The State Library holds the world's largest collection of original First Fleet journals and correspondence.

Of the eleven known journal manuscripts, nine are held in the Mitchell Library and Dixson Library collections, at the State Library of New South Wales.

Of the contemporary records which survive documenting the First Fleet, the original, private manuscript journals written by those who actually sailed with the expedition occupy a central place.

The manuscript journals held by the State Library are written by John Hunter, Second Captain and Philip Gidley King, Second Lieutenant; William Bradley, First Lieutenant; Jacob Nagle, a seaman; and George Worgan, surgeon, all serving on the Sirius; Ralph Clark, Second Lieutenant of Marines on the Friendship; James Scott, Sergeant of Marines on the Prince of Wales; John Easty, private Marine on the Scarborough; and Arthur Bowes Smyth, surgeon on the Lady Penrhyn.

All give insights into shipboard life, the convicts, officers and crew, ports of call, discipline, injuries and deaths and daily life in the colony.

[1]
A view of Botany Bay from, 'The voyage of Governor Phillip to Botany Bay...' 1789
Arthur Bowes Smyth (1750-1790)

Arthur Bowes Smyth sailed with the First Fleet as Surgeon on board the *Lady Penrhyn*. He was responsible for the women convicts and his record of their names, ages and crimes reveals the human faces of the convict mass. Bowes Smyth also took a great interest in natural history, collecting specimens and making drawings including the earliest extant illustration by a European of the emu.

He returned to England on the *Lady Penrhyn* travelling via Lord Howe Island, Tahiti, China and St Helena. He died some months after his return and was buried on 31 March 1790 in Tolleshunt D'Arcy, Essex, where he had been born. His journal was acquired by the Mitchell Library in 1915.

Three manuscript versions of this journal are known to exist. Other versions are held at the National Library of Australia (believed to be the original version); and the British Museum (a fair copy). The Mitchell Library version is also believed to be a fair copy.
About this item:

a1085001h.jpg [5]
Jany. 18th. A gentle breeze -- Expect to see Land this Evening. A Noddy taken on the yardarm -- No land seen at 8 o’Clock for wh. reason the fleet were order’d to lye to all night -- the wind encreas’d in the night & the Ships roll’d very much. --

Saturday 19th. This morng. I arose at 5 o’Clock in hopes of seeing Land, but was disappointed -- The Sirius & all the fleet made Sail abt. 4 o’Clock in the morng. & at 7 a.m. we discover’d Land abt. 40 miles distant. The joy everyone felt upon so long wish’d for an Event can be better conceiv’d than expressed, particularly as it was the termination of the Voyage to those who were to settle at Botany Bay. &: it is 10 weeks on monday since we left the Cape of Good Hope; the longest period of any we had been at Sea without touching at any Port. -- The Sailors are busy getting up the Cables & preparing all things for Anchor- ing - lye to all night.

Sunday 20th. The Sirius made Sail at 4 o’Clock this morng. wt. a fine breeze go 4 Ks. -- Abt. 8 o’Clock we came abreast of point Solander &: Sail’d into the Arrive at Bay, where we were very happy to find the 4 Ships who had parted wt. Botany Bay us, all safe at Anchor. The Supply Brig got there on friday night, but the Alexa. Scarborough & Friendship reach’d it but the Eveng. before us! We saw by the Assistance of a Glass, 7 of the Natives, runing amongst the trees --

a1085080h.jpg [8]
Extract from, *A Journal of a Voyage from Portsmouth to New South Wales and China in the Lady Penrhyn, 1787-1789, Manuscript page 2*
This Eveng. I went on Shore in the Boat wt. Some of the Ship's Company to the Northside of the Bay to haul the Seyne &: caught a great many fish; all excellent eating. Upon first sight one wd. be induced to think this a most fertile spot, as there are great Nos. of very large & lofty trees, reachg. almost to the water's edge, & every vacant spot between the trees appears to be cover'd wt. verdure: but upon a nearer inspection, the grass is found long &: coarse, the trees very large & in general hollow & the wood itself fit for no purposes of buildg. or anything but the fire -- The Soil to a great depth is nothing but a black sand wh. when exposed to the intense heat of the Sun by removing the surrounding trees, is not fit for the vegetation of anything even the grass itself, then dying away, wh. in the shade appears green &: flourishing; add to this that every part of the grown is in a manner cover'd wt. black & red Ants of a most enormous size. --

21st. Accompanied several Gentlemen on shore to the South side of the Bay, in order to haul the Seyne. Upon our landing 7 or 8 of the Natives came close up to us -- They were all provided wt. Lances of a great length pointed wt. the Bone of a Sting Ray at one end & a piece of Oyster Shell at the other, grown or rub'd to a fine edge & one of them had a heavy Bludgeon wh. I persuaded him to exchange wt. me for a looking glass. They were all perfectly naked rather slender, made of a dark black colour, their hair not wooly but short & curly. -- Every one had the tooth next the fore tooth in his
Extract from, A Journal of a Voyage from Portsmouth to New South Wales and China in the Lady Penrhyn, 1787-1789, Manuscript page 3
About this item:

Transcript:
[Page 82]

upper jaw knock'd out, & many of them had a piece of stick abt. the size of a Tobacco pipe & 6 or 8 inches in length run thro' the septum of the Nostrils, to wh. from its great similitude we ludicrously gave the name of a Sprit Sail Yard. They all cut their Backs Bodies & Arm wh. heal up in large ridges & scars.
They live in miserable Wigwams near the water wh. are nothing more than 2 or 3 pieces of the Bark of a tree set up sideways against a ridge pole fasten'd to two upright stick at each end -- they are abt. 2 or 3 feet high, & few amongst them are to be found wh. are weather proof --
Their principal food consists of fish wh. they in general eat raw -- Sometimes they feast upon the Kangaroo, but I believe them to be too stupid & indolent a set of people to be able often to catch them: from the appearance of many of the lofty trees we saw, some way up the Country (vizt.) having regular steps chop'd at abt. 2 foot asunder in the Bark of the tree quite up to the top where the tree begins to branch out, there is reason to suppose they mount these wt. large stones where they lie in ambush till some Kangaroos come under to graze when they heave the stone upon them & kill them. There are great Nos. of Kangaroos but so extreamly shy that 'tis no easy matter to get near enough to them even to shoot them -- &
21st. very few in comparison of the great numbers there were, were shot during our stay at New Holland. As there is a most exact print of this uncommon Animal in Capt. Cook's Acct. of this Country I shall not take the trouble to describe it.
Extract from, A Journal of a Voyage from Portsmouth to New South Wales and China in the Lady Penrhyn, 1787-1789, Manuscript page 4

"...we could not have been more welcome to them. They were not long in neglecting you, when they see the importance of it, and are soon to be able to eat from your stores. The men who were left here were very busy. They had a large cargo of beef, and had a great many provisions for their voyage to the south..."
consist of a very short Vocabulary; they Description seem'd surpris'd at the Sight of the Ships. I presented many of them of New wt. Glass Beads & several Gentlemen put Ribbands & Glass Trincketts Holland abt. their heads but they seemed altogether a most stupid insensible Continued set of beings -- they seem'd most desirous of Hats from their attempting to seize the Hats of many persons on shore.
They seemed to express a Wish to know of what Sex we were & several of the persons onshore satisfied them in that particular. -- When they found we were men like themselves they express'd their joy & astonishment by loud Exclamations & grotesque gestures, & immediately shook hands with us. Their Huts or Wigwams are dispersed abt. & cat paths leading from one to the other.
Having wandered some distance into the woods in search of Insects & other natural Curiosities, I lost myself & cd. not find my way back to the Wooding Party, which threw me into no small panic least I shd. meet with any of the Natives before I cd. extricate myself from the Labarynth I had got into. At one time I was surrounded by fern (exactly the same as in England) on every side above my head. And in this awkward situation I came very near Wigwams or Hut in which I heard the voices of Men & Women, I was apprehensive I shd. be seen by them; but, I crawl'd along gently & had the good Luck to escape being noticed by them; & to my inexpressable Joy I shortly after got sight of the Bay; I bent my course towards it & upon clearing the wood I found myself upon a point of Rock at least a mile from the Guard & Wooding party -- I directed my course along shore till I reached the Party & in my way there I fell in with a Canoe.
William Bradley (1757?-1833)

William Bradley sailed with the First Fleet in May 1787 following his appointment to First Lieutenant on board HMS *Sirius* in October 1786. After arriving at Port Jackson on 26 January 1788, he was immediately deployed to assist Captain John Hunter on a series of surveys of Sydney Harbour. Bradleys Point on the northern harbour shore was named for him.

In October 1788 Bradley sailed with the *Sirius* to the Cape of Good Hope for supplies, returning to Port Jackson in May 1789. In March 1790 he again sailed with the *Sirius* to Norfolk Island where the ship foundered on the rocks and was lost. Bradley was forced to remain on the island for 11 months before being picked up by the *Supply*.

In March 1791 Bradley returned to England on board the *Waaksamheid*. In England he was one of several officers court martialed over the loss of the *Sirius*. All were honourably acquitted. At Governor Phillip's request, Bradley was promoted to the rank of Master and Commander, in July 1792. He rose to the rank of Rear Admiral of the Blue and was superannuated in September 1812.

Bradley's journal was unknown until 1923, a year before it was acquired by Mitchell Library from a London bookseller. Bradley's is a more formal record than an intimate diary. With 29 watercolours inserted between the journal's pages, it appears to have been prepared for publication.

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**About this item:**

William Bradley - Journal. Titled 'A Voyage to New South Wales', December 1786 - May 1792; compiled 1802+ This journal was probably compiled some years after the events it records. It seems to be a fair copy compiled after 1802. Page 48 bears a watermark for the year 1802.

**Transcript:**

[Page 55]

1788
January.
Thunder & Light'ning & blew strong some hours from the W.tward
Thursday. 10th. The weather clear'd up with a fine breeze at W.t we had a very heavy cross swell: AM The weather
very squally & unsettled, wind frequently shifting, NNW & WSW: Latitude at Noon 43º:38'S.o Longitude 149º:31'E.t
11th. At 1/2 p 7 PM. The wind shifted in a very heavy squall in which the Golden Grove split her Top sails & the P.re of Wales carried away her Mainyard; this Squall was violent & came on with remarkable loud Thunder & strong light'ning w very heavy rain, it lasted half an hour, the weather then became clear w a moderate breeze of wind from NW to SW, at 7 AM It suddenly came on to blow strong & near Noon was mod.t & clear settled weather again. Lat.d 42º:19'S.o..130º27'E.t
Saturday. 12th. PM Mod.t & clear weather, at 11 it was Calm & in less than 1/2 an hour, it suddenly blew strong from the SW with severe light'ning. AM near Noon it fell little wind with fine serene clear weather. Lat.d 41º:17'S.o..150º:43'E.t
Sunday. 13th. The wind coming to the W.t & N.o obliged us to stand off to the E.tward, the weather moderate till 10 PM then Blowing hard & very squally from the NW. AM Continued to blow strong with frequent Squalls. Lat.d 40º:00'S.o..151º:22'E.t
Monday. 14th:PM at 4 It became moderate the wind shifted to SW with clear weather. AM Light Breezes & clear weather at Noon Latitude 38º:10'.S. Longitude 151º:09' E.t

a138055h.jpg [16]
This day, getting into a blow, was very heavy from the westward.
Wind S.W. The weather cleared up about 11 or 12. The weather was quite settled, wind from west, shifting, sometimes, south east.

17th October 1787. The wind shifted to a very heavy squall E. in which the passengers reported feeling vessels of the East India Company coming from Macao.

This day, a squall came without a moment’s warning. It came on the Clear, Bering. Weather became clear. Vessels now under strength.

18th October 1787. We were now in the finest weather, the wind was now suddenly altered from the E. with little lightning. At near noon it fell. Little wind with fine

19th October 1787. The wind coming in at 12, we lay and stood in the E. and W. The wind maintained till 10, then became fresh with heavy squall from the N.W. It continued to blow strongly with frequent squalls.

20th October 1787. E. and S. wind. Now the wind became moderate and the weather good, with fine weather. The night became clear, weather becoming

Latitude 38°10’S. Longitude 151°09’E.
About this item:
William Bradley - Journal. Titled 'A Voyage to New South Wales', December 1786 - May 1792; compiled 1802+. This journal was probably compiled some years after the events it records. It seems to be a fair copy compiled after 1802. Page 48 bears a watermark for the year 1802.

