. These alterations would increase the expenses of the establishment to 2,710*l.* ; but there is nothing allowed for the passage and freight of men and goods to the Falkland Islands ; nor do I see anything allowed for the pay to support the 23 persons forming the party, and I consider that whatever profits may hereafter arise from the establishment one year's pay at least should be added to the above estimate.

I am not much acquainted with fishing pursuits, but I think that at the Falkland Islands a cutter of about 40 tons would be found an essential appendage to the establishment, and I think that the Government should be prepared for an expenditure of about 5,000*l.* at least before any returns were received.

I have, &c.

(signed) R. C. MOODY,

Lieut.-Governor.

No. 14.

No. 14.
Lord Stanley
to
Lieut. Gov. Moody,
25th Feb. 1843.

(No. 18.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Lord STANLEY to Lieutenant-Governor MOODY.

Sir,

Downing-street, 25th February 1843.

I HAVE to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch of the 16th July last, No. 27, reporting on the proposition submitted to this office by Mr. Mowbray, with the view of rendering the Falkland Islands a self-supporting naval station.

I am much obliged to you for the attention you have devoted to this proposition, and for the suggestions which you make. Whenever the government of the islands shall have been placed on a more permanent footing, it will be matter for consideration whether encouragement should not be given to private speculators to undertake a project similar to that proposed by Mr. Mowbray, with the alterations suggested by you. But Her Majesty's Government are of opinion, that it would not be advisable for them to enter upon any such project on the public account.

I have, &c.

(signed) STANLEY.

No. 15.

FALKLAND
ISLANDS.

(No. 28.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Lieutenant-Governor MOODY to Lord STANLEY.

No. 15.
Lieut. Gov. Moody
to
Lord Stanley,
19th July 1842.

My Lord,

Government House, Port Louis, Falkland Islands,
19th July 1842.

It is with the greatest deference I take the liberty of proposing for your Lordship's consideration, the importance of making the undermentioned additions to the organization of the government of this colony, at as early a period as your Lordship may deem advisable.

In the "instructions" which I had the honour to receive from Lord John Russell, the causes which prevented his Lordship at that time from laying down any detailed instructions for my guidance as to the nature and extent of the powers I could exercise are fully pointed out, and his Lordship deemed it sufficient to direct me to govern by the force of moral influence and example, rather than by any direct exercise of legal power. Such has hitherto been the nature of my government, and fortunately no circumstance has yet occurred to oblige me to assume a responsibility of any weight; but it is my duty to inform your Lordship, that of the persons composing the small but constantly increasing society over which I am placed in control, many are men of reckless character, irregular passions unchecked by any moral impulses, far less discipline; and it is more than probable that the moral influence I exercise derives its force from the presence of the small guard selected from the corps to which I have the honour to belong, rather than from any example of industry and steadiness manifested by every individual of the party which accompanied me from England. We have also as yet experienced no trial of hardships sufficient for the turbulent to manifest themselves; but although thus kept in check, the elements of evil exist in a great degree, and from the class of persons gradually congregating here the influx appears to be all on the same side; I am, therefore, not without feelings of anxiety to be armed with the fullest legal power at once to put down evil in any shape; and to be aided by the demonstration of physical strength which would be afforded by the presence of at least one small-class vessel of war, to be chiefly employed in cruising to protect Her Majesty's property in cattle, &c. from wanton destruction by foreigners, as well as to prevent their systematically establishing themselves in any port for the purpose of fishing, sealing, and whaling, in the bays and creeks among the islands.

I hope that your Lordship, upon considering the position of affairs in the colony, may be of opinion that the time has now arrived when it becomes advisable to lay down more definite instructions for my guidance, and to establish a court of judicature, the power of which may extend to the trial and administering of justice for the gravest crimes that can be committed against the law, and also be an Admiralty court.

In my instructions I am directed to ascertain whether there are any persons fit to be intrusted with the functions of judges and magistrates; and I have to report, that there are no persons at present in the colony who I deem fit to be entrusted with so important a charge as the administration of the law. It would be only presumption in me to point out what should be the formation of the court; but if only limited to a magistrate (who I venture to suggest should be a member of the legal profession) and myself, I respectfully but earnestly request that it may be armed with the highest powers, so as to be able to act, if necessary, with promptness and vigour upon the spot.

With reference to the small class vessel of war to be attached to the colony, I shall take the liberty of making it the subject of a separate despatch.

I am also desirous of submitting for your Lordship's consideration, whether it is not advisable that, in addition to the "fear of the law," religion should also have an opening to exercise its influence in maintaining good order. At present there is neither clergyman nor church, and although service is duly performed at Government House, yet your Lordship will at once perceive how great a moral influence could be exercised by a chaplain in his daily avocations, and by a regular assembling to divine service in a church. Finally I have to

FALKLAND
ISLANDS.

state, that we are without any medical officer, so that, except during the casual visits of vessels of war, we are without any assistance should accidents or severe illness occur. Your Lordship is probably aware, that on board even the smallest vessel of war there is a medical officer, and it might be supposed that the one on board the vessel to be constantly attached to the colony, agreeably to the unfulfilled promise of the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, would always be available for the colony; but such would not be the case, as the chief service of such a vessel would be to be frequently cruising, and the colonial surgeon should reside constantly at the chief town. Had it not been for the arrival of the Antarctic expedition under Captain Ross, R.N., we should most probably have experienced the loss of the wife of a most respectable settler, saved under Providence by the unremitting care of the medical officers of the expedition. It is also probable that one of my detachment would have lost his hand in consequence of an accident.

I am aware that the number of persons in the colony are still very few, but the importance of the subjects upon which I have now had the honour to address your Lordship, leads me to hope that I may not be deemed premature in thus submitting them for your Lordship's earliest consideration.

I have, &c.

(signed) R. C. MOODY, Lieut.-Governor.

No. 16.
Lord Stanley
to
Lieut. Gov. Moody,
26th Feb. 1843.

(No. 19.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from LORD STANLEY to Lieutenant-Governor MOODY.

Sir,

Downing Street, 26th February 1843.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch of the 19th July last (No. 28.), pointing out the necessity of sending to the Falkland Islands some person invested with judicial authority, a chaplain to administer the offices of religion, and a surgeon to attend to the health of the inhabitants; and also of stationing there a small-class vessel of war to be employed in cruising to protect the public property from depredators.

I am happy to inform you, that all your demands have been anticipated by Her Majesty's Government. With my despatch of the 25th ultimo, you will receive a copy of the estimate which it is intended to propose to Parliament during the present session, and which includes the salaries of a magistrate, a chaplain, and a surgeon. I shall lose no time in selecting the fittest persons whom I can find to undertake these respective offices.

With respect to your application for a vessel of war, I have the honour to inform you, that I have received a communication from the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, announcing their intention to station a small gun-brig at the Falkland Islands.

I have, &c.

(signed) STANLEY.

No. 17.
Lieut. Gov. Moody
to
Lord Stanley,
1st Sept. 1842.

(No. 30.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Lieutenant-Governor MOODY to Lord STANLEY.

No. 17.

Port Louis, Falkland Islands, Government House,
1st September 1842.

My Lord,

I HAVE the honour of informing your Lordship that I proceeded to Port William on the 7th May 1842, and devoted several days to the fullest examination of the port, and the country for a few miles around, returning on foot across the country to Port Louis.

In obedience to the orders I had the honour to receive from Lord John Russell, conveyed in despatch No. 3., 25th August 1841, I requested Captain Ross, Royal Navy, commanding the Antarctic Expedition, to confer with me on the relative merits of Port William and Port Louis, with reference to the occupation

occupation of one or other as the chief port in this colony; and I deem myself fortunate in having received the aid of so experienced an officer in the consideration of this important subject.

I beg leave to enclose a copy of Captain Ross's letter addressed to me, by which your Lordship will perceive that the advantages of Port William, as a chief port, in a maritime point of view, are greatly superior to those of Port Louis.

With regard to the surrounding land, the balance is altogether in favour of Port Louis; and this my second inspection of the neighbourhood and immediate shores of Port William, at a period when the worst part of the winter was fairly setting in, obliges me to state that, during my first visit in January last, (it being then the height of summer), I was inclined to entertain a more favourable opinion of the readiness with which the difficulties presented by the badness of the soil could be overcome, than I do at present.

The soil around Port William, except in a few spots of limited extent, is of a light peaty nature, occasionally mixed with fine sand, and is upon so tenacious a subsoil, above the quartz rock, that in the winter season by far the greater portion of the same ground which I galloped over in summer was very wet and swampy, though still covered with nutritious grasses, and grazed over by troops of wild horses. A large portion of the land in the great vale at the back of Port William, between it and Port Louis, consists of deep beds of peat.

Although the general character of the land, in its present state, is so very unsatisfactory, I do not by any means consider that the proportion of perfectly reclaimable land is so small as to present insurmountable obstacles to the erection of a large town, and the formation of gardens and small farms in the suburbs; but to remove these obstacles, and to pave the way for the individual labour of settlers, a previous expenditure of combined labour on a large scale would be necessary.

Upon considering the whole of the above circumstances, I am of opinion, that, until some such combined labour be first bestowed upon Port William, in partial draining, connecting the good spots of ground together by roads, and particularly one to the south of Mount William and the Wickham Heights, a few miles distant, it would not be advisable to retard the growth of the colony, and damp the ardour of newly-arrived settlers, by occupying a site requiring from them such great extra labour and expenditure of capital at the very commencement of their trials. I have therefore adopted Port Louis, for the present, as the site of the chief town in this colony, and accordingly have laid out several streets and town allotments between the Carénage and outer harbour.

When it is borne in mind that of all the advantages possessed by these islands, those connected with maritime affairs are perhaps the chief, there appears to be no question but that, although Port Louis may be occupied for the present, Port William, from its superiority in every respect as to site, will rise in the course of years to be the chief port in the Falkland Islands; and in a future despatch I shall venture to propose for your Lordship's consideration, whether, by hastening that period, in affording convict labour to remove the difficulties which prevent its immediate occupation, as well as to construct other useful public works, the prosperity of these islands would not be firmly established and rapidly increase, as well as the expense saved of a double outlay in government buildings in both ports.

I have, &c.
(signed) R. C. MOODY,
Lieutenant Governor.

Enclosure in No. 17.

Encl. in No. 17.

Her Majesty's Ship Erebus, Port Louis, Berkeley Sound,
Falkland Islands, 24th August 1842.

Sir,
With reference to your Excellency's letter to me of the 1st of June last, conveying an extract of a despatch which you received from Her Majesty's Secretary of State for the Colonies, relative to the selection of a port in the Falkland Islands, for the resort of Her Majesty's ships, and requesting to know my opinion "whether Port Louis or Port William
(148.)

FALKLAND ISLANDS.

is the best adapted to be the chief port of this colony in a naval and commercial point of view combined," I have the honour to acquaint you, that I have recently examined these harbours and the several anchorages in their immediate neighbourhood, and that I consider Port William greatly to be preferred for the specified purposes, and for the following reasons:—

First, Port William is much more easy of access from its situation near the extreme east point of the island (Cape Pembroke), so that ships are almost immediately in harbour after making the land, and as immediately at sea, clear of all dangers, on leaving the harbour; whereas to gain Port Louis, they have usually to beat 12 or 14 miles against the prevailing westerly winds, a serious objection so far as merchant vessels are concerned.

Secondly, Port William has the advantage of Port Louis in possessing two very secure outer anchorages, where ships calling merely for water and refreshments may be readily supplied without passing the Narrows, and in perfect safety and protection from all winds.

Thirdly, Vessels of large size may pass through the Narrows into the inner harbour of Port William (known as Jackson's Harbour), with any wind. Port Louis cannot be entered by vessels of considerable size, except under very favourable circumstances, of not very frequent occurrence.

This advantage in favour of Port William arises from the prevailing winds blowing through the Narrows of Port Louis, rendering it necessary to beat through them; but they blow across the Narrows of Port William, so that ships may usually sail either in or out. The Narrows of Port William also have bolder and better protected shores than those of Port Louis.

Fourthly, There is a sufficient depth of water for a first-rate in the inner harbour of Port William, and ample room for 20 sail of the line; at Port Louis there is not sufficient depth of water for a large class frigate.

Fifthly, Port William has a peculiar advantage over Port Louis as a naval station, from the facility with which a ship or squadron might be despatched to sea, with the wind blowing from the eastward, which could not possibly be the case from Port Louis under such circumstances.

From these considerations it appears to me sufficiently manifest, should a large naval force be assembled or stationed at the Falkland Islands, the head-quarters of the squadron would most assuredly be fixed at Port William rather than at Port Louis.

With reference to the other point on which you have requested my opinion, namely, as to those places which it would be proper to reserve for naval purposes at each of these ports, I beg to refer you to the accompanying plan, on which the situations that I consider best adapted for those purposes are marked Naval.

I have, &c.
(signed) JAS. C. ROSS,
Captain.

His Excellency Lieut.-governor Moody,
&c. &c. &c.

No. 18.

No. 18.
Sir J. Barrow, Bart.
to
G. W. Hope, Esq.
14th Feb. 1843.

