

CORRESPONDENCE

RESPECTING THE

WELSH COLONY

ON THE

RIVER CHUPAT, IN PATAGONIA.

*Presented to the House of Commons by Command of Her Majesty, in pursuance of their
Address dated July 3, 1871.*

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RETURN to an Address of the Honourable the House of Commons, dated July 3, 1871;
for—

“Copy of any Correspondence respecting the Welsh Colony on the River Chupat, in Patagonia, since the Visit of Her Majesty’s ship ‘Triton,’ in 1866, up to the recent Report of Captain Dennistoun, of Her Majesty’s ship ‘Cracker.’”

No. 1.

Mr. Stuart to the Earl of Clarendon.—(Received May 21.)

My Lord,
Buenos Ayres, April 12, 1869.
I LEARN from the public journals that the Argentine Government has consented to grant a monthly subsidy of 250 patacons (about 50*l.*) to the Welsh Colony at Chupat on the Patagonian frontier, that being the amount applied for by Mr. Jones, the agent, as a help to the colonists during the approaching winter.

I have, &c.
(Signed) W. STUART.

No. 2.

Mr. Hammond to Sir F. Rogers.

Sir,
Foreign Office, May 24, 1869.
WITH reference to my letter of the 30th of April, 1867, and to previous correspondence, I am directed by the Earl of Clarendon to transmit to you, herewith, for the information of Earl Granville, a copy of a despatch from Her Majesty’s Minister at Buenos Ayres reporting that the Argentine Government has consented to grant a monthly subsidy of about 50*l.* to the Welsh Colony at Chupat.*

I am, &c.
(Signed) E. HAMMOND.

No. 3.

Mr. Macdonell to Earl Granville.—(Received April 21.)

My Lord,
Buenos Ayres, March 16, 1871.
A PARAGRAPH appeared in the “Standard” last month stating that they had reason to suppose that the Welsh Colony of Chupat stood in need of assistance, and suggested that I should request the Senior Naval Officer on the Station to order one of the gun-vessels, under his command, to visit the coast of Patagonia and report on the condition of the settlers, the more so as hostilities having broken out between the colonists at Bahia Blanca and the Indians, it would be advisable to ascertain that the former are not exposed to any serious danger.

Under these circumstances I endeavoured to procure reliable information on the subject. After making sundry inquiries I was informed by M. Carrega, the person best able to enlighten me as to the condition of the Welsh settlers, that, in consequence of the arrangement made by Mr. Ford in 1865, he had been charged by the Argentine Government, to send regularly supplies to the Colony, which he had done up to the month of June, 1869, since which time he had been instructed, by the Government, to suspend all further despatch of provisions for account of the Government. He added, that in the last letter he had received from the head of the Colony, Mr. Jones, that gentleman requested him to send certain provisions, as he expected a large number of emigrants from Europe towards the

* No. 1.

end of the year. He likewise inclosed a memorial to the President on behalf of the neighbouring Indians, adding: "Last year our people shared their rations with them to keep them quiet: this year they have none to share, and as the Indians behave very well, we continue on good terms with them."

In his Memorial to the President, Mr. Jones reports the formation of a Shipping Company who have purchased a new vessel, which had just arrived at Engaño Bay from England with emigrants, and a cargo of goods for the Colony, and petitions on behalf of the colonists that the Government would grant to the Indians a portion of the rations hitherto accorded to themselves, and which, henceforth, they hoped to be able to dispense with.

Señor Carrega informed me that since the 16th of May, 1870, the date of the above mentioned letters, nothing whatever had been heard of the Colony; that on several occasions he had unsuccessfully endeavoured to urge upon the Government, in view of the late events at Bahia Blanca, to send a messenger, or to institute such inquiries as they thought proper, in order to ascertain the exact condition of the Colony, inasmuch as the return to England of the vessel mentioned by them had never been reported, and no communication had been held with the Colony since the above date. I availed myself, likewise, of the earliest opportunity to press upon the Argentine Government the necessity of further inquiry, with a view to the removal of all doubt as to the actual condition of the colonists; but I regret to say that my efforts to this end have likewise proved unavailing, though the Minister for Foreign Affairs had assured me that he would consider the matter, and if it were in his power he would obtain the requisite information.

Finding, however, that no steps were being taken in this matter, and that the expense of sending a special messenger to Chupat would be very great, and that, moreover, so long as the war in Entre Rios continued, the Argentine Government, unwilling to entertain my representations on behalf of the colonists of Bahia Blanca, would be still less disposed to take into account my present request, I deemed it my duty to communicate the circumstances of the case to Captain Bedingfeld, suggesting, at the same time, that if compatible with the exigencies of the service a gun-boat be sent to the coast of Patagonia with a view to ascertaining the exact condition and requirements of the colonists.

In reply, Captain Bedingfeld informs me that he considers that the alarm expressed as to the perilous condition of the colonists rests on a very vague foundation, and that he cannot but think that had there been good cause, the colonists would have found a way of at least communicating with Bahia Blanca or Rio Negro, and that owing to the exigencies of discipline and the arrival of Her Majesty's ship "Galatea" at Monte Video, he could not dispense with the present services of the vessels under his command, and that therefore, before taking any steps in this matter, he would await further communications from me. In answer thereto I have informed Captain Bedingfeld that, being unable further to elucidate this subject, I regard myself as having fulfilled my part of the duty, by placing before him the sense of alarm entertained by all here respecting the fate of the colonists, and that it rests with him now to follow the course, which under the circumstances his superior judgment and experience may suggest to him.