Transcript:

[Page 56]
1788
January.
Tuesday.15: Clear weather. At 1 PM. Had several good Observations of the [sun] and [moon] the mean of which gave 152º:48'E. & of those taken by Capn Hunter 152º:44'E.t which was 11/2º degree to the E.tward of account since leaving Van Diemans Land We suppose this occasioned by a strong set from between the Schouten Islands & Pt Hicks from which we had a great Sea & think it probable that there may be either a streight or a deep Gulf: Wind NE & N.o Latitude 37º:39'S.o 151º:47'E.t

Wednesday. 16th: Hazey weather with a fresh Gale at N.o with which we stood off & on the shore endeavoring to preserve a moderate distance from the shore, not thinking it safe to go near with the Convoy 'till well to the N.oward. AM. Fair weather w. a moderate breeze at NNW. 37º:39'S.o 151º:29'E.t at Noon

Thursday. 17th: Light variable winds & calm with frequent heavy rains Thunder & Light'ning: At Noon Clear W.r with variable light airs. 37º:19'S.o 151º:45'E.t [a]

Friday. 18th: PM. at 6. A breeze sprung up from SE. AM. At 8 hauled in to endeavor to make the land before night. 35º:48'S.o..151º:36'E
Saturday. 19th. Fresh Breezes from the SE at 7. PM. Brot too, not having made the Land. AM. Mod.t & clear at day
light saw the Land bearing WbN, at 10. were abreast of some remarkable white sand hills, having much the
appearance of white cliffs At Noon, were in 34º:30'.S.o Saw red point (so named by Capn Cook) with a small Island
on with it W1/2N 4 leagues, the round
Sunday. 18th Clear weather. At 1/4 pm had several good observations of the stars. the mean of which gave 162.46°. Yd. those taken by Capt. Hunter 163.46° which were 1/4 degree to the east of account since leaving Van Diemen's Land we suppose this occasioned by a strong set from between the Adrant. Island. Up the wind from which we had a good wind to make the land. I think it probable that there may be either a night or a very gentle wind SW West by North whole day. 18th change of wind SW West by North. 5/10ths of wind at 1/4 pm. 17th. At Noon. Thursday. 19th. Light variable wind. 4/10ths cloud on the upper hand. Noon. Clear N.W. with variable light air. 87/15°. 157/48°. 2. 22°.

Friday. 20th. At 5 a Breese springing up from S. At 8 3/4 N.N.W. 1/2. 22°. In order to make the land before night. 

Saturday. 21st. Fresh Breese from the S.W. 7 3/4. Noon. 4 3/4. 22°. THE BAY. Ed. and the wind under the land. At Noon. N.E. Clear at Day light. over the land bearing W 25°. At 5 were a breed of some remarkable white Clouds. Having a much the appearance of white Ice. Some, were in 3°. 30. S. and at point 30. 40. 30. S. some Clouds. The sound.
Transcript:

Page 57

1788.

January.

Hill mention'd by Cap'n Cook as like the crown of a Hat bore WbN, the N.orn extreme of land N.o 10 leag.s a very remarkable clump of Trees like those on Portsdown were seen at Noon NbW... Red point may very readily be known by Cap'n Cooks remarks viz. the round hill a little to the N.owd of it; but it is necessary to observe that there are two Islands near it & that the Land to the N.oward of the red land forming the point, is very white.

Sunday. 20th: At 2 PM. Saw the white cliffs mention'd by Cap'n Cook to be 10 miles to the S.oward of Botany Bay; I do not altogether think it a certain mark for knowing when you are near Botany Bay, there being many white Sand Hills that shew like Cliffs coming up the Coast; the land from these White Cliffs to the N.oward is tolerably even. At 4. Saw the entrance of Botany Bay, appearing in the middle of land that shew'd like an Island lying a small
distance from the shore, We saw the neck of land by which it is joined to the other land when 8 or 9 miles to the
S.oward of the entrance of Botany Bay, it has a sandy beach, the shore cover'd with wood, in the sandy beach is
the appearance of a Gully or opening.
The land about the entrance of Botany Bay appears in hummocks & Rocky; & with a Glass pt Solander, the S.o
point of the Bay may be seen like a perpendicular notch cut in the rocks near the middle of the land, like an Island.

a138057h.jpg [21]
Hill mentioned by Capt. Cook as like the crown of a Nab, one
with the Sake extreme of land 3°, is lying a very remark-
able Shape of these the place or Port Jackson were arrived
at on 21st Red point one very good to be knowing Copt.
Cook remarks 21st, the island Hill little to the east of it.
but it is necessary to observe that there are two Islands.
And that the land to the Seward of the Island forming the
point, is very extensive.

Tuesday, Dec. 21st, 1787. Saw the White Cliffs mentioned by Capt.
Cook to be 12 miles to the Seward of Botany Bay. Do not
agree that think is a certain much for locating as we are
near Botany Bay, there being no country to land till the
that these like Ciffs remaining up the Coast & the land from the
White Cliffs to the Seward is tolerably even. As to saw the
entrance of Botany Bay, appearing in the middle of land
that showed like one Island lying a small distance from
the Shore. We saw the neck of land by which it is joined to
the other land when very little to the Seward of the continent
of Botany Bay, it has a sandy back, the shore covered with
wood, in the sandy back is the appearance of a Rocky or
promontory. The land about the entrance of Botany Bay ap-
pear in various degrees of Rocky, with a flat of Colander,
the hills on the Seward may be seen like a perpendicular wall
in the coke near the main of the land, like one Island.
William Bradley - Journal. Titled 'A Voyage to New South Wales', December 1786 - May 1792; compiled 1802+
This journal was probably compiled some years after the events it records. It seems to be a fair copy compiled after 1802. Page 48 bears a watermark for the year 1802.

Transcript:
[Page 58]
1788
January.
Those cliffs 10 miles to the S.ward of Botany Bay make in 5 cliffs as you come near abreast of them & the Portsdown clump of Trees is on the N.omost of them when bearing W.t soon after which, that clump loses its remarkable appearance.
At Sun Set, the entrance of Botany Bay bore N.19ºW 7 or 8 Mile shorten'd Sail & made the Signal for the Convoy to pass in succession within hail, they were order'd to be very attentive during the night & to keep their Stations strictly when we made sail in the morning: AM. At day light made sail for the Bay with a mod.t breeze at SE & when within about 2 miles of the S.o Head saw the Supply in the Bay & soon after the 3 Transports that had been dispatch'd under the Command of the Agent.
The Master of the Supply came on board as we approach'd the entrance, He informed us that they had only been arrived two days & the Agent one day before us & the heavy ships; at 8. Anchored with the Convoy in Botany Bay & moored immediately.
   p.t Solander SSE )
   Cape Banks ESE) in 8 f.m water.
We found that the Governor had without much difficulty met some of the Natives on the N.o side of the Bay & after convincing them of his good intentions, they receiv'd some trifling presents from him which they handed to each other without much concern. They were quite naked & had

[Image: a138058h.jpg] [23]
Three miles we come to the Sound of Botany Bay and to in a cliff as you come near a breadth of them & the Port de nous. Clumps of trees is on the shore of these islands, being the 2st morning for which, these Clumps over the mainhead appear a. At 2.00 the entrance of Botany Bay bore W 10. The 2nd shotted it by making the Signal for the Convoy to cease in possession within sound, they were to keep the line in the night to keep their station strictly when we made sail on the morning, at all Day Light made sail for the 2nd with a N W B S E breeze at 34. Sickness with about 2 miles of the Head with the Supply in the Bay when after the 3 Transport with the Goods had been dispatched under the command of the Governor. The Master of the Supply came on board as we approached the entrance, he informed us that they had only been arrived two days & the Sailing for the heavy ship and anchored with the Convoy in Botany Bay removed immediately.

P. Landor 108
Cape Barthe 31/3

We found that the Governor had not been much difficulty and some of the Natives on the 2 side of the Bay when informing them of his good intentions, they received some surprising presents from him which they showed to each other without much concern. They were quite mild & had
About this item:
William Bradley - Journal. Titled `A Voyage to New South Wales', December 1786 - May 1792; compiled 1802+
This journal was probably compiled some years after the events it records. It seems to be a fair copy compiled after 1802. Page 48 bears a watermark for the year 1802.

Transcript:
[Page 59]
1788.
January.
much the appearance of being well disposed toward us. We saw 8 of them setting on the rocks as we came into the Bay, they called to us, some of them walked along the Shore & others kept setting on the rocks: The Boats met with Natives in every part of the Bay but no women had yet been seen.
Captain Hunter went on board the Supply to the Governor & with him visited the South Shore taking a Guard of Marines with them. Near the place the Governor landed at, we saw several of the Natives in small parties of two, three & five together, frequently advancing & again retreating; The Governor advanced by himself & laid down some presents for them then retired, one of the Natives immediately advanced, picked it up & handed it to the
others apparently pleas'd, by Noon we saw that our People & the Natives were mixed together, the Boat Crews amused themselves with dressing the Natives w paper & other whimsical things to entertain them, with which they were pleas'd for the moment.

Monday. 21. PM. An Officer & party of Men were sent from the Sirius to clear away to a run of water on the S.o side of the Bay: The Natives were well pleas'd with our People until they began clearing the Ground at which they were displeased & wanted them to be gone; At sun set when the Boats left the shore, several of the Natives came down to the water side & then went to their Huts. Mr King returned

[a138059h.jpg] [25]
much The appearance of being well Dressed towards us. we saw Officers sitting on the Rock as we came into the Bay, then called them, some of them walked along. We then Settled ourselves on the Rocks. The Boat went with Officers in every part of the Bay but no women had yet been seen. Captain Hunter went on board the Yacht to the Governor with him visited the South Shore taking a number of guides with them. Near this place the Governor land the places were covered with houses and very few trees were there. Some frequently beating snowy white powder. The Governor arrived of himself and down came some presents for them, then retired, one of the officers immediately advanced picked up a broomstick to the other apparently placed, by them, as if to show them how people of the Victuall were meant together, the Boat with armed themselves with Drills, the officers & other armed men to defend them, with which they were pleased for the next morning at 5 A.M. An Officer of some of them came from the ship to clear away to a mile of water on the South side of the Bay. The Victuall were well pleased as the men they had when they began clearing the ground at which they were dis- placed would them to be gone. We saw such weapons the rocks left the shore, several of the Victuall came down the water side & then went to their tents. Nothing returned.
Ralph Clark (1755? - 1794)

Promoted First Lieutenant in February 1789 in New South Wales, Ralph Clark had undertaken the voyage to New South Wales in the hope of gaining promotion. During the voyage he was attached to the *Friendship*, one of the convict transports for female prisoners.

Clark’s journal is a particularly personal account of the First Fleet, filled with his dreams, fears, homesickness and his longing for his wife, Betsey Alicia, and their young son. The facts of Clark’s life are few and elusive. We know his birthday – 30 March – because he mentions it in his diary, but we do not know the precise year of his birth though it was around 1755. While in New South Wales, Clark formed a relationship with a convict woman, Mary Branham, with whom he had an illegitimate daughter born in 1791.

Clark Island in Sydney Harbour was named for him. While in New South Wales he was known for his empathy with the local indigenous people.

He returned to England in 1792 on the *Gorgon*. By the end of 1794, the Clark family was dead. Betsey Alicia died giving birth to a stillborn child. Clark was fatally wounded in service at a French outpost on 18 June. His nine year old son, serving as a volunteer on the same ship as his father, died of yellow fever on 29 June.

Betsey’s family preserved Clark’s journal until 1914 when it was acquired by the Library.
About this item:
Ralph Clark - Journal kept on the Friendship during a voyage to Botany Bay and Norfolk Island; and on the Gorgon returning to England, 9 March 1787 - 31 December 1787, 1 January 1788 - 10 March 1788, 15 February 1790 - 2 January 1791, 25 January 1791 - 17 June 1792.

Transcript:
(26-27 January 1788)

against use - the Prince of Wales and us got foul of each other they carried away our Jibb Boom but what
dammage we did her I cannot Say as I did not lick it I was affraid that we would both have being driven on Shore
as the blow fresh - Soon after the Charlotte ran foul of use and Shooke use very much - I was more frightend than I
was When the prince of Wales was foul of use - if it had not being by the greatest good luck we Should have been
both on Shore on the rocks and the Ships must must have been all lost and the greater part if not the whole on
board drownd for we Should have gone to pices in less than a half of an hour but how good the Almighty is to use -
I return him my most Sincer prayers for his Kindness to use - thank god we have got clear out as hav all the Ships
and hope to be in the course of a few hours at Port Jackson as it is a fine fair Breeze - as we run along the Shore
Saw a great number of firess and a few Natives - blessed be to God that we have got Save to ane Anchor in one of
the finest harbours in the world - I never Saw any like it - the River Thames is not to be mentioned to it and that I
thought was the finest in the world - this Said port Jackson is the most beautiful place - I cannot compair any think
to come nearer to it than about 3 miles above Saltash to the Wair - here we make the Ships fast to the Trees on
Shore both sides of Governours Cove - we are about 5 miles from the entrance - found all the Ships here at anchor
-

Sunday 27 Kist your dear Pictour as Usual on this day and read the lessons for the day - order came on board for
which See the orderly Book - my dear wife - Sent the men belonging to Capt. Tench Company on board the
Charlotte to be landed from ther - dinned by myself all the rest dinned out - I am Quite charmed with the place - oh
that if you was only here and our dear Boy my Alicia I Should not wish to come home if the place agreed with our
health but without you I would not Stay if it was the best place under the face of heaven no that I would not my dear
Beloved wife for without you I cannot live. The Tents look a prety amonst the Trees - I hope to be on Shore to
morrow if Please good

a262119h.jpg [27]
1788

26 January

Extract from journal kept on the Friendship during a voyage to Botany Bay and Norfolk Island..., 26 January

Journals from the First Fleet

Published on State Library of NSW (https://www.sl.nsw.gov.au)
Munday 15 the[y] made me to understand that there were no women there I then asked them to goe and bring me down the [blank] which is their name for child Dourrawan went and brought a Boy a bout 3 Years old on his Shoulder the child was as much frightend at use as Davis was at them I then desired Tirriwan to goe and bring me down one of his children as Dourrawan informd me that he was the father of the Child he had brought down and that his woman the mother of his child was (poc) dead of the (mittayon) Small Pox Tirriwan brought also down a Boy much a bout the same age as the other Tirriwan child was not quite Recoverd from the Small Pox I asked him for his (din) he Said that She was up in the wood given a Young child the (nipan) the Breast I gave each of the children a bit of Red cloath I asked them if the[y] would give me the children for my hatt which the[y] Seemd to wish most for but the[y] would not on any account part with there children which I liked them for the Governour has often asked me as the Natives Seemd not So much affraid of me as the[y] are of every body else to take one of them and bring them in Yesterday and to day I might with great ease and without running anydanger have taken these two men but as I told Ellis when he asked me if I did not intend to take them I told him that it would be very Ungenerous to ...
Extract from journal kept on the Friendship during a voyage to Botany Bay and Norfolk Island..., 26 January 1788, Manuscript, page 2
Ralph Clark

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About this item:
Ralph Clark - Journal kept on the Friendship during a voyage to Botany Bay and Norfolk Island; and on the Gorgon returning to England, 9 March 1787 - 31 December 1787, 1 January 1788 - 10 March 1788, 15 February 1790 - 2 January 1791, 25 January 1791 - 17 June 1792.