Chart of the Falkland Islands, surveyed by Captain Fitzroy and the officers of Her Majesty's ship Beagle, published by the Hydrographic Office of the Admiralty.

COPY of a LETTER from Sir JOHN BARROW Bart. to G. W. HOPE Esq.

Sir,

Admiralty, 14th February 1843.

I AM commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to send you herewith, for the information of Lord Stanley, a chart of the Falkland Islands, together with a copy of a letter dated the 2d September last, from Captain Ross, of Her Majesty's ship Erebus, enclosing copies of a correspondence which has passed between him and the Lieutenant-governor of those islands, as to whether Port Louis or Port William is the best adapted to be the chief port in the colony, in a naval and commercial point of view combined; and I am to request that you will inform Lord Stanley that, as their Lordships Hydrographer, Captain Fitzroy, and Commander Sullivan, all concur in the opinion expressed by Captain James Ross, my Lords can have no doubt of the superiority of Port William over that of Port Louis.

I am, &c.
(signed) JOHN BARROW.

Enclosure in No. 18.

FALKLAND
ISLANDS.

Encl. in No. 1.

1st June.

24th August.

For Captain Ross's Re-
port, 24th August,
vide Enclosure in
Governor Moody's
Despatch, 1st Sept.
1842, No. 30., p. 61.

Sir,

Her Majesty's ship Erebus, Port Louis,
Berkeley Sound, Falkland Islands, 2d September 1842.

I HAVE the honour to forward to you, for the information of my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, a copy of a letter I received from his Excellency Lieutenant R. C. Moody, R. E., Lieutenant-governor of these islands, requesting my opinion, "whether Port Louis or Port William is the best adapted to be the chief port in this colony, in a naval and commercial point of view combined," together with a copy of my reply thereto, which I beg you will be pleased to lay before their Lordships.

Captain Beaufort, R. N.
Hydrographer.

I have, &c.
(signed) JAMES ROSS,
Captain.

Government House, Port Louis,
Falkland Islands, 1st June 1842.

Sir,

I BEG leave to lay before you the following extract from a despatch which I had the honour to receive from Her Majesty's Secretary of State for the Colonies, previous to my leaving England:—

"I have to acquaint you that, having consulted the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty in regard to the selection it might be proper to make of a port in the Falkland Islands for the resort of Her Majesty's ships, their Lordships have apprised me that Port William is a safer and more convenient harbour than Berkeley Sound; but as long as the settlement remains in the latter, Her Majesty's ships will most probably resort there. If, however, a new settlement is to be made, you will, with the aid of a judicious naval officer, report upon the most eligible places."

I am aware how much your attention must necessarily be absorbed by the important duties in which you are engaged, but should you be enabled to devote a portion of your time to the consideration of the relative advantages of Port Louis and Port William, as the site of the chief port in this colony, and confer with me thereon, it would meet with the desires of the Secretary of State, and materially influence the welfare of the colony.

You will perceive that, in answer to the inquiry as to "which port would be the best adapted for the resort of Her Majesty's ships," the Lords Commissioners state that in their opinion Port William is a safer and more convenient harbour than Berkeley Sound; but there is nothing directly expressed upon the point on which I am anxious to have your opinion, namely, whether Port Louis or Port William is the best adapted to be the chief port in this colony, in a naval and commercial point of view combined.

To aid your consideration of this question, I beg leave to enclose a copy of a report, which has been drawn up at my request, by Lieutenant Robinson, R. N., an officer whose opinions upon the relative advantages and disadvantages of the two ports are entitled to great weight, he having been engaged for the last three years in prosecuting the nautical survey of these islands. In his report, he appears to consider that Port William is a more exposed harbour than Port Louis, and within the "points of security" too confined to be of great commercial or naval importance.

I have further to request that you will be pleased to point out to me those portions of ground in either harbour which it would be proper to reserve for naval purposes.

Captain Ross, R. N.
Commanding the Antarctic Expedition.

I have, &c.
(signed) R. C. MOODY,
Lieutenant-governor.

Note.—For Captain Ross's Reply to this Letter, *vide* page 61.

No. 19.

EXTRACT of a LETTER from J. STEPHEN, Esq. to Sir J. BARROW, Bart.

Sir,

Downing Street, 28th February 1843.

I AM directed by Lord Stanley to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 14th instant, enclosing the copy of a report from Captain J. Ross, respecting the relative advantages of Port Louis and Port William, as the site of the future capital of the Falkland Islands; and stating, that having reference to the coincidence of opinion on this subject between Captains Ross, Sullivan, and Fitzroy, the Lords of the Admiralty can have no doubt as to the superiority of Port William over Port Louis.

In answer, I am to transmit, for the information of the Lords of the Admiralty, the copy of a despatch on this subject recently received from Lieutenant Moody.

(148.)

I 4

No. 19.

J. Stephen, Esq.
to
Sir J. Barrow,
28th Feb. 1843.

1st Sept. 1842.
p. 60.

FALKLAND
ISLANDS.

No. 20.

(No. 33.)

No. 20.
Lieut. Gov. Moody
to
Lord Stanley,
1st October 1842.

COPY of a DESPATCH from Lieutenant-Governor MOODY to Lord STANLEY.

Government House, Port Louis, Falkland Islands,
1st October 1842.

My Lord,

I HAVE the honour to report that I have laid out a large town at Port Louis, chiefly round the inner port, called the Carénage; and I beg respectfully to submit for your Lordship's approbation that the said town be named "Anson," in honour of the celebrated circumnavigator, the first person, I believe, who brought before the notice of Government the great value of this portion of the British Dominions.

I also beg leave to add, that I have sold six allotments, of half an acre each, in the said town at 50*l.* the allotment, and one country allotment on Port San Salvador, bounded by the irregular shore, consisting of 389 acres, at 12*s.* the acre.

I have for the present credited the colonial treasury with the sum received, but I presume it is your Lordship's intention that I should consider one half of that sum as eventually to be appropriated to the conveyance of emigrants from Great Britain.

I have, &c.

(signed) R. C. MOODY,
Lieut.-Governor.

No. 21.

Lord Stanley
to
Lieut. Gov. Moody,
23d Feb. 1843.

No. 21.

(No. 17.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Lord STANLEY to Lieutenant-Governor MOODY.

Sir,

Downing-street, 23d February 1843.

I HAVE to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch, No. 33 of 1st October last, proposing that the town to be settled at Port Louis, in the Falkland Islands, should in future be styled "Anson," in honour of the celebrated circumnavigator of that name.

I have no objection to this proposal.

I approve the sale of the several allotments of land which you report yourself to have disposed of in that manner.

I am, &c.

(signed) STANLEY.

No. 22.

Lord Stanley
to
Lieut. Gov. Moody,
24th March 1843.

No. 22.

(No. 26.)

COPY of DESPATCH from Lord STANLEY to Lieutenant-Governor MOODY.

Sir,

Downing-street, 24th March 1843.

WITH reference to my despatch of the 23d ultimo, I have the honour to inform you that I have since been in correspondence with the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, and the Commissioners of Land and Emigration, on the subject of the respective advantages of Port Louis and Port William as the site of the chief town in the Falkland Islands, according to the information conveyed in your despatch of the 1st September, No. 30, in the reports from Captain Ross to yourself, and to the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, and in the reports which their Lordships have been able to procure from other naval officers who have visited the islands.

Upon

FALKLAND
ISLANDS.

Upon the great superiority of Port William, for all naval purposes, there appears to be no difference of opinion; but you consider that the soil in its neighbourhood is so unfavourable for settlement that it would be very inconvenient to fix the chief town there until an influx of population and capital should make it possible to drain the surrounding country, and to fit it for cultivation. You are yourself, however, persuaded that it will hereafter be necessary to remove the chief town to Port William; and it is only as a temporary measure that you propose its being placed at Port Louis, as affording more immediate facilities for settlers.

I confess that I entertain a very strong objection to an arrangement of a temporary nature in a matter of this kind. Independently of the expense to Government of erecting two sets of government buildings, where one would suffice, the uncertainty which is introduced into all transactions in any way bearing on the locality of the government, and the depreciation in property which is caused by such uncertainty, are to me almost conclusive against it. Nor, where local interests have once been allowed to grow up, is it easy or even possible to disregard them; and thus the public interests are often permanently sacrificed for the sake of a temporary convenience.

Adverting, however, to the decided opinion which you had expressed on the subject, I was unwilling to come to a final decision without the fullest consideration of the matter. I accordingly referred your despatch to the Commissioners of Land and Emigration, of whose Report upon it I now enclose you a copy. After giving my deliberate attention to that Report, and to all the other information on the subject which has reached this office, I am compelled to concur in the opinions expressed by the Commissioners, and by the naval authorities, that the seat of government should be at once fixed at Port William. You will therefore take the necessary steps for removing to that place as early as possible; and you will take care that in any sales of land which may be made, no misunderstanding is allowed to occur on this point.

I have, &c.
(signed) STANLEY.

18th March.

Enclosure in No. 22.

Encl. in No. 22.

Sir,

Colonial Land and Emigration Office,
9 Park-street, Westminster, 18th March 1843.

In pursuance of the directions contained in your letter of the 28th ultimo, we have considered the despatch from the Lieutenant-governor of the Falkland Islands on the comparative eligibility of Port Louis and Port William as the site of the capital, and transmitting a report from Captain Ross upon the same subject.

In our previous reports upon the settlement about to be formed in these islands, we have expressed our conviction that the site of the capital should be fixed at whichever port should be decided by competent authority to afford the greatest advantage to shipping. The report from Captain Ross will, we should apprehend, be considered as conclusive upon this point. He considers Port William greatly to be preferred to Port Louis. He states, that it is much more easy of access (on which point he is fully confirmed by the tenor of the previous accounts from Captain Fitzroy), and that ships could proceed to sea from it with winds which would confine them at Port Louis. He moreover finds two very secure outer anchorages, where ships calling merely for refreshment may be readily supplied. The outer harbour is deep and capacious, and vessels of large size can pass into it with any wind. These advantages are wanting at Port Louis.

There would therefore, we apprehend, be no difficulty in deciding that the chief town should be at once laid out round Port William, were it not that the Lieutenant-governor, upon revisiting it in the winter season, has found that a great portion of the land is wet and swampy, and would require drainage to fit it for occupation. As this would entail expense, the Lieutenant-governor is inclined to think that it would be desirable that Port Louis should, for the present at least, be adopted as the site for the capital. He at the same time does not, by any means, consider that the proportion of perfectly reclaimable land at the other harbour is so small as to present insurmountable obstacles to the erection of a large town; and moreover most justly observes, that as, of all the advantages possessed by these islands, those connected with maritime affairs are perhaps the chief, there is no question but that Port William, from its superiority in every respect as to site, will become the chief port of the colony.

Fully agreeing in this anticipation, and believing that the seat of government, if now placed at Port Louis, must in a very short time be removed to Port William, we think, for the following reasons, that it is desirable that it should at once be fixed at the latter port:

(148.)

K

In

FALKLAND
ISLANDS.

In the first place, as the prosperity of the colony will depend upon the degree to which it may be resorted to by shipping, it is desirable that the inhabitants should be placed in the neighbourhood of the port which offers the greatest natural advantages for such resort, in order that they may be ready to supply passing vessels with the means of refit and refreshment.

Secondly, whatever outlay may be sanctioned upon public buildings and works should be made at the spot where the government is to be permanently established.

Thirdly, as the town lands in the port where the seat of government is fixed invariably fetch a higher price than any others, discontent would probably be caused among the purchasers at the early capital, when the government removed from it and established itself at another part of the colony.

Fourthly, we should doubt whether the discouragement which would be caused to settlers by the swampy nature of the land round Port William must be so great as would seem to be expected by the Lieutenant-governor; for it does not appear that the place is unhealthy, being in fact quite dry during the summer months; and the expense which parties might have to incur in drainage might not, after all, be greater than that which is occasioned to settlers in other colonies, by the necessity of clearing the land from timber. And even if some should be discouraged by this cause from settling at first at the capital, the effect we should hope would be, that they would at once apply themselves to the cultivation and stocking of their farms.

We therefore would take the liberty of submitting to Lord Stanley our recommendation, that the seat of government at the Falkland Islands should be removed from Port Louis to Port William as soon as the change can be conveniently made; and should there not prove to be any land free from swamp, which would be eligible as the site for such few public buildings as may be immediately wanted, we should recommend that a portion of the money allowed to be expended upon public works, should be employed in effecting the requisite drainage.

James Stephen, Esq.
&c. &c. &c.

We have, &c.

T. FRED. ELLIOT.
EDWARD E. VILLIERS.

No. 23.

Lieut.-Gov. Moody
to
Lord Stanley,
1st October 1842.

No. 23.

(No. 32.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Lieutenant-Governor MOODY to Lord STANLEY.

Government House, Port Louis, Falkland Islands,
1st October 1842.

My Lord,

I HAVE the honour of laying before your Lordship the following information concerning these islands, which I have gained by the experience of the past winter, and a more extended personal inspection of the country, and I take the liberty of requesting that it may be considered an appendage to my general report, dated 14th April 1842.

