

B

LETTERS
BOOK
STATE

DESPATCHES
TO SECRETARY
OF STATE FROM
GOVERNOR
2 January 1894
to 20 July 1898

24

No. 87

Government House.
20th October, 1897.assumption
of Govt
by
W. Grey-Wilson

Sir,

I have the honour to report my arrival and assumption
this day of the Government of the Falkland Islands and their
Dependencies.

The Right Honble,

J. Chamberlain, M.P.
Secretary of State
cc. cc. cc.
Downing Street.I have &c.
(sd) W. Grey-Wilson
Governor.

No. 88

Government House.
Stanley, 20 October, 1897.Home
Audit

Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your
Despatch No. 39 dated the 3rd September, and to inform you
that the usual sum of £ 30 for Home Audit finds a place
in the Estimates for the coming year forwarded with the
Administrator's Despatch No. 73 of the 25th ultimo.

The Right Honble,

J. Chamberlain M.P.
Secretary of State.
cc. cc. cc.
Downing Street.I have &c.
(sd) W. Grey-Wilson.
Governor.

No. 89.

Fencing
OrdinanceGovernment House.
Stanley, 21st October, 1897.

Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of
your Despatch No. 41 dated the 10th ultimo, and to inform
you that the question of the treatment of fencing as an
improvement has in accordance with your instructions
been dealt with by an Ordinance to amend the Fencing
Ordinance of 1896 transmitted with the Administrator's
Despatch No. 71 of the 9th September.The Right Honble,
J. Chamberlain, M.P.
Secretary of State
cc. cc. cc.I have &c.
(sd) W. Grey-Wilson.
Governor.80 G 89 Trans to C.O. Oct 22^d 1898
Rec'd by C.O. 29th Nov:

W. G.W.

No. 90.

FeesAllocation of
Fees of Officers.

Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Circular Despatch of the 25th August with reference to the allocation of fees of Officers.

The only fees received by Public Officers in this Colony are on account of :-

Special Marriage License paid to Governor.

Shipping fees.

" " Shipping Master

The practice has been for such fees to be paid to the
88
locum tenens.

An Ordinance now under consideration provides that all fees received under any Act or Ordinance shall be paid into the Treasury and that repayment of such fees shall only be made when any Officer is specially authorised under any Ordinance or by the Secretary of State to receive them.

The Right Honble,
J. Chamberlain, M.P.
Secretary of State.
&c. &c. &c.

I have &c.
(sd) W. Grey-Wilson.
Governor.

No. 91

"Times"

Government House.
Stanley, 10 Nov. 1897.

Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Despatch No. 46 of the 5th of October informing me that you cannot approve of the "Times" being supplied unless there are very special grounds for the request.

I think I can convince you that very special grounds do exist in connection with this Colony.

(a) For very many years I have studied the "Times" law reports as the best means of acquiring a knowledge of current legal questions and as I was instructed to assume the duties of Chief Justice without salary I felt justified in ordering that paper.

(b) The sailing question was, when I left England,
about

about to be resumed in connection with Northern waters - & this question is of unusual importance for this colony and in no paper but the "Times" is that subject likely to be adequately reported.

(c) I ascertained before leaving England that there is in this Colony neither a public library nor a reading room, & it appeared to me that the "Times" would in a measure meet this want though in a very limited way and as initial experiment only.

(d) I believe that the Governor of every colony is supplied free of expense not only with all local papers - but with those of the neighbouring colonies. This colony has no local paper.

3. The need for stimulating Imperial sentiment is so very remote a colony as this is very great & I do hesitate to recommend that 2 or 3 daily papers should be imported by the Government & placed somewhere for public reference.

4. I was prepared to find this colony undeveloped and backward but this preparation did not diminish the shock of the discovery that the so called library at Govt. House did not contain a single book and that the Governor's Office contains a dictionary & few books of reference only two of which the Colonial Office list & the Statesman's Year Book are current.

The Right Honble,
J. Chamberlain, M.P.
Secretary of State
&c. &c. &c.

I have &c.
(sd) W. Grey-Wilson.
Governor.

No. 92
Stores

Government House
11 November, 1897.

Sir,

I have the honour to report that I have "approved" requisitions upon the Crown Agents which will probably amount to over £200.

These requisitions are for articles urgently required by the Public Works Department and will I trust be sanctioned by you.

I have not yet had time to go into the Public works arrangements but we are at present hampered at every turn by the want of necessary stores & store adjuncts.

The Right Honble,
J. Chamberlain, M.P.
Secretary of State

I have &c.
(sd) W. Grey-Wilson
Governor.

Recd by C.O. Dec 18th

90 to 92 and Nov: 12th

30th Nov: 97N^o 93Gazettes
supplied

Sir,

I have the honour to transmit such of the documents asked for in Mr Wingfield's despatch library of the 24th September, as are available only one copy of ordinance No. 9 of 1882 is enclosed as it is out of print.

The Right Honble,

J. Chamberlain, M.P.

Secretary of State

&c. &c. &c.

I have &c

(sd) W. Grey-Wilson.

Governor.

N^o 94.Statement of
Revenue & Expenditure.Government House
Stanley, 12th December
1897.

Sir,

I have the honour to transmit a statement of the Revenue & Expenditure of the Colony for the quarter ended on the 30th of September last.

I have &c.

(sd) W. Grey Wilson.

Governor.

93, 94 by H.M. S. Swallow Dec 4th

30 Sept. 197

The Right Honble,

J. Chamberlain, M.P.

Secretary of State

&c. &c. &c.

N^o 95.Fugitive
offenders

Book 25 page 98

Sir,

Government House.
Stanley, 4th December 197.

am by Gen 4 - Aug 1899

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your circular despatch of the 15th of September relating to the arrest of fugitive offenders.

2.

My predecessor in despatch No. 14 of the 11th January 1892 arranged that any telegram from this Colony to the Metropolitan Police should be sent by the Governor and I am of opinion that it is desirable for the sake of uniformity that any telegrams transmitted by the Home Secretary should be addressed to the Governor.

3.

It is assumed that the "Government telegraph code for foreign telegrams" will be used for a telegram in either direction as I am not in possession of

of the code which I understand the Police authorities in England make use of.

4.

This Government will be prepared to make every effort to arrange for the conveyance of a prisoner in the custody of the master of the ship in any case where the Home Secretary desires it.

The Right Honble
J. Chamberlain, M.P.
&c. &c. &c.

I have &c.
(sd) W. Grey-Wilson.
Governor.

N^o 96.

Craigie Halkett
pay

Government House.
Stanley, 7th December 197.

Sir,

I have the honour to transmit an application from M^r Craigie Halkett with reference to the undrawn salaries of the officers he discharged upon the retirement of Sir Roger Goldsworthy in April last.

2. The amount of salary available under the legal vote is £ 168-0-1 and under the Vote for Governor is £ 57-4-1.

3. I shall be glad if you are able to favourably entertain this application.

The Right Honble,
J. Chamberlain, M.P.
&c. &c. &c.

I have &c.
(sd) W. Grey-Wilson.
Governor.

95, 96 by H.M.S. Beagle Dec 9th

93 to 96 Rec by C.O. 6 Jan: ^{at}

N^o 97.
salaries
Audit

Government House.
Stanley, Dec^r 9th, 1897.

Sir,

With reference to your despatch No. 35 of the 21st August last I would ask to be informed, to what extent your despatch affects the following items in the Estimates

Auditor general accounts. £ 20.

Savings Bank. 15.

Manager Savings " 20.

Clerk " 10.

The last two items were sanctioned in your despatch

The Right Honble, No. 65 of the 26th November, 1896.
J. Chamberlain, M.P.

I have &c.
(sd) W. Grey-Wilson.
Governor.

97 by Basilisk Dec 11th
Rec by C.O. Jan 10th

N^o 98
Fencing

Sir,

14th December, 1897.

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch No. 48 of the 30th of October, with reference to an Ordinance (No. 6 of 1897) to amend the fencing Ordinance.

I have noted in the margin the despatches dealing with this subject but I do not ^{now} propose to enter upon any side issue that has been raised.

I am not in sympathy with Ordinance No. 6 of 1897 because it appears to me still further to complicate a subject already fully confused.

"Ignorantia juris quod quisque teneat esse excusat" is doubtless indisputably necessary but I deem it to be little less indispensable for the Government to do everything in their power to enable the public to become acquainted with the law.

I do not believe there are in the Colony more than two copies of the local laws collected up to date - one of these is in the Colonial Secretary's Office and the other I have made, and until it is possible to render available to the general public at least one copy of the Ordinances in force all amending Ordinances should whenever possible consolidate also.

I would therefore suggest that Ordinance No. 6 of 1897 should not be brought into force and that an Ordinance should be framed repealing: -

No. 2 of 1854 sections 5.6.7.
No. 9 of 1882.

No. 2 " 1894

No. 9 " 1894.

No. 6 " 1896.

No. 6 " 1897.

and re-enacting and simplifying their provisions with the following amendments.

(a) That any fence or other improvements upon suburban land and any dividing fences which did not exactly follow the actual boundary line between any stations should if sanctioned and approved by the Governor in Council rank in every respect as an improvement for which the tenant would be entitled

4. memo to
S. of S. 17 of 96
18 of 1896
55 of 1896
78 of 1896
39 of 1897
71 of 1897
89 of 1897.

S. of S. to
Governor.

34 of 1896
56 of 1896
4 of 1897
41 of 1897
48 of 1897.

to be compensated.

(b) That the compensation allowed for any improvement should where more than one person is interested be apportioned in the ratio in which the cost had been contributed.

(c) That summary jurisdiction should be given to make an order for the erection, repair, or renewal of a fence whenever any lessee proved that he had suffered or was liable to suffer loss or injury at the hands of his neighbour by reason of, there being no fence, or, the existing fence being inadequate.

(d) To give power in every case for any person aggrieved by such order to appeal to the supreme court.

7. The Governor in Council would before sanctioning any fence under (a) receive a full report from an Inspector and there should therefore be no difficulty in protecting the Government from having to allow compensation for wholly unnecessary fences erected upon suburban land to meet the peculiar views of any tenant.

8. I should certainly like to see provision made for enabling the Governor in Council to sanction an advance of such portions of the cost of erecting fences as the tenant could not meet, as sanctioned in the 4th paragraph of your despatch No. 56 of the 26 Sept. 1896.

9. I shall be glad to know whether it would be open to objection to incorporate the fencing question with the Land Ordinances.

It would be a great convenience to the public to have one Ordinance - but the subject is a large one in view of the numerous Ordinances relating to land and could not be immediately undertaken.

10. In ordinance No. 2 of 1894 the land & fencing question are tightly interwoven: - but that Ordinance appears to me so cumbrous that I should like it repealed.

I have &c
(sd) W. Grey-Wilson
Governor.

See Gov Robinson's despatch No. 13 25 Feb: 1870
Book 14 p 386

15th December 197.N^o 99
Chief Justice

Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch No. 40 of the 10th of September and Mr Wingfield's letter of the 3rd of July with reference to my assumption of the duties of Chief Justice under Ordinance No. 4 of 1880.

2. Ordinance No. 1 of 1891 abolishes the Office of "Chief Justice" and creates that of Judge Ordinance No. 6 of 1892 deprives the "Judge" of the notary public's fees.

3. These Ordinances have no doubt, escaped notice for I assume that it can hardly have been intended to compel me to assume a position distinctly inferior to the one I vacated I have no desire to labour a purely personal question - but I submit and I do so with all earnestness that a grave injustice has been done me.

4. To my mind the present is an inopportune time for this union of offices. The Laws are in an almost hopeless condition of chaos.

The administration of justice requires 15 Ordinances.

Land	"	13	"
Marriage	"	3	"
Merchant Shipping	"	5	"
Postal	"	6	"
Pilot	"	4	"
Seals	"	6	"

5. The Marriage laws have been ignored in more than one particular - not, as I am sure intentionally but from pure ignorance. One Minister whom I asked told me he had given a fortnight to the question when he arrived, and his admission that he still found the matter very confusing did not surprise me.