Transcript:
[Page 3] (17 February 1790)

Wednesday 17 he then Said I am going I said it is impossible he Said it was very true and that there was two of the Companies to goe with him if So I shall be very happy to goe with you or Captain Campble he Said that he was much obliged to me and Should be very happy for me to goe with him he Said that he would not take Captain Campbles companies with him he Should leave him to take the command and care of the Remainder of the detachment that would be left behind You will not mention it to any body as I have not told it to any person except Capt. Campble and Your Self he Said I shall take Meridiths and Johnstones Companies with me and I am thinking of taking Lieuts Shearp, Faddy, Ross and yourself and Creswell who is ther already for I will not take any of them that was in that Court Martial nor Shall I take Meridith with me I would much reather that Some person else was going than Shearp for I doe not like him in Short he is a man that I detest from the bottom of my Soul what can be the Reason of this Great Removal it was only a few days Since that the Governour informed use that he intended to Send the Sirius to China for Provisions if there was no Ships arrived befor the 3 of next month I hope in God that Some Ship or Ships will arrive before our going to Norfolk

Cloudy Weather after I was Releved from Guard I went down to my Island to look at my Garden and found that
Some Boat had landed Since I had been there last and taken away the Greatest part of a fine Bed of Onions it is impossible for any body to attempt to raise any Gardin Stuff for before it comes to perfection they will Steal it I thought that having a Garden on an island it would be more Secure but I find that they even get at it my corn comes on
Wednesday 17

In the evening I am going to bed; it is very cold, it rain.

Thursday 18

Cloudy weather; the sea was rough. I am under the

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Ralph Clark
Call # ML Safe 1/27a

Digital ID: a262139
View collection item detail [33]

About this item:

Ralph Clark - Journal kept on the Friendship during a voyage to Botany Bay and Norfolk Island; and on the Gorgon returning to England, 9 March 1787 - 31 December 1787, 1 January 1788 - 10 March 1788, 15 February 1790 - 2 January 1791, 25 January 1791 - 17 June 1792.

Transcript:

[Page 4] (18-19 February 1790)

Thursday 18 as well as corn can doe I have that they will be so good as to let that Remain but I am much affraid that they will not Returnd to dinner at Majr. Ross's who Said I forgot yesterday when I mentioned Shearp that You and him were not on good terms for which Reason I Shall not take him with me but will askd J. Johnstone which he did in the Evening who Said that he Should be very happy to goe with him —

Friday 19 Cloudy weather after Breakfast went up the harbour in my Boat and took the Skull with me and landed at the place where I found it I collected the rest of the bons and made a grave and depositd them in it and got a Stone placed at the Head without any monumental inscription to denote to any person that may be Ranging this way whose Remains are interred under the Stone all the flesh was not quite decayed particular about upper part of the thigh as the place where I found the Skeleton and where I Buried it is a point of land in Lane Cove I have named it Skeleton point intended to have Returnd to dinner at Majr. Ross's but the day turning out very fine I went father up the Cove and collected Sweet Tea to carry with me to Norfolk Returnd home a little before Sun Sett Shot a few Paroquet Lieut Kellow came to my house Soon after my Return and Said that he would be glad to Speak a few words with me he Said that I was not a Stranger to the disagreable Situation that he has been laboring under for these 15 months past and I hope that you will not have any objections as I have asked Several of my Brother officers and who Say that they have knon that of my going home Sick provisg Majr. Ross will give his consent and gives up the letter which you wrote to him in consequence of the late Captain Sheas representation
Thursday 19

Journals from the First Fleet
Published on State Library of NSW (https://www.sl.nsw.gov.au)

Extract from journal kept on the Friendship during a voyage to Botany Bay and Norfolk Island..., 26 January 1788, Manuscript, page 4

Page 40 of 166
Stay the[y] wore her which She did only a few Yards from the Rock from there been obliged to wair, it only brought them So much the nearer the Shore the[y] could not Stand long this Way on account of the Reef which runs a long the Shore about 12 oClock the[y] Endeavoured to put her about but She would not Stay She got in the trof of the Sea which forst her Stern formost on the Reef as the Bell rung 12 oClock She Struck when the[y] found that She Struck the[y] Cut a way all her mast gracious god what will become of use all, the whole of our Provision in the Ship now a Wreck before use I hope in god that we will be able to Save Some if not all but why doe I flatter myself with Such hopes there is at present no prospect of it except that of Starving what will become of the people that are on board for no boat can goe along Side for the Sea and her am I who has nothing more than what I stand in and not the Smales hope of my getting anything out of the Ship for every body expects that She will goe to pices when the tide comes in Soon after the Ship Struck Major Ross proclaimd Martial Law for which See the orderly Book and the Remainder of what followd in the day for I am So low that I cannot hold the pincle to write in short my pocket Book is foul and will not hold any more

Saturday 20 have been up all night as has every body in the place Soon after the Ship went on Shore trunks, Boxs beds &c what was nearest at hand was thrown over board in hopes it would float on Shore a great dele has come on Shore but as Yet nothing of mine Captain Hunter and between 30 and 40 of the people came on Shore on a graiting made fast to hauzher and the Remainder are coming on Shore as fast as the[y] can as Yet there is nobody drowned or lost I was very near
March 1790

Tues. 19

This was the first time she did only a few yards from the rock. From this she had never seen a wave so large or a rock so high or so long as this one. The wind was blowing very hard and just as they were passing by the rock a large wave came and struck the ship. The next day the wind was still blowing very hard and the sea was rough. The ship was tossed about in the sea for several days. It was a very rough sea.

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Ralph Clark

Call # ML Safe 1/27a  [28]

Digital ID: a262154

View collection item detail  [37]

**About this item:**

Ralph Clark - Journal kept on the Friendship during a voyage to Botany Bay and Norfolk Island; and on the Gorgon returning to England, 9 March 1787 - 31 December 1787, 1 January 1788 - 10 March 1788, 15 February 1790 - 2 January 1791, 25 January 1791 - 17 June 1792.

**Transcript:**

[Page 6] (24-27 December 1790)

Decr 1790 Friday 24th Squally wind west it Raind very hard in the night not much Surf on the Reef Sent the Boat out for Gannets and a fishing She Returnd about ½ after Eight with only 4 Snappers there was too much Surf Round Nepean Island for the Boat to Land with Safety for to get Birds and it Blowd too hard for them to fish after Breakfast Majr. Ross, John and Self walked out to Charlotte Field to See what progress I have made Since his last being there he told me that he is very much pleasd with what I have done in the manner I have planed and Built the Houses.

Saterday 25th Fine weather little wind but a great Surf on the Reef which will make a great Surf on the Reef on which there is a great dele at present this being Christmas day I wish a merry merry Christmas to all the world the most poorest person in England will be better off this day than any of use here for they will be able to get Small bier with their dinner to drink if nothing better and there is not any of use will have anything better but cool water this will be a dry Christmas doe good Gorgon come and take use away from this place.

Sunday 26th Fine weather little wind but a great Surf on the Reef I wish to god the Gorgon would arrive every day is an age I am affraid Some Accidenthas happend to her Touso who left his work on the 20 Inst at Charlotte for my telling him that I would flog him for being impertinent to Mr. Dodge gave himself up last night to Mr. Hume at Cascade from whence he was brought last night and put in Irons.
Munday 27th Fine weather Blows fresh in the offening wind a Southing by west a good dele of Surf on the Reef walked out to Charlotte Field at day break Staid untill Sun Set Majr. Ross Sent out Touso to be Punished which he was and Received 100 Lashes and to work in Irons on the Road untill further orders

a262222h.jpg [38]
Extract from journal kept on the Friendship during a voyage to Botany Bay and Norfolk Island…, 26 January 1788, Manuscript, page 6
John Easty

Neither his birth nor death dates of John Easty, private marine on the Scarborough, are known. Arriving with the First Fleet on board the Scarborough, Easty returned to England in December 1792, on the Atlantic, the same ship that conveyed Arthur Phillip home. In September 1794 he was employed by a London grocer and spent some years petitioning the Admiralty for compensation promised for short rations in New South Wales.

Easty's simple, direct diary reads like a list of events and occurrences. His is a forthright, unpretentious account in tortured English, recording the occasions both he and other marines were disciplined for various offences.

Easty's journal was acquired by Sir William Dixson and bequeathed to the Dixson Library in 1952.

About this item:
Little is known of John Easty, private marine on the Scarborough. Neither his birth nor death dates are known. He returned to England in December 1792, on the Atlantic, the same ship that conveyed Arthur Phillip home. In September 1794 he was employed by a London grocer and spent some years petitioning the Admiralty for...
compensation promised for short rations in New South Wales.

\[40\]
Extract from A Memorandum of the Transa[ ] of a Voiage [sic] from England to Botany Bay ..., November 1786 - May 1793, by John Easty

Partial transcription (26-28 January 1788)

att 2 oclock Cleard Cape Bank Steard NNE all along Shore the Shore Seems to all together rocky near the water
att 6 att night Entered the mouth of Port Jackson itt is a very Copleat harbour we Saw a great many of the nativs as we Came in att 1/2 Past 7 Came to anchore oppisite a littel Cove now nameed Philips Cove Sidney Cove

Sunday Jan'y the 27th 1788

Cleare weather this morning 100 Convicts went on shore att 2 oclock Capt'n Lt Tench Disembarkd from the Ships with his Compan

Munday Jarfv the 28th 1788 Cleare weather this Morning the remaindur of the Convicts Disimbarked att 10 oclock the Detachment of marines Disembarked Piched our tents on Shore
at 2 the ship Cape Banks

the Shoals are seen

and the water at dark night

ent into the mouth of Port Jackson

it is many miles to land

and great many of the natives

are seen in this place

and a Party came in an canoe opposite the ship

and named the ship and the Canoe

Sunday 27th June 1788

and a very fine day

100 convicts were taken off and att

2 o'clock they went back to Hmoke Drumbarb

and came on the ship

Monday 28th June 1788

and the weather is fine

and the wind is from the north

and the convicts are embarked into the

and in the evening

in the

and

in the
Extract from A Memorandum of the Transa[ ] of a Voiage [sic] from England to Botany Bay ..., November 1786 - May 1793, by John Easty

Little is known of John Easty, private marine on the Scarborough. Neither his birth nor death dates are known. He returned to England in December 1792, on the Atlantic, the same ship that conveyed Arthur Phillip home. In September 1794 he was employed by a London grocer and spent some years petitioning the Admiralty for compensation promised for short rations in New South Wales.