In that report I noticed the extraordinary dryness of the atmosphere, produced chiefly by the constant winds of summer. During the past winter months of June, July, and August, the excess of dampness and moisture has been equally remarkable, unaccompanied, however, by rain, and, comparatively with England, there was but little snow. The ice has been sufficiently thick to bear the weight of a man twice, for two or three days together, and the thermometer has occasionally been as low as 25° and once 18° during the night. The wind has been by no means so strong or frequent as in summer, and calm days, with sunshine, occurred very often, much more frequently than in England.

There have only been three strong gales * since April, except from the 18th to the 24th of September (corresponding with March in England), during which period the equinoctial gales were very violent. Upon the whole, the winter, though considered in this place as very severe, would have been thought a mild one in England. The dryness of the air is now again beginning to be apparent, and a fine summer is anticipated; already the thermometer has risen as high as 69°. My present opinion therefore is, that the winters in the Falklands may be considered very mild, but moist, though not rainy, and with little wind.

* One occurred while H. M. ship Carysfort lay in the port, and it was accompanied by a heavy fall of snow.

The moisture does not arise from rain or fog, but from the nature of the ground; a light soil upon a tenacious subsoil, numerous springs and rivulets, and the absence of the evaporating winds of summer.

The progress of cultivation will therefore quickly ameliorate this defect of climate. I have myself proved upon a small scale how much improvement may be made upon the land with a very little labour, by simply clearing out the course of a rivulet in a valley from the weeds which choke it, and opening out the springs on the sides. For experiment, also, a small patch of the poor thin soil on the strong subsoil, composed of clay and sandy gravel, but very stiff, and bearing a short scrubby heath, has been trenched spade deep, raked over, and small patches of fine old turf, four inches square, set at regular distances of three feet. The grass has rooted, and promises soon to cover the space thus trenched over, although in an exposed situation on the top of high ground: no manure of any kind was applied. I am about to try another piece with turnips, but shall burn the surface pared off, and apply the ashes.

In my report I stated that I thought about one-fourth of the islands consisted of this poor land, of which two acres would be required to feed one sheep (Southdown) in its present state, but by cultivation might be made excellent pasture land: at this time it is the most unprofitable in the country, yielding less herbage than even the bogs.

For the good land no cultivation would be necessary, except firing it in patches, to get rid of the old withered grass, not eaten by the cattle; the good effects of which "firing" I have seen in many places.

The plant described as the tussac by Mr. Hooker, in the enclosure which I had the honour of forwarding with my report, is of the genus *Carex*, and proves not to be the real tussac of the islands, which it very much resembles, and might easily deceive any person, the more so as it grows in the same situations, and is also eaten by the cattle. My friend, Mr. Hooker, has since given very great attention to this useful and interesting plant, which is a true grass, and in very much greater abundance than the other: he has also done me the favour of minutely describing it in the accompanying enclosure, adding a dried specimen of each, which I beg leave to forward.* As soon as I can collect some ripe seeds I will also take the liberty of forwarding them, as perhaps your Lordship may deem the grass worthy of a trial in England, both inland, as on Chat Moss, and on the sea-coast.

29th July 1842.

I also take the liberty of enclosing a copy of a letter from Mr. Hooker, describing the other grasses, and some of the useful plants in the country; such a description being far more satisfactory than the general account, or rather sketch, which I drew up myself.

5th Sept. 1842.

Some seeds of the tussac grass, sown in the government garden in good soil, different from that in which it grows naturally, and at a little distance from the sea, have shot up, and are likely to prove that this valuable fodder for cattle may be cultivated in any soil; but it evidently prefers moisture, and would probably require irrigation in a dry soil, at any distance from the sea.

During several long rides into the country, I always, as I have before stated, found the tussac flourishing most vigorously on spots most exposed to the sea,† and in soil unfit for anything else to live in, viz. the rankest peat-bog, black or red. It is singular to observe the beaten footpaths of the wild cattle and horses, as marked as a footpath across the fields in England, extending for miles over wild moorland,‡ and always terminating in some point or peninsula covered with this favourite fodder, and amidst which it is almost certain to meet with solitary old bulls, or perhaps a herd, or a troop of wild horses just trotting off, as they scent from a great distance.

* I also take the liberty of forwarding two specimens of the dye obtained from two of the mosses in great abundance on the mountains. Mr. Hooker regretted that his supply of ammonia was too small to enable him to furnish me with a sufficient quantity of dye, for experiments to be made in England to test its lasting properties.

† The wild west coast of Ireland would exactly suit this grass.

‡ The poor soil above described as covering about one-fourth of the surface of the country, and the worst of all as to herbage.

FALKLAND
ISLANDS.

To cultivate the tussac, I would recommend that the seed be sown in patches just below the surface of the ground, and at distances of about two feet apart, and afterwards weeded out, as it grows very luxuriantly, and to the height of six or seven feet. It should not be grazed, but reaped or cut in bundles. If cut, it quickly shoots up, but is injured by grazing, particularly by pigs, who tear it up to get at the sweet nutty root. I do not know how it would be relished as hay, but cattle will eat the dry thatch off the roof of a house in winter. Their fondness for this food is so great that they will scent it at a great distance, and use every endeavour to get at it. Some bundles, which were stacked in the yard at the back of government-house, were quickly found out, and the cattle from the village made repeated endeavours every night to get at them, giving much trouble to the sentry on duty to drive them away.

With reference also to that part of my report in which I recommend that the northern peninsula, commonly called by the settlers the North Camp, inclusive of the present government-house, should be a portion of the allotments sold to any company that might offer to purchase the wild cattle and horses, further experience, gained by many opportunities of traversing the district, incline me not to be so favourable to their operations commencing in that district, as I find that although it is almost entirely clothed with pasture, and that there are many troops of wild horses, and some few cattle grazing over it, a much larger portion than what I was at first induced to suppose, consists of deep beds of peat, and is very wet and swampy, difficult and fatiguing to ride across, and almost impracticable to chase over.

In my report, I stated the proportion of good and bad land in that district to be as follows :

- $\frac{4}{20}$ deep bog.
- $\frac{5}{20}$ wet, but good land, and capable of great improvement.
- $\frac{3}{20}$ thin soil, with scanty herbage.
- $\frac{5}{20}$ medium land.
- $\frac{3}{20}$ remarkably good land.

Perhaps the following would be found to be a much nearer approximation to the truth :

- $\frac{7}{20}$ deep bog.
- $\frac{5}{20}$ wet, but capable of great improvement.
- $\frac{3}{20}$ thin soil, with scanty herbage.
- $\frac{9}{20}$ medium.
- $\frac{2}{20}$ remarkably good land.

This proportion is about what the land is at present, without any operations of husbandry ; but all, except the deep peat-bog, would hereafter, with capital and labour, be available for agriculture and grazing, and would in a short time be very good.

With regard also to the government-house, I am now of opinion that it had better be reserved in the hands of government for the present ; it is certainly extremely inconvenient and much out of repair, but the temporary addition I have made renders it sufficiently good for the present circumstances of the colony, and it is probable that by the time it might be necessary to construct a better, the site would be chosen at Port William.

The whole block of any company's land should be to the southward of Adventure Sound, or partly there and partly among the good land in the neighbourhood of the river San Carlos.

I take the liberty of enclosing a few memoranda furnished me by Captain Gardiner (lay missionary), drawn up immediately after his return from his late mission among the Indians of the neighbouring continent.

I have, &c.

(signed) R. C. MOODY,
Lieutenant-governor.

Enclosure 1. in No. 23.

H. M. S. Erebus, Berkeley Sound, Falkland Islands,
5th September 1842.

Encl. 1. in No. 23.

My dear Sir,

I SHALL NOW, according to promise, lay before your Excellency a slight account of some of the more useful plants of this colony, especially of such as appear to be at present, or may prove in time, of most use to man.

The remarkable increase and fine condition of the cattle (comparatively speaking), recently introduced on the island, naturally call the attention to the grasses, in a country devoid of trees or of any vegetable production likely to prove more important. Amongst these, which are very numerous, and form one-fifth of the plants hitherto discovered, the Tussac holds the first place; as, however, you have a description of it, and know far more of its invaluable properties than I do, it would be useless to recapitulate here; suffice it to say, that with proper attention to its propagation in any locality near the coast, and preservation from being entirely eaten down where it already abounds, it alone would yield abundant pasturage for as many cattle as the island is ever likely to want.

Another grass, however, far more abundant, and indeed universally distributed over the whole country, scarcely yields in its nutritious qualities to the tussac; I mean the *Arundo Alopecurus*, which covers every peat bog with a dense and rich clothing of green in summer, and a pale yellow good hay in the winter season. This hay, though formed by nature without being mown and dried, keeps those cattle which have not access to the former grass in excellent condition, as the beef which our parties for the four winter months supplied the ships with can abundantly testify. No bog, however rank, seems too bad for this plant to luxuriate in, and as we remarked during our survey of Port William, although the soil on the quartz districts was very unprolific in many good grasses which flourish on the clay slate, and generally speaking of the worst description, still the *Arundo* did not appear to feel the change, nor did the cattle fail to eat down large tracts of such pasturage.

The numerous troops of horses also on the flanks of the Wickham Heights can have little other fodder, whilst those of Mount Lowe and Mount Vernet must depend upon it entirely. Should the tussac disappear from any part of the island where stall-fed cattle are kept, it might be advisable to treat this plant as hay is in Britain, by which means its nutritious properties would doubtless be much better secured to the animals during the winter months than by allowing the leaves gradually to wither, and not gathering it until nature has dried them.

For sheep, as hay, it would also do well, though I fear that it is too wet a nature, and thrives best in situations far too damp for their succeeding on it all the year round. Experience only will prove this; at any rate newly imported flocks should not at once be removed from dry fodder to any so succulent.

You are aware that many English plants invariably follow man, undesignedly on his part; many such are common here, as the groundsel, chickweed, and shepherd's purse, docks, &c. and have been distributed chiefly through the agency of cattle, rabbits, fowls and horses, more or less all over the island; amongst such, and most abundant of all, is the *Poa annua*, a very common English grass, and which forms a short bright green sward all the year round on the drier soil near the settlement, mixed with a few of the smaller native grasses and the common Dutch clover. Close to government-house there are many acres of such pasturage, and to it the sheep seem very partial, and thrive uncommonly well; a little attention to its increase, especially by sowing it in similar situations, and draining the ground, might produce very beneficial results.

Of the other good grasses there are several kinds growing on the hills, but they are not sufficiently abundant to demand particular attention, and in general grow intermixed with those of larger growths; only one of them appears prejudicial, and it is found only in scattered small tufts in a few places, generally where the quartz crops out on the hills, on a poor soil: I do not at all suppose this stiff wiry little herb to which I allude to be noxious in any degree; but it is harsh, and rejected by the cattle, as a much more common one is in England.

The only other use to which the grasses of the Falklands will in all probability be extensively put, is for thatching. Unfortunately the tussac is almost the only one of size sufficient for such a purpose, and it is, as you inform me, too brittle to last long; in short, it is too good in the animal economy. The stiff wiry grass growing on the sand downs of Port William, would probably answer better, and might be tried; though collecting it, and sorting it out, would be troublesome.

The Balsam bog (or *Bolax glebaria*) is a plant whose properties should be put to the test by some medical practitioner in England; I have been assured that its virtues in cases of gonorrhœa are not imaginary, and also that, applied as a balsam to wounds, it promotes the healing process: its gum is very abundant, and easily collected.

The wild Celery (*Apium graveolens*), so very poisonous a plant in England before being blanched by the gardener, is here not only wholesome and agreeable to the taste, but an

FALKLAND
ISLANDS.

excellent antiscorbutic. Treated in the garden as the celery is at home, it would certainly succeed, when a few stalks of it would be no small boon to a ship on her arrival from a cruise; and though it may appear trifling to mention it, its seeds put into pea soup wonderfully improve a dish which those only who go to sea know how to appreciate. I will venture to say, that had you found the plant fostered with care in the government garden, instead of growing wild on the cliffs and beaches, you would seldom have sat down to table and not tasted it in some shape or another.

The little Sea-plant (*Myrtus numularia*), a species nearly allied to the classic myrtle, is commonly used here as a substitute for the Chinese herb, to which many of the guachos prefer it.

Singularly enough, the first settlers of New Holland and Van Diemen's Land selected a shrub of the same natural order (a widely different one from that to which the true tea belongs), and brewed tea from it to a great extent.

This plant is also said to be diuretic, for which purpose it might prove useful in medicine; for which purpose the young leaves should be gathered and dried separately, or rather scattered on sheets of paper and exposed to the sun or a moderate fire, after which they should be kept free from damp.

Were it possible to introduce grouse into the islands, it may be as well to mention, that the Didde-de belongs to the same genus as the Crow-berry (*Empetrum nigrum*) on which that bird feeds.

The taste of the berries of the two plants, as far as my memory serves me (and I have eaten abundance of both), is quite the same.

