

Government House
Falkland Islands
30th April 1869.

V B

My Lord I have the honour to enclose certain papers concerning the painful loss by fire of the Ship "Blue Jacket" of Liverpool, on the 9th March, between 400 and 500 miles due east of the Falkland Islands. A boat belonging to the "Blue Jacket" containing 11 Seamen and bar gold to the value of about £12,000, was picked up at sea on the 29th March by the "Antonia Vincent" of Swansea; and from the enclosed Report, and the evidence taken on an Enquiry which on the arrival of the "Antonia Vincent" at Stanley I ordered to be held touching the loss of the "Blue Jacket", Your Lordship and the Board of Trade will learn in detail all that I have been able to ascertain respecting this distressing and fatal event.

2. It appears, briefly, that the "Blue Jacket", James White, Master, sailed from Lyttleton, New Zealand, on the 13th Feb^r last. She was bound for London and laden with wool, cotton, skins, flax, tow, tallow and gold; and had on board twenty six passengers whose names are given below. The ship took fire at half past one P.M. on the 9th March, from, as is supposed, the heating of the cotton and flax. And at half past nine the same evening the Officers, Crew, and passengers (65 persons in all) were obliged to abandon the ship and take to the boats.

3 Three boats left the ship on the night of the fire. (1) A large half decked boat of about 10 or 11 tons further, called the Yacht.

(2.) The first life boat.

(3.) The second Life boat.

The Yacht was Commanded by Captain James White, Master of the "Blue Jacket," and had on board besides:

Fredrick Williams.	1 st Mate
Fredrick Salgleish	Surgeon.
* George Farrington	Purser
Thomas Peritt.	1 st Steward
Hastings Riley	2 nd do
Thomas Asser	3 rd do
George Robbin	Seaman
George Grimstead	do
George Jones	Boy
Miss Hunt.	Stewards.

Shipped in Lyttelton from the Hydras.

Mr & Mrs Campbell
Mr & Mrs Saxton
Mr Bruncher
Mr Clay
Another Gentleman a naturalist;
name unknown, going home for
the sake of his eyes believed to be
English.

Below Passengers.

Mr Compton
Mr Williams
Mr Gippett & Son
Mr Muir
Mrs Castor & 3 Children
Miss Sheffield
Mr & Mrs Falkner & 4 Children
4 Passengers, names unknown

2nd Cabin Passengers

The first Life boat contained:

Mr Arthur W. Webber 3rd Mate
James Cox. Boatman
James Rotham. Engineer.

Samuel Maddox,	Apprentice
Ben. Neilson	a Swede
Thomas King	
George Small	
William Jones	
Alexander Robertson	A.B.
William Henderson	A.B.
Samuel Hansel	A.B.
James Maco	A.B.
James Birch	Sailmaker
Michael Burgess	Carpenter
John McDonald	O.S.

The second Life Boat contained:

Mr Bell. Second Mate	
John Williams	Cook.
Jesse Brown	A.B.
— Friese	A.B.
— Wilkenson	A.B.
— Robertson	A.B.
John Hollman	A.B.
Henry Cobby	A.B.
Walter Taylor	2 nd Cabin Steward
Charles May	Cook's Mate
Joseph Osbourne	Coloured Man
Charles Waikenfell	O.S.

The Ships Butcher name unknown
shipped in Lyttleton.

4. The first Life Boat it was which was picked up by the "Antonio Vincent" after having been twenty days at sea. For provisions they had on board when they left the wreck, three bags of bread one cask of water mixed with rum, two Jars of water and a few tins of preserved meats, sardines, and butter. Some articles of clothing which were saved in the first instance, were partly thrown overboard on the morning of the second day. The Gold to which I have already referred

was stowed away in the side compartments of the Life boat. The crew, as may be supposed, suffered the greatest hardships from thirst and cold. Four, M^r Donald, Burgess, Robertson, and Henderson, died in the boat one after the other delirious from excessive thirst and exposure: and three (Mace, Hansell, and Birch,) on board the "Antonia Vincent", from the effects of weakness and frostbite. Immediately on the arrival of the "Antonia Vincent" at this Port, I placed the survivors in the hands of a Medical Man, and afforded them, I need hardly say, all the comforts and assistance in my power. One or two of the men were landed in an exceedingly critical state, and had to submit to painful amputations of the feet, but they are all now out of danger and able to walk about again. It is my intention to send them home as distressed seamen in H.M.S. "Megera", now momentarily expected from Rio de Janeiro with our 1st Detachment of Marines.