6. It is true, as Mr Wingfield observes that the duties of the Chief Justice are very light - but it is equally true that the Officer filling that appointment could find an abundance of work for some years.

come in consolidating the laws, in devising means for improving the educational system, in arranging and registering with notes all lands alienated by the Government, leased, & still available and as auditor.

7. As an illustration of our present wasteful educational system I would point out that three Government teachers two priests, a Baptist minister and his wife are all engaged within a stones throw of one another upon elementary education - and this in a town the population of which does not exceed 850 souls.

8. The work of auditing, should also afford considerable scope to a zealous officer, something more than a mere checking of accounts is desirable - an auditor should be continually devising means for improving the safeguards for the collection of the revenue.

9. I propose to address you further upon the subject of this despatch.

The Right Honble.

J. Chamberlain, M.P.
Secretary of State.

I have &c.

(sd) W. Grey-Wilson.
Governor.

No 100.

Pugh
& lunatic

Telegram to Pugh on 29 Dec.

3 passages £33/15.

Dr 110 - two warrants £24 Telegram 2.17.6. eng 23.

Government House
Stanley, 22 Decr 1897.

Sir,

I beg to report that Percy Howard Pugh who arrived in this Colony on October the 20th being apparently of unsound mind was placed under restraint on December 17th.

2. There being no institution in this Colony for the care of lunatics I have under clause 2 of Ord. No. 2 of 1895 made arrangements for the removal of Pugh to England in the mail steamer "Ramsey" now in port.

3. I transmit a copy of the proceedings in this case as required by clause 3 of that Ordinance and I also transmit a memorandum of the expenses incurred which will I trust be recovered.

4. Pugh's father is in the employ of Messrs Hopkinson pianoforte makers and resides at 9 Bargrave Rd.

Passage Pugh 12.10
" 2 Warrants 2.1.5

£73-12-6

- Hangrove rd, Junction rd, Highgate.
5. I transmit a recorder of a telegram sent to you from Mount video. (see letter to Minister North video)
 6. John Seaton and Royden Leake in whose charge Pugh has been placed have been furnished with a warrant, and the Crown agents have been instructed to pay them each £12.
- The Right Honble I have &c.
J. Chamberlain, M.P. (sd) W. Grey-Wilson
se se se Governor.

No 101.

Pilot boat
Local mail ✓Government House
Stanley, Dec^r 23rd, 1897.

Sir,

- I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your despatches No. 45 and 47 with reference to the local mail and Pilot services.
2. I am of opinion that even if a steam ship is an impossibility these two questions must be absolutely divorced. The revenue from Pilotage is a mere bagatelle and to employ a steamer for that service would be to break a butterfly upon the wheel.
 3. A boat of 10 or 12 tons is quite large enough for the Pilot service while a boat of 30 to 40 ^{tons} ~~feet~~ would be required for the West Highland mail service, moreover the mail carrier to the West Highland would frequently be absent from 3 to 5 weeks according to the weather and not available for Pilotage work.
 4. The vessels however arriving in Stanley do not number one a week and it is evident that while further employment must be found for the pilot boat such work must ~~never~~ take her beyond recall, and if a rough boat is imported this can be found in sand and stone carrying.
 5. I am therefore of opinion that the Crown agents should be instructed to procure from Mr J. R. Nicholas of Deal a tender for a boat in accordance with the specification which I enclose and if as I suppose that

in C.S. papers
4 of 1894

that tender will be about £270 I would advise its acceptance.

6. The freight of this boat to Stanley would be about £70 to £80.

7. I recommend Mr Nicholas of Deal because he has now tendered through the Crown agents for the more elaborate boat specified in January 1895 (C.A tender No 19323 about 35% cheaper than the estimate then obtained by the Crown agents from Hoover & Sons.

8. The purchase of the steam cutter of R.M.S. "Retribution" for a sum of £500 sanctioned in your despatch No. 47 I do not recommend. She would be a charming adjunct to an organized harbour department (of which there is no trace here) but would in no way satisfy the present requirements of the Colony.

9. The West Habblands mail service will form the subject of a further communication.

The Right Honble

I have &c.

J. Chamberlain, M.P.

(Sd) W. Grey-Wilson.

&c. &c. &c.

Governor.

P.S. I have informed the Capt. of the "Retribution" about the steam cutter

No 98 to 101 by "Ramsh" on Dec 24th Recd C.O. 1st Feb.

30 December 1897.

ans by N^o 10 of 25th March 1898

N^o 102 ✓ Sir,

Peninsular

Farms

J. Smith's

On the 2nd of October, 1896 Mr J. Smith applied to exchange his present 3 years licence to occupy the portion of Stanley suburban land known as the "Peninsular" for a 14 years lease.

2 On the 8th of October Mr Smith was informed that his application was approved and on the 9th October 1896 this application was considered & approved by the Governor in Council.

3 The fact of 14 year leases of suburban land had been sanctioned to Dettliff and Bender is recorded as influencing the Council in recommending Mr Smith's application but none of the weighty reasons in regard to fences which no doubt induced

induced the Secretary of State to sanction Bender's and Dettleff's leases, are applicable to the Peninsular which is separated from the Mainland by a very short fence across the isthmus and at least one half of the cost of this short fence was defrayed by Government.

4. I only became aware of these facts on the 28th instant when a lease of ~~the~~ for 14 years in Mr Smith's favour was presented to me for signature.

5. After looking into the whole matter I have declined to execute this lease until your sanction has been obtained, and I have taken this course in consequence of the instructions laid down in Lord Ripon's despatch No 71 of 9 September 1893 that no Town lease (that is within the radius of 6 miles) should be granted without submitting it for the approval of the Secretary of State.

6. In 1875 Lord Carnarvon laid down (No. 32 of 25 Nov.) the following conditions with regard to suburban land, that is, land distant not more than six miles from Stanley:—

- (a) ~~Leases~~ not to exceed 3 years.
- (b) Sizes of Lots to be moderate.
- (c) Leases to be sold by auction (biddings to be upon premium to be paid down for license and not upon the rent.
- (d) No large Proprietor to hold.

7. On the 8th of November (No. 31) Lord Carnarvon

sanctioned (in view of the expenses tenants had incurred special leases of 5 years to the three tenants Coulson (now Bender) Dettleff, and Smith, and these leases were to terminate on the last day of 1879.

8. Lord Derby suggested No. 18 of 20 March 1883 that conditions should be imposed in licenses to occupy suburban land:—

1. Not to keep more than a specified number of sheep per acre.

2. Either to fence or to employ a shepherd.

9. Lord Knutsford (No. 21 of 8 March 1882) approved of Mr Dettleff's lease being extended for seven years that is, to 15 December, 1898 and of Mr Bender's lease being extended for four years to 1896.

10.

Unless you are of opinion that the approval conveyed to Mr Smith on the 8th of October 1896 must be acted upon I would strongly advocate the adoption of Lord Carnarvon's provision that suburban land should be held upon licence for 3 years only and that the Governor in Council should have power to renew these licences from time to time upon such terms as to him may seem expedient.

11.

In the event of any tenant not wishing for a renewal his land should be put up to auction as prescribed by Lord Carnarvon in the case of first lettings.

12.

Mr Benders present lease is for 7 years terminating on the 23rd Dec. 1901 Mr Deltiff is for 7 years terminating on the 16 Dec. 1899 and although in despatch No. 36 of the 13 June 1896, you approved of the extension of both these leases for 14 years I much question if they will be extended as your approval is "on the understanding that the fencing is actually" "proceeded with without delay"

13.

In the event of Mr Benders & Deltiff not securing the extension of their leases I think that the Government should erect the fences and let the farms at a rent sufficient to recover the cost incurred.

14.

The Peninsular farm is 1800 acres and the rent at present paid by Mr Smith is £ 15 per annum.

The Right Honble,
J. Chamberlain, M.P.
Secretary of State.

I have &c
(sd) W. Grey-Wilson
Governor.

End of 1897

Benders farm	6975 acres
Deltiff	4500 "
Smiths	1800 "

Rent
£ 45
£ 50
£ 15

393

No 1 of
1898.Savings Bank
Report1898January 1st 1898

Sir,

I have the honour to transmit the Managers very interesting report upon the Savings Bank for the Past year.

The uninvested balance is too large and steps will immediately be taken to reduce it.

I also transmit the auditors report upon the Savings Bank accounts for the year.

I have &c.

The Right Honble
J. Chamberlain, M.P.
&c. &c. &c.

(sd) W. Grey-Wilson
Governor.

No 2.

Sundry Returns

Members &c &c
Councils
Minutes &c &c
additions to returns
Unusual payments
Returns &c &c
Hampshire &c &c

Sir,

I have the honour to transmit the annual and other periodical returns noted in the margin.

I have &c.

(sd) W. Grey-Wilson.
Governor.

January 3rd 1898

No 3.

Q^r SurveyJanuary 4th, 1898.

Sir,

I have the honour to transmit a copy of the report made by the Board on the Quarterly Survey of the Treasury chest.

I also transmit a statement of the receipts and disbursements for the last quarter of 1897.

I have &c.

The Right Honble,
J. Chamberlain, M.P.
&c. &c. &c.

(sd) W. Grey-Wilson.
Governor.

N^o 4
Civil Time

January 6th, 1898.

Sir,

In reply to your Circular despatch of the 29th October last I have the honour to report that Stanley is 57° 51' West of Greenwich and that Greenwich mean time calculated for this longitude, that is, 3 hours, 51 minutes, 24 seconds later than actual Greenwich mean time is the "civil time" used throughout this Colony.

The Right Honble,
J. Chamberlain, M. P.
&c. &c. &c.

I have &c.
(sd) W. Grey-Wilson.
Governor.

N^o 5
Tussock
seed

7 January, 1898.

Sir,

Referring to your despatch No. 2 of the 12th of Jan. and the Administrator's despatch No. 58 of the 7th July last I have the honour to inform you that by this mail a fresh supply of Tussock seed has been transmitted to the Agent General for Canada in London for experiment on Table Island.

The Right Honble,
J. Chamberlain, M. P.
&c. &c. &c.

I have &c.
(sd) W. Grey-Wilson.
Governor.

N^o 6
Paper
money

January 10th, 1898

Sir,

Among the many pressing questions in connection with this Colony, perhaps one of the most urgently pressing is the provision of some satisfactory medium of exchange between the widely scattered Settlements and the Settlers on these Islands.

2. The currency here is almost entirely British Silver which I need offer no evidence to show is most unsuitable for personal conveyance upon horseback over marshy land and for great distances, or for transmission to Stanley by post.

3. Some time ago it was proposed to establish a local Money Order system but the only Port then proposed and then or now possible was at Rose Bay, and any such system would benefit about four farms only.

4. I would urge the immediate issue of local notes of the values of say 1/- 5/- £1 and £5 and that no duty or commission should be charged on them.

5. The total experimental issue might be of the value of £1000.

6. The notes should be signed by the Governor and issued to the Treasurer as cash and should only be withdrawn when it became necessary to replace them.

All notes withdrawn from circulation should be cancelled locally and sent to the Crown Agents to be destroyed.

7. The Crown Agents certificate of destruction would be necessary to support the Treasurers voucher & cash entry. -

8. I am aware that this subject is one upon which very conservative views are held - but I submit that the peculiar circumstances of this Colony amply justify the suggested experiment, and the total value of the proposed issue (£1000) is small when compared to the paper currency represented by the Stock of Stamps

9. The different values of the notes should be distinguished by different colours and those colours should be "fast."

10. Legislation would be necessary to legalize a paper currency but this matter might be dealt with by a "Proclamation" issued by Her Majesty under 33 & 34 Victoria, ch. 10 establishing legal tender of gold, silver, & copper as in England and a local paper currency up to say £5 redeemable at par on demand at the Treasury.