I have the honour to inclose copies of the correspondence which I have exchanged with Captain Bedingfeld on this subject.

I have, &c.
(Signed) H. G. MACDONELL.

Inclosure 1 in No. 3.

Mr. Macdonell to Captain Bedingfeld.

(Extract.)

Buenos Ayres, February 22, 1871.

IN consequence of the quarantine lately established at Monte Video on vessels arriving there from ports infected with yellow fever, I shall not probably have occasion to see you for some time to come, and I think it better, therefore, to state to you in writing the different subjects on which I purposed to consult you, had you been able to visit Buenos Ayres.

The first of these has reference to the Welsh Colony on the River Chupat, in Patagonia.

Mention was made in the papers here that, since the month of May last, no news whatever had been received of the Colony; and great anxiety was felt on their account, owing to hostilities having broken out between the Indians and the white settlers at Bahia Blanca. It appears, likewise, that the colonists have no longer a sea-going vessel to make periodical trips to and from Buenos Ayres; and I have been told that, since the month of

July last, the Argentine Government have ceased sending them the supplies which they had agreed to do temporarily at the request of Mr. Ford, then Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires, who, in conjunction with Admiral Elliot, sent Captain Napier, with Her Majesty's ship "Triton," accompanied by the Secretary of this Legation, to examine into and report upon the condition and requirements of the Colony. Lately, again, a M. Carrega, who has hitherto acted here as Agent, on the part of the Government for the Welsh Colonists, called upon me and told me that he was very uneasy about them, having received no news whatever from Chupat since the month of June last, when he received a letter from the Director of the Colony, inclosing one to the President, copy of which he showed me, petitioning his Excellency to purchase the friendship of the neighbouring Indians with a regular supply of rations, and other articles of moderate value. The Government, however, having since ceased to provision the Colony itself, was not likely to take, and has taken, no notice of their prayer on behalf of the Indians. M. Carrega is alarmed, therefore, lest the hostile feeling manifested by the Indians of Bahia Blanca might have extended itself to those of Chupat, the more so as the latter were already hostilely disposed towards them.

Under these circumstances I would wish to know whether you are of opinion and think it practicable that one of the gun-vessels under your orders should visit the Colony, for the purpose of ascertaining their condition and prospects; in which case I shall inform the Argentine Government of our intention to carry this purpose into effect, in the event of their wishing to send some assistance to the colonists.

Inclosure 2 in No. 3.

Captain Bedingfeld to Mr. Macdonell.

(Extract.)

"Gladiator," at Monte Video, March 4, 1871.

HAVING been at sea for the past week I have been delayed replying to your letter of the 20th ultimo, which I now have the honour to acknowledge; and, in reference to the requisitions for the services of ships of the squadron therein contained, I have to make the following observations:—

1st. Relating to the Welsh Colony at Chupat.

It appears to me that the alarm expressed as to the perilous condition of the colonists rests on a very vague foundation, not even a rumour of their being in difficulty having reached Buenos Ayres; and, judging from the various reports which have been made known from time to time as to the resources of the colonists, I cannot but think that, had there been good cause, they would have found a way of at least communicating with Bahia Blanco or Rio Negro, with which places I understand there is regular monthly communication from Buenos Ayres; and at the same time I consider it my duty to express my opinion that, as the Colony was established under the special auspices of the Argentine Government, and has since its establishment—at all events up to last July—experienced its fostering care, it is not to be contemplated that, under such conditions, a Government should, in the event of difficulties occurring, abandon the colonists to their fate, and to hostile Indians; and I trust you will press this view on the President's Executive.

It must be known to you that the result of the visit to Chupat made by the Commander of the "Triton" in 1866 disclosed a very fair aspect of affairs, although the most opposite representations had been made, and exhibited the colonists at that time as self-reliant and determined, while subsequent reports indicate a very much improved condition in the operations of the Colony.

It is a matter of regret that this anxiety was not made known to me on my arrival in the river, as I could then, without any inconvenience to the service, have directed Captain Parry to visit Chupat on his way hither from the Falkland Islands. I might add here, *par parenthèse*, that no rumours of any alarming tendency had reached those islands, although sailing vessels afford occasional means of communicating.

As you are aware, the squadron on this station is very small for the service of so large an extent of sea and river coast. At present the exigencies of discipline oblige me to retain the "Speedwell" and "Cracker" at Monte Video until the arrival of the "Galatea" and the same exigency will compel me to send them to Rio de Janeiro, should that ship not touch in here; but in the interval I will take the matter into consideration, and endeavour to meet your views. At the same time, however, I trust you will endeavour to persuade the Argentine Government to take the matter in behalf of a Colony established by it with the special object of developing the resources of the country.

It must be borne in mind that a vessel of war cannot enter the Chupat River for

want of depth, and, under ordinary circumstances, would have to anchor in Golfo Nuevo, a distance of thirty miles from the settlement; it is therefore, a question whether the passage by land would be attended by danger from hostile Indians, as, if so, it would be necessary to adopt precautionary measures.

Inclosure 3 in No. 3.

Mr. Macdonell to Captain Bedingfeld.

Sir,

Buenos Ayres, March 12, 1871.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge your communication of the 4th instant.

With reference to the Colony of Chupat, I regret that I am unable to add further information in elucidation of the requirements and condition of the Welsh settlers there established. Before communicating with you on the subject, I had already weighed the several considerations set forth in your despatch; and it was due to serious attention, prior to this matter, that I deemed it advisable to have recourse to you, and to obtain your co-operation in extending to the colonists that assistance, of which they may possibly stand in need, and which I consider every British subject in this Republic has a right to claim from me, as the Representative here of Her Majesty's Government.