3. I deeply regret that it is not in my power to afford any information respecting the fate of the too crowded Yacht or the second life boat. It appears from the evidence (the "Magistrates" state in their report) that on the 11th of March, whilst making for the Falkland Islands, with a fair wind as directed by the Captain, the 1st Life boat lost sight of the other two boats, which have never been heard of here since. We had no evidence to prove how the second Lifeboat was provisioned, but we fear the Yacht had but a scanty allowance for so many persons, as there were only 30 tins of Meat, 2 doz tins Sardines, 2 Boiled Hams, some tins of Soup, one bag of bread (partly damaged by salt water) and 25 Gallons of water. If therefore they have not been picked up by

"Some vessel, the probabilities are that they
 "have perished. We are, however, still San-
 "guine that they have reached some place
 "in Safety."

"In Conclusion we beg to send (for the satisfac-
 "tion of their friends) a list of the crew
 "copied from the Ships Log who were left
 "in Lyttleton New Zealand. viz:-

"J. Sheen (A.B.) A. Carlow. C. Holland. Carl-
 "wright. - Maurice. - Brown (A.B.) Johnson. -
 "Bellingsburg. - MacLeod. - J. Quinn (A.B.)
 "Ciselly (A.B.)."

6. As regards the Gold which was found
 in the first lifeboat. It consists of fourteen
 bars each marked with a number and the
 words "Bank of New Zealand"; and is worth
 altogether, as nearly as I can judge, £12,000
 Sterling. I took charge of it on the arrival
 of the "Antonio Vincent" on behalf of the
 owner or owners unknown, there being no
 Receiver of Wrecked Property in the Colony,
 and deposited it in one of the Government
 Safes, mounting a Guard of Marines over
 the Building for greater security by night.
 As I neither know to whom it belongs nor
 when it was insured, I have decided to send
 it to England by H.M.S. "Megera" consigned
 to the Crown Agents for the Colonies, to be
 held to the order of the lawful owners; and
 I have written by this days Mail to the
 Crown Agents requesting them to effect an
 Insurance on the Bullion about to be so
 despatched. I think it better to do this
 than keep the Gold here until I can hear
 from the owners, as this would involve a
 delay of seven or eight months and a loss
 of interest on the money value of the
 Gold.

7. I am sorry that I cannot send the
 enclosed Report and Evidence to your Lordship

in duplicate, but as I only received the papers
from the Court this morning, and the mail
leaves in a few hours I have not time to do
so. The duplicates shall be forwarded by
S.M.S. "Megera".

I have &c. &c.

(S^d)

William Robinson
Governor

The Right Hon^{ble}
Earl Granville N.G.

8th/61.Government House
Falkland Islands
4th May 1869JCNA
[B14, 316]

My Lord.

In Continuation of my despatch 8th 159. of the 30th ultimo, I have now the honour to report that I have this day shipped on board A. M. S. "Megera", Staff Commander James Lane, Commanding the fourteen bars of Gold recovered from the wreck of the "Blue Jacket", Consigned to the Crown Agents for the Colonies, to be held by them to the order of the lawful owners. The eight ^{Sea}-men referred to in the 4th paragraph of my despatch as aforesaid will be embarked on board the "Megera" the day after tomorrow for conveyance to England. They leave the Colony in comparatively good health.