11. There would be an annual profit upon this issue and the present balance in the hands of the Treasurer could with safety be reduced - (considerably)

* 7.8 app 16
3 of 5 in para 6
of 28/99.

* 8.

13.

I would suggest the issue of:-

500	Notes value 1/-	=	£ 25
300	do. 5/-	=	75
400	do. £1		400
100	do. £5		500
			<u>£1000.</u>

The Right Honble,
J. Chamberlain, M.P.
&c. &c. &c.

I have &c.
(sd) W. Grey-Wilson.
Governor.

N^o 7.
Fencing

14 January, 1898.

Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch N^o 57 of the 13th of December with reference to Ord. No. 6 of 1897 relating to Fencing.

In my despatch No. 98 of the 14th of December I explained the reasons that made it impossible for me to support the Ordinance in question.

I have &c.

The Right Honble

J. Chamberlain, M.P.
&c. &c. &c.

(sd) W. Grey-Wilson
Governor.

Wrote Law Journal

N^o 102 to 7. by Law Journal 15th Rec by C.O. 21st Feb:

7.

N^o 8.
Sealing

Sir,

With reference to your despatch No. 34 of the 19th August I would urge that the sealing Ordinance drafted by me in consultation with Mr. H. H. Wilson may be sent out before the commencement of the next season if circumstances in connection with sealing in the Northern hemisphere will admit of so early a decision being arrived at.

I have &c.

The Right Honble,

J. Chamberlain, M.P.
&c. &c. &c.

(sd) W. Grey-Wilson.
Governor.

18th January, 1898

22^d January 1898.385
409N^o 9 ✓
LAND.

Sir,

I shall be glad if I can be furnished with a copy of the opinion of the law officers of the crown, in regard to leases, referred to in the 1st paragraph of Lord Ripons despatch N^o 46 of the 7th of June 1893.

2. In Lord Ripons despatch N^o 14 of the 16 of Jan. 1894 para 2 reference is made to the draft of an ordinance prepared by Mr Routledge dealing with the subjects of the leases and sale of country lands, fencing & scab. I shall be glad to be furnished with a copy of this also. -

I have

W. Grey Wilson

N^o 10. ✓Keppel
sale of.

26 March, 1897

Sir,

book 25 p 156

26th January 1898.

I have the honour to transmit a copy of a letter from the Bishop of the Falkland Islands applying for leave to purchase Keppel Island leased to the South American Missionary Society at a peppercorn rent for 60 years ending on the 7th December, 1928.

2. The Bishop called upon me and informed me that the society were prepared to pay 3/- an acre as prescribed in Ordinance No. 9 of 1890 Sec. 3 and would like to pay for the land in 15 equal annual payments as allowed by Sec. 3 of Ordinance 2 of 1894.

3. Keppel is stated in the lease to be 8,160 acres of which 160 are the freehold property of the Society, but there appears reason to believe that the Island contains not less than 10,000 acres.

4.

The following despatches deal with this subject.
Secretary of State to Governor No 20 of 18 Oct. 1866.
" " " " 43 " 21 July 1868.
Governor to Secretary of State " 72 " 2 Oct. 1867.
" " " " 131 " 31 Dec. 1868.

copy of lease
in 3 of 3 to Gov.
N^o 43 of 1868.

5.

I have nothing to urge against the application but I think the Govt. should retain in any grant a right of preemption.

The Right Honble.

J. Chamberlain, M.P.

cc. cc. cc.

I have &c.

(sd) W. Grey-Wilson.

Governor.

see very interesting report on Keppel, Gov: Callaghan B.B report book 18 p. 267.

1878

3

389
410

27 January 1898.

N^o 11

Sir,

Local mail

With reference to your despatch No. 45 of the 30th of September relating to the West Falkland Mails and a local steamer I beg to inform you that when in England I enquired of the Kormos company whether they would entertain a proposal to run a small local steamer or in the alternative whether it would be possible (in the event of its appearing desirable) to make arrangements for their large steamers to call at Fox Bay (West Falklands).

2. I had in making these inquiries no knowledge that the Kormos Company had ever run a local steamer but soon after I arrived here I found Lord Derby's despatch No. 32 of the 7th June, 1883 from the enclosure to which it will be seen that they were prepared to continue running the local steamer for a subsidy of £ 500 a year.

2. The Kormos company could make no reply to my questions pending the return of the Managing Director who was then in the Falklands, and who on my return by this time should be in Hamburg.

3. As my delay in dealing with the mail question may cause surprise I beg to state that I am hoping for a reply before tendering to you my advice.

4. If a temporary arrangement could be made for the large steamers to call outward & homeward at Fox Bay I am of opinion that it would meet the most pressing needs of the case pending a more satisfactory arrangement.

5. Mails for the West Falklands, via Sandy Point would have to be made up in London in separate

separate bags. The West Habbland mails by the direct boats would be sorted in Stanley.

6. The loss of time entailed by these calls including 4 hours detention at Horse Bay should not exceed 8 hours and as the company now waste very reluctantly much time in Stanley in order to keep their contract dates they may if the Govt. allow them to leave two days in advance of their contract date be willing to make the desired calls.

The Right Honble,

J. Chamberlain, M.P.

Sec. Sec. Sec.

I have &c.
(sd) W. Grey-Wilson.

Governor.

No 12. v

ordinances
No 1

Sir,

I have the honour to transmit copies of "The interpretation and general law Ordinance 1898".

It reference to the schedule will show that a large number of obsolete acts of Parliament were until the passing of this Ordinance, in force in this Colony.

3. By clause 31 the law of England for the time being is brought into force in this Colony.

4. I have endeavoured to define in two subsections of clause 29 "Town" & "suburban land". The meaning of these terms has led to numerous disputes and much perplexity in the attempts to interpret clause 62 of 10 of 1853, clause 41 of 11 of 1853 and clause 4 of 1 of 1882. I have drafted the present definitions upon the lines of Lord Ripon's despatch No. 16 of 1893. The three ordinances above referred to will I hope disappear in the consolidations I am engaged upon.

5. I trust clause 25, relating to attempts, aiding and abetting may not be held to conflict with the spirit of modern legislation. It is in my opinion a very desirable clause.

6. For convenience of examination I have noted on one copy of the Ordinance now transmitted every addition or alteration that has been made to

3rd February, 1898.

Book 25 page 29

25014/1898.
5 copies.

to a similar law drafted by me in Saint Helena 1895-(N^o 3)-.

7. This Ordinance has been passed *renuine contradicte*.
 I have &c.
 The Right Honble, (sd) W. Grey - Wilson.
 J. Chamberlain, M.P. Governor.
 &c. &c. &c.

N^{os} 8 to 12 by Tavis Jan 3^d Rec by C.O. 9th March

1-N^o 13. ✓

Ordinance
N^o 2

cl. 2 of 1898.
4 copies.

Sir,

book 25 p 99

5th February, 1898.

I have the honour to transmit copies of an Ord. relating to the Administration of Justice.

This Ordinance consolidates the existing law relating to the Supreme Court and amends it in the following particulars.

(a) Bankruptcy which by Ord. 1 of 1871 was dealt with in the Police Court has been removed into the Supreme Court.

(b) under clause 20 a special court may be held so that in this large Colony the Court may if deemed advisable, go to the case.

(c) under clause 22 the Chief Justice may remove suits.

(d) under clause 24 the number of Jurors in all but capital cases, is varied from 6 to 7 and by the present Ordinance it will be provided that instead of its being necessary for them to be unanimous the verdict of five may be accepted.

(e) under clause 33 the Governor may appoint a notary Public.

3. In addition to these specific amendments the Jurisdiction of the Supreme Court is expanded under clauses 9, 15, 16 and 26.

4. Clauses 4, 5, 6, 7, were drafted in England and formed the enclosure to Lord Knutsford's despatch No. 23 of the 7th of May, 1891.

5. This Ordinance has been passed *renuine contradicte*.

I have &c.
 The Right Honble, (sd) W. Grey - Wilson.
 J. Chamberlain, M.P. Governor.
 &c. &c. &c.

Rec by C.O. April 1st

9th February 1898N^o 14Savings Bank
amend ordinanceN^o 1 of 1888

2. The time has I think arrived when the bank should be conducted upon somewhat more advanced lines --

3. Many of the provisions of the ordinance are needlessly specific and should be left to be dealt with in the rules.

4. The provision in clause 6 that every deposit shall be countersigned appears quite unnecessary it tends to relieve the Manager of responsibility which can be fixed upon him alone.

5. The provision in clause 13 that Commissioners shall audit the accounts is not acted on and I do not understand why the auditor should be relieved of this work. Com up to 1896. 94. £4.4. 95. £15.15. 1896. £55.

6. The provision in clause 15 that the Treasurer alone can be manager appears unnecessary. If it was intended to impose this work upon him without additional remuneration it would be appropriate but the next clause shows that such a course was not contemplated.

7. Rules No 11 and 19 require that no money shall be paid out of the bank until the depositor has given a printed notice to the Treasurer and received a warrant signed in duplicate by the Governor.

8. This is a most inconvenient, and quite illusory safeguard. The Treasurer does not sign or in any way verify the warrant and the Governor having no knowledge as to whether the person named has any money due to him authorises payment. This like clause 6 tends to relieve the Manager of responsibility that should rest entirely upon him.

9. I would suggest that the ordinance under consideration might with advantage be replaced by one upon the lines of ordinance No. 2 of 1895 of St. Helena.

The Right Hon.
J. Chamberlain, M.P.
Sec. Sec. Sec.

I have &c.
(sd) W. Grey-Wilson.
Governor.

15 February 1898

N^o 15 ✓ Sir,Baptist
State aidC.S. to Rev Hill
13 Dec 97C.S. to Smith
18 Dec 97Smith to C.S.
27 DecB. Com to C.S.
Jan 98C.S. to Smith
10 Jan 98Rev Hill to C.S.
3 Feb 98

Financial report

For the very
same reason
our withdrawal
of all p.m. sub-
state aid was
withdrawn
from
Presbyterian
in Darwin
Su Gov
Keros
67 of 1890
W. G. W.367 see also p 4
book 25 page 15

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch No. 49 of the 30th October with reference to the augmentation of the state aid to the Baptist Mission, provision for which was first made in 1896 (Secretary of State to Governor No. 98 of 1895, Governor to Secretary of State No. 10 of 1896) - £ 50.

2. I regret troubling you with the further mass of correspondence which I enclose but it is the necessary complement of that which has already been transmitted.

3. Mr. Hill has now resigned his charge and leaves in March and the matter is therefore one in which he is no longer individually interested.

4. Mr. Hill has been as little able to work in harmony with his committee as was his predecessor and it appears that while the State aid has tended to relieve him personally from a certain amount of financial embarrassment it has exercised a malignant influence upon the energy and vitality of the Nonconformist Mission.

5. This is not a poor community and it is my opinion that unless a responsible Committee is prepared to guarantee at least £ 100 a year for not less than three years, no grant in aid should be made.

6. The guarantee should moreover contain adequate provision for the passage money both to and from the Colony.

7. I submit that so long as State aid is deemed necessary (I do not wish to be understood as endorsing that view) the Government must take up the definite position of aiding and not supporting the Nonconformist Minister. By such a course only will it be possible to avert in the near future a repetition of the impasse now unhappily obtaining.

8. I submit further that until it can be shown to my satisfaction that the Committee have kept faith with Mr. Hill and that he has been paid all monies to which he is entitled, no grant in aid should be made to his successor.

9. If the substance of your decision in this matter

matter could be communicated to Mr. Spurgeon to whom the local committee have I believe applied to select a successor to Mr. Hill it should be possible to prevent any Minister from finding himself stranded and destitute in this remote quarter of the earth. It will at the same time define the position adopted by this Government in regard to the giving of State aid to the "Union Church".

I may add that by despatch No. 75 of 1894 an annual grant of £60 to the Baptist schools was approved. £60 to R.C. schools 66/91 1895. £50 a year to R.C. Church 1895 20/96 from 1876

The Right Honble,

J. Chamberlain, M.P.
Sec. Sec. Sec.

(sd) W. Grey-Wilson.
Governor.