References:
Mollie Gillen, The founders of Australia; ADB)

Transcript:
head Quarters Tuesday

Janry the 29th 1788
Cleare weather victeld by the Commissary the Convicts
implied in Clearing the Land this night Corp1 goodall reduced to Private by order of major Ross

Munday Febry the 4th 1788
Cleare weather all day att night very heavey Tempest with Thunder and Lightening att 1/2 Past 8 att night a flash of Lightening as Struck a Tree So as to Split itt down in the middle no other dammage viry rain

Wedansday Febry the 6th 1788 Cleare weather all day att night very heavy Thunder and Lightening as ever I Saw this night a tree Split and 6 Sheep and 2 Lambs killed
Thursday 29th Jan 1788

Shore weather yesterday the loosing away the conci
implyed in the weather last night at night redu. Serious by orders

Major Ross

Morning Tuesday 1st Feb 1788

Clear weather all day all night very heavy Temp for
Thunders and lightnings off east & east work a light
of lightening as struck office south split down on the

Weather all day & the present
Clear weather all day all
night very heavy Temp for

This night about 9pm

Shore and a Fire was light
Transcript:
Friday Feb the 15th 1788
this morning the Sentanced of the Court held yesturday put
into Excution 2 Wemen recieved
25 Lashes Each for theft att the Carts tail and one man 45 for
theft att the Carts tail

Wedansday Febrv the 27 1788 this day the Crimenall Cortt adjurnd Cast for Death 3 men Thos Barret Excuted this
Evning the others repreved Henry Lowel & Jas Hall to be Banished of the Hand for Life on a Desolate Hand

Sattaday March the 8th 1788
this Night about 1/2 past 8 oclock I was Confined by Serjt Hume for bringing a feameale Convict into Camp
This day court of Mirrors held

Friday the 25th 1788

This morning the sentence of the court held yesterday last

in to execution & also convicted

25 lashes each for theft in the

beaks tail and the

beaks tail & the

Wednesday 26th of May 1788

They day the purpose shall find

adjusted last for death some

and

was executed this evening

of the

8th day of May to be Banished of the

Flinders for Life on a Desolate

This

sunday March the 8th 1788

this Night a boat to last guard

was confined by Seijer

for bringing out a second

convict into London
Extract from A Memorandum of the Transa[ ] of a Voiage [sic] from England to Botany Bay ..., November 1786 - May 1793, by John Easty

Call # SAFE / DLSPENCER 374

Little is known of John Easty, private marine on the Scarborough. Neither his birth nor death dates are known. He returned to England in December 1792, on the Atlantic, the same ship that conveyed Arthur Phillip home. In September 1794 he was employed by a London grocer and spent some years petitioning the Admiralty for compensation promised for short rations in New South Wales.

References:
Mollie Gillen, The founders of Australia; ADB)

Transcript:
Munday March the 10th 1788 this day Jno Easty Jno Calaytan
tried by a court Martill

Thuraday Wednesday March the 12th 1788
this day Peter Dargan tried
for a breach of Trust this night att 5 oclock Easty & Cayton
recieved 150 Lachess Each & Dargan 100

M Tuesday March the 18th 1788
This day Jophef Hunt a marine Tryed by a court Martiail for
Strikeing another marine the Court Satt 4 times when Major
Ross would not Except of the Courtmartiail upon wich the
Court Confinded them Selfs Captn Lt Tench 1st Lt Kellow 1st Lt
Poulden 1st Lt Davey 1st Lt Timmins and Said that thay would
go home to England

a1145099h.jpg [49]
Wednesday March the 10th 1788
this day for party Geo. Coghill
riged by court martial.

Thursday March the 12th 1788
this day Peter Dunyan h. c'd for a breach of trust this
night at 5 o'clock party 8 officers
received 150 lbs each each.

Warrant

Tuesday March the 13th 1788
This day French Hunt annorised
forged by court martial for.

Judge another sentence the
court F. P. times when master
Bigs would not except of the
Court confirmed his sentence.

Captain Sim. Streets

Capt. Paul Desire.

I desire that they may return to go home.
About this item:
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References:
Mollie Gillen, The founders of Australia; ADB)

Transcript:
Friday March the 6th 1789
this Day as a party of Convicts ware going to Botaney Bay the Natives attacked them in a great Number and killid one of them and Wounded Sevaral others in a Daingourous manner
and them which Came home where Confined and Punishd with one Hundred and fifty Lashes Each

Wednesday March the 18 1789
this Day a key was found Broke in one of the Locks att the Publick Store house for Which Joseph Hunt a marine was confined who was after taking as the kings Evidence and impeached upon Luke Hines Richd asque James Baker James Brown Richd Dukes and Thos Jones Privt Marines who had been with him in Robing the Store house

Wednesday Thursday March the 25th & 26th 1789
this Dai Luke Hines James Baker James Brown Richd asque Richt Dukes and Thos Jones Marines was tryed by A Crimnall Cort for Robing the
Friday March the 6th 1788

This day a party of convicts were going to Botany Bay the Natives attacked themselves & great numbers were killed of these and several others were wounded and their subde house where describes and punished with one hundred and fifty lashes each.

Thursday March the 13th 1788

This day aitag was found boiling near one of the rocks at the South Store house for which Joseph Hunt was responsible for he was after taken in the Rank Lord's premises by Captain munson Capt. Hunter and James Baker James Cowan and John Jones and James Prendergast was found in the same house. The Jones and Prendergast were all shot for it.
Little is known of John Easty, private marine on the Scarborough. Neither his birth nor death dates are known. He returned to England in December 1792, on the Atlantic, the same ship that conveyed Arthur Phillip home. In September 1794 he was employed by a London grocer and spent some years petitioning the Admiralty for compensation promised for short rations in New South Wales.

References:
Mollie Gillen, The founders of Australia; ADB)

Transcript:
Storehouse when on the 26 about
1/2 Past 2 oclock they all Recd Sentenced
of Death and the Galleows was Erected
before the Sentance was Cast upon them

Friday March the 27th 1789
this Day att 10 oclock Luke Hines James Baker James Brown
Richt Asque Richt1 Dukes and Thos Jones was Excuted between
the 2 Store housees when thay all Said that Joseph hunt was the
ocation of all thier Deaths as he was the first that bagan the
Said Roberry but he Recd a free Pardon thare was hardley a
marine
Present but what Shed tears offacers and men

Wednesday April the 1st 1789
this Day Wm Wall a marin Departed this Life after a Long
Lingering illness and was Buried in Milierty form

Thursday April the 30th 1789
this Day about one oclock in the after noon Edward odges
Michell Towlien Marines which belonged to Rose hill and was
doing Duty thare went out a Shoting and was Lost in the
Woods and wear heard of Since although Search was made for
3 or 4 Days after them

a1145111h.jpg [53]
April 27th 1787

The hour was then 10 o'clock...
About this item:
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References:
Mollie Gillen, The founders of Australia; ADB

Transcript:
Friday February the 19th 1790
this Day Major Ross was orderd to hold him Self in readynes to
Embark on bord his M:S Sirous and Supply with 2 Companies
on the 5th of March Next for Norfolk Hand

Munday February the 22d 1790
this Day Thos Brimage Privt in the
53d and Jn° Easty Signed and
Sealed thiaer Last Wills and testaments to each other
Febry 24 dePartd this
Life Wm Edmonston

Wedensday March the 3d 1790
this Day Major Ross with Captn Lieut G Jonstone first Lieuts
Kellow J Jonston and Clarke and 2d Lieut faddy and Ross with
3 Serjts 4 Corpls 3 Drums and 46 Privts Embarked on bord the
Sirous and Supply to Join first Lieu1 Creswel and 1 Serjt and 14
Privt now Doing Duty att Norfolk

Sattaday March the 6th
this Day the Sirows and Supply Sailed for Norfolk Hand

a1145114h.jpg [55]
This day, February 19th, 1790, Major. Ross was ordered to hold himself ready with 300 men under arms and supply with ammunition and arms under the command of Capt. Edwards.

Monday, January 22nd, 1790

This day, the Governor, Lieutenants, and 25 men, were sent to supply to join the first 90 men, under the command of Lieut. Ross, at Norfolk Island.

Wednesday, March 9th, 1790

This day, Major. Ross, with 400 men, under the command of Lieut. Ross, under the ships and under the command of Lieut. Ross, under the command of Lieut. Ross, under the command of Lieut. Ross, under the command of Lieut. Ross, under the command of Lieut. Ross, under the command of Lieut. Ross, under the command of Lieut. Ross, under the command of Lieut. Ross, under the command of Lieut. Ross, under the command of Lieut. Ross, under the command of Lieut. Ross, under the command of Lieut. Ross, under the command of Lieut. Ross, under the command of Lieut. Ross, under the command of Lieut. Ross, under the command of Lieut. Ross, under the command of Lieut. Ross, under the command of Lieut. Ross, under the command of Lieut. Ross, under the command of Lieut. Ross, under the command of Lieut. Ross, under the command of Lieut. Ross, under the command of Lieut. Ross, under the command of Lieut. Ross, under the command of Lieut. Ross, under the command of Lieut. 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References:
Mollie Gillen, The founders of Australia; ADB)

Transcript:
Wednesday March the 31 1790
this Day Richd Knight a marine was
tryed by a Criminal Cort for Robing a
Gardean for which he was Sentenced 200 Lashes

Monday April the 5th 1790
this Day the Supply arrived from Norfolk Hand and gave an account of the Sirous being Cast away upon the Hand of Norfolk on march the 19th Last but all hands and Stores Saved

Saturday April the 17th 1790
this Day His Majistys Armd tender Supply Brig Sailed from this Port for Norfolk and Batavie for Provisions for the Settelment

Tuesday April the 20th 1790
this Day Wm Chafe a Convict was Executed for House Robbery

Monday May the 3d 1790
this Day Wm Dowland a marine Departed this Life of a flux and fever att Rose Hill

a1145115h.jpg [57]
this Day a Sick Bourne was
1790
tried by a criminal Court for Robbery
and was sentenced to be
hanged for which he was hanged 23rd
March 1790
This Day the Supply arrived from
Norfolk Island and gave an ac-
count of the Serious Heavy Loss
in Way from the Island of Norfolk
and North of the 17th. but all hands
had saved
This Day April the 17th 1790
This Day His Majesty's armed
Vessels being sail'd from
his port for Norfolk and
Bahamis for Provisions for the
Settlement
Tuesday 11th the 20th 1790
This Day 27s. were Judge a Convict
was Executed for House Rob-
in
This Day May the 5th 1790
this Day 11s. was Examined on
from all these Hull

Easty, John

Call # SAFE / DLSPENCER 374 [41]

Digital ID: a1145115

View collection item detail [58]

About this item:
Little is known of John Easty, private marine on the Scarborough. Neither his birth nor death dates are known. He returned to England in December 1792, on the Atlantic, the same ship that conveyed Arthur Phillip home. In September 1794 he was employed by a London grocer and spent some years petitioning the Admiralty for compensation promised for short rations in New South Wales.

References:
Mollie Gillen, The founders of Australia; ADB)

Transcript:
Sunday this July 25 1790 this Day the Lady Jula anne Saild from this place for Norfolk and China and from there to England
Wedensday 28 this Day the Justinnia
Saild for the above places

Sunday August 1st
this day the Suprise Transport Saild from this place with 150
Women and 30 men convicts
for Norfolk Hand and to proceed from that to England by
Chinea

Sunday august the 8th
this day the Scarborough Trans port Saild from this on her way
to England by China Salluted the place with 7 Guns the first
Ship as Ever Salluted this place Sent a litter home by her

Tuesday the 24
this day the Nipturne Saild from this place for England by
China a Criminal Court held on Hugh Low a convict for Sheep
Steeling brought in Guilty of Death

[59]
January the 7th 1790
This Day the 'Jason' came and
from this place for Newport and
China and from there to England.

Wednesday 28th this Day the 'Jason'
Sailed for the above places.

Sunday August 1st
This Day the 'Supriest' Transport
Sailed from this place with 130
Women and 90 men convicts for
Newport. I have left me to sail
from there to England by ship:

Sunday August the 8th
This Day the 'Supriest' Transport
Sailed from this place with 130
Women and 90 men convicts for
Newport. I have left me to sail
from there to England by ship:

Tuesday the 24th
This Day the 'Jason' came and
Sailed from this place for England by ship
and arrived well in Newport.

Tuesday the 24th
This Day the 'Supriest' came and
Sailed from this place for England by ship.

About this item:
Little is known of John Easty, private marine on the Scarborough. Neither his birth nor death dates are known. He returned to England in December 1792, on the Atlantic, the same ship that conveyed Arthur Phillip home. In September 1794 he was employed by a London grocer and spent some years petitioning the Admiralty for compensation promised for short rations in New South Wales.

References:
Mollie Gillen, The founders of Australia; ADB)

Transcript:
August the 25th 1790
this day att 12 ocklock Hugh Low
was Executed according to his Sentanc
pased on him yesterday

Sepbr the 6th
this day Patrick McQuen a marine Departed this Life and
buried in A milliantary form

Sep the 7th
this day His Excellency Arthur Philip Governer of New S
Wailes was wounded by the Nativs in the Shoulder but not
mortall

October the 4th 1790
this day James McManis a marine was tryed by a criminal
court for house Breaking But was acquitted

Tuesday October the 19th 1790
This day arived His Majestys armd tender Supply from
Batavey with Stores and Provisions for the Settelment

a1145119h.jpg [61]
November 1786 - May 1793

Easty, John

Call # SAFE / DLSPENCER 374 [41]

Digital ID: a1145119

View collection item detail [62]

About this item:
Little is known of John Easty, private marine on the Scarborough. Neither his birth nor death dates are known. He returned to England in December 1792, on the Atlantic, the same ship that conveyed Arthur Phillip home. In September 1794 he was employed by a London grocer and spent some years petitioning the Admiralty for compensation promised for short rations in New South Wales.