I join with you in regretting that the anxiety felt on behalf of the said Colony could not be made known to you at a period when it would have suited your convenience to direct Captain Parry to visit Chupat, on his way from the Falkland Islands; but at that time I was not in possession of the data, since obtained by me, and consequent upon the nature of which I was forthwith induced to seek your co-operation.

With reference to the difficulty which a vessel of war may experience in entering the Chupat River, from want of depth, being compelled, as you state, under ordinary circumstances, to anchor in Golfo Nuevo, at a distance of thirty miles from the settlement, I would venture to remark that the Manager of the Colony of Chupat, in writing to the Government Agent here in May last, suggests that, in the event of a vessel being sent to the Colony with provisions, it would greatly facilitate matters if it were instructed to anchor in Engaño Bay, rather than in New Bay; thus shortening materially the distance from the Colony, the anchorage moreover being described as of a better character in the former than in the latter named. I am simply desirous of directing your attention to this point, without, however, venturing to pronounce opinion on the subject.

I may likewise remark that, in the event of a vessel going on the mission in question, I doubt whether the passage across by land would be attended with such danger as to render needful the adoption of special precautionary measures, inasmuch as the Indians inhabit that part of the country which is situated beyond the settlement and not the strip of land intervening between the settlement and the coast.

Nevertheless I beg to add, as I am fully aware that the squadron under your command is very small for the service of so large an extent of sea and river coast, I have deemed it advisable to refer our correspondence to Her Majesty's Government, stating to them that I regard myself as having performed my part of the duty, by placing before you the sense of alarm entertained by all here respecting the fate of the colonists, and that it rested with you now to follow the course which, under the circumstances, your superior judgment and experience may suggest to you; adding that, in view of the difficulties which may arise in carrying out the suggestion of sending a vessel to that coast, I have again urged upon the Argentine Government to take steps to ascertain the real condition of the Colony. In compliance with my pressing demand, the Minister of Foreign affairs has assured me that a special inquiry should at once be made, but that it is hopeless to expect the result of such inquiry before the lapse of two months at least from the present period.

I have, &c.

(Signed) H. G. MACDONELL.

No. 4.

Mr. Hammond to the Secretary to the Admiralty.

Sir,

Foreign Office, April 26, 1871.

I AM directed by Earl Granville to transmit to you, to be laid before the Lords of the Admiralty, the accompanying despatch from Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires at Buenos

Ayres,* inclosing copies of a correspondence which has passed between him and Captain Bedingfeld, of Her Majesty's ship "Gladiator," relative to the fears entertained for the safety of the Welsh Colony at Chupat, and the propriety of sending a British man-of-war to ascertain the true state of affairs there.

I am, &c.
(Signed) E. HAMMOND.

No. 5.

Earl Granville to Mr. Macdonell.

Sir,

Foreign Office, April 27, 1871.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 16th ultimo, inclosing copies of your correspondence with Captain Bedingfeld, with reference to the feasibility of a vessel of war being dispatched from the River Plate to inquire into the condition of the Welsh Colony at Chupat, in Patagonia; and I have to convey to you my approval of the steps which you have taken in this matter.

I am, &c.
(Signed) GRANVILLE.

No. 6.

Mr. Macdonell to Earl Granville.—(Received April 29.)

My Lord,

Buenos Ayres, March 18, 1871.

WITH reference to my despatch of the 16th instant, relative to the position of the Welsh Colony on the Chupat River, I beg to inform your Lordship that, since drawing up that despatch, I have at last succeeded in obtaining from the Minister of Foreign Affairs a promise that a special inquiry should be made through the frontier authorities, with a view to ascertain the real condition of the Colony—a step Señor Tejada was unwilling to take when I first brought the matter before him.

The result of this inquiry cannot, however, be made known to the Government before the lapse of a period of two months from the present time.

I have, &c.
(Signed) H. G. MACDONELL.

No. 7.

The Secretary to the Admiralty to Mr. Hammond.—(Received May 15.)

Sir,

Admiralty May 13, 1871.

WITH reference to your letter of the 26th ultimo, forwarding a despatch, and its inclosures, from Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires at Buenos Ayres relative to the fears entertained for the safety of the Welsh Colony of Chupat and the propriety of sending a British man-of-war to ascertain the true state of things at that place, I am commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to transmit to you, for the information of the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, a copy of a letter of the 27th March last from the Senior Naval Officer on the Brazil station, from which it appears that, in compliance with Mr. Macdonell's request, he had sent Her Majesty's gun-boat "Cracker" to visit the Colony in question, together with a copy of the sailing orders given by him to the officer in command of that vessel.

2. I am at the same time to transmit, for Earl Granville's perusal, a copy of a Report, dated 3rd instant, from their Lordships' Hydrographer on the subject, observing that although it would have been advisable, as therein suggested, that the British Minister should have obtained the co-operation of the Argentine Government, and that the "Cracker" should have gone in the first instance to the Gulf of Nuevo with the view of communicating with the Settlement from that place, overland, my Lords presume that Captain Bedingfeld acted on good information obtained on the spot, and propose, therefore, to approve of his proceedings.

I am, &c.
(Signed) VERNON LUSHINGTON.

Inclosure 1 in No. 7.

Captain Bedingfeld to the Secretary to the Admiralty.

Sir,

"Gladiator," at Monte Video, March 27, 1871.

