

[Page 1]

[Stamp] CSO
20JUL20
18[58]
RECEIVED

23002

1

Port Arthur
18th July 1858

Sir,

I have the honour [sic] to report for your information that it was stated to me this afternoon by the Convict named in the margin that a copy of the Hobart Town "Mercury" newspaper of the 5th inst, [sic] with other copies of the said journal were furnished

The Comptroller General

&c &c &c

[margin]

William Ayton per Governor Philip

[lower left corner]

RS. 30/11

[Page 2]

furnished by the Rev^d Mr Ryan, Roman Catholic Chaplain at this Establishment to a convict named Robert Campbell for the purpose of being read by inmates of the Old Penitentiary and that the newspaper in question on the 5th instant was according read by convicts & invalids – The prisoner Ayton also stated to me, that the newspaper contained articles against myself, referring to the alleged report of the Convicts

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Convicts having been "marched to church at the point of the Bayonet" and to the case headed "oppression" relative to the fisherman Nowlan, as falsely set forth in the "Mercury"

of the 5th and in a former issue, and regarding the dangerous tendency of which articles I address His Excellency The Governor and yourself on the 7th inst [sic].

That a newspaper containing such inflammatory matter

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matter against the officer in Charge of an Establishment like this, should have been circulated at Port Arthur by any person of sound mind is to me most unaccountable; but when that circulation took place at the immediate instance of a Minister of Religion, whose bounden duty, I conceive, ought to be the suppression of everything calculated to arouse a spirit of disaffection [sic] & violence amongst the reckless

[Page 5]

reckless class of Convicts here, I am certainly astonished at there [sic] act, for although the paper in question was sent to an Invalid ward, The Rev^d Mr Ryan could not but be aware that its contents must soon have become known amongst the Convicts generally – particularly as the bearer, Campbell was a man under a life sentence, as were also most of the attendants over the Invalids, my informant Ayton being one of the numbers, and ^{^who} assured me

[Page 6]

me that he had read the articles referred to.

Were the Rev^d Mr Ryan and myself on friendly terms the circulation of a paper so injurious to me might have been viewed as an indiscretion, but when I **__cation** [?] that for many months past (ever since I reported the Quigley affair to now) such has not been the case, I can only attribute the fact of Mr Ryan handing over such a print to a convict for

[Page 7]

for circulation as an act of indignant hostility towards me; for I must beg to again point out, as stated in my letter of the 7th inst, [sic] that the direct & unmistakeable tendency of the attacks contained in the articles published in the “Mercury” of the 5th inst, [sic] was to place

my life in extreme peril _ a course which even the “Courier” newspaper though reprobated in its issue of the 5th inst. [sic]

Under these circumstances, and bearing in

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in mind the peculiarly powerful influence which such an act must exercise here, as also the recent murder of M^r Price by the Convicts at Melbourne, which deed was so wickedly dwelt upon, as portending my own fate, in the copy ^ of the “Mercury” referred to, I have no alternative but to request that you will be pleased to recommend to His Excellency The Governor my immediate removal from a place at which I now feel paralysed,

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paralysed, and where I believe that I am in imminent danger – nothing but the loss of a long period of arduous & faithful service under Her Majesty’s Government, and consequent relinquishment of pension, prevents me from at once leaving Port Arthur; I therefore earnestly request that I may as soon as possible be either transferred to some other suitable Employment

[Page 10]

Employment, or permitted to retire on the usual reduced allowance.

I have the honor [sic] to be

Sir,

Your Obedient Servant

J Boyd

Civil Commandant

[Page 11]

[Blank page]

[Page 12]

COPY

Comptroller General's Office
20th July 1858

Sir,

I have to acquaint you that the Civil Commandant has reported to me that it has come to his knowledge that you recently furnished a copy of the "Mercury" Newspaper of the 5th instant with other copies of the same paper to

[bottom LH corner]

The Revd Mr Ryan
Port Arthur

[Page 13]

a Convict named Peter Campbell for the perusal of the Convicts and Invalids in the Old Penitentiary.

The Mercury of the 5th instant contained articles most unjustly aspersioning the character of the Civil Commandant and of so inflammatory a character as to be calculated to produce the most mischievous affects upon the Convicts.

I am now to request that you will inform me whether

[Page 14]

the report received by The Commandant as to your having furnished the Convict Campbell with the Paper of the 5th as well as other copies of the paper is correct or not.

I have etc

Signed

W. Nairn

[Page 15 Blank]

[Page 16]

[Stamp] CSO
27JUL27
18[58]
RECEIVED

Received 31/7/58
JB

Port Arthur
22nd July 1858

23002
4

Sir,

1. I have the honor [sic] to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 20th inst [sic] and to inform you with reference thereto, that I have never furnished any copy of the “Mercury” or other newspaper, either English, Irish, Scotch [sic], or colonial to any convict for the perusal of other convicts at this place, nor even for the perusal of the Invalids.