References:
Mollie Gillen, The founders of Australia; ADB)

Transcript:

and on Sunday the 27 att day Light She waid anchor and ran
down the harbour She was again Cheard by the marines which
was returnd by the Ships Company and thar was two partys of
men Saparated which had Spent 4 years together in the
greatest Love and frindship as Ever men did in Such a distant part of the globe . . . Both by officeers and men She was than accompanied down the harbour by the Governer and all the Marine officers which when thay parted She Saluted them with 9 Guns which was the Last Honour as Could be Confrirdd on them and on Mundaay att 6 in the Morning She went to Sea and may god Send them a good voige I Pray on the munday night of the 28 8 men with 1 woman and 2 Chilivered Convicts toke a kings boat of 6 oars with a large quantity of Provisions which thay had got from time

a1145126h.jpg [63]
Little is known of John Easty, private marine on the Scarborough. Neither his birth nor death dates are known. He returned to England in December 1792, on the Atlantic, the same ship that conveyed Arthur Phillip home. In September 1794 he was employed by a London grocer and spent some years petitioning the Admiralty for compensation promised for short rations in New South Wales.

References:
Mollie Gillen, The founders of Australia; ADB)

Transcript:
to time by work and a new Scene for fishing with a large quantity of Carpinters tools of all Sorts for Enlargeing the
Boat with beds and Mathackmattick instruments and Cumpus
New Sails and Masts and oars and 6 stand of Arms and Evrey
thing that was nesarry for Making thare Escape which was
Excuted betwen the hours of 9 and 12 it was Supposed that
thay intended for Bativee but having no vessell in the harbour
there was no Persueing them so thayd got
Clear of but its a very Desparate attempt to go in an open Boat
for a run of about 16 or 17 hundred Leags and in pertucalar for
a woman and 2 Small Children the oldest not above 3 years of
age but the thoughts of Liberty from Such a place as this is
Enoufh to induce any Convicts to try all Skeemes to obtain it
as thay are the Same as Slaves all the time thay are in this
Country allthough thare times
are Expired for which thay are sentanced
by Law there is no difference between them and a Convict that
is jest Cast for transportation
to time by word and a new scene
fishing with a large quantity
of fisher's tools of all description.
In largeing the boat with beds and
Mattacks with in store and
conspicuous the sails and Masts and
in a midst of drums and every
thing that was necessary for making
the home of a vessel it was supposed
that they intended for Batavia but
they were not yet ready in their hopeful
thousands no provision there do
they get clear of but to a very
delicate attempt to go in an open
boat for a run of about 16 or 18
hundred leagues and in particular
for a woman and 2 of all children
the oldest not above 3 years of age
but the thoughts of Liberty there
such a place as this enough to endure
any convicts to take all them to
tain it as they are the slaves as
slaves all the time they are in this
country although they are
we required that which set them
by Law there is no difference
between these and a convict that
is just East for transportation.

November 1786 - May 1793
Easty, John
Call # SAFE / DLSPENCER 374 [41]
Digital ID: a1145127
View collection item detail [66]

Philip Gidley King (1758-1808)

Philip Gidley King’s journal is contained in two volumes. It covers the voyage to New South Wales, the voyage to Norfolk Island and events there, a vocabulary of ‘The New Zealanders language’, and an account of a voyage from Norfolk Island to New Zealand. King’s journal was published in part, with the journal of John Hunter, in 1793.

King also kept a copy of this journal in a single volume and with additional information. This copy [67] is also held in the Library’s collections.

In February 1788, shortly after arriving in Sydney Cove, Philip Gidley King sailed for Norfolk Island under orders to found a settlement there. On 6 March 1788 King formally took possession of Norfolk Island in the name of King George III.

While on Norfolk Island, King formed a relationship with Ann Inett, a convict woman. They had two sons, Norfolk and Sydney. Both boys were educated in England, and like Phillip Parker King, his legitimate son, became officers in the Royal Navy.
King was appointed third Governor of New South Wales in 1799 taking over from Hunter in September 1800.

King's journal was acquired from the King family in 1933.
Remarks & Journal
kept on the Expedition to form a Colony in His Majestys Territory of New South Wales
Under the Command of
His Excellency Arthur Phillip Esqr
His Majestys Governor & Captain general

Transcript:
[Page 2]
0f ye said Territory & its dependancies
Kept by
Lieutenant Philip Gidley King
Second Lieutenant of His Majesty’s Ship
Sirius.
Emplued on ye above Expedition

a1296002h.jpg [73]
Remarks & Journal

kept on the Expedition
to form a Colony in His Majesty's
Territory of New South Wales
Under the Command of
His Excellency, Arthur Phillip Esq.

of His Majesty's Governor & Captain Generals
of said Territory & its dependancies

kept by

Lieutenant Philip Gidley King
Second Lieutenant of His Majesty Ship
Sirius

employed on of above Expedition
As I write this Journal for my own satisfaction, I do beg & request, that, into whatever hands it may fall, (in case of any accidents happening to me) To give or forward it into the hands of His Excellency Governor Phillip, or in case of his demise, to Lieut. William Dawes of the Marines, who I instruct to destroy it; if any of the materials can be of service to the latter he is perfectly welcome to them —

Philip Gidley King
As I write this Journal for my own satisfaction, I beg to request that, into whatever hand it may fall, in case of any accident happening to it, to give or forward it into the hands of His Excellency Governor Phillip, or in case of his demise, to Lieut. William Dawes of the Marines, whointendo to destroy it, if any of the materials can be of service to the latter he is perfectly welcome to them.

[Signature]
Collection 06 vol. 1: Philip Gidley King - Private journal, in two volumes, 1786-1792. Vol. 1 titled: `Remarks & Journal kept on the Expedition to form a Colony in His Majestys Territory of New South Wales ...is Majesty's Ship Sirius ...', 24 October 1786

Transcript:

[Page 4]

His Majestys Ship Sirius of 20 Guns 612 Tons & 160 Men for which Ship I received my Commission as second Lieutenant, was commissioned ye 24th of October 1786 & ordered to be fitted out with the greatest despatch, as it was presumed that she would proceed on ye Service for which she was destined, early in December, Captain Arthur Phillip was appointed to the chief command of her as 1st Captain & Capt Jn° Hunter was promoted from Master & Commander to ye Rank of Post Captain, by an order of His Majesty in Council & acted as second Captain. The first Captain who has likewise a Commission under ye Great Seal of Great Britain as Captain General & Governor of His Majesties Territory of New South Wales; (extending from ye 44th degree of South Latitude to the 10 Degree of South Latitude & from ye 135° of East Longitude to Ed. The Islands thereon dependant), he is
supposed at all times to command ye Ship & when he thinks it expedient for the publick service is at liberty to embark onboard her. The other officers & names are expressed in the beg
His Majesty's Ship Sirius of 20 June 612 Tons & 160 Men for which Ship I Received my Commission as second lieutenant, was commissioned on 21st of October 1786 & ordered to be fitted out with the greatest despatch, as it was presumed that she would proceed on service for which she was destined, early in December. Captain Arthur Phillip was appointed to the chief command of her. Captain & Capt. In. Hunter was promoted from Master & Commander to Rank of Post Captain, by an order of His Majesty in Council. Nailed as second Captain, the First Captain who under Sir Joseph Banks in Britain was likewise a Commissioner as Captain General, Governor of His Majesty's Territory of New South Wales, extending from 44 degrees of South Latitude to the 10 degrees of South Latitude & from 135 degrees East Longitude to The Islands thereon dependant & supposed at all times to command her & when he thinks it expedient for the publick service is at liberty to embark onboard her. The other officers, names are exposed in the beg.
Collection 06 vol. 1: Philip Gidley King - Private journal, in two volumes, 1786-1792. Vol. 1 titled: `Remarks & Journal kept on the Expedition to form a Colony in His Majestys Territory of New South Wales ...is Majesty's Ship Sirius ...', 24 October 1786

Call # Safe 1 / 16 vol. 1

Digital ID: a1296004

View collection item detail
John Hunter (1737 - 1821)

John Hunter sailed with the First Fleet as second captain on board HMS *Sirius*. Once at Port Jackson, Hunter undertook surveys in the harbour and around the coast. He records in his journal his surprise at the size of the indigenous population which belied the notion of terra nullius.

In October 1788, the *Sirius*, under Hunter’s command, returned to the Cape of Good Hope to buy emergency supplies for the colony. They arrived back at Sydney Cove in May 1789.

Hunter returned to England on the *Waaksamheid* in March 1791. In England he was court martialed for the loss of
the *Sirius*, at Norfolk Island in March 1790, and honourably acquitted. In February 1795 he was appointed Governor of New South Wales to succeed Phillip though he did not return to the colony to take up his new position until September.

Hunter's journal was published in 1793. His manuscript journal was bequeathed to the Library by Sir William Dixson in 1952.

Extract from journal John Hunter kept on board the *Sirius* during a voyage to New South Wales, May 1787 - March 1791:

![a128404h.jpg](image-url)
Vice-Admiral John Hunter, c. 1813-15, by William Mineard Bennett
Collection 05: John Hunter - journal kept on board the Sirius during a voyage to New South Wales, May 1787 - March 1791
Transcript:

(1)

On the 25th: of October 1786 His Majesties Ship Sirius was Commission’d, & the Command given to Cap’n Arthur Phillip, the Supply Arm’d Tender was also Commiss’d & Lieut Henry Sidgbird Ball appointed to Command her -- It being the intention of Government at this time, to remove so great a Nuisance & inconvenience as the Country at present Sufford from the Goals being so exceedingly Crouded with Criminals who had been by the Laws Condemn’d to Transportation; the East coast of New Holland was the place determind, upon which to form a Settlement for this Salutary purpose; and the above Ships were intended as an Escort to the Transports which were to Convey the Convicts to that Country, and which were at this time fitting & in Considerable forwardnes for that Service. The East Coast of New Holland is that Country which was discover’d and Explor’d by Captain James Cook in his first Voyage round the World, and by him Calld New South Wales, Botany Bay the only place he enter’d with the Ship which coud be Calld a Harbor, having been mention’d in the Narrative of that Voyage, as a Convenient place for a Settlement, Government fixd upon that place for the intended purpose. The Sirius is a Ship of about 540 Tons exceedingly well Calculated for such a Service, she Mounts 20 Guns & has [indecipherable] over them, of a round full Built & is altogether a very capacious
Collection 05: John Hunter - journal kept on board the Sirius during a voyage to New South Wales, May 1787 - March 1791

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[Content of the page]

Call # SAFE / DLMS 164

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Capacious & Convenient Vessel. The Supply Armd Tender is a Brig, & was one of those Vessels which are Employ’d in Carrying Naval Stores from one of His Majesties Dockyards to another; she is a very firm Strong little Vessel, very flat floord & Capacious Mounts 8 Guns & has a deep Waist, which I fear will be found a very great, if not a dangerous inconvenience in so low a Vessel upon so long a Voyage. These two Ships were intended, after having perfomrd the Service of Escorting the Convicts to the place of their destination, to remain there to be Employ’d as the Governor might find necessary for the Public Service untill relievd by other Ships from England -- I had some reason during the Equipment of these Ships, to think I might be Employd upon this Service in some way or other, and as Capt. Phillips was appointed Governor of the New Settlement, and of Cruise had much Business to Transact in Town, I frequently visited the Ship & sometimes receivd his direction in any thing that might relate to the fitting her, She was out of the Dock & the rigging in hand, when I first went on board. On the 9th Decm. the Ship being ready to fall down the River, We slipt the Moorings & saild down to Longreach, where we took in Guns & Gunners stores. On the 15th I receivd received by letter from Mr. Stephens Secretary to the Admty. information, that there was a Commission Sign’d for me in that office, & desiring that I would come to Town to take it up. The Nature of the Service upon which the Sirius might be Employ’d in those seas to which she was bound, having been Consider’d, it was Judg’d necessary that an officer bearing a Certain Rank shou’d Command that Ship in the Absence of C: Phillip whose presence it was to be supposd woud be requisite at all times wherever the Seat of Government in that Country might be fix’d. In Consequence of Mr. Stephens letter I repair’d to the Admiralty & receivd a Commission appointing me Second Captain of His Majs. Ship the Sirius with the rank of Post Captain, and with the Power to Command her Principal Captain, Subject nevertheless to his Control & to such orders & directions for any proceedings, as he might see occasion to give me for the Good of the Service. This appointment of a Second Capt. to a private Ship, being the first Instance in our Service, It cou’d not, Conistant with the Establish’d regulations of the Navy, take place, but by the interference of the Kings Order in Council, an Order from His Majesty in Council authorizing the Lords of the Admiralty to make such appointment was therefore given - On the 30th. of Janry. 1787, two Transports, one having Male the other Female Convicts on board, dropt down to Longreach But—
Collection 05: John Hunter - journal kept on board the Sirius during a voyage to New South Wales, May 1787 - March 1791

Published on State Library of NSW (https://www.sl.nsw.gov.au)
But they having Business to transact with the Owners of the Ships relative to their Ships Companys, were permitted to proceed as low as Gravesend, where the Sirius join’d them the next day and proceeded immediatly to the Nore where we Anchor’d the same day, & on the 4th. of February we arrivd in the Downes; before we left the Nore the Supply Arm’d Tender join’d us - We were detaind by bad Wr. and strong Westerly winds in the Downes untill the 19th. when we put to Sea in Company with the Supply & Transports, and arrivd on the Motherbank the 21st: At this Anchorage the whole of the Transports, & Store Ships were directed to Rendezvous, the latter were already arriv’d, & whilst we lay there the other Transports from the Westward join’d us - On the 9th. of May, Capt. Phillip arriv’d in Portsmouth & the next day came on board & issued the Signals & other Necessary Orders to Lieut. J. Shortland the Agent for the Transports.—

On Sunday the 13th: We saild from the Motherbank in Company with the Supply Arm’d Tender and Six Transports having on board 600 Male & 200 Female Convicts, and those Store Ships carrying provisions & various other Stores; on board the Ships carrying Convicts, were Embark’d 160 Marines with their proper Officers. Major Robert Ross was the Commandant of the Batallion & appointed Lieut. Governor of the New Settlement: a Surgeon and three assistants were also Embark’d in the Transports with Medicine & Necessary for the Voyage - The Wind being Easterly we ran out at the Needles, & were accompanied by His Majs. Ship Hyaena Capt. DeCourcy having receiv’d orders from the Admiralty to see us 100 Leagues to the Westward. We had light Breezes with fair & pleasant Weather down Channel, but had the Mortification to find that two of our Transports saild exceedingly heavy, one of which the Hyaena tow’d for two or three days - On the 15th. at Sunsett the start point bore NE½E by Compas distant 7 or 8 Leags. & at Noon on this day which finishes the Nautical & begins the Astronomical day, the Longde. by Aus. was 5°0’1 Wt. of the Meridn. of Greenwich, & by a Time Piece made by Mr. Kendal with which the Board of Longitude had

a1518005h.jpg [92]
Collection 05: John Hunter - journal kept on board the Sirius during a voyage to New South Wales, May 1787 - March 1791

Page 116 of 166
Jacob Nagle (1761 - 1841)

The account of seaman Jacob Nagle was written some 40 years after the events it describes and provides the perspective of the common sailor. Jacob Nagle was born in the American colony of Pennsylvania in 1761. He fought in the American War of Independence and served time as a prisoner of war of the British as a result. Following the American Revolutionary War in 1783, Nagle joined the Royal Navy and was transferred to the *Sirius*, as Able Seaman, in March 1787. He sailed with the First Fleet on the *Sirius*.