P.S. The church here is, I am told run upon "Union lines", that is, the Presbyterians, Wesleyans, and Baptists unite in some Foreign fields, and a minister belonging to one of the three denominations represents all.

(sd) W. G. W.

N^o 16 ✓
Pier

Sir,

337
25 P 50

17th February, 1898.

Ans by N^o 16 of 25 Feb-1899.

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch No. 43 of 1897 with reference to the proposed pier at Stanley.

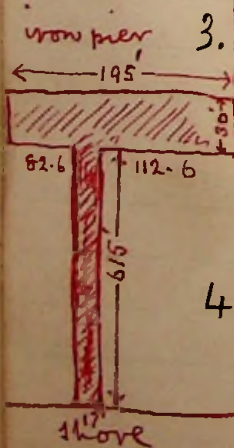
2. In my opinion my predecessor rightly regarded this question as of very great importance but the estimated cost of an iron pier (£21,000) is quite beyond the present reach of the Colony.

3. The construction moreover of a T head, 195 feet long & 30 feet wide would prevent save at a very great cost the future extension of the pier into deeper water than 12' the depth adopted in forming the estimate and even 2' less than the Horns Co. demand.

4. The annual cost of maintaining an iron pier with wooden platform would also be great and the danger of serious damage from the numerous derelict hulks is by no means remote. **Paint!**

5. I therefore recommend that a rock dam should.

Note Fitzroy road is 4' above Ross Road



should be thrown out from the shore and a road carried on it.

6. In the quiet waters of this land locked harbour such a pier should be very suitable.

390 yards.

7. In order to save time, expense and afford in the near future a good landing place with about 18' at low water (more than sufficient for the local steamer) and which shall not affect or retard any future further development of the pier I recommend the purchase of the iron sailing ship "Glenogier" (1801 tons) now lying in Stanley.

8. This vessel, built at Port Glasgow, was burnt and abandoned on her first voyage in 1896 and should be purchasable for about £400 as she stands.

9. I would propose placing her at right angles to the shore, to within 150' of which it should be possible to get her. The intervening space would be covered by a rock dam, and the whole length of this first and for the present final stage of the pier would be about 400' to 450'.

10. A vessel so recently built as the "Glenogier" should have stable equilibrium even when filled with stones and without the aid of the muddy bottom on which she will rest.

11. It would be hard to find a more satisfactory site for a rock dam than the present stone jetty as at a distance of 390 yds from the water and directly at right angles to it a very fine quarry of quartz rock (not difficult to win) can be opened on Gort. land.

12. The height of the quarry would be 80' above the sea and the gradient from the beach to it is nearly uniform so that with a double line of tramway (the loaded truck pulling up the empty one) progress should be rapid & cheap.

13. The tramway could be laid at small expense and would be of very great use hereafter in supplying stone of more than one description, for building road making etc and for bringing heat from the logs, which are on the top of this hill.

14. It is almost incredible that no quarrying is done in this land of stone and that Stanley is almost wholly a wood built Town in a treeless country.

15. I am aware that ^{much} rock dams are not regarded with an excess of favour by professional Engineers. This is due partly to the scientific objections to such works for many localities and partly to the very natural opposition of the profession and every thing not adequately technical.

16. But let me for a moment glance at the question of repair to an iron structure which as I have already stated would be very liable to receive damage from any drifting ^{hulk}. The question of the hulk is one upon which I shall address you further, but not in connection with the pier.

17. Mr Chadwick estimates the pier would take 18 months to erect and that the wage bill would be £174 a month, of which £110 would represent the 4 men from England. Now if the pier sustained any serious damage these 4 men would have to be again sent out. The labour bill would stand somewhat thus:-

4 Men passages out & home	200.0.0
4 " wages on passages 2 Months.	220.0.0
12 " working on pier say "	348.0.0
Material & freight say	400.0.0
Total.	£1168.0.0.

and this a very low estimate, now as regards a rock dam it could at any moment be repaired, or increased in width, length or height and it should as pier to terminate eventually in a concrete ^{stone} faced wall and to achieve the reclamation of a large area of land.

17. The initial cost of this undertaking would be limited to the Tram line, six trucks, 800 yds 3" steel ^{haws} ~~rods~~, a derrick, some quarrying tools and the purchase of the hulk.

18. The work to be done would be very similar to Contractors work in railway cuttings through rocky ground and to start it a young engineer should be sent out accustomed to that work.

Such

Such an Engineer should certainly be procurable at a salary of not more than £300 a year.

19. Colonel Lewis R.E. who was sent out last year by the Admiralty and who knows the harbour and the local circumstances would probably be better able than most men to afford valuable advice upon this matter.

20. The other question remains to be considered, what would be the effect on the harbour of a stone dam, in times past the Government has charged the Hallblaud & Co. with silting up the harbour with the numerous wooden hulks they use for their piers. The Hallblaud & Co. have in reply charged the Government with doing so, with their little 60 foot stone jetty. It is not necessary to enquire which is the wolf and which the lamb because from the plan of Stanley Harbour which I received by the last mail from the Admiralty it appears beyond question that the harbour has deepened. This is exactly what I should have anticipated. Every shoreline obstruction and reclamation of land narrows the tidal water, and increases their force and capacity for removing the soft peaty mud washed from the hills into the harbour, which is tending to fill up the shore inside of the obstructions with sand and other heavy deposits. The effect therefore of a stone dam be to improve the harbour.

21. I transmit a memorandum of the soundings on the centre line of the proposed dam.

The Right Honble.

J. Chamberlain, M.P.

cc. cc. cc.

I have &c.

(sd) W. Grey-Wilson.

Governor.

21st February, 1898.

N^o 17

Sir,

Craigie Halkett
asks promotion

2.

I have the honour to transmit an application from the Colonial Secretary for promotion. A similar representation was transmitted by my predecessor in Despatch No. 15 of the 23rd of February last, and the opinion therein expressed of Mr. Craigie-Halkett, zeal, energy & industry appears to me wholly deserved and I trust you may find it

310
book 25 p 11

it possible to meet his desire for promotion.

I have &c.

(sd) W. Grey-Wilson.

Governor.

The Right Honble,

J. Chamberlain, M.P.

&c. &c. &c.

13 to 17 by Ne KO Feb: 25th Rec by C.O April 1st

2^d March 1898.

N^o 18

book 25 p 18

Probate

Sir, "The Probate Ordinance 1895" (No. 8), has been forced upon my attention by a recent case.

2. By clause 25, personal estate only is liable to probate duty and as in a recent case the personal estate showed a deficit no duty was payable although there was considerable real estate.

3. I am aware of no valid reason for exempting real estate in this colony from this duty.

4. The Ordinance is I submit moreover quite unworkable in a colony where no legal advice is obtainable by the public, and the frequent references to the "Supreme Court Probate side" tends to confusion.

5. The subtle distinctions of "administrators and Executors" "Probate of a will" and "Letters of administration" with the will attached" an "administrator with the will annexed" and an administrator de bonis non" and the provisions for a "a writ of subpoena ad testificandum" or of "subpoena duces tecum" are Hebrew to this community.

6. Turning to rules I find under "Contentious business" rule 1 that caveats shall be entered in the Registry of the Court of Probate and that the person entering the caveat must insert the name of the deceased in the Index to the caveat book, but there is no such thing as a Registry and no such thing as a caveat book, ~~on the Supreme Court Probate side caveats are it will be observed to be entered in the Registry names are to be inserted in the index to the caveat book, but there is no such thing as a Registry & no such thing as a Registry and no such thing as a caveat book.~~

The

7

The schedule to the Rules (15 in No.) are so complicated that the bewildered applicant is certain to fill up the wrong forms quite unintelligibly.

8

The Ord. in question and the rules (with schedules) made thereunder, afford to my mind very strong evidence in condemnation of the practice of taking an Ordinance effective enough with proper surroundings and copying it practically verbatim and attempting to apply it to such a colony as this -

9

I transmit for your consideration the draft of an Ord. which I have framed in the hope of making the procedure as simple as possible while affording every necessary safeguard.

10

The plan I adopted in St Helena of having an "action book" (see Supreme Court rules 23 March 1891) in which practically everything other than criminal business could be entered worked well and I am adopting it here - Cases in Probate cases would be entered therein.

The Right Honble,

J. Chamberlain, M.P.

&c. &c. &c.

I have &c.

(sd) T. Grey-Wilson
Governor.

5th March 1898

N^o 19

Five

Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your dispatch N^o 59 of the 21st of Dec with reference to ordinance N^o 7 of 1897 for securing protection against fire.

I now beg to transmit copies of an ordinance embodying the former one (which now came into force) with the amendments suggested by you and with the addition of clauses 20, 24, 25, 26, 27, and 28.

The first of these clauses provides that when an insured building is destroyed for the purpose of arresting a fire it shall be deemed to have been destroyed by fire. Clause 24, 25, 26 authorize the holding of fire inquiries: and clauses 27, 28 confer upon the Governor in Council power to regulate

3 of 1898. 2
8 copies

3

regulate the importation and storage of inflammable articles and impose a penalty for a breach of those regulations.

4 The definition of Stanley has been omitted from clause 29 as a simpler one has been inserted in ordinance N^o 1 of 1898.

5 Mr Baillon, the Agent of the Royal Fire Insurance Co. renewed his protest under clause 15. but as your legal advisers had not regarded that import as open to objection and as the tax levied under ordinance N^o 5 of 1897 would be inadequate to meet the requirements of the Fire establishment I felt unable — although in sympathy with the objection — to accept his amendment to delete this provision.

6 The steam fire engine arrived by the last mail.

I have.

W. Grey Wilson

N^o 20

Fencing

Sir,

397
418

10th March. 1898

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch N^o 7 of the 12th ultimo with reference to the consolidation of the land and fencing ordinances.

2 The questions of fences not following the boundary line is dealt with in the 5 para of your despatch N^o 56 of the 26th Sept 1896.

3 Fences for which compensation would be claimable, would, I apprehend, never be allowed to deviate from the boundary line save when both of the parties interested made an application for such deviation and adduced sound reasons for their request; such as that the nature of the ground precluded the adoption of the line of survey.

I have

W. Grey Wilson

Pilot boat

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch No. 8 of the 12th ultimo with reference to a Pilot boat.

1. The Brown agents in their letter to the Colonial Office of the 11th of February state "we shall require more definite information than is contained in the new specification & fear that I can afford none. It is not intended that the forecastle should contain anything but the two fixed benches and no cabin is required aft nor is any water closet or pantry required ~~at~~ nor any blankets cabin outfit or water tanks etc.

3. With reference to the Brown agents further suggestion that a boat should be obtained in South America I may mention that I obtained an estimate at Monte Video for £ 550.

4. I am disposed to agree with Mr. Nicholas that a beam of 11' would be better than the 9' adopted in 1894 at the suggestion of H. M. S. "Retribution" or the 10'-2" adopted in my specification of December last, and in the specification I purposely left this an open question so that the builder might adopt such lines as he regarded desirable to provide a thoroughly seaworthy boat."

5. With regard to the competency of Mr. Nicholas I would suggest that the Agent General for West Australia may be asked to express an opinion as to the Pilot boats built by him for that Government.

6. London builders and Messrs. Hoovey & Sons in particular turn out very smart work but they are extravagant in their prices and lack the experience in strong rough work of their brethren in Deal, Yarmouth & similar places.

I have &c.

(sd) W. Grey-Wilson
Government.

The Right Honble.

J. Chamberlain, M.P.

&c. &c. &c.

12th March 1898

ans by Conf: 27 May 1898

N^o 22 ✓ Sir,Public
Offices
& Workssee
p 263. 2.
p 269

With the exception of the Gaol built by Governor Robinson in 1870 the existing Government buildings in Stanley are a disgrace to a British colony and afford a most demoralizing object lesson to the inhabitants and to our Republican neighbours.