2. Before I received your letter I had been informed by the Senior Medical Officer, Mr Seccombe, that in his presence, the Civil Commandant questioned Robert Campbell, who admitted that he had frequently taken newspapers to the Invalids in the Hospital and Infirmary, but stated at the same time, that he received neither instruction or permission from me to do so.

This occurred

[bottom LH corner of page]

William Nairn Esq^r

Acting Compt. General.

&c &c &c

Hobart Town

[Page 17]

3. This occurred on last Sunday evening, the 18th inst. I questioned Campbell, myself, the following day, and learned from him, that in conveying newspapers to my Quarters, from the house of one of the Officers to whom I have been accustomed to lend them, he has occasionally allowed the Invalids to read them, presuming, he said, on my permission to do so, in as much as I had directed him to accommodate the Invalids by taking them Books from my house, and in every other way the Regulations would permit. 4. Knowing also, the Invalids had received permission from the Civil Commandant, and Senior Medical Officer, to have newspapers. Indeed he observed, he carried newspapers every post day, from the Post Office, and delivered them to an Invalid in the hospital.

5. I have known Campbell for the last eight years, and have found him at all times to be most truthful and trustworthy, and I have heard others speak of him in the highest terms, even the Civil Commandant, who has said to me, on more than one occasion that he observed him

“ever

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ever ready to oblige, and at all times doing some good”.

6. I have no reason, therefore, to doubt Campbell’s statement, especially confirmed as it is, at least in part by what Mr Seccomb [sic] told me.

7. I now beg most respectfully, to ask, if it be not true, that the Civil Commandant and Senior Medical Officer gave the Invalids permission to have newspapers, – that one Invalid, at least, in Hospital, receives newspapers regularly by Post, – and that the Civil Commandant was told

8 by Campbell, the newspapers, to which he alludes, were taken into the Infirmary, without my knowledge or expressed permission?

9. And if so, upon what grounds, or from what motive, the Civil Commandant could make such a report against me, as that contained in your letter of the 20th inst.?

10. I take the liberty of asking

these questions

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these questions, because this is not the first or the second time Mr Boyd has reported my conduct, knowing at the same time, I presume, all its circumstances, which, when stated to you, convinced you, I trust, that the conduct reported or complained of, was in one instance, praiseworthy, and in no instance deserved any blame.

Hoping you will do me the same justice in the present case.

I have the honor [sic] to be,

Sir

Your most ob[edient] servt

M N Ryan [?]

[Appearing at the bottom of the page at 90 deg]

Referred for the observations
of the Civil Commandant

___(?)

20 July 58

I beg to submit herewith my observations on this letter, and for reference have numbered the different heads of the letter – my replies being also numbered to correspond.

I have appended certain statements to my observations in proof of my charge against the Rev^d Mr Ryan.

The Comptroller General.

J. Boyd

7/8/58

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[top LH corner]

CGO [Comptroller General's Office]

10 August 58

Observations on The Rev^d Mr Ryan's letter to The Comptroller General of the 22nd July 1858

N^o 1. The statements hereunto annexed, prove beyond a doubt, that the Rev^d Mr Ryan did regularly furnish, on the day after each post, from his quarters under a general expressed authority and permission given to his Convict Servant, if not to the Prisoner Campbell himself, The "Tasmanian Daily News" or the "Hobart Town Mercury" newspapers for the last twelve months, for the use of M^r Assistant Superintendent Farrell and certain Roman Catholic

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Catholic Invalids, and this too, after he had read those papers himself. It is also clearly substantiated that the Convicts Ayton, Hart, Meagher, and others, all of very bad character ^{^ vide extracts from Police record} were in the habit of reading these papers, and although the man Campbell denies having read them he admits that he might have done so had he felt disposed, but it will be seen from the statement of Meagher, that Campbell must have made himself acquainted with the inflammatory articles contained in "The Mercury of

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of the 5th Ult^o [sic] and in other issues of that paper, inasmuch, as on bringing the newspapers back to M^r Ryan's house, he entered into conversation with Meagher on the subjects to which the said articles referred. Campbell alleges that he was informed of the articles by a man in hospital_

Nº 2_ The Senior Medical Officers Statement is hereto appended, from which it will be seen that the Convict Campbell stated to me in M^r Seccombe's presence, that "Father Ryan usually sent the Invalids the newspapers to amuse them.

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them" _ D^r Seccombe denies ever having told The Rev^d M^r Ryan, that he had stated to him that Campbell had mentioned to me in his, M^r Seccombe's presence, that he, Campbell, "received neither instructions or permission" from Mr Ryan to take the newspapers to the Invalids in the Hospital and Infirmary.

It would have been impossible for the Senior Medical Officer to have stated this to M^r Ryan as no such information, either expressed or implied, was given to me in Dr Seccombe's presence.