At Botany Bay, in January 1788, he was part of Phillip's boating party exploring the coast and harbour, looking for a better site to found the colony.

The *Sirius*, with Nagle aboard, was sent to Norfolk Island in March 1790 where the ship was lost on a reef, stranding her crew until they were taken back to Sydney Cove in February 1791.

Nagle returned to England and was paid off at Portsmouth in 1792. He died in Ohio, United States of America, in 1841. Nagle's journal was acquired by the Library in 1995.

About this item:

Jacob Nagle (1761-1841) was born in the American colony of Pennsylvania and fought in the American Revolution (War of Independence) in 1777 and 1778. From 1780, as a seaman, he went out on speculative cruises aboard various privateers along the east coast, before being captured by the Royal Navy in November 1781. At the end of the war in 1783 he was discharged at Plymouth, England. A few months later Nagle joined the Royal Navy and served on HMS Ganges for three and a half years spent largely in Portsmouth harbour. He transferred to HMS *Sirius* in March 1787 and sailed on her with the First Fleet to Sydney Cove. The *Sirius*, with Nagle aboard, was sent to Norfolk Island in March 1790 where the ship was lost on a reef, stranding her crew until the *Supply*, with a rented Dutch ship, the Waaksamheyd took them back to Sydney Cove in February 1791, and thence to England. Nagle's memoir records his travels as a seaman and quartermaster in the Royal Navy.

Jacob Nagle died in Ohio, United States of America, in 1841.

Transcript:

As I am fully Convinced that I cannot give a full Account of my Travels by Recollection I shall endeavour to Relate what I Can Recollect to the best of my Knolidge.

My Father was of the german decent and my Mother of the Quakers from England my grandmother having Two husbands Our families have spring from the Nagles, Lincolns &Rogers, a short time after my father being high Sherriff of Berks County the War broke out in Boston with the British in 1775 &My Father Receidd a Capn Commission & Raised a Rifle Company & Marched in the Month of June for Boston in the year 1775. During the time that he Remained there he Receivd a Light Wound by a shell from the Enemy a Cross the bridge of his nose.
in a Short time after he joined the 5th Pennsylvania Regiment in the capassity as Major then Prefored to Leutn Colonel & full Colonel of the Ninth & 10th Pennsylvania Lines, in 1777 Lord how landed at the head of Elk* Marching for Philadelphia my father sent for me I was then not sixteen I joined the Army Marching through Wilmington that Night & my father took me to Coln Procter who Commanded the grand park of Artillery I laid in his Markee that Night & the next day I was put under the
As I am fully convinced that I can not give a full account of my Travels by Recollection, I shall endeavour to state what I can recollect to the best of my Knowledge.

My Father was of the German decent and my Mother of the Quakers from England and in grandmothers having two husbands our families have sprung from the Nagels, Lincolns, & Rogers, a short time after my father being high Sheriff of Berkshire County the War broke out in Boston with the British, in 1775 & my Father received a Capt. Commission & raised a Rifle Company & marched in the month of June for Boston in the year 1775. During the time that he remained there he received a slight wound by a shell from the Enemy a cross the bridge of his nose in a short time after he joined the 5th Pennsylvania Regiment in the Companys as Major then advanced to 2nd Colonel & full Colonel of the Ninth 18th Pennsylvania Line, in 1777 Lord Howe landed at the head of Elly marching for Philadelphia my father sent for me I was then not sixteen I joined the Army marching through Wilmington that Night my father took me to Col. Proctor who commanded the ground park of Artillery I laid in his Marquee that Night & the next day I was put under the
Collection 08: Jacob Nagle - memoir. Titled 'Jacob Nagle his Book A.D. One Thousand Eight Hundred and Twenty Nine May 19th. Canton. Stark County Ohio', 1775-1802, compiled 1829

Nagle, Jacob, 1761-1841

Call # MLMSS 5954 (Safe 1 / 156) [96]

Digital ID: a366001
View collection item detail [97]

Transcript:

The British Artillery Advanced in the plowed field it being upon a decent down to the Brandewine. The Canonading begun on both & Continued a heavy fire till about Eight or nine as near as I can Recollect, but we Could Perceive the British Artillery would leave there guns Two or three Yards when he saw the flash of our guns then proceed when the shot struck We then Ceased firing for about an hour the Artillery ware ordered sum Liquor & he mixed it with water & Powder.

The Adjutant desired to Rest a little & told me to come under a waggon that had shells for a 13 1/2 [?] commanded by Capn Courtney Paterson which was split about 10 oClock & Sent away Unserviseable Hofner & Myself was laying under the waggon when the Enemy Sent a Shot & Caried a way One of the wheels I hollowed out to hofner, hofner the waggon will be on you & I jumped from under he Replied lay still You Young Pashtel, the waggon
Remained firm, but I shifted my Quarters, the time now Expired & the Action Began in general upon all Quarters. About 10 or 11 o'clock Genl Washington Came riding up to Coln Procter with his life Guards with him & Enquired how he came on

a366003h.jpg [98]
The British Artillery, advanced in the field, it being upon a decent
slope, to the Herandwine. The Commanding began
on both sides & continued a heavy fire till about
eight o’clock as near as I can recollect, but we could
perceive the British Artillery would have their guns
two or three yards when the saw the flash of our guns
then proceed when the shot struck, we then ceased
firing for about an hour. The Artillery were ordered
to mix their Liquor & the mixed it with Water & Powder

The Adjutant desired to put a little & told me

to come under a wagon that had shields for a 6th
Artillery commanded by Capt. Patterson, which was
Split about to 6 o’clock & sent away Consersible

Hosmer & myself was laying under the waggon
when the Conuny sent a Shot & caused a way one of
the wheels fell off but to Hosmer, hosmer the waggon
will be on you & I jumped from under, he replied
Say, old you young Yankel, the waggon remained
sound, but I shifted my Quarters, the time now
behind & the Action began in general upon all
Quarters, About 10 or 11 o’clock Gen Washington
 Came Riding up to Col. Proctor, with his life
Guards with him & Enquired how he came on.
Transcript:

As I am fully Convinced that I cannot give a full Account of my Travels by Recollection I shall endeavour to Relate what I Can Recollect to the best of my Knolidge.

My Father was of the german decent and my Mother of the Quakers from England my grandmother having Two husbands Our families have spring from the Nagles, Lincolns &Rogers, a short time after my father being high Sherriff of Berks County the War broke out in Boston with the Brittish in 1775 &My Father Receidd a Capn Commission & Raised a Rifle Company & Marched in the Month of June for Boston in the year 1775. During the time that he Remained there he Receivd a Light Wound by a shell from the Enemy a Cross the bridge of his nose in a Short time after he joined the 5th Pennsylvania Regiment in the capassity as Major then Prefored to Leutn Colonel & full Colonel of the Ninth & 10th Pennsylvania Lines, in 1777 Lord how landed at the head of Elk* Marching for Philadelphia my father sent for me I was then not sixteen I joined the Army Marching through Wilmington that Night &my father took me to Coln Procter who Commanded the grand park of Artillery I laid in his Markee that Night & the next day I was put under the
As I am fully convinced that I can not give a full account of my Travels by Recollection, I shall endeavour to state what I can recollect, to the best of my Knowledge.

My Father was of the German decent and my Mother of the Quakers, from England, my grand Mother having Two husbands our families have sprung from the Nagles, Lincolns, & Rogers, a short time after my father being high Sheriff of Berks County the War broke out in Boston with the British in 1775 & my Father receive'd a commission & raised a Rifle Company & marched in the month of June for Boston in the year 1775. During the time that he remained there he received a slight wound by a shell from the Enemy a cross the bridge of his nose in a short time after he joined the 5th Pennsylvania Regiment in the Campaign as Major then Promoted to Lieut Colonel & full Colonel of the Ninth 10th Pennsylvania line, in 1777 Lord loose landed at the Head of Ellis marching for Philadelphia my father sent for me I was then not sixteen, I joined the Army marching through Wilmington that Night my father took me to Col. Proctor who Commanded the ground part of Artillery & laid in his Command that Night & the next day I was put Under the...
Collection 08: Jacob Nagle - memoir. Titled 'Jacob Nagle his Book A.D. One Thousand Eight Hundred and Twenty Nine May 19th. Canton. Stark County Ohio', 1775-1802, compiled 1829

About this item:
Jacob Nagle (1761-1841) was born in the American colony of Pennsylvania and fought in the American Revolution (War of Independence) in 1777 and 1778. From 1780, as a seaman, he went out on speculative cruises aboard various privateers along the east coast, before being captured by the Royal Navy in November 1781. At the end of the war in 1783 he was discharged at Plymouth, England. A few months later Nagle joined the Royal Navy and served on HMS Ganges for three and a half years spent largely in Portsmouth harbour. He transferred to HMS Sirius in March 1787 and sailed on her with the First Fleet to Sydney Cove. The Sirius, with Nagle aboard, was sent to Norfolk Island in March 1790 where the ship was lost on a reef, stranding her crew until the Supply, with a rented Dutch ship, the Waaksamheyd took them back to Sydney Cove in February 1791, and thence to England. Nagle's memoir records his travels as a seaman and quartermaster in the Royal Navy.

Jacob Nagle died in Ohio, United States of America, in 1841.
Transcript:
he Informed the General that there was Five Field pieses behind the Wood on Our left which I before mentioned that anoied us Very much &he was then Ordering 4 Pieces to play upon them Accordingly he aimed for the flash of the Guns as he Could not see the gun however in 15 or 20 minutes we Received no more shot from that Quarter we Supposed the ware dismounted[?] The Adjutant Rode down to the ford to water his hors & a hession Laying in the Brush fired at him & missed him & wounded the horse in the Right shouldier by this time the hessions got into the wood & Morgans Rifelmen I Could See Some of the Riflemen in the Buckwheatfield One in a white frock Lay on his back to load his gun on the Edge of the Wood next to the road there was Sum trees fell & the hessions got into there trees & this Riflemen fired 7 or 8 times at them in these trees the Buckwheat being in Bloom the Could not see him, but we were on the right over Him at length he Cralled on his hands & nees to the fence where he fell in with Six More the Then all got up & Marched into the woods where he had been firing at them as we supposed to Overhall them.
My father's Regment was on Our Right belonging to Genl Conneways Brigade the Action Continued Very heavy during the day the British Advanced to the Very Works

a366004h.jpg [101]
be informed the general that there was two
Tillie pieces behind the wood on our left which
I before mentioned that annoyed us very much
& he was then ordering 4 Pieces to play upon
them accordingly the Adjutant directed for the fire of the
guns as the could not see the gun however in
15 or 20 minutes we recibd no more shot from
that quarter we supposed the wave dismissed
the Adjutant rode down to the ford to water his
horses & a section laying in the brush fired at him
& missed him I supposed the horse in the right
should die by this time the sections got into the wood
& Morgan's section I could see some of the Rifle
Men in the Buckwheat field one in a white frock
lay on his back to load his gun on the edge of the wood
next to the road there was two trees fell to the sections
got into these trees & this rifle man fired 4 or 5 times
at them in these trees the Buckwheat being in Bloom
the could not see him, but we were on the right over
from at length he cradled on his hands & moved to the
fence where he fell in with two more the then all got
up & marched into the woods where he had been firing
at them as we supposd to over hall them

My fathers Regiment was on our Right he
longing to Gen: Commoways Brigade the ac-
Uion continued Very heavy during the day
the British advanced to the very Works
About this item:
Jacob Nagle (1761-1841) was born in the American colony of Pennsylvania and fought in the American Revolution (War of Independence) in 1777 and 1778. From 1780, as a seaman, he went out on speculative cruises aboard various privateers along the east coast, before being captured by the Royal Navy in November 1781. At the end of the war in 1783 he was discharged at Plymouth, England. A few months later Nagle joined the Royal Navy and served on HMS Ganges for three and a half years spent largely in Portsmouth harbour. He transferred to HMS Sirius in March 1787 and sailed on her with the First Fleet to Sydney Cove. The Sirius, with Nagle aboard, was sent to Norfolk Island in March 1790 where the ship was lost on a reef, stranding her crew until the Supply, with a rented Dutch ship, the Waaksamheyd took them back to Sydney Cove in February 1791, and thence to England. Nagle’s memoir records his travels as a seaman and quartermaster in the Royal Navy.
Jacob Nagle died in Ohio, United States of America, in 1841.