2. I ought to mention that James Cox, the Boatswain of the "Blue Jacket", was put on his trial before the Police Court for stealing the Gold, it having come out in evidence on the Inquiry which I ordered for the information of the Board of Trade, that he broke open the boxes containing the Gold as soon as the "Antonio Vincent" appeared in sight, and endeavoured to secret certain of the bars about his person, before leaving the boat. He was, however, acquitted; and the Chief Magistrate reports to me that in his opinion it does not appear desirable under the circumstances known that any further Criminal Proceedings should be taken in this Colony.

3. I regret to say that up to the present time no information has been received here respecting the fate of either of the missing boats.

4. I enclose for transmission to the Board of Trade a duplicate copy of the Report of the Magistrates who conducted the Investigation;

a duplicate copy of the evidence taken in
the inquiry; the mates log of the "Blue
Jacket" And two paper bottles found in
the Boat.

I have &c. &c.
(Sd.)

William Robinson

Governor.

The Right Honble

Earl Granville N.C.

80.117.

JCNA
[D 13, 117] pg 296

Government House
Falmouth Islands
5th April 1869.

Sir
The Master of the "Antonia Vincent" of Swansea has this day reported to me that on the 28th ultimo he picked up at sea a boat belonging to the ship "Blue Jacket" of Liverpool, containing 11 seamen and gold to the value of about £10,000.

I have examined the survivors, right in number, (three having died since the date of the rescue) and the circumstances of the case appearing to me to be surrounded with extreme suspicion, I have to request that you will cause an inquiry to be held by the Police Court touching the alleged loss by fire of the "Blue Jacket," as well for the information of the Board of Trade as for the purpose of deciding whether a criminal prosecution should not be instituted by the Colonial Government.

I have &c. &c.
(S^d)

William Robinson
Governor

The Hon^{ble}
E. R. Griffiths Esq^r
Stipendiary Magistrate

P.S. The men who are now under charge of the Shipping Master as distressed British seamen are lodged in the Reservoir Cottages for the present.

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owing to the loss of his Schooner he was unable to complete the quantity, and the Governor promised him at the time that he should be given the preference in the event of other Applications being made for the island.

I remain, Dear Sir
Yours &c. &c.

(Sd) H. Byng
Ac. & Co. Secy.

J. J. Switzer Esq^r

No-223

JCNA
[223] pg 280-281

Government House
Gallman Island
13th April 1869

Sir
Referring to my letter^{N^o 117} of the 5th April, I have to request that you will inform me of the earliest moment at which the Court will be able to dispense with the further attendance of Captain M^c Auliffe of the "Antonia Vincent" as he is exceedingly desirous of proceeding on his voyage.

2. I requested him in the first instance to delay his departure until the inquiry ordered by my letter above referred to should be concluded, and until it was ascertained whether a criminal prosecution against the survivors of the "Blue Jacket" would be necessary, and if necessary - whether his (Captain M^c Auliffe's) evidence would be required.

3. Perhaps the inquiry has now arrived at such a stage as will enable you to inform me on these points.

Yours &c.

E. R. Griffiths Esq^r

I have &c. &c.

(Sd) William Robinson

221
Government Office
Falkland Islands
13th April 1869.

No-224

Sir

I am directed, by H. E. the Governor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of this date containing a statement of certain expenses incurred, by your vessel in bringing a portion of the crews of the "Blue Jacket" into this Harbour.

I. In reply I have to inform you that I am prepared to reimburse to you the expenses which you have incurred on account of maintenance, clothing, medical comforts, and burials; but that His Excellency is unable to entertain your demand for ~~damages~~^{commurage}. As the delay of your vessel was necessitated by the inquiry ordered to be held for the information of the Board of Trade under the provisions of the Merchant Shipping Act, and for the purpose of deciding whether it would not be necessary to institute criminal proceedings against the survivors from the "Blue Jacket" under the suspicious circumstances reported by you on your arrival in Port. I am to add in reply to your second paragraph that your detention here was caused by the events connected with the rescue of the men and treasure from the "Blue Jacket" and that you had no option but to remain until the matter had been decided by the Court.

I have &c. &c.
(S^d)

H. Hynes
Shipping Master

Capt. M. Anliffe
Antonio Vendut

N^o 239.