Nº 3

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Nº 3. . It seems that the Rev^d M^r Ryan questioned the Prisoner Campbell privately on the following day on the subject, which may account for Campbell subsequently stating in the Police Office that the Rev^d M^r Ryan "never gave him any positive order to take the newspapers to the Invalids".

Campbell, it is alleged by M^r Ryan, had been in the habit of lending the papers "when conveying them from the house of an Officer to M^r Ryan's quarters". - Mr Ryan says nothing about the papers having been sent by him to that Officer

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Officer by the man Campbell but such was the usual practice as shown by the Statements appended _ why M^r Ryan should have omitted to explain that the papers were sent from his house by Campbell I cannot understand.

Nº 4. No Invalid or Prisoner had any permission from me to have newspapers, except in one instance, in which I showed a "Home News", containing an account of "The Leviathan"

to an old free man in the Infirmary who had formerly been a Shipwright in one of the English

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English dockyards, and who had frequently spoken to me respecting that Vessel.

D^r Seccombe assures me that he never gave any permission for the Invalids either in or out of the Hospital to receive Newspapers, and was, like myself, until now unacquainted with the case of a man in Hospital receiving Newspapers, as here stated by M^r Ryan.---

On enquiry, I find that the paper alluded to as having been received by an Invalid, is a Launceston journal and that the Invalid is a free man.

N^o

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N^o 5. Campbell has been employed as Chapel Attendant or Assistant to M^r Ryan, and his conduct has, generally, been satisfactory.

N^o 6. Campbell's statement as alleged by The Rev^d M^r Ryan is not confirmed by D^r Seccombe.

N^o 7. It has already been denied that either The Civil Commandant or The Senior Medical Officer gave the Invalids p[er]mission to read Newspapers _ but here I will remark, that shortly after the New Penitentiary was occupied, Sunday

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△ Sunday Schools were opened for Protestants and Roman Catholics _ The Rev^d M^r. Ryan spoke to me on this subject, and expressed a desire that the members of his flock, in the Penitentiary, should be allowed to read certain Roman Catholic periodicals and tales, instead of The Scriptures and other strictly religious books furnished by The Government. _ To this I did not object, and such ^ reading still continues. _ Soon after this on vis[itin]g The Hospital one day, one of the patients, an Invalid (free), asked me if I had [any] objections to Father Ryan sending

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Sending them occasionally periodicals, by which I understood Roman Catholic publications similar to those about which Mr Ryan had spoken to me for the Sunday School. To this I replied that I did not wish to interfere with their Clergyman in such matters. Had I, however, for a moment supposed that such a paper as the “Tasmanian Daily News” (which was then I have learnt Mr Ryan’s Newspaper) ^{^ to be the periodical alluded to,} should most decidedly have objected to its introduction into the Hospital where there were Convicts

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Convicts under sentence, as well as Invalids; particularly when I knew that the articles contained in that journal were generally of the most virulent political nature, and calculated to subvert that due respect for The Government which is so essential to the proper subordination of a Penal Establishment.

Nº. 8. Campbell did not inform me that the newspaper in question had been taken into the Infirmary without Mr Ryan’s “knowledge or expressed permission” and

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and this The Senior Medical Officer will corroborate.

Nº. 9. The grounds on which I made the report in question are obvious and unquestionable ^{vide annexed statements.} As regards my “motive” for doing so, such was solely to protect myself from a proceeding in the part of Mr Ryan which I should be glad, I am now to attribute to indiscretion and not to malice. I feel most conscientiously assured, that The Rev^d Mr Ryan had read the newspapers containing the inflammatory articles in question, before those papers were ^{^ knowingly} allowed by him to be sent, whether

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whether by expressed direction or tacit permission, from his quarters.

Such a proceeding at almost any other place than Port Arthur would have been of comparatively little moment; but when the assassination, by the convicts, of the Chief Officer of this Establishment was openly counselled, in unmistakable terms, the case is very

different; and under such circumstances it was, I submit, the bounden duty of The Roman Catholic Chaplain, as a Minister of The Gospel of Peace, to have suppressed the circulation of such baneful

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baneful articles by every means in his power _ what was the conduct of D^r Seccombe on this point?

That Gentleman assured me, that as soon as he had read those articles, he deemed them to have such a dangerous tendency as to be unfit to be left about his house, and therefore, at once, locked them away, and this is borne out by the statement of the Convict Ayton, who says that when D^r Seccombe saw The “Mercury” newspapers lying in the Invalid ward, he pronounced some of them to be unfit for perusal.

Will The Rev^d M^r Ryan

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Ryan assert that he sent the papers containing the articles in question from his house unread on the evening that they arrived because he was too much occupied by his correspondence to permit him to open them? _ if so, I request attention to the appended statements. which entirely disprove such an excuse;_ or will he attempt, to deny that he was ignorant of the meaning and dangerous tendency of the articles?_ if so, the statements of the Convicts themselves who read them will convince him that his perception must

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must have been strangely obscured.