Transcript:
Care of Adjutant Hofner & Messed with him in a few days we encamped on the brandewine on the hight & to the
Right of Shadsford, to the left of us a Cross the Road there was a Buck wheatfield opposite to a wood & the brandewine between, them the provision Waggons being Sent Away we ware Three days without provisions Excepting what was bought from the farmers that Came into Camp & Sold us besides what the Soldiers plundered from the farmers, & Receiv’d a [Neats] (?) Tongue from my father & hofner bought sum potatoes & butter the Evening before the Brittish Arived & we Concluded to have it for breakfast Hofner gave it to One of the Soldiers Wives that Remained with the Army to Cook for us She had the Camp kettle on with the whole of it, but Unfortunately while Cannonading the Enemies shot took the Kettle & all its contents away with it therefore we made another fast day. the Evening before the Infinty hove up abrest Work for the Artillery the Infinty laid in Our rear & Our Amunition Wagons Next to the Artillery We wer in front of an orchard and a brest of a plow’d field which the Brittish wis in with their artillery the Brandewine between the Enemy & us at Day Break the Brittish Apeed & hoisted a Read Flag on the top of the farm house Opposite to us
Care of Adjutant Hothooper and with him in a few days we encamped on the brandewine on the heights to the right of Shade ford, to the left of us a corps the road there was a wheat field opposite to a wood the brandewine between them the provision wagons being sent away we were Three days without provisions excepting what was bought from the farmers that came into camp and sold us besides what the soldiers plundered from the farmers. I received a Neat Tongue from any father Hothooper bought some potatoes & butter the evening before the British arrived so we concluded to have it for break fast Hothooper gave it to one of the soldiers wives that remained with the Army to cook for us she had the camp kettle on with the whole of it, but unfortunately while cannonading the Enemies that took the kettle & its contents away with it therefore we made on the first day the evening before the infantry broke up a breast work for the artillery the carpentry laid in one year 8 gun Ammunition Wagons next to the artillery we were in front of an orchard & a breast of a plowed field with the British was in with their artillery the brandewine between the enemy & us at Day Break the British appeared & shoted a dead flag on the top of the farm house opposite to us
James Scott (? - 1796)

Little is known of James Scott, Sergeant of Marines. He travelled on the *Prince of Wales* transport and was accompanied by his wife, Jane, and their daughter Elizabeth, born during the voyage. A son, William, was born in the colony. The family arrived back in England in June 1792. While in New South Wales Scott spent all his time in Port Jackson.

Scott's journal was bequeathed by Sir William Dixson in 1952.
Transcript:

I Ordd My Rum to be Stopd
Saturday May the 19th 1787 at 3 Gills - day
Sertt Hume's Wifes Stopdt Sunday 20th May
& his Stoptd Sunday 27th May 87
by his Owne Order—
54Co Mich Redmans Wifes Grog Was Ordtd
to be Stop by L.ieut Maxwell

Monday,Tuesday — May 21st 1787 —
Which Was Complyd With the 22d May, 87.
ordd to have her Grog 23rd June 1787
It was After the Centinals Was Relevd for Eight OClock
That M' Maxwell Ordrd Mich Redman a
Centinal to take his great Coat off
Which Redman Repld he Was Sentry

[Page torn]

Board the Princ of Wales .. .
.. Flee ... ay & proceedd ... Sea through ... els.—
Wind Modrate But ... are

Monday 14th
The Hyena Frigate Towed the Charlotte
Transport into the Fleet. As She Was
A Great Way a Stern
All the Fleet in Sight With, little
Wind. But fare Down Channel

Tuesday 15th
Seen the Ediston Light House Distance 3 Leaugs

Wednesday 16th
at P.M, it began to blow fresh as Wee Cleard
the Channel. & Contineud till Next Morning;

Thursday 17th
Moderate Weather; Wind foul;—
My Wife Was Sea Sick from the 14th to the 17th at. AM;
A Great Number of the Woman,
on Board being Sea Sick —

Friday 18th
At P.M. it began to blow fresh from the Southward

Saturday 19th
Wind Contineud fresh, With Rain; ye Fleet. All in sight.—
Sunday 20th
Fare Weather With a fresh Brees At. West
Same day at P.M. the Hyena Friget parted
the fleet & Returnd to England, & Our Capt
Was Ordrd to Send One Mrs Holt, a Midshipman
Wife Belonging to the Sirius On Board the
Hyena for a passage to England —
The Commdore Ordd 2 Male Convicts from the
Scarbr.o Transpt on Bd the Prince of Wales
As the was, the Ring leaders of a bought Number
that intended to Rise & take the Ship —

Monday 21st
Fare Weather

a1142001h.jpg [105]
Monday 14

The Bounty Tripped into the Fleet, as she was
on her way to a storm all the ship in sight with little
wind. But here down Channel

Tuesday 15

As the storm began to clear the Chart

Wednesday 16

It began to blow fresh as the Channel

Thursday 17

Moderate weather, wind fresh.

Friday 18

My ship was an east from the E. to the E. at

Saturday 19

A great number of the men were

Sunday 20

...
Collection 09: James Scott - Journal titled ‘Remarks on a passage Botnay [i.e. Botany] bay 1787’, 13 May 1787 - 20 May 1792

Transcript:

1787

May

[page torn]

... to B ...

... d from the (Mo ... in

Sirius Commodore Phillips
Supply Tender Lieut Ball

Charlotte Transport, With Male & Fem Conv. ts
Scarborough Do. With. Male Do.
Friendship.— Do. With Male & Fem1 Do.
Prince of Wales Do. with 2 Male & 50 Feme 2 Childn

Digital ID: a1142001

View collection item detail
Alexander Do. With Male Do.
Lady Penarin Do. With Female Do.
Fishburn Agent } Victrs
Goulden Grove } With Stores ImpleMrs
Borrowdale } provision &c &c

Tuesday 22d
Nothing Extrordry — All the fleet. in Sight

Wednsd 23d Do. Do.

Thursday 24th Do. Do.

Friday 25th Fresh breeses But. fare Do.

Saturday 26 Fare Wind Do.

Sunday 27 Do. Do.

Monday 28th Do.being in Latud 36°8' N Do.

Tuesday 29th
the having No Observation on Bd Ps of Wales
The Commodore Ordrd the Supply to Go. a Head to Luck out for Land, As Wee Ware
About, the Latud of Medara — Wind Fare

Wednessy 30th
Seen the Island of Madera at. 6 A.M

Thursday 31st
Seen the Island of Gomera Bearing
S.W. 7 or 8 Leauges, Dis,— little Wind
Gomera, Is leys in
North Latd 28°5' Lon. 17°8' SuBd to Spain —
Tuesday 22

Wednesday 23

Thursday 24

Friday 25

Saturday 26

Sunday 27

Monday 28

Tuesday 29

Nothing Collected. All the Ship in Sight.

We had braces bent, one time.

As being in Latitude 60° 3 N.}

the land is Extensive 3° 15' W.

We are now about the land of Van Diemen's Toe.

We have seen the land of Van Diemen at 11th Thursday.

Connaught.

N. W. of S. by E. Longitude 147° 10'
Transcript:
1787
At Sea

Friday June 1st
At 9 OClock AM. Owrs Dms Wife
Was Delivered of a Male Child —
Little or No Wind —

Saturday 2d
Being in Latd by O 29°46' North, had
Little or No Wind

Sunday 3rd
Seen the land of Tenareef Erley in the Morning;— Came to An Anker at 7 OClock in the Road Sted of Santa Cruse in the Evng & like Wise All the fleet, After a pasage of three Weeks from England,— At Tenareef —

Monday 4th
The Long Boat Was Got Out. Nothg Extrordry;— peack Bearing W.BS. (Ankrod in) A 12, Fathom =Water

Tuesday 5th
I And My Wife Went on Shore At Santa Cruse, With leave from the Governer Phillip —

Wednesday 6th Nothg Ex,

Thursday 7th
The Spanards had a Rejoising Day & Fired Several Guns On the Occasion

Friday 8th Notg Ex.

Saturday 9th
A Court Martial Was Held On Bd the Ch Alexander;
On Richd Askew A Marine,— Conserg Liquor. Aquited —

The Fleet having Compld thier Watring &c the Commoader Made a Signel,
A Blue Flag With a Yellow Cross, At. the Main Topgal,t. Mast head, With a Gun. for No Boats to Go On Shore On Ane Account

— A Convict that Made his Escape from the Alexr Transpt At. this port. Was taken by a Corp1 & Six prts
At Sea

At 9 O'clock Am. Our Great Wife
Was Delivered of a Male Child—
Lett Is

Monday 11

At Noon Boat Was Put Out with
Wetty, Back, Bush & 30 Stick, 30

Journals from the First Fleet
Published on State Library of NSW (https://www.sl.nsw.gov.au)
Collection 09: James Scott - Journal titled 'Remarks on a passage Botnay [i.e. Botany] bay 1787', 13 May 1787 - 20 May 1792

About this item:
James Scott, Sergeant of Marines, travelled to New South Wales on board the Prince of Wales. He was accompanied by his wife Jane who gave birth to a daughter, Elizabeth, during the voyage. A son, William Boxell, was born in Sydney. He was baptised on 1 July 1790.

Scott and his family left New South Wales on the Portsmouth, and arrived in England in June 1792.

Reference:
Mollie Gillen, The founders of Australia; ADB

Transcript:
June, 1787
Prince of Wales At. Tenareef
Saturday 9th
Got. Our Long Boat in. & Every thing in
Redness for Sea —
I Wrought, to My Frend Mooney
& to My Mother in law, in England
By A Brig Bound for London
Sunday 10th The fleet, proseeded to Sea
At. 5 OClock in the Morng.
Prince of Wales at Sea With the Fleet.—
Little or No Wind Remains Rema. Between the
Islands of Tenareef & Grand, Cannarey
Which is About. 15 Leagues a part.

Monday 11th Between the 2 Islands

Tuesday 12th Fare Wind

Wednesday 13 Nothing Ex

Thursday 14 Do. Do.

Friday 15 Crossd the Tropick of Canser About 2 OClock
in the Afternoon the Fleet All in Sight
& the Usual Seremony Was performed,
With those that had Not Crossd the
Line before,— Which Was Ducking
Lathering With tar Grase &c and Shavd

N.B. the Seamen performed this Seremony
But the Marines Would Not. be
Allowd to Do it & ordr Mr Maxwell
Our 1st Lieut of Marines —

Saturday 16 A Strong N.E. Trade Wind

Sunday 17 Nothg Ex

Munday 18 At. 8 OClock AM the Supply Brig

a1142004h.jpg [112]

Prince of Wales at sea with the fleet. 15th or 20th Remain same distance between the ships of France & Guard. Command not in sight. 13th about 10 leagues in sight.

Tuesday 12

Monday 11

Sunday 9

Friday 16

Wednesday 18

February 10

January 18

February 19
**Collection 09: James Scott - Journal titled 'Remarks on a passage Botnay [i.e. Botany] bay 1787', 13 May 1787 - 20 May 1792**

Scott, James, d. 1796

Call # SAFE / DLMSQ 43 [106]

Digital ID: a1142004

View collection item detail [113]

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**About this item:**

James Scott, Sergeant of Marines, travelled to New South Wales on board the Prince of Wales. He was accompanied by his wife Jane who gave birth to a daughter, Elizabeth, during the voyage. A son, William Boxell, was born in Sydney. He was baptised on 1 July 1790.

Scott and his family left New South Wales on the Portsmouth, and arrived in England in June 1792.

Reference:

Mollie Gillen, The founders of Australia; ADB

**Transcript:**

1787 Prince of Wales at Sea

June, Munday 18th

Made the Signal for Land.—

The Commodore Made the Signal
for the fleet to prepare to Ankor
At. P.M Seen the Island of May.o

Tuesday 19th Past, the Is of Mayo one of the
Cape De Verd Islands —
A.M Seen the Is of St Jago
Came Close to the Bay of Prince
Supert, But. the Commadore Would
Not Go in, As Wee All Expected that he Would,—
At. P.M. Stood A Way to
the Southward All the fleet in Sight.—

Wednesday 20th
In Latd B.O. 13° 17; N. Wind E.B.N
the Fleet Steering South.—

Thursday 21st Notg Ex.