The Little Cress (*Cardamine glacialis*), to which I directed your attention when at Port William, is at any rate worth attempting to raise in quantity, for which purpose I should think the better plan would be to plant it in a good and very damp soil, where it would probably rapidly propagate itself. Should any unfortunate whaler come in with the scurvy on board, it is the plant which should at once be collected and used by the sick, raw, as also the wild celery, and the following plant.

Scurvy grass of the colonists (*Oxalis enneaphylla*), which should more properly be called a sorrel, it being nearly allied to the little wood sorrel of England, whilst the true scurvy grasses belong to the same natural order as the cress mentioned above. It is important that these names be properly applied and universally known, especially in the town of Anson. This sorrel, though doubtless an excellent antiscorbutic, loses its leaves in winter, whilst those of the cress may be found all the year round. The leaves, you inform me, make a sort of gooseberry-fool during the summer, when boiled. In cases of fever an infusion of them would probably afford a pleasant and cooling draught, and might be used in lieu of lemons for sour sauces and lemonade.

The native Spinach (a species of *Atriplex*), is, I am told, an excellent pot-herb; it should also be tried in the garden, where a good soil, mixed with a little seaweed, would probably suit its habits.

Amongst the lichens there are some which yield fine colours with pure ammonia; I am however cautious in giving an opinion about them, as they require the test of the chemist and manufacturer.

The above are the most important plants that have come under my notice; and considering the scanty nature of the flora of the islands, and the rapidity with which their several good qualities have been discovered by so small a number of individuals, there can remain but little doubt that many of them only require a little care to become eminently useful.

For the most important, the grasses, Nature has done almost all; the others will want a little art, and very little, I presume.

Allow me to hope that on the arrival of any gardener in the colony, his attention may be directed to them by your Excellency.

His Excellency the Lieut.-Governor,
Anson, Falkland Islands.

I have, &c.
(signed) JOSEPH DALTON HOOKER.

Encl. 2. in No. 23.

Enclosure 2. in No. 23.

Her Majesty's Ship Erebus, Falkland Islands,
29th July 1842.

My dear Sir,

SOME months ago I forwarded to you the description of a Sedge (*Carex*), which from the information received respecting it was supposed to be the true tussac grass of these islands. Since then excellent opportunities have been afforded me, chiefly through your kindness, of examining large tussac patches in a living state, when I found that the sedge (though common amongst the tussac), was a very inferior herb indeed both with regard to quantity and quality.

You will be kind enough now to substitute the following description of the true tussac for that of the plant drawn up before, and to prevent any further errors I send dried specimens of each labelled.

Description of the Tussac Grass of the Falklands (Genus *Dactylis*, L.)

D..... panicula spicæformi densa interrupta valde compressa, locustis brevissime pedicellatis late ovatis 4 floris, glumis subæqualibus, palea inferiore puberula apice bifida breviter aristata, culmis validis compressis folisque longissimis distichis glaberrimis. *Festuca flabellata*, Lam. 3. *Dactylis cæspitosa*, Forst. 3.

In the neighbourhood of the sea, on peaty, rocky, and sandy soil, very abundant, forming crowded isolated hillocks, 3—6 feet in height and 3—4 in diameter, from which the stems and leaves spring in immense profusion, not seen inland.

Gramen, 4—6 pedale. *Radices* perennantes, fibrosæ, fibris validis tortis, tumulos discretos formantes. *Culmi* densi, erecti, imo basi divisi, 3—4 pedales, læves, compressi, foliosi, pallide flavi, intus saccharini, edules. *Folia radicalia* longissima, linearia, disticha, culmo multoties longiora, 5—7 pedalia, $\frac{1}{2}$ unc. lata, concava, demum plana, supra medium arcuata et pendentia, pallide glauco-virescentia, superne latiora; *culmea* breviora, erecta, involuta; *vaginæ* compressæ, læves, striatæ, superne fissæ; *Ligula* tenerrimæ, paulo longiores quam latæ, apice rotundatæ. *Panicula* spithamea et infra, valde coarctata et compressa, obtusa, ramis brevibus strictis tortisque plerumque angulatis multifloris glaberrimis. *Locustæ* ramis unilaterales, pedunculis rectis tortisque, 3—4 floræ, pallide flavo-virescentes nitidæque, rachi tereti glabro. *Glumæ* lanceolatæ acuminatæ, floribus longiores, vix carinatæ, dorso obscure ciliatæ, $3\frac{1}{2}$ lin. longæ, marginibus involutis apicibusque scariosis, superiore paulo longiore trinervi, nervis obscure ciliatis.

Palea inferior ovata, concava, compressa, acute carinata, ad apicem obtuse trifida, segmento medio longiore subincurvo aristæformi, 5-nervis, nervis lateralibus evanidis, marginibus scariosis, carina nervisque ciliatis, *superior* inferiore $\frac{1}{2}$ brevior, bicarinata, binervis, apice emarginata, glabra, nervis viridibus marginibusque ciliatis lateribus induplicatis.

Squamulæ 2, late obovatæ, oblique bilobæ, lobis ovatis acutis, marginibus laceratis, hyalinis, ovario vix breviores. *Stamina* 3, antheris stramineis.

Ovarium subovatum, imberbe. *Styli* elongati, basi approximati; *Stigmata*, laxè plumosa; *Caryopsis* elongato-ovata, cylindræa, v obscure trigona, v dorso plana pallide flava glabra.

I have been rather minute in this description, because I suspect that the plant has been described before both by Forster (of Cook's voyage) and by the French, from specimens brought home by the *Uranie's* officers, under different names, and with such meagre characters that it is impossible to say to what grass the names refer.

D'Urville's "Flore des Isles Malouines" I have not seen; he ought to have given a good account of so singular a plant, and if it be a South American plant, it is doubtless in many of the English and French collections.

His Excellency the Lieut.-Governor,
Falkland Islands.

I have, &c.
(signed) Jos. D. HOOKER.

Enclosure 3. in No. 23.

Encl. 3. in No. 23.

MEMORANDUM respecting the PATAGONIANS.

THERE are five tribes of Patagonians, one to the north of Rio Negro, three south of that river, and one on the sea coast, west of the Cordilleras; these tribes are respectively as follows:

Lulla Much, Spuanmannuñ, north of Rio Negro, 4,000 to 5,000.

Payniken, Gu-kāmu, south of ditto, 1,500.

Karmūs, Tarwelchi, Port Desire and Santa Cruz, 1,200.

Harwon-ēki, Wissale, Rio Gallegos and Strait of Magalhaen, 2,000.

Tatchwell, Cho-karro, west of the Cordilleras, 4,000.

The population given is a rough calculation in round numbers, obtained from the united testimony of San Leon, Isaac, and the natives, but does not profess to be very accurate. These tribes all speak one language, and call themselves by the general name of Choñnick, which may therefore be regarded as the distinctive appellation of the Patagonian nation.

The natives of the north coast of Terra del Fuego call themselves, and are called by the Patagonians, Ireys. Formerly many of these people were made captives on reaching the continent; but now they are not only allowed to live in freedom, but are well treated when they arrive, though the Patagonians invariably destroy the canoes by which they cross over, in order to prevent their return, as they are desirous to increase the population of their tribe. Instances have been known of Ireys breaking up their own canoes immediately on their landing on the north shore. The Ireys are great thieves when left

FALKLAND
ISLANDS.

to themselves, but are kept in some degree of order when associated with the Choñnik.

The Patagonians have no idols or stated worship, but they believe in one good spirit, and two evil spirits.

Name of the good spirit, Kek-a-ñice; it is sometimes called Tchur. One evil spirit is called Ouskin; sometimes U-pon. The other evil spirit God-lin, the *o* pronounced like *o* in *goad*, *load*. The good spirit they imagine resides in the sun, and the evil spirit in the moon. The former is called Su-ñi; the latter Kääni-gerkin, the *g* hard as in *go*.

They consider that the soul does not die with the body, but that it then goes either to the sun or the moon; those who have lived wicked lives go to the moon.

They have no ideas respecting transmigration of souls, but believe that they remain either in the sun or in the moon after they are separated from the body.

Quansi, who died about two years ago, was the principal chief of the three Choñnik tribes south of the Rio Negro, as Wissale is now, and during his rule killed all the witches and wizards excepting two, who are now with the tribe at Oazy Harbour. These individuals are employed in times of sickness, calamity, or the interment of the dead, to pray to the spirit in the sun, which they do on their knees, with their hands uplifted towards the supposed object of their adoration.

The men who perform these offices are called Kuchench, the women Bawk.

The dead are usually buried on the day after their decease. They are laid out straight in the grave, but always with their heads placed towards the west. The tents, household furniture, and every article belonging to the deceased that fire will consume, is burnt; all other articles, such as spears, knives, &c. are buried with the body, which is previously wrapped in a new mantle. They then blow with their breath over the grave, beating their heads with their hands; the horses of the deceased are killed, and their skins stuffed and made into bolsters for sleeping by the relatives.

The emblems of mourning are different; the male part of the relations cutting gashes in the calves of their legs, the young women cutting their cheeks, and the elder women cropping their hair short round their heads.

In the blood that issues from these several gashes they dip their fingers, and sprinkle it upwards towards the sun, beating their breasts at the same time, and offering a prayer to the supposed spirit on their knees.

Three individuals, a man, his wife, and son, belonging to the Tatchwell tribe, were at Oazy Harbour, and from one of them I obtained the following particulars:—The district inhabited by the Tatchwell is wet and rainy, and heavily timbered with trees of great size. Their tents, dress, and stature are similar to that of the other Patagonian tribes; they have, however, canoes, but these are only employed for crossing rivers, and are merely a light frame, covered with guanaco skins. They use no paddles, but are towed across by their horses swimming before with a lasso attached to their tails.

This country is represented as about north-west of Oazy Harbour; but in order to reach it, it is necessary to travel from thence considerably to the northward, as the pass through the Cordilleras in that part is better suited for horses than one farther south, which they do not frequent.

In the neighbourhood of this pass there is a large lake with an island in it. This part of the country and around the lake is inhabited by a tribe called Thit-titch, whose chief is named Tchucäto. They are more numerous than all the three Choñnik tribes collected, wear ostrich feathers on their heads, woollen ponchos, and a sort of trowsers, cultivate the ground, and have numerous flocks and herds of sheep, cattle, and horses. Their language is different from that of the Choñnik; they trade occasionally with the Spanish American settlements. Through this people they pass on their way across the Cordilleras, and then direct their course towards the south-west. The lake above mentioned they call Chöbit, it is about seven days on horseback from Oazy Harbour, and thence to the Tatchwell (on account of the ruggedness of the route and the forests) would occupy ten days more.

Another tribe, called Eaks, was also mentioned by the same individual; they inhabited a district north of the Tatchwell, between the Cordilleras and the sea; but there is little intercourse between the two people, as their language differs, and in one direction a considerable river, which they cannot cross in their canoes, runs between them. The Eaks are a shorter race than the Patagonians, and are habited in ponchos.

It appears to me probable that the lake called Chöbit by these people is the same which from Viedmas' testimony is marked on the maps Capar; and the wearing of ostrich feathers in the hair, and other circumstances related by the Tatchwell man (Wäo), but principally the former, is, I think, sufficient to identify the Thet-titch with the Pewenches, of which nation they are probably a tribe.

Note.—The above notes were furnished to the Lieut.-governor by Captain Allen F. Gardiner, R.N., who collected them in Patagonia in the early part of the present year, 1842.

FALKLAND
ISLANDS.

No. 24.

(No. 35.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Lieutenant-Governor MOODY to Lord STANLEY.

No. 24.
Lieut. Gov. Moody
to
Lord Stanley,
10th Oct. 1842.

My Lord,

Government House, Port Louis, Falkland Islands,
10th October 1842.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's despatch, dated 11th January 1841 (page 7), transmitting a copy of a letter addressed by Commander Sullivan, Royal Navy, to the Commissioners of Crown Land and Emigration, and forwarded for my information and consideration.

I take the liberty of expressing the pleasure it has afforded me to find that upon many material points my own opinions coincide with those of Commander Sullivan. There is, however, one point of great importance, on which I cannot altogether agree with him, namely, the probable amount of revenue immediately to be derived from the wild cattle by means of the establishment he proposes, even allowing that a sufficient number of settlers arrive with capital to purchase from Government 3,000 head of cattle annually.

I am fully persuaded that by means of an efficient establishment 8,000*l.*, or even a larger, and certainly an increasing annual sum, may be obtained, and that also wholly independent of any purchase by the settlers; but the first outlay and the annual expense must be greater than the sum estimated by Commander Sullivan in his letter to the Commissioners of the Crown Lands and Emigration.

Commander Sullivan's first item may be stated as follows:

The establishment to consist of four guachos and a superintendent, with six horses each.

	£	s.	d.
Thirty horses from Monte Video, at from 2 <i>l.</i> to 3 <i>l.</i> each	75	0	0
Expense of conveyance by a vessel of war (inclusive of provender, I presume), at 2 <i>l.</i> to 3 <i>l.</i> each	75	0	0
Building a house and corral, to be constructed by artificers of a vessel of war	200	0	0
	350	0	0

I have very lately received information from Monte Video, that, in consequence of the wars, good lassoing horses are not to be obtained under from 4*l.* to 5*l.* each. In my Report, dated 14th April 1841, I stated that the price would probably be 20*s.* each.