Had M^r Ryan been ignorant of the facts that all the attendants at the Hospital and Infirmary were Convicts under sentence; (most of whom were at Norfolk Island with himself) or, that they were men of perhaps the most dangerous class in the colony; or that the newspapers would be strictly confined to the free sick and Invalids, there might have been some excuse, but when he well knew the reverse to be the case, his conduct admits, in my opinion, of but one interpretation. That ~~N^o. 10~~

[Page 36]

That The Rev^d M^r Ryan in his letter of the 22 Ult^o [sic] addressed to you, has, in several places of that document, departed from fact must be evident; _ He begins by flatly denying that he ever furnished newspapers to any Convict _ This is contradicted most clearly by several Convict witnesses themselves, all of whom are Roman Catholics, and besides, would any person acquainted with Port Arthur, credit, that in a small free community like this, their newspapers could be circulated in the Hospital and the Infirmary, for a period of 12 months without their knowledge? if so, I am greatly mistaken.

Then again in the 2nd and 6th paragraphs he asserts

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asserts that which The Senior Medical Officer emphatically, and correctly denies, viz^t [sic] that the Convict Campbell had stated to me in D^r Seccombe's presence, that he Campbell "received neither instruction or permission from M^r Ryan to take his newspapers to the Invalids.

Again in the 4th and 7th paragraphs, he erroneously asserts, that The Invalids had received permission from The Senior Medical Officer, and myself, to have newspapers.

M^r Ryan's letter is dated from Port Arthur on the 22nd Ultimo, and yet, strange to say it was not received at The Comptroller General's Office until the 27th, altho' [sic] he was in Hobart Town during the interim

N^o 10

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N^o 10. The Rev^d M^r Ryan here complains of my having previously reported him on several occasions, which complaint ^{^ I would observe} is of itself sufficient to show that he entertained anything but a friendly feeling towards me. _ I never reported M^r Ryan except when I deemed it to be my imperative duty to do so, namely, in the case of the Lunatic Quigley, in which M^r Ryan made erroneous statements; and in his open violation of The Quarantine rules; and of his having, contrary to Regulations

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Regulations, passed Eagle Hawk Neck without The Civil Commandant's Authority.

If such conduct was either praiseworthy or blameless, I am at a loss to understand on what grounds it could have been so- I might have reported The Rev^d M^r Ryan for habitual disrespect to me as Civil Commandant, in latterly making it a rule to absent himself from his duties at Port Arthur without my permission or even acquainting me that he had obtained The Comptroller General's authority to leave the Peninsula, a course which no

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no other Officer of The Convict Department at Port Arthur has ever done, and which is contrary to Regulations.

I should not have mentioned these ^{^ later points} they being irrelevant to the matter under consideration, had not M^r Ryan himself adverted to the subjects in such a manner as to raise a question upon my motives in reporting the newspaper affair to you.

In conclusion, I would beg again to draw attention to the fatal influence which such an act, as I have complained of, must have upon the Convicts

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Convicts here- If the Prisoners have not failed to discern the true object and tendency of the articles referred to, what must they think of their own Clergyman permitting such inflammatory appeals to their passions to be circulated? They must clearly see in what terms their Priest and myself are, and it will be most fortunate, if before long, some serious indication of this knowledge and of their sympathy with him be not exhibited.

Under such circumstances, it is my earnest desire that, either

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either The Rev^d M^r Ryan or myself may be removed from this Establishment with as little delay as possible, believing, as I do, that it is neither for the interests of The Public Service, nor for my own personal safety, that we should remain any longer at Port Arthur together.

[signed] J Boyd
Civil Commandant
Port Arthur
7th August 1858.

[Page 43 Blank]

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Port Arthur
31 July 1858

My Dear Sir,

In reply to your note 7th day asking me for the substance of what happened between Robert Campbell and yourself in my presence, in front of the New Penitentiary at this place, on the Evening of the 18th Instant [sic], relative to his having taken certain Newspapers to one of the Invalids wards –

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I beg to say that Robert Campbell stated that Fat[her?] Ryan usually sent the ___? the Newspapers to amuse them and that he (Campbell) was in the habit of first taking them to Mr Farrell, and then to Mr G (a Catholic) Ward, and afterwards to the Invalids (Roman Catholics) in the hospital

-that the same thing had been done at Inspiration Bay, he believed and therefore it was done here.

The above is the substance of what Robert Campbell stated

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[w]hen asked by you, what he [k]new about the newspapers [read?] in the Roman Catholic Ward N^o 9.

Believe me
yours very sincerely
W Seccombe
31/7/58

T^o James Boyd Esq. J.P.

Civil Commandant.