This is partly due to the very unsatisfactory conditions of the labour market skilled and unskilled - partly to the absence of taxation - partly to the extravagant charges of the local traders and partly to the ease with which small wooden sheds could be erected or tacked on to existing structures to meet the pressing needs of the moment, unseasoned wood faulty construction, and an entire absence of design have produced results that baffle description are wholly unsuitable and lead to great waste of time in going to and fro.

3. On my arrival I found it was in contemplation to immediately erect a new Police station to replace the one burnt down in 1897 and a new station for the expected steam fire Engine.

4. I deemed it better to endeavour to treat the matters as part of a scheme, which whether treated in its entirety immediately or from time to time in detail should finally emerge as a connected whole.

5. The present Offices are located in three wooden sheds connected by passages - they are very expensive to heat, most inconvenient and inadequate and wholly unsuited to the climate and requirements of the Govt and public. They are in every sense of the word makeshift and part of them were formerly the residence of the Colonial Secretary & Police quarters.

6. The Post Office is much too small. The legislative Council now sits in the Governor's Office in Govt. House a room 15' x 13'. The stationery including receipt books licenses &c are distributed in Miscellaneous corners and on shelves in all parts of the building and of the records and means of preserving them it is not possible to speak. The Colonial Secretary's Office is much too far from the General Office, the Printing Office

Office is in a room in the Gaol lighted only by two very small iron barred windows, and the Surveyor's Office a tiny room has only one small window. (This room enlarged 1899 W.H.)

7.

The Volunteer drill shed is floored with peat which had resolved itself into such very fine dust as to render it useless for that purpose and it has long since been disused. It

Enclosure in despatch No. 22 of March 12th
1898

1898

Public Offices.

The Pal land islands.

1. The building should be a perfectly plain rectangular building and what is of even greater importance have a perfectly plain roof, either gable or hip but not mansard, and the Architect should repress every yearning for embellishment and aim at economy in everything combined with sound, strong plain outside work and internal fittings.
2. The climate is very cold and boisterous with driving rain which forces itself everywhere, great care must be taken to have roof wind and water tight and it is suggested that it should be boarded felted and slated. Prevailing wind S.W.
3. All quoins of hard white local sand stone rubble masonry of harder stone.
4. All windows and outside doors to be of teak as windows and doors always jam in wet weather and on being eased admit torrents of air.
5. In the rough sketch plan sent the basement is shown arched, but this will probably be far too costly.
6. All joists will be planed and no dunnage will be fixed floors grooved and iron tongued.
7. Very little ventilation is necessary with high wind here. Windows

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by the Executive Council. I invited the Legislative Council

Office is in a room in the Gaol lighted only by two very small iron barred windows, and the Surveyor's Office a tiny room has only one small window. (This room enlarged 1899 B.W.)

7.

The Volunteer drill shed is floored with peat which had resolved itself into such very fine dust as to render it useless for that purpose and it has long since been disused. I

Windows should be designed with only one pane of glass at top to open, a three light sullivan with top of centre light to open would suit well.

8. The ground floor will face (south) the road and be about 18" above it.

9. The basement will open north on ground of a lower level.

10. Basement floors would be concreted when and to such an extent as may be found necessary to meet their varied uses.

11. Estimate cost of heating whole building from basement with hot air plan should show in alternative fireplaces necessary.

12. Openings should be provided in walls for laying down electric wire at a future date.

13. Specification of quantities of wood and lime slates etc.

14. Ground floor rooms shown 8' high perhaps 9' would be better.

15. I have made no provision in the plan for a strong vault as in my opinion a really good safe with 3 locks is all that is necessary.

There is in the present offices a so called vault which is worse than useless, I caused a hole to be cut through it the other day and found it was built of brick, and only 3" thick.

16. No plan of drainage required as there are no water closets in building. Earth closets are used.

17

by the Executive Council. I invited the Legislative Council

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office is in a room in the Gaol lighted only by two very small iron barred windows, and the Surveyor's Office a tiny room has only one small window. (This room enlarged 1899 W.W.)

7.

The Volunteer drill shed is floored with peat which had resolved itself into such very fine dust as to render it useless for that purpose and it has long since been disused. It

17. Printing office is put over stationery to allow of a small lift hereafter.

18. Governor over Colonial Secretary for the same reason.

19 All walls not structurally required might be replaced by wooden partitions.

20. In planning the building every effort has been made to do without passages. This is very important in this climate. —

W. Grey Wilson

by the Executive Council. I invited the Legislative Council

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office is in a room in the Gaol lighted only by two very small iron barred windows, and the Surveyor's Office a tiny room has only one small window. (This room enlarged 1899 B.W.N.)

7. The Volunteer drill shed is floored with peat which had resolved itself into such very fine dust as to render it useless for that purpose and it has long since been disused. I have removed the dust to a depth of 14" and concreted a portion of the building as a temporary station for the steam fire engine but we have none of the necessary appliances and the workers had no knowledge whatever of such work.

8. The one Goat Store is a large wooden shed used chiefly for the storage of goats - but in it are also kept the small stock of Miscellaneous stores we possess - empty cases, unclaimed effects of persons deceased, rubbish of many sorts and the spirits and Tobacco in bond.

9. At reference to the 30 Section of Ordinance No. 3 of 1897 will show that this is the "proper warehouse" for bonded goods, but I should certainly hesitate to hold the storekeeper responsible for the safe custody of bonded goods not in any way secured from the depredations of the gangs of coal workers.

10. My suggestion is that a large stone built perfectly plain building should be erected close to the dockyard, to accommodate all the Public Offices and the Police.

11. I propose that one large room shall do duty as a supreme court, Post Office & Police Court. This is a feasible combination, each of the three requiring large accommodation for short periods.

12. I transmit rough plans, and I would suggest that an architect should be instructed to draft complete plans with specifications and an estimate of cost.

13. The offices would be slightly above the level of the road and the basement opening on ground of a lower level would provide bonded stores, wood lime and general store rooms and cart sheds. At present the carts always remain exposed to this terrible climate.

14. The plans transmitted are explained in the enclosed memorandum and are entirely supported by the Executive Council. I invited the Legislative Council

Council to agree that it was expedient to provide suitable Public Offices and that a sum not exceeding £10,000 might be taken from the Land Sale Fund but to this the unofficial members were strenuously opposed.

15. It is not unnatural that the agent of the H. P. Company whose sole object is to declare large dividends to English shareholders or that Mr. Felton who I believe contemplates leaving the Colony should not evince any great admiration for any scheme involving expenditure.

16. I roughly estimate that the building I propose would cost £5,000 but the provision of adequate and suitable school accommodation should not be much longer delayed, and the condition of the existing building will certainly not allow of it.

17. Whatever your views upon this matter ~~are~~ may be I submit that the plan and design of public offices should be drawn out and that the Police and fire stations should be constructed as part of that design.

18. In the plans transmitted this idea has been kept in view and immediately the architect has determined and specified the basement of the building I should propose proceeding with the Police and fire station and the stove rooms under them.

19. Additional cottage accommodation must be obtained in order to render the Government and their employees quite independant but this is a subject which involves no heavy expenditure and may be more conveniently dealt with in connection with the Estimates.

20. The question of Government House is also very important one which I propose to consider later but in any case it must be subordinated to the more important one of Public Offices.

The Right Honble

G. Chamberlain, M.P.

He. He. He.

I have &c.

(sd) W. Grey-Wilson.
Governor.

N^o 23 ✓Local mail

Sri,

398
book 25 page 20

1898

414

14 March, 1898.

In continuation of my despatch No. 11 of the 27th of January I now submit for your consideration some observations upon the question of a local steamer.

2. By the last mail I received information that the Managing Director of the Kormos Company had not yet returned to Hamburg, and that in consequence of the Kormos Company having absorbed a rival German company the pressure at the head office was too great to admit of their affording at present any information as to their Falkland Islands local steamer which was withdrawn in 1883 as reported in my previous despatch.

3. Immediately I became aware that the Kormos Co. had run a local steamer I applied for a copy of her trading account, which I had hoped to submit to you - but the absence of which should not I think further delay my report.

4. I am very strongly of opinion that a local steamer would contribute to the progress and development of this Colony and that if the Government are unable to make satisfactory arrangements to secure a suitable service it should itself undertake the work.

5. I submit that in so modern and undeveloped a Colony as this, Progress must entail expenditure and that increased expenditure should be met by increased taxation, and that increased taxation would be of direct advantage to this well to do community which at present hardly knows what taxation is.

6. I can obtain no copy of the contract under which the Kormos S. S. ran the local steamer, nor can I ascertain what were its terms. In consequence of a rival steamer the company petitioned for a subsidy of £500 a year or for leave to withdraw their steamer. The increased subsidy being then deemed impossible permission to withdraw the local steamer was granted.

No sooner was their local steamer withdrawn that the rival steamer disappeared also and it is by no means improbable that a local steamer might

see Lord Derby's
N^o 32 of 1883

Received no
Hear W. J. A.

see Lord Derby's
N^o 32 of 1883
Lord Kimberley
N^o 56 of 1881

† copy of
contract in
Lord Kimberley's
dup N^o 56
of 28 Dec
1881
W. J. W.

might again produce a rival.

8. The risk of this will be very greatly diminished if it is made clear to the community that every encouragement given by them to the opposition will directly increase the subsidy payable to the contractors or the cost incurred by the Government as the case may be ^{and} as a consequence the taxation leviable from the community.

9. This is a drastic proposition but any half measures will only provoke a catastrophe in a Colony so peculiarly situated as this. The mere statement of figures though sufficiently startling conveys a very inadequate picture of the situation.

10. The Halsland Islands Company draws a revenue from the Colony nearly three times as large and pays annually to its shareholders in England a sum nearly twice as large as the total annual revenue of the Crown.

11. It is natural from the English shareholders point of view this company is interested in nothing but money making, a large immediate gain has greater attractions than a smaller - though sounder and more permanent and probably eventually larger profit.

12. Their policy of world wide notoriety in connection with vessels in distress which brings in large immediate profits ^{is} of great permanent injury to the community.

13. The trust curse has not sufficiently developed as yet in Free trade ^{England} to make it possible for persons at a distance to assimilate, a true appreciation of the local circumstances and condition obtaining here.

14. Government while worshipping the high abstract and glorious principles of Free Trade, with which it would be impious to tamper ~~with~~ are content to witness the prostitution of those principles without protest or hindrance.

15. The starting of a local steamer will certainly tend to emancipate a considerable number of people who are now absolutely at the mercy of the Halsland Islands Co. and it must at the same time diminish to at least an equal extent the power they now exercise

16. This then is the proposition as it presents itself to me the present advantage of the shareholders of the Company and injury to the community versus present advantage to the community and the present injury but probable future advantage of the Company.

17. It is not possible to believe that a company holding the real estate such a vast portion of the Colony can be otherwise than permanently benefited by anything that tends to the general advance of the Colony.

18. I transmit for your consideration a Memorandum detailing what I should regard as a satisfactory local service. I estimate that the profit & loss account of a 300 ton unopposed steamer run by the Government would show a deficit of at least £1000 a year.

19. To meet the expenditure which either of these schemes would entail I suggest that the imposition of a tax of $\frac{1}{12}$ of a penny per acre on land which would yield an income of £810 a year.

20. This tax should in a large manner be reimbursed to the farmers by a reduction of the through rate of freight by the local & ocean steamers.

21. I am however content to lose sight altogether of this reimbursement and to base my recommendation upon a full knowledge, and endorsement, of the additional taxation by which it is to be carried out.

22. This scheme would supersede the calls of the ocean steamer recommended in my despatch of 11th but that arrangement should be continued until the local steamer is in existence.

I have &c.

(sd) W. Spring-Wilson.
Governor.

The Right Honble,
J. Chamberlain, M.P.
&c. &c. &c.

For previous contract re local steamer see Lord Derby's despatch No 32 of 7 June 1883.
Suggested lines upon which contract for a local steamer should more or less be drawn.