For the conveyance of the horses to these islands, Commander Sullivan reckons upon a vessel of war, which would materially lessen the expense; but that is a resource upon which I should not feel justified in placing reliance; the more so, as I find that some time previous to my arrival, the admiral commanding, upon requisition from the naval officer in charge of the islands, forwarded 20 horses from Buenos Ayres, by a merchant vessel, at the expense of 330*l.*, including the freight of 12 sheep, but not including the expense of provender or fittings up of the vessel.

Commander Sullivan estimates for one house and corral, and allows 200*l.* for that service, relying upon their being built by the artificers of a vessel of war, the wood for the carpenter's work being brought by the said vessel from the Straits of Magellan; but as these buildings would now have to be constructed by colonial labour, and as the carpenters work would be with wood imported, I think that, at the very lowest, 300*l.* should be allowed for this service.

There are four, what may be termed "hunting corrals" in the interior, in contradistinction to the "farm corral" at the settlement; but as the cattle retire to less molested districts (which they have already done), they must be followed, and it would therefore be necessary to construct two or three entirely new ones on Choiseul Sound, with some kind of shelter attached to them. These would not require to be of the same permanent description as the one estimated above, and therefore would not, perhaps, cost more than 150*l.* each.

(148.)

L

Six

FALKLAND
ISLANDS.

Six sets of horse-gear would also be necessary for each man, at 5*l.* each.

With the above alterations the estimate for the first outlay would be as follows :

	£	s.	d.
Thirty horses, at 4 <i>l.</i> each	120	0	0
Expense of conveyance by a merchant vessel, including provender, &c.	450	0	0
Six sets of horse-gear	30	0	0
Construction of one permanent well-built corral and house to the southward of the Wickham Heights (Darwin's Harbour)	300	0	0
Two commoner ones on the peninsula, to the southward of Choiseul Sound	300	0	0
Contingencies, one tenth	120	0	0
	<u>1,320</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>

In estimating the annual expenses and profits, Commander Sullivan supposes that 3,000 * head of cattle could be captured annually by the above establishment, and delivered on the lands of the different settlers.

As I differ very materially upon this head, I may notice that I have taken much pains to ascertain what numbers have been captured hitherto within the year, and what may be done ; and I find that upon no occasion have more than 306 head been brought into the settlement in one year, nor do I think that either men or horses could stand the fatigue of cattle-hunting through the winter and summer.

Few persons can have any idea of the severity of the work, and the deplorable state in which the best horses return from these expeditions ; they seldom live through it longer than three or four years, and are generally all but broken down after two summers.

Cattle-hunting in the Falklands is very different from similar operations in the mild climate and on the hard ground of the Pampas of South America ; the cattle also are stronger, heavier, and much wilder than at Buenos Ayres, or in the interior. It must also be borne in mind that this severe work, equal to successive very hard runs over a heavy country in England, with the addition of the violent struggles when fast by the lasso to a furious wild bull, is performed on horses of a poor breed, and grass-fed only. For the men also, although it is a life of delightful excitement, and of a skill and courage in which they may well be proud, the only repose after a day of great bodily exertion is on the bare ground, their saddle-gear serving for bed and pillow, and their poucho, with the addition of a rug or blanket (and perhaps a strip of painted canvass, if the day's work ends near a corral,) to shelter them from every inclemency of the weather. The men occasionally suffer from rheumatism, lying out as they are obliged to do for three weeks together ; but the horses suffer most : ridden with withers wrung, no care taken of them, turned out at the end of the day to seek their food, and, bathed in perspiration, exposed to the frost of the night ; with galled backs, jaws almost broken by the severe bit, and flanks dropping blood from the effects of the long sharp rowels of a guacho's spur.†

With only 30 lassoing horses, although of the best, not more than five trips should be calculated upon in the season ; and with five guachos and two caballerizos (necessary men to take charge of the spare horses and sinuellas, or tame cattle, (decoys,) perhaps 120 head may be brought in each trip, making 600 head in the year ; of which 200 should be added to the tame Government herd. If, however, the cattle are to be caught, and at once delivered to settlers on

* I think that this large number must arise from an oversight of Commander Sullivan. He states in his letter, that, "making every allowance for bad weather in winter, rest of horses, &c. they would bring in, on an average, from 50 to 70 head every other week, or about 3,000 head in a year ;" but 50 to 70 head every other week would only give 1,560 head in a year.

† Lieutenant Tyssen, the naval officer lately in charge, humanely used to insist upon the guachos blunting their spurs.

lands not far from the cattle districts, perhaps 800 may be sold annually, and 200 added to the tame Government herd near the settlement.

FALKLAND
ISLANDS.

I have also to remark, that if it appears only 1,000 head could be captured by the guachos, 4s. for bulls, including cutting, and 2s. for cows, would not be a sufficient remuneration, as it would only give each guacho 30% per annum. I therefore consider that one dollar and one rial (one-eighth) ought to be allowed per head, the one rial, equal to $6\frac{1}{2}d.$, being for the capitaz, in addition to his share; but these men would also have to be paid for sundry services out of the cattle-hunting season, which sum should also be added to the estimate.

Captain Sullivan's estimate of the annual expenses and profits is as follows :

	£	s.	d.
Ten per cent. on the first outlay	35	0	0
Superintendent's salary	150	0	0
Two cattle-keepers	100	0	0
Catching 1,500 bulls, including cutting, 4s.	300	0	0
1,500 cows, at 2s.	150	0	0
Annual repairs of buildings	50	0	0
One-fourth of horses to be replaced	40	0	0
	825	0	0
Sale of 3,000 head of cattle, at 3 <i>l.</i> per head	9,000	0	0
Profit	£ 8,175	0	0

By the altered data which I am induced to estimate upon, the expenses would be increased, and the return diminished as follows :

	£	s.	d.
Ten per cent. on first outlay	132	0	0
Superintendent's salary	150	0	0
Two cattle-keepers	100	0	0
Catching 1,000 cattle, inclusive of cutting bulls, $\$1\frac{1}{2}$ per head	243	15	0*
Pay of four guachos and capitaz for sundry other services, at about five dollars per month each	65	0	0*
Pay of caballerizo	60	0	0
Provisions of flour, maté, and sugar, in addition to beef	100	0	0
Annual repair of buildings and corrals should be increased to	100	0	0
Probable expense of one-fourth of the horses to be replaced	140	0	0
	1,090	15	0
By sale of 800 head, at 3 <i>l.</i>	2,400	0	0
Profit	£ 1,309	5	0

Your Lordship will perceive, from the foregoing statements and calculations, that if there are purchasers, a superintendent and five guachos, with 30 good horses, at an outlay of 1,000*l.*, might be sufficient to bring in a few cattle from time to time for the supply of the settlement and ships, and to place a few half-wild cattle on the lands of settlers, with a net profit of about 1,000*l.* a year, the men being very skilful and the horses very good.

* These sums would give each guacho 56*l.* 12s. per annum, and the capitaz 83*l.* 14s., neither of which would be by any means more than equivalent to their services.

FALKLAND
ISLANDS.

I will now take the liberty of stating, that to conduct the Government farm efficiently, so as to kill or sell alive to settlers as many as may be required, and to increase the tame herds so as eventually to be independent of the wild ones, 10 guachos, one being the capitaz, a caballerizo at the settlement in charge of the brood mares, a well paid intelligent superintendent (also an agriculturist), and 10 good horses for each guacho, are necessary.

With 10 horses for each man there could be two reliefs, one set resting and recovering while the others are employed. With such a force, 1,600 head, at least, could be sold to settlers on their lands annually, or 1,000* brought into the settlement to kill and add to the tame herds, so as gradually to become independent of the wild ones, and the horses could then be replaced from the stud under the management of the caballerizo.

The estimate of the expenses and annual profit of this increased establishment would be as follows :

First outlay :				£	s.	d.
One hundred horses at 4 <i>l.</i> each	-	-	-	400	0	0
Expense of conveyance, including provender	-	-	-	1,000	0	0
Twenty sets of horse-gear (a double set)	-	-	-	100	0	0
Construction of one permanent, well-built corral and house, to the southward of the Wickham Heights (Darwin's Harbour)	-	-	-	300	0	0
Two commoner ones on the peninsula, to the southward of Choiseul Sound, and a building and enclosure at the third corral (St. Carlos River)	-	-	-	400	0	0
Contingencies, one-tenth	-	-	-	220	0	0
				<u>£ 2,420</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>

The Annual Expense :

	£	s.	d.
Ten per cent. upon the first outlay	240	0	0
† Superintendent's salary I propose to be raised to (or more)	400	0	0
Two cattle-keepers	100	0	0
A caballerizo in charge of the brood mares	60	0	0
Cost of rations for the above cattle-keepers and caballerizo	60	0	0
Two assistant caballerizos to accompany into the interior, and for other services	100	0	0
One capitaz and nine guachos, at 10 dollars per month each	†260	0	0
Capturing and bringing in, and cutting bulls,—1,600 head of cattle, at $\$ 1\frac{1}{2}$ per head	†390	0	0
Flour, sugar, and maté for guachos and two caballerizos	100	0	0
Annual repair of buildings and corrals	200	0	0
Incidental services	390	0	0
	<u>2,300</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
By sale of 1,600 head of cattle at 3 <i>l.</i>	4,800	0	0
Annual profit	<u>£ 2,500</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>

This would be under similar circumstances, namely, settlers to purchase, a more certain profit than that to be derived from the smaller establishment; such destruction of horses would not take place, and under the management of a superintendent sufficiently well paid to ensure getting a good one (as every

* A large proportion are now lost on their way to the settlement.

† This gentleman should be a professed agriculturist as well, and should spend at least two months visiting the Estancias of Buenos Ayres and Monte Video.

‡ These sums would give the capitaz 100*l.* per annum, and each guacho 60*l.*

thing would depend upon him), large tame herds might soon be formed, and hides from the wild ones exported.

FALKLAND
ISLANDS.

All the foregoing calculations for immediate revenue are, however, based upon the supposition that settlers with capital will arrive and purchase cattle from the Government, and this is a matter of very great uncertainty. I have therefore given further consideration to the subject, and have drawn up a plan, which I beg leave to enclose* for your Lordship's consideration, as I am inclined to hope that by its adoption, perhaps with some amendments, Government, or a respectable company, would realize a large, certain, and annually increasing profit from the wild cattle in these islands, and that, too, wholly independent of settlers or any local changes whatsoever, namely, by exporting salt beef, hides, horns, tallow, &c. to a distant port, such as London even, at prices sufficiently low to ensure a market.

The details of this plan are drawn up in the form of a simple statement or proposal, with an estimate, the items of which can be criticised by persons better acquainted with the different departments of the trade than I can be expected to be; and I beg leave respectfully to request that it may be submitted to such persons for their opinions, and also to any really respectable company that may be formed to offer to purchase lands, and the cattle, horses, and pigs from Government, under the arrangements recommended by me in the report which I had the honour of laying before your Lordship, dated 14th April 1841.

I am anxious to receive the opinions these persons may think fit to express, as it is my intention again to submit the plan for your Lordship's consideration, as to whether it is not advisable at once to carry it into execution, and to include the item for the first outlay, amounting to 6,000*l.*, in the annual demand laid before Parliament.

I do not feel any hesitation in venturing to suggest that so comparatively large a sum for the Falkland Islands should be added to the annual demand, because I feel persuaded that the Government herds of wild cattle are far too valuable to be exposed to wanton destruction by any trespassers, having within them the source of a revenue more than sufficient to do away with the necessity of any Parliamentary grants hereafter to cover the annual expenses of this colony.

I have, &c.

(signed) R. C. MOODY,
Lieutenant Governor.

Enclosure in No. 24.

PLAN of a Proposed Establishment at the *Falkland Islands*, for domesticating the Herds of Wild Cattle, dividing and locating them upon Grazing Farms, and exporting Salt Beef, Hides, Tallow, Horns, &c. to the London or other Markets, at Prices to insure a Sale; with an Estimate showing the Expenses of the Establishment and the Profits which would be immediately derived.

Encl. in No. 24.

I MAY first notice that this speculation is unlike all others of a similar nature in the first formation of a colony; in this case the sources of profit are at once upon the spot, the expenses and risk of transport saved; nor is it a matter of doubt as to whether the lands, climate and grasses of the colony are adapted for grazing cattle and horses: finally, the ground is open, no obstructions to remove, no clearing the ground at a heavy expense per acre required. In spite of the deeply-rooted prejudices of years, the positive fact of the islands being well adapted for grazing is undeniably proved by the presence of a great many herds all over the islands, but particularly numerous south of the Wickham Heights, and in the neighbourhood of the San Carlos River. A sufficient number of years, also, have elapsed

* In despatch No. 31, dated 3d September, which I had the honour to address to your Lordship upon the subject of convict labour, I took the liberty of drawing your Lordship's attention to a system of government farming that might be established, by paying the superintendent of each farm one-third of the proceeds. The plan which I now have the honour to enclose would form the best introduction to such a system, in case capitalists do not come forward to purchase and establish grazing farms in the Falklands.