[Page 47 Blank]

[Page 48]

My Dear Sir,

I find it stated in a letter addressed by the Rev^d Mr Ryan to the Comptroller General that you told Mr Ryan on the evening I spoke to the prisoner Campbell in your presence touching the newspapers found in the Infirmary

Ward

[at bottom left of page]

William Seccombe Esq^{re} JP
Senior Medical Officer

[Page 49]

Ward by __(?), that Campbell informed me that he had rec[eived] neither instructions or permission from Mr Ryan to take newspapers to the Invalids in the Hospital and Infirmary.

It is also stated by the Rev^d Mr Ryan that the Senior Medical Officer gave the Invalids in the Hospital

permission

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permission to read newspapers.

Will you do me the favour[sic] to state if the Rev^d Mr Ryan is correct in what he has thus addressed(?)

Yours very sincerely(?)

J Boyd

6 August 1858

[Page 51 folded note]

I am sure that Campbell never stated to the Civil Commandant, in my presence, that he had received neither instructions nor permission from Mr Ryan to take newspapers to the Invalids in the Hospital and Infirmary – nor at any other time.

As to my having given permission at any time to the Invalids reading any newspaper, I am not conscious of it, and if I have ever done so it must have been two or three years ago, whilst at Impression Bay, – but never in the Hospital, as I have objected to their being there. Whenever by any chance I have seen them I had them removed – the fact of my objecting to their being in the Invalids Infirmary shows that my sanction was not given to its being done.

Dr Seccombe
SMO
7/8/58
Port Arthur
The __ __(?)

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Statement of M^r Thomas Farrell Ass^t Sup^t Port Arthur

who saithe

The Rev^d M^r Ryan has been good enough to allow me the perusal of his newspapers for the last 12 months. I generally get them on the day after the arrival of the post

- Campbell brought them to me

- after I had read them Campbell took them away.

- I do not know where Campbell took them to from my house, but I suppose M^r Ryan's house again.

- I have not had any of the papers as I recollect on a Wednesday Evening. (The Ev^g they arrived per Calloden_

- No papers unopened were brought to me from Father Ryan's except when he was from home, I am quite sure of

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of this_ I remember reading in one of the Hobart Town "Mercury" newspapers some articles referring to the Civil Commandant Port Arthur in a very unpleasant sort of manner_ One of the articles was about the affair at the mines, and the decision of the Coroners Jury, and another about the Convicts having been marched to Church ^ at Port Arthur at the point of the bayonet_ There was another article also about a man named Nolan a fisherman_ I considered some of the articles were of an inflammatory nature, and calculated to arouse a bad spirit amongst the Prisoners if they heard of them._ The papers containing the articles above referred to were brought to me by Campbell and by him taken away again from my house._

I am not aware that The Civil Commandant ever issued any Newspaper to any Prisoner or Invalid or that he ever sent any Newspaper to any person in the settlement or elsewhere by the hands of a Prisoner or Invalid.

Thomas Farrell

Port Arthur

31st July 1858

Witness [signed] J C Tapp

[written at 90 degrees to the right edge]

Taken in the Police office at Port Arthur before me

J Boyd

C. Comdt [sic] 31 July 1858

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[at 45 degrees top LH corner]

Extract from Police record Charles Hart "D[uke of] Richmond"

"Assaulting" a Gunner - 14 years

"Wilful Murder" - Life

The Statement of Charles Hart per "D[uke of] Richmond" who saithe_

I am a prisoner under Probⁿ [sic] at Port Arthur

- Robert Campbell has been in the habit of bringing the "Daily News," and latterly the "Hobart Town Mercury" newspapers into my ward namely N^o. 3 at the Hospital_ I remember about 3 weeks ago seeing in one of the papers, articles about the prisoners here having been marched to Church at the point of the bayonet _ also about a Fisherman named Nowlan _ and another Article about the Inquest at

[Page 55]

at "the Mines" _ Some of the articles were I consider unfavorable [sic] to the Commandant, their comments being very strong _ Sometimes Campbell brought the papers _ Sometimes they were brought by other persons _ It was known who the newspapers came from - namely from Father Ryan _ It was understood that he, after he had done reading them, sent them to the Catholic Wards _ The Civil Commandant on one occasion sent a periodical called "The Band of Hope Review to the Hospital to be read nothing else _ never any newspapers, on any occasion _ *Hester in my fellow wardsman [sic]

*see note appended

charles Hart

Witness [signed] JC Tapp

Port Arthur

31st July 1858

[many lines of writing across the bottom right corner of the page and then crossed out – now illegible – possibly the appended note re. Hester]

[written at 90 degrees to right edge of page, partially amongst crossed out writing]

Taken in the police office at Port Arthur before me

J Boyd

31 July 1858

[written amongst crossed out lines, lower right margin]

A number

X annexed

herewith

JB

[Page 56]

X

Extract from the Police Record of Cornelius Hester per “Equestrian

York 3/3/49 “Robbery with Violence” – 10 years –

Longford Q.S. 21/5/57 – “Stealing” 2 years Imp^d with H Labor [sic]

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A HINT TO TRAVELLERS.