1. Steamer to leave Stanley within 48 hours after the arrival of each mail or at such latter period as the Governor may sanction.

2.

2. To call at any two ports, named for each voyage by the Governor and at such other ports as the Company may desire.
3. To reach Stanley not less than 6 hours before the departure of each ocean steamer.
4. To carry wool at through rates not exceeding those now paid for wool by schooner and Kosmos steamer.
5. To carry passengers in two classes and at rates not exceeding those now obtaining by local schooner.
6. To carry one Government passenger 1st class @ 5/- a day (this is to facilitate the conversion of the West Falkland Magistrate into a travelling Officer)
7. To carry all Govt. mails (letter, book & parcels) free and to carry no other mails or parcels unless they exceed the British Postal limits.
8. Freight to the amount of 5 tons to be carried for the Government free of charge when required.
9. The Government to pay an annual subsidy of £500 should there be no opposition, and an annual subsidy of £1000 should another local steamer be started.
10. The present contract with the Kosmos Co. to be extended for 3 years, that is, to the 1st day of July 1903.
11. The Govt. to pay the company a sum of £1000 compensation should the contract not be extended beyond 1903 or the Govt. to take over the local steamship for a sum of £~~1000~~ as the Govt. may elect (I here assume that the vessel to be built for the service would be of such design strength and construction and built at such place as the Government may approve.
12. This contract to be read with and form part of the contract made between the Kosmos Co and the Crown Agents on the 15th of July, 1895.
13. The Government to do everything possible to provide free storage for any cargo or coal the Company wish to land between steamers, and to allow the Company the use of any Govt. work shops and to purchase any materials required from

from the Govt. store.

14. The Government to endeavour to provide a landing pier suitable for the local steamer to come alongside of.

15. The Govt. to pledge themselves to relax when possible the provisions in the main contract as to the detention of the ocean steamers, or insert a clause allowing the Company to start their ocean steamers at any time not more than say 48 hours in advance of their contract date.

16. The Company to allow their ocean steamers to call at Rose Bay until the local steamer is running.

17. The local steamer to be free of all Harbour Pilot & light dues.

Note The company would be able to earn a good deal by transferring outward cargo from the ocean to the local steamer and landing from the latter to the jetty when available.

18 to 23 1/2 "Sakharah" on March 18th Recd by C.O. 23 April

409

19th March. 1898

N^o 24

Compulsory
purchase

Sir,

With reference to my Despatch No. 98 of the 14th of December last, your Despatch No. 7 of 1898, and the consolidation of the land Ordinances I beg to invite your consideration of the compulsory purchase of land provision for which is made in Ordinance No. 1 of 1872.

2. I believe this Ordinance was framed in England and accompanied Lord Kimberley's despatch No. 47 of the 9th January, 1872 of which I can find no trace.
3. Conditions somewhat similar to those in the Ordinance under review were prescribed in the earliest Proclamation relating to land (31 July, 1849) which required applicants for land to purchase at auction 160 acres of land and upon such purchase they were entitled to a lease of 10,000 acres for 20 years, but (Proclamation 4th April, 1861) no lessee shall have a title to a renewal of his lease but power is conferred upon the Governor in Council to grant extension

p. 397. extensions of 5 years if the land be not otherwise disposed of.

4. The object of enforcing purchase was to foster and promote the permanent occupation of the land by settlers, and to encourage immigration. The result can hardly be considered satisfactory.

5. It may be convenient to state that under the land laws:-

a "Block" means 160 acres.

a "Section" " 6000 acres.

a "Station" " the whole land comprised in one lease.

6. So far as I can ascertain 9 blocks which were purchased under this ord. have since changed hands and they have in every case passed to the holders of the "station" of which they formed part, I conclude therefore that no "settling" has resulted from the compulsion.

7. I should not however have moved in this matter had the result been ~~positive~~^{truncating} negative, But I apprehend that the operation of this Ordinance may inflict very serious injury upon the Colony.

8. During my recent tour of the Colony I found adequate indication of this danger:-

(a) The tenant at Port Stephens who purchased in 1880. 21 Blocks that is 3360 acres had selected an area comprising the requisite number of acres in one lot appropriating thereby the mostly suitable sites for the erection of piers, for landing cargo and shipping wool. This land has only recently been surveyed.

9. The practical result of the sale of this land is to place the Government in regard to any future letting of this station at the mercy to a great extent of the holder of these consolidated blocks.

10. In the case of San Carlos (No. 37 on Map) the present lessee W. K. Cameron is in possession of 7 freehold blocks (1120 acres) in one lot. I am of opinion that the peculiar formation of San Carlos harbour and creek enables the holder of these blocks to control unduly the whole of this station.

11. I entertain no doubt that the intention of the Ord. was to compel every leaseholder to acquire one "Block" in each "Section", but although some stations have been divided into "Sections" this very desirable condition has never been enforced.

12. It is only just that a tenant should have security for his outlay upon buildings, and this he can amply secure by a right to purchase, with the Governor's consent 160 acres on his "Station", or when such consent is refused to the part selected and no arrangement can be come to the right to compensation at a valuation for all buildings he may have erected, which are suitable and appropriate to the size and value of the holding or the erection of which the Governor in Council has approved.

13. In my opinion a block should have a water frontage of not more than 440 yards or in other words that the depth of a block should never exceed its width.

14. What the Ord. under review has accomplished and what (as it is at present interpreted) it is calculated to accomplish is to simplify the acquisition by the Public of all the most suitable rights of way to the properties which the Govt. at present lease to the owners of those rights of way and which the Govt. hereafter may be unable to lease by reason of the loss of those rights of way.

15. If it is intended that all existing leases shall be renewed in perpetuity to the present lessees then the Ordinance while useless may be regarded as harmless but if the possibility of a change of tenant and the division of some of the present vast holdings should be provided for, then the Ord. is in my opinion not only pernicious but so distinctly dangerous as to call for its exclusion from any consolidation of the Land Ordinances.

I have &c.

(sd) W. J. Wilson.
Governor.

The Right Honble.
J. Chamberlain, M.P.
&c. &c. &c.

I refused to sanction the recent surveys made by Mr. Morgan either as regards San Carlos, or Port Stephen. -
& the Governor's consent is essential to render them valid

26th March 1898N^o 25 ✓Auditors
Salary

Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch N^o 2 of the 22^d of January with reference to the Auditor's salary.

2 After writing my despatch N^o 97 of the 9th of Dec I received your despatch No. 54 of the 20th of November approving the provision made for the Auditor in the Estimates and in consequence I sanctioned the expenditure.

3. I did not intend to be understood as in any way regarding the provision as inexpedient, my opinion being that the salary of the Colonial Secretary is extremely small when compared with the salaries paid by the Falkland Is. Co. and the very high rate of wages obtaining here.

4. I venture to invite your reconsideration of the matter with a view to the approval of the sum of £ 35 provided in the Estimates for the Auditor.

The Right Honble,

J. Chamberlain, M.P.

Sec. Sec. Sec.

I have &c.

(sd) W. Grey-Wilson.

Governor.

24.25 by Swallow on April 1st Recd by C.O. April 29thN^o 26

Returns

Survey

on 1st April

Sir,

2^d April 1898

I have the honour to transmit a copy of the report of the Board on the Quarterly Survey of the Treasury chest

I also transmit a summary of the receipts and disbursements for the first quarter of 1898 and a detailed statement of the receipts and disbursements for the last quarter of 1897, and a statement of changes & unusual payments during the last Quarter.

originals only sent. 1 of each

Transmittal statement
Q^{tr} to 31 MarchSummary of cash book
Q^{tr} 31 Dec 97

changes, unusual

N^o 27 ✓ Sir,Marriage
Law

Book 25 page 237

1898

422

4th April 1898am by N^o 8 of 7 July 1899.

Apart from the very confused state of the Marriage laws of this colony to which my attention has been more than once directed, there are various specific amendments which it appears desirable to introduce. I have therefore drafted a consolidating Ordinance.

2. As the law stands no one can be married outside Stanley without paying a fee of £ 3 for a Governor's licence. This is a great hardship.
3. No Roman Catholic Registers exist prior to March, 1876, and it is conjectured that the earlier ones may have been removed to Buenos Ayres or to Monte Video, where the Priest was formerly withdrawn. The present records do not however comply with the Ordinance, are kept in Latin and ^{are} inadequate.
4. The Church of England Registers are very unsatisfactory as when one of the Ministers visits round the camp and performs marriages he carries with him loose forms of certificates, which are intended to become the records upon his return to Stanley, but loose sheets of this nature are highly unsatisfactory as a permanent record, if they even reach the stage of being formerly recorded by being pinned into a record book.
5. The provision in clause 26 of Ordinance 12 of 1853 have not been complied with, and I cannot help regretting that the legal officer who alone of the Govt. officials was not fully employed did not devote his attention to the Registration question. The Colonial Secretary has done most excellent work in the way of reform and the later records of his office are admirable, but the enormous amount of work for which he was responsible, it has not been possible to make those reforms adequately retrospective.
6. There was for many years a church and Presbyterian Minister at Darwin the office was abolished in May, 1890. The Marriage records of that station which I have recovered from the Baptist Minister are kept in a "ketch rough diary and scribbling form". Some are written across and over the printed matter therein others are merely pinned into the book. Some of them are original documents, some of them are only copies.

7. The Baptist Minister has just resigned his appointment and the arrangements made for carrying on the work do not inspire confidence as to the security of their records, I have examined these records and prior to the time of the present Minister the law was not complied with. The records are at present kept in a rough memorandum book.

8. In the draft of a consolidating ordinance, I have provided that every "intended Marriage" and every "Certificate of Marriage" shall be immediately registered in Stanley, by the Registrar General.

9. In view of the very large area and very small population of the colony I have made it lawful for marriages by ordinary licence to be celebrated in the house of a Justice of the Peace, by special licence at any time and in any place. These alterations and a reduction of the fees constitute the whole of the innovations I have introduced and now submit for your consideration.

10. I have omitted from the present draft all reference to the fees payable to the clergy as this appears to be a matter that does not require legislative control.

11. The Registration of intended marriages is a great safeguard and check upon the correctness of Registration of marriages and by its means I have upon several occasions detected omissions to register marriages which would otherwise never have come to light.

12. The accuracy and completeness of the marriage records is of such vital importance to every community as to leave no room for doubt that the small additional trouble I propose imposing will be cheerfully accepted.

13. I purpose collecting as far as possible all the existing Marriage records which are unsatisfactory and having them copied into a new Marriage register to be obtained from England.

14. I have submitted this draft to Canon Espinall and to the two Priests and have accepted the amendments that have been suggested. Dean Brandon is away for some months so that I have been unable to consult him.

15. The proposal to consolidate the marriage laws is regarded with universal favour.

I have &c.

(sd) W. Grey-Wilson

I transmit a report by C.S. & the Treasurer on marriage records to the Governor.

C.S. paper 34
21 April 98

N^o 28

Jurors

No. 4 of 1898
2 Copies
2.

Sir,

I have the honour to transmit copies of "an Ord. relating to Jurors and trials by Jury"

This Ordinance consolidates, and amends the law in the following respects.

(a) Formerly jurors should have been (but were not) summoned from all parts of the colony now the limit is fixed at 6 miles from Stanley. Clause 1.

(b) Clause 13 raises the number of Jurors from 6 to 7 and enables 5. to record a verdict.

(c) Clause 15 enables the Chief Justice to impress by Stewards, & provides for a new form of ballot.

(d) Clause 17, 18, 19 & 20 are new.

(e) In Clause 21 the remuneration has been raised to something more ~~than~~ nearly approaching artisans wages.

The Right Honble,

J. Chamberlain, M.P.

cc.

cc. cc.

I have &c

(sd) W. Grey - Wilson.

Governor.

1898

424

April 6th, 1898.

book 25 page 31

N^o 29

Gaols

No. 5 of 1898
8 copies
2.

Sir,

I have the honour to transmit copies of "an Ordinance relating to Gaols."