I TRANSMIT herewith, to be laid before the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, a copy of a correspondence that has passed between Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires at Buenos Ayres and myself, principally referring to the Welsh Colony at Chupat in Patagonia, and have the honour to acquaint you, for their Lordship's information, that I have acceded to Mr. Macdonell's request, inasmuch as the "Cracker" is now waiting for the weather to moderate to proceed thither.

2. I inclose a copy of the sailing orders under which Commander Dennistoun is to act, and this, together with the correspondence referred to, will place you in possession of the details of the case.

3. I trust the measures I have taken will meet with their Lordships' approval.

I have, &c.

(Signed) NORMAN B. BEDINGFELD.

Inclosure 2 in No. 7.

Memorandum.

"Gladiator," at Monte Video, March 24, 1871.

HER Majesty's ship under your command being completed with coal, and in all other respects ready, you are to put to sea Monday morning, and carry out the following directions:—

First.—You will make the best of your way to Engaño Bay off the Chupat River, on the coast of Patagonia; and on your arrival there you will, weather permitting, send a boat, or boats, into the river to communicate with the Welsh colonists, and to ascertain whether you can obtain shelter and safe anchorage for the "Cracker" inside the bar, as I observed by the Report of Commander Napier of the "Triton," that vessels of 11 and 12 feet draught can enter the river at high water. The boat's crew sent away are to be armed.

Second.—The object of your visit to Chupat is to ascertain the present condition of the Welsh Colony established there, as, in consequence of no intelligence having reached Buenos Ayres for a long time, some anxiety is expressed as to their fate, a particular fear being felt that they may have been attacked by hostile Indians, in which case you must exercise great discretion in deciding as to the assistance you may feel it necessary to render; and you are to gather fully the present state of the colonists, and their resources especially on the following points:—

1. As to their means of communication with Buenos Ayres.
2. As to their supplies of provisions.
3. As to their means of protecting themselves against hostile Indians in the event of being attacked. You will also endeavour to obtain some account of their progress since 1866, when the Colony was visited by the Commander of the "Triton."

Third.—Although West Bay in Nuevo Golfo is the port on that part of the coast for large ships, yet, as it is so far distant from the settlement (35 miles by land), I have considered it advisable that you should, in the first instance, proceed to Chupat River; but you will use your own discretion according to circumstances as to proceeding there after your first communication with the colonists.

Fourth.—You will request the Surgeon of the "Cracker" to furnish a Report on the general sanitary condition of the Colony, and should it appear to him that the residents are in want of any necessaries (such as lime-juice or soap, of which they stood in great need at the time of the visit of the "Triton"), you will supply them with such quantities as may be acquired for their immediate necessities.

Fifth.—You are not to accede to any request to remove persons from the settlement, unless the urgency of the case appears to you to require the adoption of such an extreme measure; but should any complaint be submitted to you, you are to signify to the complainants that you will make their case known to Her Majesty's Minister at Buenos Ayres.

Sixth.—Your stay at Chupat or Nuevo Gulf must, of course, be in some measure governed by circumstances, but it should not exceed from ten days to a fortnight; you will then return to this port, and forward me a full Report of your proceedings, a copy of

which you are to send to Her Majesty's Minister at Buenos Ayres for the information of his Excellency and the Commissioners appointed by the Argentine Government.

Seventh.—In the performance of this service, steam is to be used when necessary and in the vicinity of land; but in making the passages you are to be guided by the directions laid down in Circular No. 26 of 29th July, 1870.

(Signed) NORMAN B. BEDINGFELD, *Captain.*

Commander R. P. Dennistoun,
Her Majesty's ship "Cracker."

Inclosure 2 in No. 7.

Report of Rear-Admiral Richards, Hydrographer to the Admiralty.

THE Colony of Chupat, on the west coast of Patagonia, was formed by a party of Welsh people, under the superintendence of a Mr. Jones, an Independent Minister of Bala, in North Wales, in the year 1865. The party consisted of about 150 people, and they landed in Nuevo Gulf in July of that year, great privations being endured by them in traversing the district between the Gulf and the site of their settlement on Chupat River.

In July 1866, consequent upon representation made by two of the colonists who had left the settlement, and reached the Falkland Islands, spreading a report there that the people at Chupat were in great distress, and nearly starving, the "Triton" was ordered to visit the Colony; and from the report of her Commander, Lieutenant R. H. Napier, it would appear that, though the colonists were not then in any great straits, yet that for some years to come they would be more or less dependent upon the bounty of the Argentine Government for their subsistence.

It is stated, in the letter of our Chargé d'Affaires at Buenos Ayres to Captain Bedingfeld, that in May last the colonists acquainted the Argentine Government that they hoped in future to be able to support themselves; but, with the object of keeping the natives quiet, they petitioned the Government to continue to send a portion of the rations hitherto gratuitously granted to the colonists, to be distributed among the Indians; with this request the Argentine Government has not complied.

It appears, further, that in May last, the colonists ordered a supply of provisions from Buenos Ayres, stating that they had then at anchor off the Chupat River a new vessel just arrived from England with goods and emigrants, and that more emigrants were expected about the end of the year. It does not appear that these provisions have been sent.

Looking, therefore, to the fact that no communication with the Colony has taken place since May 1870, that nothing has been heard of their vessel, that hostilities have broken out in the neighbouring country, and to the insecurity of the colonists against Indian aggression, I am of opinion that it is desirable a man-of-war should be ordered to visit Chupat; for if nothing else comes of such a visit, it is at least desirable that we should have authentic accounts of the progress or otherwise of the Colony, since the last official visit was made, nearly five years since.