We are glad to find that many of the wealthy in our land are in the habit of scattering large numbers of our little papers in their travels. A lady writes us—

"We were walking in the Abbey Wood, at Torquay, with our four children, on a Sunday afternoon in the summer. There was a large party of boys playing at cricket, to some of whom we distributed the *Band of Hope* tracts, which were received with most gratifying eagerness. Several of the party took refuge in a tree to read them undisturbed."

So seated, each with his share before him, the appearance was most picturesque in that beautiful wood, with the gladness and richness of summer around, and the fine view of the sea in the distance.

"The party being such a large one, we could not supply each, and we observed one or two of the boys leaving the ground, and when we passed farther on in our walk, they met us, evidently hoping by this means to secure the last few we still had of the valued papers. We were pleased to see their determination to have them, and glad to supply them. It interested us to see how they were drawn to a more suitable and profitable employment on the Sabbath day, and further encouraged us to distribute many more copies on our journey home along the South Devon coast."

dreadful account, but not without you pray to him to have it done. Go to him, then, and feel that he is near you like your father and mother, only more able to help you than they can be. Try to be good, and obey him, and he will help you, if you ask him.—From the *Teacher's Offering*.

since at Chester, for a burglary, addressed the spectators to the following effect:—"My friends, you are come to see a man die. I would advise you to take warning by me. The first beginning of my ruin was *Sabbath-breaking*; it led me into bad company, and from bad company to robbing gardens and orchards, and from

gardens and orchards to house-breaking, which has brought me to this sad end. Many of you are young, and in an especial manner I warn you to beware of *Sabbath-breaking*.

Thomas BENNEMAN was executed in 1832 at Worcester, in company with Henry Hunt, for incendiarism. Before his death he thus addressed the assembly:—"I hope all your young men will take warning by our untimely downfall. Here we are, cut down in our bloom by drunkenness and *Sabbath-breaking*, which have brought us to what we are now. I hope you that are to come to see us will take the Scriptures for your guide, and then you will never come to such an untimely end."

TWO GOSTICKS were asked by the Rev. J. Kingsmill, Chaplain of the Penitentiary, what steps in their power they would take to prevent men from that *Sabbath-breaking* and gambling. The second said, "Singing out late at night, and bad company; not taking good advice, and disobedience to parents, gaming, and such like practices." See Chapter on "Prisoners and Prisoners," by the Rev. J. Kingsmill, M.A.



YOU NEVER CAN RUB IT OUT.

ONE pleasant afternoon, a lady was sitting with her little son, a white-haired boy, five years of age. The mother was sick, and the child had left his play to stay with her, and was amusing himself in printing his name with a pencil on paper.

Suddenly his busy fingers stopped. He had made a mistake, and, vexing his fingers, he tried again and again to rub out the mark, as he had been accustomed to do on his slate.

"My son," said his mother, "do you know that God writes down all you do in a book? He writes every naughty word, every disobedient act, every time you indulge in temper and shake your shoulders, or pour out your rage, my boy, you can never rub it out."

The little boy's face grew very red, and in a moment were run down his cheeks. His mother's eye was as his cornered, but she still holding near. At length he came softly to her side, threw his arms round her neck, and whispered, "Can the blood of Jesus rub it out?"

Dear children, Christ's blood can rub out this

SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS! when you are canvassing for new scholars, try the effect of distributing copies of this paper.

"I love them that love me, and those that seek me early shall find me." Proverbs viii. 17.

A SOLID WARNING.
JOHN MOORES, who was executed some years

ago at Penitentiary, in a speech that steps in vain. One replied, "Disobedience to parents, and from that to *Sabbath-breaking* and gambling." The second said, "Singing out late at night, and bad company; not taking good advice, and disobedience to parents, gaming, and such like practices." See Chapter on "Prisoners and Prisoners," by the Rev. J. Kingsmill, M.A.

MR. GOUGH.

On the 19th of August, this honored temperance advocate delivered the opening address of his second mission to this country, in the beautiful grounds of the great Hydropathic Establishment at Southbrook Park, near Richmond, in Surrey. We rejoice to state that Mr. Gough is much recruited in health and strength by his

mission to America, and that there is no diminution of his conversational powers. We hope that all our readers will make an effort to hear him during his sojourn in the country. Persons who can, will do well to take their children to his lectures.

The name of "Southbrook Park" awakens in our mind many grateful recollections. It was at this lovely spot, where, by God's blessing upon us, His skillful presence, we recovered from the effects of an accident which had not only prevented our ever issuing another number of the *Band of Hope Review*, or a single copy of the *British Workman*.

"In our next Number we hope to award several Prizes for the Poems in Response to America."