This Ordinance consolidates and extends the existing law upon the lines of Ord. No. 4 of 1895 of St. Helena. I have not thought it necessary to embody the greater part of Ord. No. 6 of 1882 as that Ordinance is a transcript of 31 Victoria Chapter 24 which is now in force in this Colony.

3.

The existing Gaol rules remain in force by virtue of clause 10 of Ord. 1 of 1898.

The Right Honble,

J. Chamberlain, M.P.

cc

cc

cc.

I have &c.

(sd) W. Grey - Wilson.

Governor.

16th April, 1898N^o 30Land
Records.

Sir,

Book 25 p 60

Much of the land conveying Ordinance (No. 3 of 1853) is obsolete, while some of it is superseded by Ordinance No. 4 of 1889 or replaced by English acts, which are now in force in this colony. (No. 1 of 1898).

2. No serious attempt appears ever to have been made to carry out the provisions of Ordinance No. 12 of 1853 as to the Registration of deeds & land records and there exists I regret to state, almost hopeless confusion.

3. I have sent to England for a complete set of books and hope that during the approaching winter it will be possible to make considerable progress in the direction of reform.

4. I directed the Colonial Secretary and the Treasurer to report as to how far the provisions of clauses 3 to 15 of the Registration Ordinance had been complied with and I now transmit their report.

5. Excellent as the Registration of deeds Ordinance appears to me to be in regard to much of its matter, it is without doubt too ambitious and this fact I attribute its having been treated, even from the first, very nearly as a dead letter.

6. I would suggest repealing Ordinance Number 3 of 1853 and clauses 2 to 15 of Ordinance 12 of 1853 and replacing them by Ordinance No. 1 of 1893 of St. Helena which was regarded at the time by Lord Ripon as a satisfactory solution of a difficult problem in its application to a colony with limited means and a slender staff.

7. In my despatch No. 27 I expressed regret which I need not enlarge that the Officer who had charge of the Registration of deeds should not have availed himself of the very obvious opportunities which presented themselves for rendering good service to this colony. It is however only fair to him to state that he inherited and did not create the confusion.

I have &c.

(sd) W. Grey-Wilson.
Governor.

The Right Honble,

J. Chamberlain, M.P.

cc cc cc.

C.S. No. 142/99

1898

426

N^o 31

Book 25 p 62

22^d April 1898Lightkeeper
Broom

p 4/98

2.

I have the honour to forward for transmission to the Board of Trade an application from M^r. J. K. Broom, the principal lightkeeper in this colony for promotion.

M^r. Broom's record in this colony is very satisfactory and I have no hesitation in expressing the hope that it may be possible to comply with his wishes.

The Right Honble,

I have &c.

J. Chamberlain, M.P.

(sd) W. Grey-Wilson.

&c. &c. &c.

Governor.

N^o 32

in cir 7 Aug 1900

23^d April 1898Solicitors
act.

Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Circular despatch of the 1st of Feb. transmitting the draft of a Bill making provision for the admission to the Supreme Court of the United Kingdom of colonial solicitors.

2.

The existing rules of the Supreme Court of this Colony do not make any provision for the admission of solicitors but under the rules now being framed under Ordinance No. 2 of 1898, Solicitors and Barristers of the United Kingdom will be admitted to practice in all the Courts of this Colony without examination and without fee.

3.

Unqualified persons will be admitted to practice in any of the Courts upon satisfying the Chief Justice that they are possessed of the necessary legal education to render their services of value to the Public and to the Courts.

4.

These matters are regulated by rules made by the Governor-in-Council and do not require legislative sanction.

The Right Honble,

I have &c.

J. Chamberlain, M.P.

(sd) W. Grey-Wilson.

&c. &c. &c.

Governor.

N^o 26 to 32 by "Neko" 30 April rec by C.O. 4th June

5 May 1898

N^o 33 *liv.*

- "Currency"

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch "General" of the 22nd of February, transmitting an order-in-council approving a draft Proclamation by the Queen in council applying parts of the coinage acts, 1870, 1891 to this colony.

2. I beg to enclose a copy of the Proclamation which I have issued, in terms of the order-in-council, promulgating Her Majesty's Proclamation of February 3rd relating to coinage and legal tender in this colony.

3. I have endeavoured, with no great success, to ascertain the history of the currency of this colony, but I can find no trace of any reference to the subject prior to 1863.

4. By a Gazette notice of the 19th of May, 1863 a large number of Foreign coins were "recognized" by the Government and consequently became, in a measure legal tender, but a similar notice of the 9th of December, 1863 revoked this authorization by announcing that "the colonial Government will receive no foreign coins whatever into the Public Treasury".

5. Her Majesty's Order-in-council of the 10th of Nov. 1866 made gold coins of the Sydney mint legal tender in this colony.

6. On the 28th of December, 1878 Governor Ballaghane (despatch no 72) stated "there are no legal enactments relating to currency in force in this colony."

7. Governor Kerr (177 of 1882) stated "The only legal tender in this colony is the coinage of great Britain but a number of foreign coins are in circulation among the traders."

8. By Section 11 of "The coinage act, 1870" Her Majesty may by Proclamation apply that act to any British possession but I have been unable to discover any trace of a Proclamation so applying it to the Falklands, and consequently I do not know upon what grounds Governor Kerr based the statement that "the only legal tender in this colony is the Coinage of great Britain". —

9. As the records are not indexed prior to 1882 it is quite possible that I may have overlooked some proclamation and I shall be grateful for information upon the subject in view of the provision

5th May
in Gazette

provision in subsection ii of section 2 of Her Majesty's Proclamation now brought into force that in any colony "in which silver coins are a legal tender for a payment of an unlimited amount, they shall continue to be a legal tender for the payment of any amount." -

1st Cir
8 Mar
1893

and (b) of Section 2 "Foreign coins which are legal tender shall continue to be legal tender."

10. I therefore beg that you will inform me whether any Proclamation has been made by Her Majesty prior to 1898 relating to the currency of this colony.

The Right Honble

J. Chamberlain, M.P.
Secy Sec.

I have &c

(sd) W. Grey-Wilson
Governor.

Dollar legal tender at 4/2 m s of 3 to 5. W 276 of 1st Feb: 1861

N^o 34 Sir.

13th May 1898

~~Coroner's~~
Coroner's
Ordinance

I have the honour to transmit copies of "an Ordinance relating to coroners."

2.
No. 6 of 1898
8 copies

The only reference to coroners that I can find in the local Ordinances is contained in Clauses 3, 5, 42 and 47 of Ordinance 10 of 1853 and I am not aware whence the Magistrates who have heretofore discharged the duties of Coroners have derived their powers.

3.

I have framed the present Ordinance as nearly as possible upon the instructions contained in Lord Knutsford's despatch No. 49 of the 24th of November 1888, but as the justices are so very scattered I have provided that one may act under certain well defined & limited conditions.

The Right Honble

J. Chamberlain, M.P.
&c. &c. &c.

I have &c.

(sd) W. Grey-Wilson.
Governor.

Passed nemine
dissentiente

Governor Kerr passed a similar law (so I believe but I can find no copy of it) and it was disallowed by Lord Knutsford in his despatch W 238 of 18 July 1889. Gov Kerr's O. was violently opposed.
W. G. W.

N^o 35

Sir,

annual
accountsannual acc in dup
form "G"

form "H" 2.

313
book 25 p 5514th May 1898

ans by 32 of 5 August.

I have the honour to transmit the annual account for the year, 1897, with explanations of the differences between that account and the estimated Revenue and Expenditure.

The following summary (from which Land Sales are excluded) shows that the Expenditure exceeded the Revenue by £ 666.

Revenue		net gain	Expenditure		net excess over Estimate.
Estimate	actual		Estimate	actual	
12,420	12,970	£ 550.	11,990	13,636	1,646

The Revenue exceeded that of the previous year by £ 612 and that of 1895 by £ 451

The gross amount by which the estimated Expenditure was exceeded is £ 2163-0-4 and for this amount provision has been made in the supplementary appropriated ordinance which I now transmit.

I cannot supplement to any great extent the explanations of the Treasurer and with the exception of the "Prison" and "Works" expenditure no additional information appears necessary.

The increase (£ 120) in the Fuel expenses was due entirely to the large number of sailors from H.M. Ships undergoing punishment here, and I submit that the Admiralty should be invited to contribute towards this expenditure I will however deal with this matter later on. See my despatch 94/99. 2/- a day to be paid.

The works excess (£ 1296) has to some extent received your sanction as follows:—

£ 150 repairs Govt. House S. of S. despatch 10 of Feb. 23.

£ 350 Sea wall " " " 30 Aug. 10

£ 105 furniture under S. of S. to self? Aug or Sept. 1897.

£ 130 Telephone S. of S. despatch 56 of 21 May, 1894.

and nearly the whole amount has been covered by votes of the Legislative Council as follows:—

On 21 July £ 301 excess to 30 June, 1897.

" " £ 300 for works A. B. C. of Estimates.

" 17 May } £ 415 actual cost of Sea Wall.

" 24 Sept. }

" 15 June. £ 180. for Telephone to high house. leaving about

£ 100 for which no Vote was obtained.

The provision for Public Works in the Estimates has for years been wholly insufficient as the following table shows:—

	1891.	1892.	1893.	1894.	1895.	1896.	1897.	1898.	1899.
Provided	1200	750	1327	1121	1233	1020	970	900	1100
Expended	3078	1453	2075	2397	2277	2151	2266	2188	1485

The total provision for those seven years was £8,121. The total expenditure £15,697.

The average annual provision was £1160 the expenditure £2242.

The expenditure appears to me far more reasonable than the provision made for it.

8. I also transmit a statement of the assets & liabilities of the colony on December 31 last, showing that on that day the liabilities were less than the assets by £16,743.

9. I think however that a better view of our financial position is obtained by excluding the land sales fund and the following table discloses a not very satisfactory condition.

31 December, 1890	assets, surplus of	liabilities, deficiency of
	£ 2,848	—
" " 1891	£ 1271	—
" " 1892	£ 1610	—
" " 1893	£ 1,540	—
" " 1894	£ 1,041	—
" " 1895	£ 392	—
" " 1896	...	£ 1043
" " 1897	...	£ 1761
1898		2918
1899		3087

10. A sum of £ 581-18-8 was expended in connection with the survey for the Pier no provision has been made for this expenditure in the Supplementary Ordinance, as the Treasurer following what he believed to be the instructions, had entered the amount below the line as an "advance": the advance being wiped out by debiting the land sales fund with the amount and credited the amount as an "advance repaid".

11. To me it seems however quite clear from the instructions contained in your despatch No. 25 of the 27 April, 1896 that expenditure authorized from the Land Sales fund should be brought to account above the line as a "Miscellaneous Receipt" and charged to "Public works extraordinary". Provision being made for it in the next supplementary expenditure Ordinance.

12. As I was not aware of the manner in which this expenditure had been treated until the 1897, accounts were closed I shall now delay dealing with it until

see 808
No 32
25 Aug
1898

I receive your reply.

The Right Honble.

I have ac.

J. Chamberlain, M.P.

ac. ac. ac.

(sa) W. Grey-Wilson.

Governor.

N^o 36

Blue Book

Sir,

I have the honour to transmit the Falkland Islands Blue Book for 1897 together with a report by the colonial secretary Mr Craigie-Halkett.

I have

R^d Honble

J. Chamberlain M.P.

W. Grey-Wilson

16th May 1898

N^o 37

Conveyance
"Maldivia"

Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch No. 14 of the 12th of April transmitting a deed of conveyance of the property at St Helena known as "Maldivia".

2.

I have duly executed and herewith return the deed.

The Right Honble,

J. Chamberlain, M.P.

ac. ac. ac.

I have ac.

W. Grey-Wilson.

Governor.

19th May 1898

N^o 38.