The entrance of Chupat River, in Engaño Bay, is choked by sandbanks at low water, and at high water there are only from 7 to 12 feet; and the anchorage in the offing is exposed; but there is good anchorage on the southern side of Nuevo Gulf; and from the "Triton's" report there does not now appear to be any difficulty in communicating overland, a distance of about thirty-five or forty miles with Chupat. Her Commander had with him the Secretary of Legation at Buenos Ayres and an Argentine official; and I presume there would be no difficulty in obtaining, through the Foreign Office, similar assistance on the present occasion. Although the Admiralty are in no way responsible for the safety of the colonists, who are under the government, and consequently the protection, of the Argentine Confederation, it would not be inconvenient probably to send a gunboat to Nuevo Gulf, about 600 miles south of the River Plate, with directions for the Commander to visit and report upon the state and condition of the people, if the Senior Officer on the south-east coast of America should consider it desirable (looking to any further information he may have obtained between the date of his last letter, and the receipt of any instructions their Lordships may send him): but it would be necessary that this should be done, I think, with the concurrence and co-operation of the Argentine Government, as was done on the occasion of the "Triton's" visit; for probably without such co-operation there would be difficulty in reaching the settlement by land.

(Signed) GEO. H. RICHARDS.

No. 8.

Mr. Hammond to the Secretary to the Admiralty.

Sir,

Foreign Office, May 18, 1871.

I AM directed by Earl Granville to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 13th instant, respecting the propriety of sending a British ship of war to ascertain the condition of the Welsh Colony of Chupat; and I am to request that you will state to the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty that his Lordship concurs in the proposal of their Lordships to approve Captain Bedingfeld's proceedings in this matter.

I am, &c.

(Signed) E. HAMMOND.

No. 9.

Mr. Macdonell to Earl Granville.—(Received June 16.)

My Lord,

Buenos Ayres, May 9, 1871.

I HAVE the honour to inclose herewith the duplicate copy of the report addressed to Captain Bedingfeld, Senior Officer on the south-east coast of America Station, by Captain Dennistoun of Her Majesty's ship "Cracker," with reference to his visit to the Welsh Settlement on the River Chupat.

I feel confident that, on perusal of Captain Dennistoun's very ably prepared and interesting report, your Lordship will approve of my having urged upon Captain Bedingfeld the necessity of sending a gun-boat to that coast for the purpose of ascertaining what foundation existed for the alarming rumours prevalent in respect to that Colony. In transmitting to me this copy Captain Dennistoun informs me that communication with the outer world is what the isolated community mostly require, and if this might be arranged they would then get on comparatively well.

Mr. Lewis Jones, the head of the Colony, accompanied Captain Dennistoun on his return to Monte Video, with the intention of coming to report to the Argentine Government on the state of his Colony; his arrival here has been hitherto delayed owing to the reigning epidemic which has caused all public offices to be closed, but I shall, on his arrival, avail myself of the earliest opportunity to press strongly on the Government the urgency of according a small subvention to the packet-steamer which now occasionally visits Patagones, to enable that vessel to visit the Welsh Colony twice a-year. I shall likewise do everything in my power to assist Mr. Jones in the furtherance of any other object he may have in view with regard to the Government here for promoting the welfare of the Colony.

In conclusion, I think it due to Captain Dennistoun to acknowledge the very able and efficient manner in which he has reported on the prospects and condition of the Welsh Colony of Chupat, as the report in question can but prove a most valuable document to the archives of this Legation.

I have, &c.

(Signed) H. G. MACDONELL.

Inclosure 1 in No. 9.

Commander Dennistoun to Captain Bedingfeld.

*"Cracker," at Sea, Lat. 43° 22' S., Long. 62° 15' W.,
April 17, 1871.*

Sir,

IN obedience to your orders of the 24th ultimo I have the honour to forward, for your information, the following report of my proceedings, during my visit to the Welsh Colony on the Chupat River, together with all the information regarding it that I have been able to collect.

I anchored in Engaño Bay off the entrance on the afternoon of the 4th April, and immediately proceeded by boat up the river about six miles to the village of Chupat, which is now nearly deserted, as most of the colonists reside on their own farms, some of which are nearly ten miles higher up the river.

As the bar was not considered safe to cross at night, I remained on shore at the house of Mr. Lewis Jones, by whom I was most hospitably received; and, on the following morning,

as I did not consider it would be safe to bring the "Cracker" into the River, I made every arrangement to have horses sent over to New Gulf, that I might be able to ride from there to Chupat, and then embarked and proceeded to the anchorage in the south-west corner of New Gulf, having left the surgeon behind to visit the settlers professionally, but more especially to establish vaccination, and collect general information with regard to the Colony.

After revisiting the settlement from my anchorage at New Gulf, I have much satisfaction in reporting that I found the colonists in excellent health and spirits; the latter is to be wondered at when I state that the only communication for twenty months that has existed between themselves and the outer world was the arrival of Mr. Lewis Jones with eleven new colonists, in May 1870, direct from England.

The gratitude of these poor people to his Excellency the British Chargé d'Affaires at Buenos Ayres and yourself for causing inquiry to be instituted after their welfare, was in some cases most touching, and no doubt this visit has in a great degree removed that feeling of utter isolation, from which many were beginning to suffer.

The Colony has been suffering for the last two years from drought, which has caused the failure, more or less, of the wheat crop for that time, and I found that, taking the whole crop of last year at $16\frac{1}{2}$ tons, it was just about sufficient when gathered to support the present population (estimated as equal to 110 adults), at the rate of 8 lbs. a week each, until next harvest, supposing none were kept for seed. Although only 6 tons were used for sowing last season, more ground has been since prepared, and from 8 to 10 tons of seed are now required for the next crop.