193
Government House
Falkland Islands
1st May 1869.

JCNA

[D13, 239] PG 293-294

Gentlemen. I have in charge 14 Bars of Gold valued at about £3,000 and which were recovered from the wreck of the "Blue Jacket." And as I am not in a position to decide who are the lawful owners I propose to consign the Treasure to you and forward it in a few days by H.M.S. Megacra. In the mean time I should feel obliged to you if you would be so good as to direct the necessary steps to be taken to insure the Bars for £2,500 against the ordinary risks, defraying the cost from Colonial Funds in your hands.

The Owners of the Gold will of course request to you to be placed to the credit of the Colony the amount of expenses incurred before you hand over to them the Gold.

The Megacra is hourly expected but I shall not ship the Gold in any other than one of H.M. Majesty's Steam Vessels, I mention this as affecting the rate of insurance.

I have the honour to be
Gentlemen
Your obed^t servant
(S^d)
William Robinson
Governor.

The Crown Agents
for the Colonies.

N^o 240

274

Government House
Falkland Islands
4th May 1869.

Sir

I have to request that you will receive on board *A.M. Ship* under your Command for conveyance to England the 8 men named in the Margin, being a portion of the crew of the "Blue Jacket" of Liverpool, which ship was destroyed by fire on the 9th March in the neighbourhood of these islands.

2. If you will be so good as to let me know on what day and at what hour you will send a boat for these men, I will cause the necessary arrangements to be made accordingly.

I have &c., &c.,
(S^d)

Staff Commander J. Loane R.N.
A.M.S. "Megara"

William Robinson
Governor.

N^o 241.

Government House
Falkland Islands
4th May 1869.

Sir

I have to inform you that from and after this date the guard will not be required at the Government Office, the Bullion about which I felt some anxiety having been this day shipped on board *A.M.S. "Megara"*.

I have &c., &c.,
(S^d)

Captⁿ G. H. Elliot.

William Robinson
Governor

N^o 244.

JCNA

[D13, 244] pg 296-297

Government House
Falkland Islands
4th May 1869.

Gentlemen

Referring to my letter N^o 239 of the 1st instant, I now beg to enclose Bill of Lading and Invoice of the Gold which I have this day consigned to you and shipped on board H. M. S. "Megara".

2. This Gold, as intimated in my previous letter, was saved from the wreck of the "Blue Jacket" of Liverpool. And you will have no difficulty in ascertaining in London who are the lawful owners of the treasure. The following extracts from my despatches to the Secretary of State upon the subject contains all the information of which I am in possession.

"The 'Blue Jacket' James White,
"Master, sailed from Lyttelton, New-
"Zealand on the 13th February last. She
"was bound for London and laden with
"Wool, Cotton, Skins, Flax, Tow, Tallow and
"Gold; and had on board twenty six pass-
"engers whose names are given below."
"The ship took fire at half past one P.M.
"on the 4th March, from, as is supposed,
"the heating of the cotton and flax, and
"at half past nine the same evening the
"Officers, Crew, and passengers (65 persons
"in all) were obliged to abandon the ship
"and take to the boats."

"As regards the gold which was found
"in the first life boat. It consists of four-
"teen bars, each marked with a number
"and the words 'Bank of New Zealand.' and

is.

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"is worth Altogether, as nearly as I can judge,
£12,000. I took charge of it for the Arrival of
"the "Antonia Vincent" on behalf of the owner
or owners unknown.

"As I neither know to whom it belongs nor
"where it was insured, I have decided to
"send it to England by H.M.S. "Megcera"
"consigned to the Crown Agents for the Colonies
"and to be held to the order of the lawful owners;
"and I have written by this days mail to
"the Crown Agents requesting them to effect
"an Insurance on the Bullion about to be
"so despatched. I think it better to do
"this than keep the Gold here until I
"can hear from the owners, as this would in-
"volve a delay of seven or eight months
"and a loss of interest on the money value
"of the Gold."

3. It is most probably that the "Blue
"Packet" was insured in England, and
that, as a total loss will doubtless have
to be ^{paid} ~~fixed~~, the gold saved is now the property
of the Underwriters.