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[top LH corner at 45 degrees]

Extract from Police record of W^m [William] Ayton "G[overnor] Philip"

"Stealing" - 7 yrs

Wounding with intent – Life

Stealing – 7 yrs

Stalking with intent to murder 3 yrs HL

Piracy – Life

Accessory in a Burglary case – ___d[?] 5 yrs Probⁿ

Has been frequently tried for insubordination and Assault

[main document]

Statement of William Ayton per Governor Philip

I am a Prisoner undergoing Probation at Port Arthur, and am employed as Wardsman [sic] in No 9 Invalid Ward. at this Establishment. On Saturday Evening the 17 inst. [sic] Dr Seccombe came into my ward and saw a man named M^c Mahon with a newspaper in his hand, he had four or five, other newspapers also lying on his bed. _ Dr Seccombe asked me, why those papers were there in the ward? I was about telling him who brought the papers there when M^c Mahon told him that

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that he had permission from The Commandant to have newspapers from Father Ryan, The Priest, _ D^r Seccombe said that some of the papers were not fit to be looked at or read _ and order me to go to The Hospital to fetch down the Ledger of the ward _ I went, nothing more transpired about the newspapers on that day with me,

On the following Evening - namely, Sunday Evening, The Civil Commandant coming to the place asked me about the papers, and I told him that the newspapers were there, and that Campbell brought them there, _ I also told him that at the time the post came twice a week, Campbell brought papers accordingly, Campbell

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Campbell said that the newspapers were sent to the ward by the Priest, I have heard him say so-

When the newspapers had been read in my ward Campbell used them to take them up to N^o 3 ward in The Hospital, _ namely, The Catholic ward.

_ The name of the paper, brought, that D^r Seccombe spoke about was “The “Hobart Town “Mercury”, before them the “Daily News” was brought there regularly.

_ I remember that one of the papers that D^r Seccombe spoke about contained an account about the Prisoners here having been “marched to “Church at the point of the “Bayonet” _ I remember that also it was stated in one of the newspapers about “Nolan’ having been sentenced to three months Imp^t for living out of his district, and

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and the Comptroller was commended in the article for acting so promptly in the case in liberating the Prisoner, Nolan.

There was also an account of the murder that took place at the mines in one of the papers brought to the ward - of the Commandant going to the mines with the Doctor and holding an Inquest there.

There was a great deal of slur in the articles against The Commandant – I confess that I read these Newspapers myself, in fact I read most all that was sent to the ward. *Roger Scully was also wardsman [sic] with me about the same time. I am not quite sure whether the other wardsmen [sic] read the newspapers themselves, but if not they must have heard them read.

Campbell brought the papers, and generally gave them to M^c Mahon or laid them down on

Witness [signed] JC Tapp W Ayton

[written in right hand margin]

*Tried at Adelaide for “Blackfaced Robbery” [sic] – 10 years
again_ Hob Town Q.S. “Stealing” 5 yrs PS.

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on his bed. _ The Newspapers were always open when he brought them to the place.

- I mentioned the substance of this statement to the Commandant on the Sunday Evg [sic] mentioned; in the presence of M^r Assⁿ Sup Hall Kerr,

- I never knew the Civil Commandant to send newspapers to the Prisoners or Invalids at all _ but I have known him to send some religious tracts to the yard _ I never knew that the Civil Commandant ever gave permission for newspapers to be read there, nor that he ever furnished newspapers for them to read. _ I have been about four years altogether under the Commandant[s] orders, and never knew him to furnish newspapers of any sort either to Prisoners or Invalids for them to read.

Witness [signed] JC Tapp

W Ayton
Port Arthur
31st July 1838

[at 90° left hand margin]

Taken in the Police Offices at Port Arthur before me

J Boyd
31 July 1858

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[at 45° top left corner]

[Extract from] Police

[Record of] Robert Campbell

Per Sr J Byng

“Striking” a Superior Officer” – 14 years

“Having fire arms in possession” Life

“Burglary being armed” – Life

Has been 3 times tried for “Assault” and received 500 Lashes.

[main document]

Statement of Robert Campbell per Sr “J Byng” who saith

I am a Prisoner of The Crown, at Port Arthur, I remember speaking to The Commandant at the new penitentiary on last Sunday week the 18th Ins^t [sic] and told him that I was in the habit of taking newspaper to The Invalid Hospital Ward after Mr Farrell had done with them, this was in the presence of Dr Seccombe, I received The newspapers sometimes from The Cook ^{Mr} **[in left margin] Meagher [back to main document]** ~~sometimes from the~~ and Waiter, and sometimes from his, The Rev^d Mr Ryan’s own room

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I generally brought six at a time since the post has come only once a week to Port Arthur, _ when the Post came twice a week I took only half the number at a time as the post brought them._ The name, of the newspapers I took were “The Hobart Town Mercury” since the “Daily News” stopped coming._ I took the newspapers first to Mr Farrell, from thence I took them to The Invalid Ward.