The great bulk of this $16\frac{1}{2}$ tons of wheat is in the hands of a few, who, however, are unable to sell but very little of it, requiring it themselves for seed and consumption.

Two families I found utterly destitute of grain, while ten others had certainly not enough to last more than two months or so, and Mr. Lewis Jones, to whom I have granted a passage to Monte Video, does not expect to return to the Colony with supplies for four months.

Under these circumstances, after the most minute and searching inquiry by myself and the surgeon of the "Cracker," I determined to take the responsibility of leaving what provisions could be spared to assist the poorest families: these, nineteen in number, were divided into three classes, according to their several necessities, and among them were distributed the following quantities of provisions, viz., 504 lbs. biscuit, 309 lbs. peas, 404 lbs. flour, 308 lbs. oatmeal, and 201 lbs. preserved potatoes, 1,724 lbs. in all, giving to each family of the first or poorest class, 160 lbs.; to the second class, 80 lbs.; and to the third class, 34 lbs.

I also, at the recommendation of the surgeon, distributed equally among the colonists 200 lbs. of soap, an article they had been destitute of for months.

The whole Colony has been without any description of groceries for ten months, living chiefly on bread, butter, and milk, and what guanaco and ostrich meat they could obtain by hunting, but the supply of the latter is getting more scarce every day, and in all probability will cease in a few years; before that time, however, if the Colony goes on progressing as it has done for the last two years in cattle, an ample supply of meat will be procured without hunting. As yet the cattle are far too valuable to use for that purpose.

At present there are only seven sheep in the Colony; but Mr. Lewis Jones intends trying to make arrangements for the importation of several flocks, as well as some tons of potatoes for planting, which are much required at present.

The only means of communication that exists at present with Buenos Ayres is by land, viâ Patagones; but to reach it an unknown tract of country of some 200 miles has to be traversed, with little or no water to be found: therefore it may be said that during a drought such as has existed for the last two years there is really no means of communication.

In the absence of a small Colonial schooner of about 80 tons, by which the colonists could hold communication with Buenos Ayres or Patagones at their pleasure, it would be an immense boon to the Colony for the Patagones steamer (which runs between that place and Buenos Ayres once a-month) to go on to Chupat, at least twice a-year, at stated intervals. The steamer, I am told, is part property of the Argentine Government, which appears to me to make the idea more feasible; but communication from without in some way I hold to be absolutely necessary, at least twice a-year, to insure the prosperity of the Colony.

What is wanted more than anything in the Settlement is a "store" filled with all sorts of necessaries, especially clothing, the latter of which has reached its lowest ebb with most of the colonists, and they have at present no way of replenishing their stock.

I visited nearly all the inhabitants, and only heard of the one common complaint, viz., "want of communication, and its accompanying hardship, the want of all the common necessaries of life" dependent thereon.

Not one individual expressed a wish to leave the Colony, and all agreed that they would be quite comfortable if the wants before-mentioned were supplied, and also that they were sanguine of the ultimate success of the Colony if these could be obtained.

During my visit a general meeting of the colonists was held, at which a resolution was unanimously passed to request me to furnish a passage to Monte Video for Mr. Lewis Jones to enable him to proceed to Buenos Ayres to report to the Argentine Government the condition of the Colony, to endeavour to establish means of communication, to solicit the customary educational subsidy, and to obtain the supplies so much required by the Settlement.

At the same meeting it was also decided that, with the small amount of assistance I was able to afford to the most destitute, the remainder could maintain themselves until Mr. Jones' return with supplies of seed, &c., and were no longer in need of gratuitous rations from the Government.

I was at the same time requested to furnish a passage to Mr. David Williams (a native of the United States, born of Welsh parents, who settled in the Colony with his family three years ago), in order that he may return with Mr. Jones with a considerable amount of property in the shape of farm implements, &c., which he expects to be now waiting for him at Buenos Ayres, and this will be a very considerable addition to the Colony's present limited resources in this respect.

I found the only blacksmith almost without coal, and quite unable to do several important and heavy pieces of work to various farm implements that would shortly be required, owing to his only having charcoal coke to burn. I therefore deemed it requisite to leave five bags of coal with him, for the good of the Colony.

Excellent anchorage was obtained in the south-west corner of New Gulf, in which the rise and fall at spring tides was 19 feet. The track leading to Chupat could be distinctly seen from the ship, rising straight over the hills.

The recognized signal by the colonists to announce the arrival of a ship at New Gulf consists in setting on fire about 500 yards of camp at one time, on the top of the hills over which the road leads, the smoke of which is soon seen from the settlement.

As a rule no water is to be found between New Gulf and Chupat, a distance of forty miles.

The following is a brief history of the Colony since the visit of Her Majesty's ship "Triton," in 1866, with which Mr. Lewis Jones kindly furnished me:—

It was during this year (1866) that the first attempts were made to grow wheat, but subsequent experience shows these attempts to have been so ill-adapted to the country that their disastrous results were a matter of course. Considering that there were only three ploughs, no harrows, but six working horses, and that utterly unsuitable lands were selected, it is no wonder that the crop was a failure; but a small extent sown by chance, on low ground, gave good results.

Soon after the "Triton's" visit the colonial schooner was wrecked at the entrance to the river, and great exertions had to be made to repair and render her fit for sea. With their limited means this occupied the majority of the colonists for three or four months, and that during the planting season.