FALKLAND ISLANDS.

for the cattle to have deteriorated in form, size, and quality, if the pastures had not been good; but, on the contrary, they are larger and finer animals than the French and Buenos Ayrean breeds, from whence they spring. The size and strength of the bulls would be considered remarkable even in the best cattle districts of England; therefore, if the surface of the country is a "barren moor land," (the favourite phrase of past detractors), the presence of these fine cattle is an extraordinary paradox.

I must candidly own, the first appearance of the country, particularly north and east of the Wickham Heights, is so forbidding and deceptive, that had I not had this strong fact to reconcile with the mere appearance of the country, I should probably have entertained so many doubts, that I might not have been induced to pay the close attention I have done to the soils, grasses, and climate; but, with this fact to strengthen me, my observations were more extended, easier generalized, and my doubts removed.

With regard to the number of the cattle, I am very much at a loss, it being a matter of great difficulty to estimate it. Upon this I have already made some remarks in my general report upon the Falkland Islands. I may, however, now state that further observations and inquiries lead me to think there are about 40,000 * head of cattle, and 2,000 horses.

Of this number, say 20,000 are bulls of all ages, of which 10,000 † or 15,000 are full grown animals, driven from the herds, and wandering about alone or in twos and threes. By cutting these as they are met with, 18 months or two years would improve their flesh and hides; but if their flesh was of no value, their size and good condition would yield abundance of tallow, and a large and heavy though not perhaps a high-priced hide. These bulls, however, I put out of my calculation altogether, and I consider that there are about 20,000 cows and heifers, and 10,000 bulls, many of which would be from two to three years old, all of which animals would be available for the purposes of my plan. Some of the wildest of the cows and a few heifers must be killed for exportation the first year or two, but after that, none but oxen.

Having premised the above remarks, I will now proceed to state, that I would commence with three cattle farms in the country, and one at the settlement, the latter to rear up in the second or third year some choice breeds from England. Of the country farms, one should be in each of the best cattle districts nearest to the settlement, namely, Port Pleasant, Darwin's Harbour (on the isthmus, at the head of Choiseul Sound), and one at the foot of Mount St. John, on the San Carlos River. At Port Pleasant and Mount St. John there are corrals ready built. I also propose to construct two hunting corrals in the midst of the cattle districts, on the peninsula south of Choiseul Sound.

The farm near the settlement should be the head-quarters.

I propose that the whole should be placed under a person well acquainted with grazing and agriculture, and who shall be sent previous to his arrival at the Falklands, to visit and report upon the best arranged estancias and saladeros at Buenos Ayres and Monte Video, and while there, he should make such arrangements as to ensure any future supply of guachos and horses that may become necessary; these being his tools to work with. I would prefer a person from England to one from the provinces of the La Plata, because improvements might be expected from the first, and the latter might be inclined to persevere in the same plan he had always followed, although upon a different soil, and in a different climate. The bailiffs or under superintendents should be from Buenos Ayres or Monte Video.

The income for the superintendent should be sufficiently good to insure the choice of a superior person.

I have put it down at 800*l.* a year, nor do I think that with the profits to be derived from his services and talents, it would be by any means too large a sum; and the selection of a well-qualified person is essential to the success of the plan; without such a man it had better not be attempted,

Under the superintendent I would place four bailiffs or stewards, one over each farm, with an income of 150*l.* a year; two herdsmen and two agricultural labourers to each farm; 20 guachos, one of whom to be the capitaz; 200 lassoing horses; two caballerizos to accompany the guachos, and a chief caballerizo at the "settlement farm," to manage the stud of brood mares and stallions, from which the future supply should be kept up for the guachos and others. It might be necessary in the second or third year to have two men in this department.

The salting and hide-curing department also to be under the chief superintendent, and managed by an under superintendent, at 200*l.* per annum; 12 butchers, salters, &c. from

* In my report I stated them as 30,000 cattle and 3,000 horses. The cattle were estimated at 40,000 four or five years ago; but I think that there must have been an error, or else the trespassers round the islands have been extraordinarily busy. It is notorious that one person made his fortune in a short time by his rifle.

† Commander Sullivan rightly objects to the wild bulls, that is, the solitary ones, being killed. I can testify, by experience, that, if mounted, no danger need be apprehended from them, unless violently provoked. The horses are accustomed to resist their attacks, and with their heels are more than masters for the wildest bulls. To persons on foot and alone there may perhaps occasionally be some danger; but after the establishment of the Government breeding stud, every man in the Falklands would be mounted, as horses could then be purchased for 20*s.* or 30*s.* a piece, and their keep would cost nothing.

Cork and Limerick, at 60*l.* per annum each, with rations and house; three coopers (one being also a carpenter) at 60*l.* per annum each, with rations and house.

With regard to the buildings, I propose that the following should be constructed at the "settlement farm."

A large permanent horse and cattle corral of stone, with dwelling for bailiff, guachos, herdsmen, and labourers; an inclosure or paddock, and calf-house; a dwelling-house for superintendent; a dwelling-house for butchers and coopers; salting-house fitted up with tables, &c.; slaughter-house and enclosure: large storehouse; hidehouse; cooper's shop. These buildings to be of wood, made, framed and fitted in England. The prices put down in the estimate are about what they would be furnished at by Manning, of Stepney, from whom I obtained the Government building I am now living in. They should be stronger than the one he furnished me with, and as economy is advisable, they may be very rough. The coopers, with the other assistants sent, ought to be able to put them up.

Eventually new houses of stone should be built, and these converted to other purposes. There is an excellent easily worked quarry of beautiful freestone in thick masses within 200 yards of the sheltered little cove and valley, where I would propose the farm should be. Within 100 yards from the spot where the buildings would be erected, is a natural jetty, easily converted into a very superior one by dry masses of stone from the quarry behind it.

The three country farms should each consist of a large horse and cattle corral with a small dwelling. As there are corrals at Port Pleasant and Mount St. John, it would only be necessary to construct the little cottages at those two places. The farm at Darwin's Harbour should be on a better scale than the other two, and perhaps the bailiff paid a little better. He ought to be able to fill the superintendent's place occasionally, as it might be necessary for him sometimes to visit Monte Video or Buenos Ayres about horses and guachos, only to be obtained from thence.

The farming establishment should be formed and in operation before the salting one arrives from England.

By means of the above establishment, I think that at least 3,000 head of cattle could be slaughtered by the end of the first year, and 200 to 300 head of cattle put on each farm, making in all a capture of 4,000 annually.

In the course of five or six years the exports would be doubled or tripled, and the farms so much increased as to render it advisable to form new ones.

I think that it would be proper to reserve one-third of the profits annually, to improve the lands immediately round each farm by draining where necessary, paring, and burning, sowing with better and mixed grass seeds, enclosing and improving tracts of tussac grass on the sea coast for winter fodder*, and planting fields of turnips and potatoes.

To prevent any mistake that may arise in the minds of any persons in England, who may give attention to the details of this plan, I may state that it is by no means necessary to go into the same expenses here as in England in conducting a cattle farm; all that is required are two corrals or large circular enclosures, about yards in diameter, the wall built of sods or stone, eight feet high, and four feet thick, with strong pieces of timber to ship and unship across the wide opening, and in addition to these, a small cottage of two or three rooms, and plenty of good horses; every man on the farm must be mounted, and should know how to use a lasso.

I will now sum up the above expenses, and set off against it the immediate profits to be derived, without any reference to the stocking the farms.

First Outlay:		£	s.	d.
Two hundred lassoing horses, from the River Plate	-	400	0	0
Expense of conveyance, including provender and passage of guachos	-	2,400	0	0
Twenty sets of good horse-gear (each guacho bringing his own with him in addition)	-	100	0	0
Construction of one permanent cattle and one ditto horse corral	-	300	0	0
Bailiff and guacho's house	-	150	0	0
Three common corrals to the southward of the Wickham Heights	-	300	0	0
Three small cottages or country farms	-	250	0	0
Superintendent's house	-	250	0	0
Ditto for butchers and coopers	-	100	0	0
Salting-house, fitted up with tables, &c.	-	100	0	0
Slaughter-shed and inclosure	-	100	0	0
Hide house	-	50	0	0
Coopers' shop	-	50	0	0
Coopers' and butchers' tools	-	50	0	0
Freight of vessel for superintendent, men, and buildings	-	800	0	0
Contingencies	-	600	0	0
TOTAL	-	6,000	0	0

* This is very advisable, and ought to be commenced as early as possible. The value of this fodder is only to be conceived by those who have witnessed the fondness which cattle show for it, and have tasted the beef so fed.

FALKLAND
ISLANDS.

Annual Expense :					£	s.	d.
Ten per cent. on first outlay	-	-	-	-	600	0	0
Superintendent's salary	-	-	-	-	800	0	0
Four bailiffs or stewards, at 150 <i>l.</i> per annum	-	-	-	-	600	0	0
Eight cattle-keepers, in charge of tame herds, at 50 <i>l.</i> per annum each	-	-	-	-	400	0	0
One caballerizo, in charge of brood mares	-	-	-	-	60	0	0
Eight agricultural labourers, at 40 <i>l.</i>	-	-	-	-	320	0	0
One capitaz and 19 guachos, at 10 dollars per month each (1 dollar = 4 <i>s.</i> 4 <i>d.</i>)	-	-	-	-	520	0	0
Capturing and bringing in 4,000 head of cattle, at 4 <i>s.</i> 3 <i>d.</i> per head, cutting bulls inclusive (the 3 <i>d.</i> for the capitaz, with share)	-	-	-	-	850	0	0
(This would give the capitaz 116 <i>l.</i> per annum, and each guacho 66 <i>l.</i>)							
Two caballerizos to accompany guachos	-	-	-	-	100	0	0
Manager of salting and hide-curing department	-	-	-	-	200	0	0
Twelve butchers, salters, &c., from Cork or Limerick, at 60 <i>l.</i> per ann.	-	-	-	-	720	0	0
Three coopers, at 60 <i>l.</i> per annum	-	-	-	-	180	0	0
Flour, sugar, and tea, in addition to beef, for 59 persons	-	-	-	-	600	0	0
Salt and saltpetre, 27 tons, at 3 <i>l.</i> per ton delivered	-	-	-	-	81	0	0
Four thousand casks (tierces), tubs, hoops, &c.	-	-	-	-	700	0	0
Annual repairs to buildings, &c. and incidental expenses	-	-	-	-	300	0	0
Freight to England of beef, hides, tallow, horns, hair, and crushed bones, including also dues and other shipping expenses, the freight being at 2 <i>l.</i> 10 <i>s.</i> per ton	-	-	-	-	8,000	0	0*
TOTAL Annual Expense					£ 15,031	0	0

ESTIMATE of First Annual Receipt by Sale in *London*.

	£	s.	d.
3,947 tierces of mess beef, at 4 <i>l.</i> † the tierce	15,788	0	0
3,000 hides (salt), averaging 70 lbs. each, at 4 <i>d.</i> per lb.	3,500	0	0
3,000 tongues, at 2 <i>s.</i> each	300	0	0
6,000 horns, at 30 <i>s.</i> per 123	73	0	0
600 cwt. of best tallow	1,500	0	0
30 tons of crushed bones, at 2 <i>d.</i> per lb.	560	0	0
Hair and hoofs	?		
First Annual Receipts	£ 21,721	0	0
First Annual Expense	£ 14,871	0	0
TOTAL Profit at the End of the First Year	£ 6,850	0	0

I will conclude with these remarks. It has often been urged, that salt-beef from the River Plate would keep beef from the Falklands quite out of the market; if so, it seems strange, considering the enterprise of British merchants, that salt-beef has not yet been exported from thence in sufficient quantities to lower the price in the London market. I have, however, received very good information from Monte Video, that meat there will seldom take salt sufficiently well for exportation.‡

In the Falkland Islands meat takes salt perfectly, and all the year round; and the pastures and temperate climate add to their other advantages, both in breeding and fattening cattle, as well as salting, so that the quality of the meat would be much better than any which could be exported from the Continent; more so, indeed, it also appears to me, than even from any other of the British grazing colonies; the coolness of the summer, and mildness of the winter, both acting in its favour.

* This would seem to be a large sum for shipping expenses, but I think it would be found very nearly correct. I estimate the tonnage as following :

	Tons.
3,000 head of cattle, at 400 lbs. each, in salting pieces, 3,947 tierces	2,866
3,000 hides, at 70 lbs. each	93
600 cwt. of the best tallow	30
3,000 horns	20
Bones crushed	30
	3,039

At 2*l.* 10*s.* per ton - £7,097

† Selling at 6*l.* 5*s.* per tierce (mess) by the last prices.

‡ The "jerked beef" from thence would not find a sale in the English or European markets.

The

The prevalence of winds, which almost entirely cease in winter, do not appear to be at all felt by the cattle or horses.

I am desirous of the above plan being carried into execution by a company*, rather than by the Government, simply because, upon many general grounds not necessary to be mentioned here, I do not deem it advisable for Government to enter into any mercantile speculations when it may be avoided, and because I anticipate that a company would be induced to enter into other extensive operations, such as importing sheep (to be purchased in the River La Plata at 9*d.* each) from Buenos Ayres, and improving them by Leicesters, South-downs, and Cheviots, from England.