I have &c, &c.

(S^d)
William Robinson
Governor.

The Crown Agents
for the Colonies.

N^o 247.

JCNA
[D13.24] pg 300

300 Government House
Falkland Islands
7th May 1869.

Sir
I have to inform you that the men of the "Blue Jacket" at present under your Medical Charge will be embarked on Board Her Majesty's Ship "Megara" at three P.M. today.

2. It will be desirable that you should place yourself in communication with the Assistant-Surgeon of H.M.S. "Megara" in the event of any of these men requiring further Medical treatment.

I have &c. &c.

(Sd)

William Robinson
Governor

The Hon^{ble}

H. F. Mac Clintock R.N.

&c. &c. &c.

N^o 248.

Government House
Falkland Islands
7th May 1869.

Sir
I need hardly point out to you that it will be necessary for you to hand over the accounts which you keep in connection with the disbursement of Colonial Funds to Lieutenant Shury in a complete condition before your departure.

It is my intention to appoint Lieutenant Shury Paymaster of Pensioners. The accounts in connection with these Military Advances you will therefore also hand over to him, taking his receipts for any balances that may be in your hands at the date of the transfer.

Captⁿ Elliot R.N.

George Harrison

I have &c. &c.

(Sd)

William Robinson

Government House
Falkland Islands
8th May 1869.

JCNB

[D13.252]

Pg 304

Sir

I have the honour to inform you that I have sent on board A.M. Ship "Megera" for conveyance to England the eight Seamen named in the margin who were lately saved from the wreck of the Ship "Blue Jacket" of Liverpool.

2. The "Blue Jacket" was destroyed by fire on the 9th March between 400 and 500 miles due East of the Falkland Islands, and the men referred to were picked up by the "Antonio Vincent" on the 29th March and brought on in her to Stanley.

3. Full particulars of this distressing event have been forwarded to the Secretary of State for His Lordships information and that of the Board of Trade.

4. It is impossible to send the accounts and Vouchers in connection with the relief which I have afforded to these distressed Seamen by this opportunity, but they will be duly forwarded by the next Mail.

I have &c. &c.
(Sd)

William Robinson
Governor

The Assistant Secretary
Marine Department
Board of Trade
London.

No. 275.

JCNA

[D13, 245]
Pg 330

330
Government House
Falkland Islands
1st July 1869.

Sir

Referring to my despatch 252. of the 8th May, I have the honour to forward an Account, with Vouchers attached of the relief afforded by me to the Seamen of the Ship "Blue Jacket", showing a balance due the Colony of £ 129 " 0 " 7 1/2 for which I will draw ^{on you} by next mail.

I have &c. &c.
(S^d)

The Accountant
Board of Trade
London

William Robinson
Governor.

No. 276.

Government House
Falkland Islands
2nd July 1869.

Sir

I have received direct from Dr. Mac-Clinton a copy of the semi Military correspondence which has passed between that Officer and Yourself respecting the part which he took in the matter of the garden recently allotted by me to Captain Smithers.

2. The view which Dr MacClinton takes of his position appears to me to be entirely in accordance with that which it is desirable he should occupy, and I have informed him, in reply to his communication to myself, that I approve of the answer which he returned to your letter.

Lieut. Henry P. M.

I have &c. &c.
(S^d) William Robinson

about
income

JCNA
H26

Marque Antonio Vincent,
Stanley, 13th April, 1869.

Sir,

I have the honour to enclose a statement of expenses incurred by my vessel in bringing a portion of the crew of the Blue Jacket into this harbour, and shall be glad to learn if Your Excellency is prepared to re-imburse me, on behalf of the Board of Trade.

Should it not be within Your Excellency's power to do this, may I beg that you will favour me with a certificate stating, that my very serious detention here has been caused solely by events connected with the rescue of the men above-mentioned? I have the honour to be, Sir,

Your Excellency's very obedient servant,
J. M. Vincent

Master.

H. R.
Gov. Robinson,
S. S. S.

Stanley, 13th Apr 1864.