About the latter end of July 1866, two large tribes of Indians encamped in the colony, and remained there a month. At this time the value of Indian produce was unknown to the colonists, consequently but little trade was done.

But this visit gave the settlers an insight into the mode of managing horses and hunting the game of the country, as well as an opportunity of obtaining the indispensable articles of riding gear, lassos, &c., of which they were until then utterly destitute, and of acquiring the method of using them, with which they were hitherto unacquainted.

In November 1866, the colonial schooner made a trip to Patagones for provisions, having on board three dissatisfied families, numbering eight persons.

The crop of wheat, as before stated, being a failure, in February 1867 a deputation of the colonists proceeded to Buenos Ayres in the schooner, and presented themselves to the Government, requesting to be removed to some other part of the Argentine territory. The Government, from the information received, deeming that no satisfactory experiment had been made, advised them to make another year's trial, offering to assist them further with provisions and seed.

Before this advice of the Government could reach the settlement, the colonists had commenced to carry their goods overland to New Gulf, ready for shipment. Meanwhile their deputation to Buenos Ayres was intent on removing them to some of the Chaco

lands, in the province of Santa Fé, whilst Messrs. Aguirre and Murga were offering terms for a settlement on their lands in Patagones. During this commotion five more families left for Patagones.

So determined were the colonists on removing that, by the end of June 1867, the settlement on the Chupat had been entirely broken up, and the settlers, their goods and chattels, were all huddled together in New Gulf ready for embarkation. All the houses on the Chupat were destroyed, many of the best cattle killed for use, seeing there was no way of removing them; not more than half-a-dozen poultry were preserved, and pigs, of which there were many, became extinct.

The transport of their goods overland, and erecting huts for their shelter, entailed on them very severe labour.

However, after two months of this pent-up life at New Gulf, and much wrangling and recrimination, seeing that no acceptable terms could be obtained elsewhere, it was determined, in the beginning of August 1867, to return to Chupat.

There was then but little wheat in the Colony available for sowing, and the season had so advanced that but little could be done in the way of ploughing; however, the little that was sown gave very good results, and revived the hopes of the settlers.

It was the month of November 1867, before the promised supplies arrived in the Colony; and in that interval occurred the first scarcity, or partial famine. Some parties suffered severely at this time, more especially those who had previously killed their cattle, and those unable to hunt. More cattle were also reluctantly killed.

The wild game of the camp were fallen back upon, and thus was developed, under the pressure of necessity, the hunting capabilities of the settlers, which have since provided a prolific source of sustenance to all.

In the same vessel that brought these opportune supplies for the Colony, the Argentine Government sent a liberal present of food and clothing for the Indians frequenting the settlement.

The result of the little wheat so hurriedly sown was so promising that the settlers took heart, and sent a representation to the Argentine Government, stating that they were now satisfied of the fertility of the soil; and that if they were furnished once more with an adequate supply of wheat for sowing, and some provisions for their maintenance until harvest; and also some cattle to replace those they had killed, they felt confident of ultimate success.

This request was complied with; and 150 milch cows, 100 fanegas of wheat, and 30 fanegas of barley, were sent, which did not, however, reach the Colony until the month of May 1868.

In the meantime (January 1868), the Colonial schooner was dispatched to Patagones for a temporary supply of provisions; and sailed from thence on the 16th February on its return voyage with 40 sacks of flour, some groceries, and drapery, a yoke of working bullocks, and a fine seine. Unfortunately, she was never afterwards heard of.

Thus the Colony not only lost its craft and valuable cargo, but six of its best settlers.

The non-arrival of the schooner brought about another partial famine, not so severe as the first, inasmuch as the settlers had by this time become inured to hunting, and had also become acquainted with the many wild vegetable productions of the place.

During this scarcity and suspense at the non-arrival of the schooner, no ploughing was proceeded with, so that it was not until June and July that preparations were made for sowing the wheat which had arrived in May.

Profiting by previous experience, most of the wheat was sown this season in lands capable of easy irrigation from the river, and though hurriedly and slovenly put into the ground in most instances, the crop was excellent and abundant.

Until about this time nearly all the settlers lived in small huts at the village; but confidence reviving, a general movement was made to live on their farms, and "adobe" houses sprang up along the banks of the river; these are now gradually giving way to burnt-brick cottages.

Whilst the above-mentioned crop was being harvested, and the recently-arrived cows all on the point of calving, a disastrous rain and flood covered the whole valley, sweeping away everything, and causing a general consternation.

The wheat was nearly all lost or damaged; many of the houses fell down, and some sixty cows driven to the plateau by the flood, strayed away, and were never recovered.

In the meantime, representations were made to the Argentine Government, as to the precarious means of communication with the Colony, owing to the loss of the schooner. Most considerately the Government advanced one-half the purchase-money for another vessel, Mr. Lewis Jones finding the other half; and so a small schooner of 45 tons was

again at the service of the Colony. This the Government gave, in addition to another year's reduced subsidy, the craft being immediately employed to take down these renewed provisions.

From the Colony she made a trip to Patagones, for a cargo of heifers, mares, and a flour-mill; and returning from thence got aground on the bar of the Chupat, where she was so damaged, that it was with great difficulty she was kept afloat to reach Buenos Ayres; and it was found necessary to sell her for one-third the purchase-money, as the repairs required were estimated at 250*l.*, and no funds were available for that purpose. The Colony was thus, for the second time, deprived of the means of communication at its own command.

It was during this latter voyage that the first consignment of the dairy produce of the Colony was introduced to the market of Buenos Ayres, where it met an instant sale by its excellent quality.