_ Mr Ryan never gave me any positive order to take them there, _ I have known The Commandant to ~~give~~ ^{show} an English newspaper giving an account of the big ship made in England called “The Leviathan”, he showed the paper ^{I believe} to Coyne an Invalid. –I never

knew him to give or show any other newspaper on the place than that other to Prisoners or Invalids

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I never heard The Civil Commandant give any authority – either to Prisoners or Invalids to have newspapers _ I never mentioned to the Rev^d Mr Ryan nor any else that The Commandant had lent the paper spoken of _ I understand from some of The Invalids that The Commandant had given them permission to read newspapers if they got them from The Rev^d Mr Ryan, _ Dr Seccombe found six newspapers in N^o 9 ward, & those were taken there by me _ I took them first to Mr Farrell _ I got them at first from The Cook Meagher at Mr Ryans, _ The newspapers had been opened before I ~~took~~^{JCT} ~~from the~~^{JCT} ~~cook~~ received them from The Cook, and took them to Mr Farrell's _ I was not aware that some of the papers contained serious articles against The Commandant of Port Arthur until one of The men in The Hospital Ward told me of it _ I used to take the papers from Mr Farrell's to The Hospital's ^{No 3 ward} and from thence to N^o 9 ward in the Old Penitentiary. There was nothing to prevent me from reading the papers if I

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I had been so disposed. The Civil Commandant gave me orders not to bring any more ^{news} papers from Father Ryan's which order I have attended to._ It was on Thursday, The day after The Steamer's arrival at Port Arthur that I received the papers from Father Ryans [sic] house _ I never received papers from his house on a Wednesday Evening _ ~~I never~~^{JCT} or any that had not been opened & read. _ On one occasion when Mr Farrell sent me for the newspapers the Rev^d Mr Ryan told me that ~~I~~^{JCT} ~~could not have them~~^{JCT} ~~as he had~~ not read them yet, and told me to come for them on the following day

[signed] Robert Campbell

Port Arthur

31st July 1858

Witness [signed] JC Tapp

Transcription: Extract from James Boyd correspondence dated 1858 from Port Arthur [from UTAS Royal Society papers – RS30-11] – 31 July 1858 Statement of Robert Campbell per *Sir John Byng*

[at 90° in right margin]

Taken in The Police Office in Port Arthur before me

J Boyd

31 July 1858.

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[top LH corner]

Extract from Police Record of W^m Meagher

Per Sir J Byng

Tried C^t M^t Quebec

“Housebreaking” – 14 y^{rs}

- Parramatta “Housebreaking” – 10 y^{rs}

- Hob Town S C^t Forgery – Life

Statement of William Meagher. per “S^r J Byng” who saith_

I am a Prisoner of The Crown under Sentence at Port Arthur _ For about the last 18 months I was in M^r Ryan’s service as cook and waiter _ I am aware that during that time a man named Robert Campbell received Newspapers regularly every post after the Rev^d M^r Ryan had read them _ Campbell received them to take them first to M^r Farrell and from thence to the Hospital. Campbell generally received them from me. M^r Ryan’s instructions were nothing particular when I

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I went to him._ I used to tell him that Campbell was come [sic] for the papers if he had done with them,_ I had Father Ryan’s authority to take the newspapers whether he was there or not, if he had read them, in fact he told me to do so, and to give them to Campbell for M^r Farrell, and the Hospital. _ I am sure of this. _ I never knew unopened newspapers to be sent away from Father Ryan’s house when he was at home. nor until they had been read by him _ The papers were very often away a week _ M^r Ryan’s orders to me were, the Newspapers to be sent to Mr Farrell’s and from thence taken to the Hospital, _ when they were brought back I kept them for waste paper _ I do not think that Campbell unless

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unless he had instructions from Father Ryan himself to take them to the Hospital would have taken them there _ The Papers in question were Hobart Town newspapers namely _ “The Mercury” _ I remember the “Mercury’s” that contained articles about Port Arthur, some three weeks ago, I gave those papers to Campbell – I got them from Mr Ryan’s parlour on the following evening after they had been received _ they were open at the time _ I am quite sure of that _ I remember reading the articles about Port Arthur myself. I read the articles after Campbell had bought them back. I mean the articles relative to the fisherman Nolan [sic] case_ The mines case, and about the Prisoners here have been marched to the Church at the point the bayonet

- These articles were very strong ones indeed_ I mean by

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saying they were “strong” - that their language was much against the Commandant at Port Arthur – I do not recollect speaking to anybody about the articles in question except with Campbell _ Campbell told me about them before I read them in the newspaper

I make this statement truly, not because I have recently left Father Ryan’s service, nor that any promises have been held out to me by any one, nor any threats used.

[signed] W^m Meagher

31 July 1858

Witness [signed] JC Tapp

I was once in the Civil Commandants service at Port Arthur, I never knew him to send any newspapers to the Hospital, or to any of the Prisoners to read_ I never received any from The Commandant and read myself_

[signed] W^m Meagher.

Witness [signed] JC Tapp

[written at 90 degrees against right edge of page]

Taken in the Police Office at Port Arthur before me

J Boyd 31 July 1858