The Colonial Government
on behalf of The Board of Trade
To Messrs Hudson's Agents & Owners D^r

To detention of the vessel in Stanley Harbour from the 4 th to the 13 th inst. both days inclusive	i.e. 10 days @ per day £ 10.	100	"
" Maintenance of 8 men 8 days @ 1/6		4	16
" " " 1 " 2 " "		3	"
" " " 2 " 3 " "		9	"
" Cost of burying 3 men		1	"

£ 106 8.

J M Phillips

Master.

Governor Groves.

Stanley, 13th Apr. 1864

The Colonial Government
on behalf of the Board of Trade
J. W. Lubbock

£ Clothing supplied to the
survivors of the Blue Jacket 35.
Medical comforts, brandy, &c 20.

J. W. Lubbock. £ 55.

£11. 13. 0.

Marque Antonio Vincent,
15th April, 1869.

Please pay the Falkland Islands
Co. the sum of six pounds eight shillings
and five pence five shillings, together
eleven pounds thirteen shillings, as per
your letter of the 13th inst.

To Mr. Byng. Esq.

Shipping Master
Stanley.

J. M. P. G. G.

Master.

Police Office

April 14th 1869.

Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge
Your Excellency's letter no 223 of yes-
terday's date asking me to inform you
when the Court would be able to dis-
-pense with the further attendance of
Captain M^c. Antilpe of the Barge
"Antonio Vincent" pending the enquiry
directed by Your Excellency in your letter
no 117 of the 5th of April, and if his
evidence would be necessary in case
a criminal prosecution against any
of the crew of the "Blue Jacket" should
be directed.

His Excellency
Governor Robinson
to. to. to

2. In reply I beg to inform Your Ex-
cellency that the enquiry into the
loss of the "Blue Jacket" and the cir-
cumstances arising therefrom is not
yet quite concluded, but the Court
think that there is already sufficient
evidence to put the boatswain James
Cox on his trial for stealing the gold
and propose if Your Excellency should
sanction it to take the case tomorrow
and postpone for a day the enquiry
if it should think any further inves-
tigation expedient. The evidence
of Captⁿ McAuliffe would be necessary
but I have no apprehension that
he will be for more than a few hours
detained.

I have the honour ble.
Sir,
Your Excellency's obedient servant
E. R. Giffitts.

Police Office

Stanley

April 30th 1869.

Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Excellency's letter (No. 217) of the 5th inst. mentioning that the Master of the "Antonio Vincent" had on the 28th ult. picked up at-sea a boat belonging to the ship "Blue Jacket" of Liverpool containing eleven seamen and gold to a very large amount, and requesting me under the apparent suspicious circumstances of the case to cause an inquiry to be held into by the Police Court

into

Yrs Excellency

Governor Robinson

H. H. H.

into the alleged loss by fire of the "Blue Jacket" for the information of the Board of Trade, and for the purpose of deciding whether criminal proceedings should be taken.

2. I have the honour to inform your Excellency in reply that such inquiry has been held and concluded, and to enclose the accompanying Report together with minutes of the evidence - and to add that as the Boatswain James Cox has already in the course of the investigation been put on his trial for stealing the gold, and acquitted, it does not ~~in~~ in my opinion appear desirable under the circumstances known

known, that any further criminal
proceedings should be taken in this
Colony.

I have the honour to be
Sir

Your Excellency's obedient servant
E. R. Griffiths.

Falkland Islands Co.
Stanley, 29th Apr. 1869.

Sir,

I asked Mr. Griffiths a few days ago if he could give me a certified copy of the evidence taken in the enquiry into the loss of the Blue Jacket, in order that I might send it to the owners of the Antonio Vincent by the present mail. I was told, however, that I could not have it without Your Excellency's permission, which, therefore I have now the honour to apply for, and to remain,

Sir,

Yours Excellency's very obt. servt.

Edw. Esq.

Colonial Manager

H. E.
Govr. Robinson.
to to to.

"
A. M. S. Megara"
Stanley, 4th May 1869.