With reference to the success of the speculation, it would only remain for a company who might be permitted to undertake, to decide whether they would be content with a dividend of seven per cent. at the end of 18 months after investing their capital, and the certainty of an annual increase in a very rapid ratio.

Government House, Port Louis,
10th October 1842.

I have, &c.
(signed) R. C. MOODY, Lieut.-Governor.

FALKLAND
ISLANDS.

No. 25.

(No. 40.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Lieutenant-Governor MOODY to Lord STANLEY.

No. 25.
Lieut. Gov. Moody
to
Lord Stanley,
8th Nov. 1842.

My Lord,

Government House, Port Louis,
Falkland Islands, 8th November 1842.

I HAVE the honour to inform your Lordship of the following case concerning an emigrant, his wife, and two children, sent out to the Falkland Islands by Mr. ———, of ———, and bound under an agreement to serve his agent for a period of three years.

It appears that the said emigrant, ———, is a native of ———; and, according to his own account, was induced to emigrate by Mr. ———. Some circumstances have, however, transpired which induce me to suppose that he was a pauper, and that the parish, from some causes, were very anxious to be rid of him, his wife, and her children.

I beg leave to enclose a copy of the agreement which the said ——— entered into, and which he declares he had not seen until he signed it on board the Princess Royal, lying at Gravesend, immediately previous to her departure; and as he could neither read nor write, the agreement was read to him.

* It appears that on the voyage the nature of the agreement was more fully explained to him by some of his fellow-emigrants; and he perceived that he would have to provide clothes for himself, his wife, and children, at his own expense, or rather, by running into debt with any one who would trust him; as, although the wages were very low (10*l.* for his wife and himself), yet he would not be entitled to any until the end of the three years, nor even any wages at all, if he should at any time be guilty "of any dishonesty, neglect, wilful impropriety, or damage," besides receiving "local punishment."

In consequence of the above comprehension of the nature of his agreement, the said ——— came before me to ascertain whether it would be binding on him. I gave my attention to the subject; and, sending for Mr. ———, I pointed out the hardness of the bargain, adding, I could not sanction so very improvident an arrangement for a poor man, and I recommended him at once to draw up one of a more liberal nature. Mr. ——— declined doing so; and, upon his return to his house, immediately dismissed the said ——— and his wife from his service, who were at once employed by one of the settlers upon very advantageous terms.

As in a second interview, which I requested, Mr. ——— informed me that three other persons, two blacksmiths and a carpenter, were serving upon

* I mean a really respectable company, possessing capital, and managed by men of mercantile influence, whose co-operation would guarantee that it was not one of the numerous fictitious joint-stock jobbing schemes of the day. If such an associated body as the latter were to get the cattle into their hands, it would be very difficult indeed to frame any laws to prevent the utter annihilation of the herds when the bubble burst, in order to secure any return; hides, tallow, anything, in short, to attempt to stay their bankruptcy.

FALKLAND
ISLANDS.

agreements of a similar nature, I deemed it right to inform him, that, should they also desire to leave his service, I should not feel myself justified in obliging them to return; and furthermore, that as I could not sanction such a practice as for Mr. — in London or him to bring servants or artificers, and then dismiss them, as he had done —, whether they could find employment or not, and so cause them to seek support from the Government, I should compel him, upon any future occasion, to support such persons in a manner I should direct, until they could obtain permanent employment, or else send them back again to their parish in England at his own expense.

Had it not been for the very recent and unexpected arrival of a shopkeeper from Monte Video, the case of —, and others, whom Mr. — informs me are bound to serve him under similar agreements, would have been peculiarly hard, because, until then, Mr. — was the only person in the colony from whom the poorer settlers, and those bound to serve him, could purchase clothes.

I shall conclude by taking the liberty of remarking, complaints have repeatedly been made to me by persons in Mr. —'s employment concerning the nature of their agreements*; and I, therefore, venture to draw your Lordship's attention to the importance of measures being adopted to prevent persons sending poor people from England upon terms so improvident as those drawn up in the case above referred to; and I solicit any instructions your Lordship may be pleased to afford me on the subject, more particularly as regards the legality of such contracts.

I have, &c.
(signed) R. C. MOODY,
Lieutenant-Governor.

Encl. in No. 25.

Enclosure in No. 25.

MEMORANDUM of an agreement made and entered into this 12th day of July 1842, by and between —, of —, and —, of —, to the effect and purpose following; viz. That the said — hereby agrees and engages, and does hire and bind himself and his wife for a period of three years, to proceed to and stay at the Falkland Islands, as the servant of the said —, and of his agent, there to act as a competent gardener and labourer, and likewise to work at such and all other and every kind of work required of him, both afloat and ashore; and for such duties, honestly, zealously, and industriously, performed for the interest of his said employers, by their orders and their agents and assigns, then the said — shall receive the sum of 10*l*. for the first year, 12*l*. for the second year, and 15*l*. for the third year; in addition thereto, board, lodging, and passage gratis; said salary to commence from landing at the Falkland Islands, and be payable at the expiration of said third and last year, unless the said employers may think fit, for good conduct or expediency, to advance any monies from time to time, and to increase their remuneration in any way for good services, &c. For any dishonesty, neglect, wilful impropriety or damage, of which the said servants shall be convicted, their wages shall become forfeited, in addition to local punishment. And further, it is hereby agreed that Jane, the wife of said —, sailing from — with her two children at the cost and expense of said —, and to be boarded and lodged at the islands, she the said Jane shall act as the domestic servant for baking, brewing, dairying, and household work of and for Mr. —, in any and all reasonable way required of her otherwise.

(signed) —.

Witness, &c. —.

Witness, —.

* In other colonies, where there is a constant demand for labour, the evils of improvident agreements are scarcely felt, because the employer is quickly made to feel what is his best interest without the necessity of any interference. In these islands, however, for the present, the poor emigrant, on forcing a dismissal, would at once be thrown on his own resources, and, although at last he would become independent by industry, his hardships at first would be great.

No. 26.

COPY of a LETTER from J. STEPHEN Esq. to the Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners.

Gentlemen,

Downing-street, 15th March 1843.

I AM directed by Lord Stanley to transmit to you, herewith, the copy of a despatch from the Lieutenant Governor of the Falkland Islands, reporting the steps which he had taken with reference to a contract made by an immigrant with Mr. ———, the provisions of which appear to have been very unfavourable to the immigrant.

As it would appear that other individuals had been persuaded to come under contracts of the same nature with the same parties, Lord Stanley desires that you will adopt such measures as may be in your power to warn individuals who may contemplate emigrating to the Falkland Islands against subjecting themselves to obligations so improvident and disadvantageous.

I am, &c.
(signed) J. STEPHEN.

FALKLAND ISLANDS.

No. 26.
J. Stephen, Esq.
to
the Colonial Land
and Emigration
Commissioners,
15th March 1843.

No. 40. 8th Nov.

No. 27.

(No. 42.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Lieutenant-Governor MOODY to Lord STANLEY.

My Lord,

Government House, Port Louis,
Falkland Islands, 10th November 1842.

I HAVE the honour of submitting the following additional remarks to the details of the proposed survey department, submitted for your Lordship's consideration in Despatch No. 18, dated 30th April 1842.

By the two clerks recommended for the Survey Office, I would wish it to be understood that it is not intended they should be merely clerks for writing, but calculators and draughtsmen, both in right-lined drawing and hill-drawing, or what is called "shading ground," and should be men who have already been employed in a survey office in that capacity.*

In Despatch No. 18, I have not alluded to the pay of the surveyors and chainmen, although in my General Report, No. 14, in estimating the probable expense of the survey, I allowed 12s. per diem, with rations, for each assistant surveyor, and 3s. per diem, with rations, for each chainman.

I do not think that considering their labour and exposure, 12s. is by any means too much for an industrious and well-qualified person, but I would prefer, that in the first instance, they should receive 7s. per diem with rations, and that I should have the power of raising it individually, upon the recommendation of the chief surveyor, in a degree proportionate to the industry they show, and the qualifications each may prove himself to be possessed of, but that such daily pay should not exceed 10s. without especial permission from your Lordship.

It is necessary for me to observe, that this surveying establishment is proposed entirely upon the understanding, that there exists in England, on the part of many, a desire to emigrate and invest capital in the Falklands. Under

* In a note to Despatch No. 19, I have alluded to Corporal Richardson as being available for the Survey Office, but he would only be so as a clerk and calculator, and not as a draughtsman; and, indeed, being so good a bricklayer, and my only one, I think, upon further consideration, that he should not be taken from his present duty.

No. 27.
Lieut.-Gov. Moody
to
Lord Stanley,
10th Nov. 1842.

FALKLAND
ISLANDS.

such circumstances, it is the smallest surveying staff which would be either economical, or could nearly keep pace with the offers of purchase, even with a good start beforehand. Should it however appear to your Lordship, that such a desire exists only among a very few, half the establishment and half the stores enumerated in Despatch No. 18, would be sufficient, not deducting any article in the latter of which only one in number is demanded. The establishment in this case should consist of one chief surveyor, three assistant surveyors*, and 10 chainmen; if possible, with wives, who would be of great service to the colony, and to themselves, in rearing pigs and poultry, and baking, cooking, and washing for the men in the colony.

I am very desirous of suggesting to your Lordship, that at all events the small party should be sent to enable me to prosecute a careful general survey of the interior, lay out the best lines for roads, define the bounds of the best lands, and in fact to have a good foundation laid beforehand for anything that it may hereafter be thought desirable to execute in aid of colonization.

Should your Lordship be pleased to consider favourably of the survey being carried on under Mr. Robinson's directions, of whose industry and the accuracy of whose work I have experience and am well satisfied, it would be advisable that the person I have ventured to recommend in Despatch No. 18, to be sent to relieve him in his present duties, should also be a qualified accountant.

I would gladly be relieved in this part of my duty, and I am persuaded that such relief would be much to the advantage of the general duties carried on under my immediate superintendence.

I have lastly to state, that I am unacquainted with the mode in which stores for colonial service are selected, and forwarded, and as the selection of the very best is essential to the accuracy and excellence of a survey, I take the liberty of suggesting, that such selection should be deputed to some person of acknowledged experience in surveying duties, or that application be made to the headquarters of the Ordnance Survey Department in the Tower.

I have, &c.
(signed) R. C. MOODY.

No. 28.
Lord Stanley
to
Lieut. Gov. Moody,
15th March 1843.

(No. 24.)

No. 28.

COPY of a DESPATCH from LORD STANLEY to Lieutenant-Governor MOODY.

Sir,

Downing-street, 15th March 1843.

I HAVE to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch of the 10th November last, No. 42, containing some additional suggestions on the subject of the survey department, which, in your General Report, you proposed to constitute for the service of the Falkland Islands.

By my despatch of the 25th January last, you will perceive that that part of your General Report which relates to the survey department, had engaged the particular attention of the Commissioners of Land and Emigration, who had entered into correspondence respecting it with Captain Dawson; and that having reference to the improbability of any considerable emigration at the present moment to the Falkland Islands, the Commissioners had recommended that the gentleman now acting as storekeeper should be appointed to superintend the survey department; that the men of the sappers and miners should compose the surveying parties; and that the only officer to be sent out from this country should be one clerk to the surveyor. In these recommendations I have concurred, and the estimate to be submitted to Parliament has been framed in accordance with them; and I shall lose no time as soon as the estimate shall have been passed in selecting a fit person to fill the situation of clerk to the surveyor.

I have, &c.
(signed) STANLEY.

* One of these to be a draughtsman and clerk for the office.

No. 29.

(No. 43.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Lieutenant-Governor MOODY to Lord STANLEY.

FALKLAND
ISLANDS.

No. 29.

Lieut. Gov. Moody
to
Lord Stanley,
16th Nov. 1842.Government House, Port Louis,
Falkland Islands, 16th November 1842.

My Lord,

I HAVE the honour of informing your Lordship of the return of the Antarctic Expedition from St. Martin's Cove, near Cape Horn, bringing me 700 young trees, chiefly winter barks, beeches, and holly-leaved berberries, all in excellent order. Captain Ross has also added a further valuable service to the colony, by bringing 400 or 500 pieces of timber of different sizes, several of them sufficiently good for the rafters of thatched roofs to small cottages.

The trees were immediately planted, and, from the very careful manner in which they were brought over, I trust will succeed, although they were in leaf, the spring far advanced, and the ground here much parched for want of rain. Indeed so little rain has fallen since the beginning of October, and from want of spare hands to water, the seeds of vegetables sown in the government garden have made but little progress.

The satisfactory state in which the trees have arrived from a much greater distance, and more stormy locality, than need be resorted to by a vessel sent on purpose, has convinced me that, in sheltered vallies, with ground prepared beforehand, and at the fall of the year, or very early in the spring, plantations in these islands, formed under the superintendence of an experienced planter, would thrive and might be carried to any extent at a small expense.

A colonial vessel would bring many thousands in a trip of a month.