Friday 22nd Do.

Saturday 23rd
Little Wind With Rain

Sunday 24th
Mr Maxwell & I Went on Board
the Sirrus; With Arthr Dougherty
& Robt Ryan; Whome Lt Maxwell
Compld of, for being Insolent &
Disobedience of Orders; the two Marines
Was left on Board the Sirus as
prisoners that Night,—

Monday 25th
Major Ross With proper Officers
Came on Board the Prince of Wales
With the prisoners, for a Court Martial,— Turn

a1142005h.jpg [114]
June 24th. 1788

Made the signal for land.
Made the signal for the fleet to anchor. At 20. M. in the evening the current was strong.

Tuesday 25th.

The Prince of Wales at sea.

20th. August.

The fleet was anchored close to the bay of Princes Island.

21st. August.

The fleet was anchored close to the town.

22nd. August.

The fleet sailed south.

23rd. August.

The wind was west.

24th. August.

Mr. Marshall & Mr. Ross on board.

25th. August.

The court martial opened an inquiry into the conduct of the officers of the ship.

26th. August.

Major邱 was on board in a court martial.
Collection 09: James Scott - Journal titled 'Remarks on a passage Botnay [i.e. Botany] bay 1787', 13 May 1787 - 20 May 1792

Scott, James, d. 1796

George Bouchier Worgan (1757 - 1838)

George Worgan was probably born in 1757. He was appointed as surgeon on the *Sirius* in November 1786. His journal extract covers the brief period from 20 January - 11 July 1788 only and is attached to a long, descriptive letter to his brother, Richard, in England. Worgan makes references to a fuller journal which he is keeping and also to his 'rough' journal from which these entries have been copied out but these have not been located.

Worgan, who seems to have been an amiable, good natured man, describes his life in the colony enthusiastically, even boyishly to his brother. He undertook several expeditions to the Hawkesbury and Broken Bay areas.

He returned to England in 1791 in the *Waaksamheid*. He died in March 1838, his death certificate says by apoplexy.

The acquisition of the journal of Surgeon George Worgan is the most curious of all. Found among the personal belongings of a deceased aunt, the journal was donated to the Library by her family in 1955.
About this item:
George Bouchier Worgan was probably born in 1757. He joined the Navy in 1775 and was appointed Surgeon on HMS Sirius in November 1786. Musically inclined, he brought his piano with him to the colony. Along with the crew of the Sirius, he left Australia to return to England in March 1791, arriving in April 1792. He had left his piano with Elizabeth Macarthur.
His journal is an account of the first five months of settlement in New South Wales, attached to a letter written to his brother Richard Worgan.
He married Mary Lawry, probably after his return from Australia, and they had two sons and a daughter. Both sons eventually migrated to Australia. Worgan died in March 1838, his death certificate says by apoplexy but there are other accounts which suggest suicide. (see Mollie Gillen, The founders of Australia; ADB)
Collection 10: George Bouchier Worgan - letter written to his brother Richard Worgan, 12 - 18 June 1788. Includes journal fragment kept by George on a voyage to New South Wales with the First Fleet on board HMS Sirius, 20 January 1788 - 11 July 1788
20 January - 11 July 1788

Worgan, George Bouchier, 1757-1838

Call # Safe 1 / 114

Digital ID: a1175001

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George Bouchier Worgan was probably born in 1757. He joined the Navy in 1775 and was appointed Surgeon on HMS Sirius in November 1786. Musically inclined, he brought his piano with him to the colony. Along with the crew of the Sirius, he left Australia to return to England in March 1791, arriving in April 1792. He had left his piano with Elizabeth Macarthur.

His journal is an account of the first five months of settlement in New South Wales, attached to a letter written to his brother Richard Worgan.

He married Mary Lawry, probably after his return from Australia, and they had two sons and a daughter. Both sons eventually migrated to Australia. Worgan died in March 1838, his death certificate says by apoplexy but there are other accounts which suggest suicide. (see Mollie Gillen, The founders of Australia; ADB)

a1175002h.jpg [119]
Collection 10: George Bouchier Worgan - letter written to his brother Richard Worgan, 12 - 18 June 1788. Includes journal fragment kept by George on a voyage to New South Wales with the First Fleet on board HMS Sirius, 20 January 1788 - 11 July 1788
Transcript:
I think I hear You saying, "Where the D—ce is Sydney Cove Port Jackson"? and see You whirling the Letter about to find out the the Name of the Scribe: Perhaps You have taken up Salmons Gazetteer, if so, pray spare your Labour, and attend to Me for half an Hour
- We sailed from the Cape of Good Hope on the 12th of November 1787- As that was the last civilized Country We should touch at, in our Passage to Botany Bay We provided ourselves with every Article, necessary for the forming a civilized Colony, Live Stock, consisting of Bulls, Cows, Horses Mares, Colts, Sheep, Hogs, Goats Fowls and other living Creatures by Pairs. We likewise, procured a vast Number of Plants, Seeds & other Garden articles, such, as Orange, Lime, Lemon, Quince Apple, Pear Trees, in a Word, every Vegetable Production that the Cape afforded. Thus Equipped, each Ship like another Noah's Ark, away we steered for Botany Bay, and after a tolerably pleasant Voyage of 10 Weeks & 2 Days Governour Phillip, had the Satisfaction to see the whole of his little Fleet safe at Anchor in the said Bay.
As we were sailing in We saw 8 or 10 of the Natives, sitting on the Rocks on the South Shore, and as the Ships bordered pretty near therelo, we could hear them hollow, and observe them talking to one another very earnestly, at the same time pointing towards the Ships; they were of a black reddish sooty Colour, entirely naked, walked very upright, and each of them had long Spears and a short Stick in their hands, soon after the Ships had anchored, the Indians went up into the Wood, lit a Fire, and sat Around about it, as unconcerned (apparently,) as tho' nothing had
occurred to them. Two Boats from the Sirius were now Manned and armed, and the Governor, accompanied by
Capt Hunter, and several other Officers, went towards the Shore, where they had seen the Natives, who perceiving
the Boats making towards the Beach, came out of the Wood, and walked along, some distance from the Water-
side, but immediately on the Boats landing, they scampered up into the Woods again, with great Precipitation.
On this, the Governor, advised, that we should seem quite indifferent about them, and this apparent Indifference
had a good Effect, for they very soon appeared in sight of Us, When, the Governor held up some Beads, Red Cloth
& other Bawbles and made signs for them to advance, but they still were exceedingly shy & timid, and would not be
enticed by our allurements; which the Governor perceiving, He shewed them his Musket, then laid it on the Ground,
advancing singly towards them, they now seeing that He had nothing in his Hands like a Weapon one of y oldest of
the Natives gave his Spears to a younger, and approached to meet the Governor, but not without discovering
manifest tokens of Fear, and distrust, making signs for the things to be laid on the Ground which, the Governor
complying with, He advanced, tooke them up, and went back to his Companions; Another, came forth and wanted
some of the same kind of Presents, which, were given to Him by the same Method, at length, after various Methods
to impress them
New South Wales

Dear Mr. Richard Worgan,

I am writing to inform you of the recent events in Sydney Cove.

The journey from England was long and arduous, but we arrived safely. The climate here is quite different from that of London.

The Governor of New South Wales, Sir Thomas Brisbane, has been most hospitable to us. He has provided us with provisions and letters of introduction to the other settlers.

We are currently on a voyage to New South Wales with the First Fleet on board HMS Sirius. The journey has been long and tiring.

Yours sincerely,

George Bouchier Worgan
About this item:
George Bouchier Worgan was probably born in 1757. He joined the Navy in 1775 and was appointed Surgeon on HMS Sirius in November 1786. Musically inclined, he brought his piano with him to the colony. Along with the crew of the Sirius, he left Australia to return to England in March 1791, arriving in April 1792. He had left his piano with Elizabeth Macarthur.

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Transcript:
with the Belief that We meant them no harm, they suffered Us to come up to them, and after making them all presents, which they received with much the same kind of Pleasure, which Children shew at such Bawbles, just looking at them, then holding out their Hands for more, some laughing heartily, and jumping extravagantly; they began to shew a Confidence, and became very familiar, and curious about ourCloaths, feeling the Coat, Waistcoat, and even the Shirt and on seeing one of the Gentlemen, pull off his Hat, they all set up a loud Hoop, one was curious enough to take hold of a Gentlemans Hair that was cued, and called to his Companions to look at it, this was the occasion of another loud Hoop, accompanied with other Emotions of Astonishment. In a Word, they seemed pretty well divested of their Fears, and became very funny Fellows.
They suffered the Sailors to dress them with different coloured Papers, and Fools-Caps, which pleased them mightily, the strange contrast these Decorations made with their black Complexion brought strongly to my Mind, the Chimney-Sweepers in London on a May-Day. - They were all Men & Boys in this Tribe.

I should have told You, that the Governor, left the Sirius soon after we sailed from the Cape of Good Hope; and Embarked on Board the Supply Brig & Gave up the Command of ye Convoy to Cap. tn Hunter, in order that he might proceed on before the main Body of the Fleet, but he arrived in Botany Bay, only two Days before Us. In this Time, He had obtained an Intercourse or two, with some Natives on the North Shore, but, as the Means which he took to gain their Confidence, and effect a Parley, were much the same as those, I have given you an account of, I shall only mention a few singular Circumstances that occurred in these Intercourses.

The Supply Brig, arrived in ye Bay about 2 °Cik in the Afternoon, of ye 18th January and at 4 O´Clock, The Governor, attended by several Officers, went in two armed Boats towards a part of the Shore where, 6 of the Natives, were, and had been sitting the whole time the Supply was entering the Bay, looking and pointing at Her with great Earnestness; When the Boats had approached pretty near this Spot, two of the Natives got up, and came close to the Waters-Edge, making Motions, pointing to another part of the Shore and talking very fast & loud, seemingly, as if the Part to which they pointed, was better landing for the Boats, they could not however, discern any thing unfriendly, or threatening in the Signs and Motions which the Natives made.

Accordingly the Boats coasted along the Shore in a Direction for the Place, to which, they had been directed, the Natives following on the Beach. In the mean Time, the Governor, or somebody in his Boat, made Signs that they wanted Water, this they signified by putting a Hat over the Side of the Boat and seeming to take up some of the salt Water put it to his Mouth, the Natives, immediately, understood this Sign.
Collection 10: George Bouchier Worgan - letter written to his brother Richard Worgan, 12 - 18 June 1788. Includes journal fragment kept by George on a voyage to New South Wales with the First Fleet on board HMS Sirius, 20 January 1788 - 11 July 1788
and with great Willingness to Oblige, pointed to the Westward, and walked that Way, apparently with an Intention to show their Visitors the very Spot. The Boats steered towards the Place, and soon discovered the Run of fresh Water, opposite to which, they landed, and tasting it found it to be very good. The Natives had stopped about 30 Yards from ye Place where the Boat landed, to whom, the Gentlemen made signs of thanks for their friendly
Information, at the same time offering Presents, and doing every thing they could think of, to make them lay aside their Fears and advance towards them, but this point was gained only, by the Methods that I have mentioned: and when they did venture to come and take the things out of the Governor's & the other Gentlemen's Hands, it was with evident Signs of Fear, the Gentlemen now having distributed all their Presents among them, returned on Board. Thus, was our first Intercourse obtained, with these Children of Nature.

- About 12 of the Natives appeared the next Morning, on the Shore opposite to the Supply, they had a Dog with them, (something of the Fox Species); The Governor and the same Gentlemen that were of his Party Yesterday went on Shore, and very soon came to a Parley with them, there were some of their Acquaintances among the Number, and these advanced first (leaving their Spears with their Companions who remained behind at a little Distance) as they had done Yesterday); They all of them in a short time became Confident, Familiar & vastly funny took any thing that was offered them, holding out their Hands and making Signs for many things that they saw, laughed when we laughed, jumped extravagantly, and grunted by way of Music, & Repeated many Words & Phrases after Us. The Gentlemen having passed about an hour with them, returned on Board, but could not induce any of the Natives to accompany them there.

A Party of Us made an Excursion up an Arm in the North part of the Bay, where we had not been long landed before we discovered among the Bushes a Tribe of the Natives, who at first did not discover such an inoffensive & friendly Disposition, as those I have spoke of, above; for these rude, unsociable Fellows, immediately threw a Lance, which fell very near one of the Sailors, and stuck several Inches in the Ground, we returned the Compliment by firing a Musket over their Heads, on which I thought they would have broken their Necks with running away from Us. about an hour after, we, in our Ramble, fell in with them again, they stood still, but seemed ready for another Start. One of Us, now laid down the Musket and advanced towards them singly, holding out some Bawbles, and making Signs of Peace; In a little time they began to gain Confidence, and two of them approached to meet the Gentlemen who held out the Presents, the Introduction being amicably settled, they all joined Us, and took the Trinkets we offered them; The same Emotions of Pleasure, Astonishment, Curiosity & Timidity, appeared in these poor Creatures, as had been observed in our first Acquaintances.

-There were some Old and young Women in this Tribe, whom the Men seemed very jealous & careful of, keeping them at Distance behind some young Men, who were armed with Spears, Clubs &
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