Sir,

I have the honor to inform
Your Excellency, that in accordance
with the requisition contained in your
letter of this date, passage to England
will be provided in Her Majesty's Ship
under my Command, for the portion of the
Crew of the late ship "Blue Jacket" therein
named.

A boat shall be in readiness to
embark these people on Friday the 7th Instant
at 3 P.M.

I have the honor to be

Sir,

Your Excellency's

Most-Obedient-Servant,

James S. S. S. S. Staff Commander
in Command

Excellency

Robinson,

&c &c &c

Government House

Per Train.

Falkland Islands.

Stanley, 30th April 1869.

Government House
Falkland Islands
5th April 1869

Received from Captain Jeremiah
McLiffie, Master of the Antonio
Vincent, fourteen ingots of Gold
marked and numbered as below.

<u>Marked</u>	<u>Numbered</u>
Bank	
New Zealand	494
do	495
do	496
do	497
do	498 500 w.R.
do	515
do	516
do	517
do	518
do	519
do	520
do	521
do	522
do	531

signed, William Robinson
Governor

signed A. Ryng
Accountant.

been hoove down to have a new
keel put in.

13. The Antonio Vincent
arrived on the 3rd inst. with a
portion of the crew of the Blue
Sacket, from Lyttelton, which
caught fire off the Falklands
(abt. 150 miles) on the 9th March.
In the boat were 14 bars of gold,
which Capt. M^r. Suliffe of
the Antonio Vincent gave up to
the Governor in exchange for a
receipt. An enquiry was held
at Court, where I went to watch
Capt. M^r. Suliffe's interests;
but was told by the bench
that being a magistrate I could
not sit as counsel for anybody.
After a long and vexatious en-
quiry which came to nothing,
and a prosecution of the Blue
Sacket's boatwain for felony,
which was simply waste of time,
Capt. M^r. Suliffe was not
wanted any longer; but suddenly
the Governor sagely discovered
that he had committed himself

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in the form of the receipts he gave, and ordered the Captain to give them up for others. This I advised him not to do until he saw the form of the new ones, and also told him that if he got a fair wind out of the harbour, he would do himself no harm by going with the first receipts, which quite cleared him from any responsibility, and he would then stand no chance of being humbugged and delayed any longer. To my surprise I found next morning that he had got under way at night, and had run ashore near the Narrows, but got off again with the tide. The wind being northerly, he attempted to beat out, but failed. At this juncture, being unwilling to keep my horses in any longer (having been prepared to start for some days) I left for Darwin Harb. After my departure, however, Mr. Wynn went off, had a great disturbance, and brought the Capt. ashore, drunk, told him to Government House, where the Governor rated him severely, and

obtained the receipts from
 him, he telling the Governor
 the whole of and more than
 the advice I gave him. Finally
 he left on the 19th inst. I was
 abused frightfully by the govern-
 ment, and received a long letter
 from H.C., but I managed to
 smooth matters pretty well
 as the accompanying correspondence, this
 will show. I believe the gold
 is to go for Megara. The ship's suffer-
 (H. Lament) is one of Richardson's wants
 of Swansea, I have had more to
 trouble with it than I should
 with a dozen others, as the Capt.
 not only quarreled with Dran, the course
 Bailey, Giffiths, and others, the fur-
 but got into hot water
 with nearly all the colony, but, except
 through his Irish impulsiveness and
 and violent temper. I enclose
 a letter to Messrs. Richardson
 of which please read, with
 the enclosures and forward
 to that firm.
 Donegal, Dec. 20th 1841 with hand seals

Falkland Islands Co.
Stanley, 29th Apr. 1869.

Sir,

I asked Mr. Griffiths a few days ago if he could give me a certified copy of the evidence taken in the inquiry into the loss of the Blue Packet, in order that I might send it to the owners of the Antonio Vincent by the present mail. I was told, however, that I could not have it without Your Excellency's permission, which, therefore I have now the honour to apply for, and to remain,

Sir,

Yours Excellency's very obt. servt.
Wm. L. Fox.
Antonio Vincent

M. L. Gov. Robinson.
S. S. S.

Per Toams.No. 50.Falkland Islands
Stanley, 1st May 1889.