War

Spain & America

Sir,

I had the honour to receive your telegrams of the 21st and 22nd April with reference to the anticipated outbreak of war between Spain and the United States of America on the 27th of April, and I have to-day received your further telegrams of April 22nd, 23rd, 29th and May 3rd intimating the existence of a State of

19th May, 1898.

of War.

2. I have been unable to discover that a copy of the Treaty of Washington was ever sent to this Colony and as I pointed out in my despatch No 91 of the 10th of November last I found no books of reference whatever in the library here. On the 30th of November I ordered a copy of Hall's International Law but it has not yet arrived.

3. I have however a general knowledge of the terms of the Treaty of Washington because its retrospective provisions impressed me greatly, and I do not doubt that that knowledge and the information contained in your telegrams will enable me to steer a proper course.

4. I transmit a copy of the Proclamation which I have this day made.

The Right Honble,

J. Chamberlain, M.P. (3d)
cc. cc. cc.

I have &c.

W. Grey-Wilson.
By memo.

33 to 38 by the Tanis May 21st Recd by c.c. 24th June

No 39

Govt House

1st June

20 May, 1898

Sir,

~~I have the honour~~ to overshadowed in my despatch No. 22 of the 12 March, I now have the honour to transmit plans of the addition that in my opinion it is essential should be made to Govt. House.

2. To fully describe the present Govt. House is beyond my power, but perhaps I can best convey an impression of its eccentricities by a very brief survey of its salient points.

3. The house is one storied with the exception of the drawing room, with bed & dressing room over. It contains 4 bedrooms, 1 drawing room, 3 sitting rooms (one of which the library is really an outer hall) and Governor's office and 2 lean to tin shanties for servants. The Governor's office which is common with one half of the house is of wood, is distant exactly 132 feet from the front door and this fact when connected with the number of rooms will probably convey to any architect an adequate picture

picture of this extraordinary structure.

4. The Governor's Office is like an ice house, as the wind howls through the floor and the gaping seams in the walls and many of the records are quite obliterated by damp. I was not surprised to hear that the late Governor habitually used his bedroom as an office.
5. My proposition is to erect an entirely new stone wing as shown in the attached plans and to construct a new roof over the dining room hall and library which now boast as many eaves, gutters, ridges, lean-tos and gables as an Elizabethan mansion.
6. The house when completed would be a two storied entirely stone building, representing an L with a perfectly plain gable roof.
7. If my suggestions are submitted for criticism to an architect I would impress the following points upon him.
 - (a) The drainage must all run north and on the East of the house, and on no account under it, on account of absence of skilled labour.
 - (b) Drafty passages in this terrible climate must be reduced to a minimum.
 - (c) Windows should have only very small opening.
 - (d) Roof should be perfectly plain, slated and wind proof.
8. I estimate that the new wing suggested would cost £1800 and raising the roof of the other portion £600, and of this sum £400 could be defrayed from the current works vote leaving £2000 to be provided.
9. This work if immediately sanctioned could not be completed under $2\frac{1}{2}$ to 3 years from the present time and my suggestions lose therefore much of the personal element with which otherwise they might be regarded.
10. The existing drainage which runs under the house violates almost every sanitary law and is in a disgraceful condition.
11. Only by having windows and doors open at night is it possible to escape noxious smells and in such a climate, I need not comment on this.
12. During the last 20 years only two children have

have lived in this house and they both died.

13. It is certain that no Governor will be able to retain English servants in such a house and very few English ladies will be likely to remain for a sufficiently long time to exert the influence so essential in a small and undeveloped community.

14. The Legislative Council while unanimously recognizing the very grave shortcomings of the existing building favour the erection of an entirely new building but as that would cost at least £6000 to £8000 I am unable in the present financial condition of the Colony to recommend it.

15. The building I propose though certainly far from ornamental should be water & wind tight warm & sanitary.

16. One of the main difficulties in planning the addition has been to provide for remaining in the house during the alterations & for an immediate reconstruction of the drainage.

17. The remarks upon construction which accompanied my despatch No. 22. apply with equal force to this work, and should not be lost sight of.

The Right Honble,

J. Chamberlain, M.P.

Ac. Ac. Ac.

I have &c.

(sd) W. Grey-Wilson.

Governor.

39 by "Itauri" June 10th Recd by C. O. 13th July

11 June 1898

No 40 Sir,

Qtr acc:
to 31 March

I have the honour to transmit a statement of the Revenue and Expenditure for the 1st Qtr of this year

I have
W. Grey-Wilson

No 41 ✓ Sir
Copyright

In reply to your Sir disp of the 8th of March I have the honour to state that all the Imperial copyright acts extend to & are in force in this Colony

I have
W. Grey-Wilson

30th JuneN^o 42Council
minutes

Sir,

I have the honour to transmit the minutes of the Ex and Legislative Councils of this Colony for the half year ending today

I have

W. Grey Wilson

1 July 1898

N^o 43

Returns

Sir,

I have the honour to transmit a copy of the report made by the Board on the Qtr survey of the Treasury chest. —

2 I also transmit the financial returns noted in the margin

I have

W. Grey Wilson

40 to 43 by "Sakkarak" July 4th 10 P.M. Recd by C.O. Aug 6th6th July 1898N^o 44Sealing
Ordinance

Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch Cl^o 13 of the 7th of April transmitting the draft of a Sealing Ordinance.

1. The amount laid down in section 3 for a Sealing licence £50 will in my opinion and in that of my Council be quite prohibitive, and the sum of £10 is suggested in substitution of the larger amount.

2. By section 5 any person who has by lease or otherwise an existing right to kill seals need not enter into a bond, and shall have a free licence.

3. The issue of a free licence appears quite equitable, but as M^{rs} Hansen who alone exercises the right to take seal is in terms of her lease (see enclosure to Lord Ripon's despatch Cl^o 12 of 15 Jan 1894) required

required to conform practically to the provision (A.B) of Sect. 3 of the draft Ordinance I would suggest the omission of the words "and without being required to enter into the bond specified in the proviso to Section 3 hereof."

4. The Royalties to be paid under the Ord. will certainly not be higher than those paid by M^r Hanson as the accounts show that in many instances the skins do not fetch the amount of the Royalties.

5. I would suggest that in the title of the Ordinance and in the enacting clause the words "and their Dependencies" should be omitted, and the words "colony of the" inserted, in conformity with section 1 of the Letters Patent and Section 20 (1) of the Instructions 1892.

The Right Honble,
J. Chamberlain, M.P.
Sec. Sec. Sec.

I have &c.

(sd) W. Grey-Wilson.
Governor.

N^o 45.

Remittances
to S. America

Sir,

book 25 p107

ans by N^o 47 of 1898

7 July, 1898.

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch No. 20 of the 18 May with reference to drafts upon the brown agents.

2. I have no present intention of in any way seeking to alter the existing arrangements whereby the Falkland Islands Co. pay cash to the brown agents and draw it from the Colonial Treasury in Stanley to the mutual convenience of both parties.

3. The correspondence I have had with Her Majesty's Ministers at Buenos Ayres, Monte Video, Valparaiso and with the "Bank of Tarapaca & London" in Punta Arenas has reference only to facilitating the means of making remittances to those places by traders in Stanley, and by persons passing to and fro.

4. You are no doubt aware that a considerable number of Falkland colonists own and hold land in South America. English gold forms at present the most convenient mode of transmitting and transporting remittances with the result that it commands a premium

premium in Stanley and is never available in adequate quantities to meet the local needs.

5. If, as I hope, I can arrange in Chili, Argentina and Uruguay for the discount of drafts upon the brown agents at rates equal to or very little below those obtainable for sovereigns it should be possible while securing a small profit to this Government to check the export of gold and enable the public to affect their remittances with less risk than is inseparable from the transport of specie.

6. I transmit a copy of my letters to Ministers which will explain how this matter has contrary to my anticipation been submitted to you, and I trust that the explanation I now offer will justify the Colonial Office in inviting the Foreign Office to assure Ministers that the drafts of this Government are in order.

The Right Honble.

J. Chamberlain, M.P.

cc. cc. cc.

I have &c.

(sd) W. Grey-Wilson.
Governor.

N^o 46. ✓

Marmes
proposed

8 July, 1898.

Sir,

In reply to your Circular despatch of the 6th of May, I have the honour to state that this Government would prefer that Marmes should be appointed whenever non-commissioned officers are required.

The Right Honble,

J. Chamberlain, M.P.

cc. cc. cc.

I have &c.

(sd) W. Grey-Wilson.
Governor.

N^o 47.

Wrecks
Legislation

9th July, 1898.

Sir,

ans by N^o 39 of 10 Sept.
I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch No. 27 of the 30 July, 1897 with reference to shipping legislation.

2.

I have nearly completed the consolidation of the law

Law as recommended by the Board of Trade, but I am unable to reconcile the statement in their letter which you transmitted with sections 470, 471 of the Merchant Shipping Act, 1894.

3. The Board of Trade state "assessors are required in the case of inquiries in shipping casualties they are not required in the case of investigations instituted into charges of incompetency or misconduct against Master, Mates, and Engineers."

4. Sect. 471 Sub Section 4 of the act provides that "where the inquiry is held by a court of summary jurisdiction (as it must be in this colony) the inquiry shall be conducted x x in the same manner x x x as in the case of a formal investigation" that is to say with the aid of assessors.

5. If I rightly apprehend assessors are necessary in all colonies where the summary court deals with shipping matters and where the question of a certificate is in question. It will therefore only be necessary to make provision in this colony for:

(a) the holding of preliminary inquiries by the Receiver of Wrecks.

(b) the holding of formal investigations by the Police Magistrate with the aid of assessors. The Court holding such investigation to have power not only to report as to the shipping casualty but also when one assessor concurs to cancel or suspend any certificate.

6. I would ask to be informed whether my view of this matter is correct.

The Right Honble,
J. Chamberlain, M.P.
Sec. Sec. Sec.

I have &c.
(sd) W. Grey-Wilson.
Governor.

N^o 48.

Companies Ordinance

No 8 of 1898
8 copies.

2.

3.

Sir,
I have the honour to transmit copies of an Ordinance relating to trading companies. This Ordinance has been passed to enable the Stanley Assembly room company, limited to increase its capital and extend its operations. Section 4 has been inserted to remove the

16 July, 1898.

the disqualifying provisions of Imperial legislation with reference to Ministers of Religion.

4. Dean Brandon, the Colonial Chaplain, has for many years been, if not in name the Managing Director, undoubtedly the leading spirit of the Company, ^{he is entirely responsible} for the proposed extension.

5. The provision in Sect. 7 that every special resolution must be confirmed by the Chief Justice is regarded by the assembly room company as very satisfactory as not one of the Directors has any knowledge whatever of Company law.

6. I have availed myself of the opportunity to make the present Ordinance of general application.

I have &c

(sd) W. Grey-Wilson
Governor.

The Right Honble,

J. Chamberlain, M.P.

&c. &c. &c.

N^o 49
Savings
Bank

Sir,

393
p. 22 of Book 25

19th July 1898

I have the honour to ack the receipt of your despatch N^o 24 of the 14th of June stating that no annual report on the working of the Falkland Islands Savings Bank sum-
ever to have reached the Colonial Office.

2. — In my despatch N^o 1 of the 1st of Jan. last I transmitted a very interesting report upon the Savings Bank and I would ask to be informed in what particulars it is desired that that report should be supplemented

I have

W. Grey-Wilson

c. N^o 50 ✓

20 July, 1898.

Harbours

9 of 1898
6 copies.

Sir,

I have the honour to transmit copies of an Ordinance relating to Harbours.

2.

The Ordinances relating to the Harbour (5 of 1871 and 2 of 1880) do not provide adequately for the existing needs of the Port and I hope shortly to replace them by an Ordinance dealing exclusively with Pilots and Pilotage.

I have &c.

The Right Honble

J. Chamberlain

&c.

M.P.

&c. &c.

(sd) W. Grey-Wilson

Governor.

N^{os} 44 to 50 sent home
by Tanis 22^d July Recd by C.O. 22^d Aug.