I am also informed that the furze hedges at Port Egmont, West Falkland, from seed sown by the English in former years, are now of a great height and impenetrably thick, from the ground upwards.

Furze, therefore, on the top of a small embankment, would greatly assist to screen the young plantation. But until these operations are carried into execution by an experienced person, I should attach no importance to their failure, because I well know the care with which the distinction should be made, between transplanting those trees taken from the centre, and those from the skirts of a wood, also the importance of not lacerating or tearing any of the roots in taking them up, and the delicate manner in which they should afterwards be laid down; the soil and situation also should, if possible, be similar in both cases. The perfect success and unexpected failures from attention and inattention to these and other apparently trifling details, may be observed every day in the extensive plantations in Scotland and exposed parts of Ireland.

There is no person in the colony at all qualified to carry out these essentials to ensure success, and indeed I trust your Lordship will forgive my so often venturing to remark that an experienced gardener, or intelligent general superintendent of the government farm, is much needed at the Falkland Islands.

I will conclude by noticing that the holly-leaved berberry of these regions is a very ornamental tree, or rather large shrub, bearing remarkably delicate and beautiful clusters of orange-coloured flowers, and, what is of some importance, the bark, as in the other berberries, yields a brilliant and abundant yellow dye.

I have, &c.
(signed) R. C. MOODY,
Lieutenant-Governor.

No. 30.

(No. 27.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Lord STANLEY to Lieutenant-Governor MOODY.

No. 30.

Lord Stanley
to
Lieut. Gov. Moody,
25th March 1843.

Sir,

Downing-street, 25th March 1843.

I HAVE to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch of the 16th November last, No. 43, reporting that Captain J. Ross had brought to the Falkland Islands a number of young trees, which you had caused to be planted, and that

(148.) N 2 you

FALKLAND
ISLANDS.

you were not without hopes that they might succeed. I shall be happy to hear that this has been the case, as a growth of timber on the islands would no doubt be very advantageous; but I cannot hold out to you at present the expectation that Her Majesty's Government will incur the expense of sending out at the public charge a person to act as gardener.

I have, &c.
(signed) STANLEY.

No. 31.
Lord Stanley
to
Lieut. Gov. Moody,
9th March 1843.

No. 31.

(No. 22.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Lord STANLEY to Lieutenant-Governor MOODY.

Sir,

Downing-street, 9th March 1843.

WITH reference to my despatch of the 26th ult. (page 60), I transmit herewith, for your information, the copy of a letter from the Secretary to the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, explaining the exact nature of the instructions issued by their Lordships in regard to the stationing of a small vessel of war at the Falkland Islands.

3d March.

I have, &c.
(signed) STANLEY.

Encl. in No. 31.

Enclosure in No. 31.

Sir,

Admiralty, 3d March 1843.

HAVING laid before my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty your letter of the 2d instant, relative to the permanent employment of a gun-brig at the Falkland Islands, I am commanded by my Lords to acquaint you for the information of Lord Stanley, that their Lordships cannot, without inconvenience, appropriate two vessels of war to relieve each other merely for guard duty at the Falkland Islands; that the Philomel sloop of war, surveying vessel, has been ordered there since the date of Lieutenant Moody's letter; and their Lordships will direct Commodore Purvis to send, for the duty pointed out by Lieutenant Moody, one of the small vessels under his command, and to cause this service to be attended to, and kept up, as far as may be in his power and the means at his disposal will admit of, which their Lordships trust will sufficiently meet the object of his Lordship and of the Lieutenant-governor.

J. Stephen, Esq.
Colonial Department.

I am, &c.
(signed) JOHN BARROW.

No. 32.
Lord Stanley
to
Lieut. Gov. Moody,
13th March 1843.

No. 32.

(No. 23.)

COPY of a DESPATCH from Lord STANLEY to Lieutenant-Governor MOODY.

Sir,

Downing-street, 13th March 1843.

I have the honour to transmit to you herewith the copy of a Report which has been addressed to the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty by Sir H. T. De la Bêche, on the subject of some specimens of coal found in the Falkland Islands. I have to desire that you will furnish me with any further information which you may be able to obtain on the subject of the coal formations in the colony.

7th March.

I have, &c.
(signed) STANLEY.

No. 33.
Sir John Barrow
to
G. W. Hope, Esq.,
7th March 1843.

No. 33.

COPY of a LETTER from Sir JOHN BARROW Bart. to G. W. HOPE Esq.

Sir,

Admiralty, 7th March 1843.

My Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty having received the enclosed report of an analysis of coal sent from the Falkland Islands, I am commanded

by

by my Lords to send you a copy thereof, for the information of Lord Stanley, and to acquaint you that they are desirous of such further investigation being made as is practicable.

FALKLAND
ISLANDS.

I am, &c.
(signed) JOHN BARROW.

Enclosure in No. 33.

Encl. in No. 33.

Sir,

Museum of Economic Geology,
Department of H. M. Woods, &c. 28th Feb. 1843.

SOME delay has taken place in reporting on the specimens sent from the Admiralty to this establishment, in consequence of an analysis of coal (one of the specimens) being necessary, and it being desirable that this analysis should be executed with the precision required in modern chemistry, for which we had not the last improved apparatus until lately.

Having now carefully examined the specimens transmitted, and the analysis above mentioned being completed, I am enabled to state, for the information of the Admiralty, that, regarding the utility of the substances shown by the specimens to occur in the Falkland Islands, good coal and valuable peat are found in those islands.

The specimens of coal were unfortunately without tickets when they came to this establishment, and therefore their exact locality is not apparent; but, judging from specimens of carbonaceous shale, with tickets, probably associated with coal, they may have come from Sussex Harbour, East Falkland.

The specimens show good bituminous coal, fit for a variety of purposes; and it may be useful to compare an analysis of it, made in our laboratory, with one of some of the best of the Dean Forest coals, also made in our laboratory.

	Falkland Islands.	Dean Forest.
Carbon	77.97	71.14
Hydrogen	5.42	4.90
Nitrogen	0.95	1.41
Silica	2.00	0.85
Alumina	1.84	0.65
Sulphate of lime	0.24	
Iron pyrites		7.12
Sesqui-sulphate of iron		1.60
Water	3.25	4.68
Oxygen and loss	8.33	7.65

Although the specimens thus prove the occurrence of good coal in the Falkland Islands, it should be observed, that further information is necessary, in order to judge of the capability of its being profitably worked, information showing the thickness of the coal-beds, and the dip or angle they make with the horizon, coal frequently occurring in beds too thin to be of any economic value.

Beds of coal, of three or four feet in thickness, have been stated to have been found in the Falkland Islands; but this requires confirmation.

Among the remaining specimens, which are chiefly those of ordinary rocks, are some of the peat said to abundantly occur in these islands. These specimens show that, as in some of the great peat bogs in Ireland, the lower parts of the peat accumulations assume a very bituminous character. From White Rock Harbour, West Falkland, there is a specimen so highly bituminous, that it has nearly the aspect of pitch; it burns with a brilliant flame, and might be very advantageously employed for gas-light purposes; it would also, if properly treated, afford coal-tar, and would also be valuable on this account, if it should be found to occur in sufficient abundance.

Hon. Sidney Herbert, M. P.

I have, &c.
(signed) H. T. DE LA BÊCHE.

No. 34.

LETTER from J. STEPHEN Esq. to the COLONIAL LAND AND EMIGRATION
COMMISSIONERS.

Gentlemen,

Downing-street, 20th March 1843.

LEAVE having been now obtained from the House of Commons for the introduction of a Bill to enable Her Majesty to establish a more regular system of government in the Falkland Islands, I am directed by Lord Stanley to desire
(148.) N 3 that

No. 34.

J. Stephen, Esq.
to
the Colonial Land
and Emigration
Commissioners,
20th March 1843.

FALKLAND
ISLANDS.

that you will prepare and submit for his consideration the plan which it seems to you most desirable to establish in that colony for the management and sale of public land.

I am, &c.
(signed) J. STEPHEN.

No. 35.

Colonial Land and
Emigration Com-
missioners

to

G. W. Hope, Esq.
28th March 1843.

No. 35.

LETTER from the COLONIAL LAND AND EMIGRATION COMMISSIONERS to
G. W. HOPE Esq.

Colonial Land and Emigration Office,
9, Park-street, Westminster, 28th March 1843.

Sir,

We beg to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 20th instant, informing us that, as leave had been given by the House of Commons for the introduction of a Bill to enable Her Majesty to establish a more regular system of government in the Falkland Islands, Lord Stanley desired a further communication from us relative to the disposal of the public lands.

In reply we have the honour to state, that, subject to the appointment of the additional persons who are requisite for carrying on the government in the colony, and for whom provision has been made in the Parliamentary Estimate, we see no reason why a system of sale for the waste lands should not at once be authorized both in this country and in the colony.

In regard to the mode of sale, we would recommend the adoption of the mixed system, which has been introduced, by the authority of Parliament, into the Australian colonies, viz., of exposing all country lands once to auction, and leaving the unsold portions to be purchased, as required, by private contract. The town and suburban lots would, in conformity with the same plan, never be sold otherwise than by auction.

In our letter of 10th December last (p. 41) we expressed our concurrence in the opinion of the Lieutenant-governor that the price of the country lands should not be higher than 8s. per acre. He considered that a sum adequate to the charges, properly thrown upon the land fund, would be thereby obtained; and we also thought that, as the disposition on the part of the public to purchase colonial lands had lately been checked, it would probably not be prudent that a higher price should be named for the present. We should accordingly recommend this to be adopted as the upset price.

The price which has been proposed for the town lots, of half an acre each, is 50*l.*; and at that rate the Lieutenant-governor appears already to have disposed of a few sections. The price proposed for suburban lots, of 25 acres each, is 2*l.* per acre, or 50*l.* for the section. These prices we recommend to be adopted also as the upset prices.

We should next propose, as in the case of the Australian colonies, to offer to receive deposits in this country for the purchase of land, and to apply such portions of them as may be sanctioned by Her Majesty's Government to the conveyance of labouring people suitable for the colony, who might be nominated, if desired, by the persons who effected the purchase. The deposits should be made, according to the established rule for other colonies, in sums of not less than 100*l.* each.

We think that, independently of these general arrangements, it ought to be open to the Government to make a special contract with any company or large purchasers who may be willing to embark their capital in the settlement of these islands.

Previously to announcing to the public that the waste lands in this colony were open for sale, we should wish to prepare and print, in as compendious a form as possible, the principal facts to be gathered from the papers now about to be laid before Parliament, in order to throw light upon the capabilities of the colony as a place of settlement, and upon the prospects of persons, whether capitalists or labourers, who should emigrate there. We should at the same time cause it to be distinctly understood, that the prices named for the waste lands are not permanent, but are liable to be raised or lowered whenever it should seem fit to Her Majesty's Government.

In our regulations for the selection of emigrants, especial reference will of course be made to the descriptions given by the Lieutenant-governor and others acquainted with the colony, of the persons who would be found most serviceable, as well as best adapted to the climate. It would seem desirable that no extensive emigration should take place from this country to the Falklands till after the beginning of July, in order that the emigrants may not arrive during the equinoctial gales, or until the winter is completely over.

As soon as the terms of sale shall be definitively arranged and announced to the public in this country, we propose to bring under Lord Stanley's notice the expediency of acting upon the Lieutenant-governor's suggestion of forwarding copies of any such announcement to Her Majesty's ministers and consuls in certain parts of South America, where it appears probable that there are some English residents who might be desirous of taking part in the settlement of these islands.

The only practical question besides the sale of lands which would seem still to remain for consideration, is the disposal of the wild cattle; and upon this head we have adverted to the carefully-drawn scheme for their management which has been sent home by the Lieutenant-governor, in his despatch, No. 35, of 10th October 1842. It would certainly not appear desirable that a scheme involving such a large preliminary expenditure, and requiring such constant and careful superintendence, should be undertaken by the Government with a view to commercial profit. On the other hand, as regards any arrangement with a company, there is as yet so little information as to the disposition which may exist, or will arise, to associate for the purpose of colonizing these islands, and of investing capital in the various undertakings connected with that object, that we think it would be premature, before all the facts at present known had been for some time published, to consider, further than has been done in our previous reports, the terms upon which the valuable property in these animals shall be disposed of. We would therefore beg leave to suggest for Lord Stanley's consideration, that no practical decision be come to on this matter until the effect be seen of publishing the Lieutenant-governor's reports concerning them, together with his estimate of the expense and profits of their management.

We have, &c.

(signed) T. FRED. ELLIOT.
EDWARD E. VILLIERS.

No. 36.

LETTER FROM J. STEPHEN Esq. to the LAND AND EMIGRATION COMMISSIONERS.

Gentlemen,

I AM directed by Lord Stanley to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 28th ult. reporting, in obedience to his Lordship's instructions, the regulations which you would propose to establish for the disposal of the public lands in the Falkland Islands, and to convey to you his Lordship's approval of the proposed regulations.

I have, &c.
(signed) J. STEPHEN.

No. 36.

J. Stephen, Esq.
to
Land and Emigra-
tion Commis-
sioners,
4th April 1843.

THE FALKLAND ISLANDS 1841.

R&F