Sir. Owing to the accident to the Governor the sailing of the Toam has been delayed one day.

2. I sent you the Antonio Vincent's accounts; the Captain drew for £11. 8/ as per enclosed bill, but after settling gave orders on the Company for Dr. Macflinton & Nutter; so, finding on my return from Darwin that a mistake of £1 had been made in the first. I had a new acct. drawn up, copy of which you will find enclosed together with vouchers.

3. I enclose a note Mr. Travis has given me, on which I do not comment, as I rarely express my opinion that he cannot live properly on his salary.

4. William Tell has spoken to me on behalf of the men, about having a minister of the Presbyterian Church of Scotland at Darwin. He said that many would subscribe.

J. Coleman, Esq.

Secy. London.

8 July 1869

(49,11)

4. The Board approves of your having made an example of ^{Mr} Wright and Andrew Watson by allowing their full term of imprisonment to be inflicted for disobedience to orders, this will doubtless have a good effect upon our other servants. Perceiving that ^{Mr} Cook lately deceased left some property, which has been taken possession of by the Government, we have taken steps to discover his relations in order that the proper person may claim it. For some time past we have ceased communication with Mr. Biggar as we considered he did not do us justice.

5. 49,13. We are glad to learn that one of the boats of the 'Blue Jacket' has been rescued & the crew landed at Stanley by the 'Antonio Vincent', we look for a detailed account of the action against the boatswain for opening the boxes of ballion, from the numbers of the bars of Gold handed to the Government it appears the boat must have had three boxes, though Captⁿ White reported there was only one box put into each boat when they left the ship - I believe some instructions have been sent to the Brazil and Cape of Good Hope Stations to send one of F.B. M. Vessels to search South Georgia Island for the third boat.

6. 50,3. Respecting Mr. Travis' Letter of 30th April requesting a rise of Salary the Board have taken the matter into consideration but as he is still a bachelor they do not think his expenses ought to be so heavy as represented, I have been directed to answer him to this effect, as ^{an} enclosed Letter, which you will please peruse & hand to him.

7. Referring to my Private Letter of 4th March last we can inform you that Mr. Switzer now at the Falklands is the same person as therein described since we had a visit from his Wife who had been expecting a remittance from him for some time for the maintenance of herself and four children - she has received some money by the last Mail and appears willing to go out if we can offer her appropriate accommodation.

8. On the 14th ult^o Captⁿ Dyer left in our charge eleven Watches which he had brought home for repair in the 'Matilda' expecting to be chartered out again and so return them - the owners are Williams 1 gold, C. Williams 1 gold, F. Hunter 1 silver, Reives 1 silver, B. Wilson 1 silver, Turner 1 silver, Felton 1 gilt hunter 3 silver, and 1 old Silver Watch Aldridge - the charges on them are £4.11.6, they will be returned by first opportunity.

9. The Gazette of the 15th ult^o contained notice that you had been appointed Italian Consul, on the 18th we received the Royal Decree by the King of Italy and H. M. Exequatur which are enclosed - the Escutcheon, Flag &c arrived on the 24th & will be forwarded as soon as possible, perhaps by next through Mail. The Directors have applied for Consulates to Sweden & Norway, America and Chili.

led away by samplings, I believe, after he left the team, but is much steadier now.

4. An account of the proceedings in the case of the Blue Jacket has no doubt been published ere this, I did not therefore send any report of the Court proceedings home, as it costs money to get copies of the evidence. M. V. Beason is coming here shortly, and may be going to Georgia.

5. I do not think Mr. Switzer likely to stop here, as he dissolved partnership immediately on hearing that he was known, and left by the house. Since that, he has lately returned with a cargo of sheep which Mr. Beason has bought, but his future movements are uncertain.

6. When consulates are obtained I should like you to send the catchers to the first through mail, as it would be awkward if a vessel came in without my having all the paraphernalia. Foreigners think so much of stamps & seals.