A commercial company (the Welsh Colonizing and Trading Company, Limited), was then forming in Wales, and about purchasing a vessel to trade with the Colony. At this time also it was deemed advisable to introduce a few fresh immigrants. With this latter object in view, but more especially for the purpose of ascertaining the intentions of the trading Company as to the communications of the Colony, Mr. Lewis Jones returned to Wales.

Before his departure in April 1869 the Government had again kindly consented to supply the settlers with groceries to the end of the year, which supplies arrived in the following June.

The sowing season of 1869 found the colonists not recovered from the panic caused by the floods, scouring the camp in all directions for their lost cattle and erecting new houses, &c. Their saved wheat had mostly sprouted, and was therefore unfit for sowing purposes. Notwithstanding, a limited extent of land was sown, but, owing to the quality of the seed, and the unusually dry season, only a poor crop was reaped in the following January (1870).

In May 1870 Mr. Lewis Jones returned to the Colony from Wales in the brigantine "Myvanwy," belonging to the Trading Company referred to, and from that time the Colony has had no communication with the outer world until the visit of the ship.

The Trading Company, it appears, cannot lend itself exclusively to the interests of the Colony, and must not, therefore, be relied on for communication.

During the winter of 1870 (June and July) an unusually large number of Indians visited the Colony, and the usual supply of groceries, &c., not being available, their trade was almost exclusively confined to bread, flour, and wheat. Great exertions were also made by every one to sow as much wheat as possible. The consequence was, that some two months before harvest a great scarcity of bread-stuff again occurred; but, with previous experience to guide the people, it passed off without any serious suffering, and, what is worth noting, without the sacrifice of any cattle.

The crop proved a failure with one or two exceptions.

Since the rain-storm preceding the great floods of 1869, but an occasional shower has fallen in the Colony, so that a severe drought has affected all vegetation.

Nevertheless, wheat-growing being now dependent on irrigation, the drought might not have so injuriously affected the crop had not the river suddenly fallen in the hot month of November and the ditches unprepared for such a low fall.

It is now in contemplation to open a natural canal existing along the entire length of the valley, which would obviate the necessity of depending on rain or the river.

Immense tracks of arable land lie on each side of this canal, and there can be no doubt that if it could be opened the prospects of the Colony as an agricultural settlement are most promising.

I herewith attach a detailed statistical Report of the present condition and resources of the Colony, giving every item of information I have been able to collect, together with the Report of the surgeon on the sanitary condition of the Colony as ordered.

I would beg to bring to your favourable notice the very valuable assistance I have received from Dr. Turnbull, Surgeon of Her Majesty's ship under my command, as well in collecting as in arranging and compiling the information furnished in the statistical Report referred to.

I have, &c.

(Signed) R. P. DENNISTOUN.

R. P. DENNISTOUN.

Inclosure 2 in No. 9.

Dr. Turnbull to Commander Dennistoun.

“Cracker,” at Sea, Lat. 43° 22' S., Long. 62° 15' W.,
April 17, 1871.

Sir,

IN compliance with your instructions to furnish a report on the sanitary condition of the Welsh Colony on the River Chupat, Patagonia, I have the honour to submit the following, founded on observation and inquiry made during two visits I paid with your sanction to that settlement, viz., from the 4th to 6th, and from the 13th to 15th April.

The climate appears to be pre-eminently temperate; no record of temperature is to be obtained, but the evidence of the settlers, natives of Wales, goes to prove that the summer heat is never so great as to interfere with ordinary out-door labour, while the winter cold is never so severe as to maintain a freezing temperature during the day.

Snow fell in 1868 to a depth of 3 or 4 inches; lighter showers occur at times.

Frost at night during the winter half of the year is common; Indian corn will not ripen in the district.

Westerly winds are the prevailing ones, and the climate is an especially dry one; the damp, depressing north wind so well known in the River Plate, is at times experienced, but here it appears to be much less enervating. North-easterly winds bring rain, chiefly at or immediately after the equinoxes, and south-easterly winds blow in gales with rain squalls, but are not of frequent occurrence.

The year 1869 was characterized by a disastrous flood, consequent on heavy rains, associated with a most unusual rise of the River Chupat, in common with the Rivers Paraguay, Paraná, and Negro, in the month of February.

A prolonged and, according to Indian experience, an unprecedented drought has existed for the past two years, 1870-71.

The valley of the River Chupat, in which the Colony was established on the 28th July, 1865, may be described as extending some 70 miles from the sea in a westerly direction, with an average breadth of from 3 to 4 miles of rich alluvial loam; the sides of the very level valley consist of shingly slopes, with no rock apparent on the north side, but terminating at the south-east extremity on the sea coast in chalky-looking cliffs. Some parts of this valley are evidently below the river level, and to the north of the village is one extensive shallow lake of brackish water, which filled during the flood previously noticed, and has been gradually evaporating ever since; it contains fish similar to those found in the river, and is frequented by both fresh and salt water fowl.

In the vicinity are two other smaller lakes, which formed at the same time as the above, but have been dry for about six months: the sandy beds of all these lakes are literally strewn with marine shells.

The settlers originally established themselves on a low shingly ridge on the north bank of the river, about four miles from the sea, but, as a rule they now live on their farms on the banks of the river, and the settlement is scattered over some ten miles of the valley to the west of the village.

The dry temperate climate has proved a remarkably healthy one. During the six years' experience of the colonists there has been a total absence of all endemic and epidemic disease, with but one exception, an outbreak of whooping-cough in 1870.

I could obtain no evidence of malaria.

The men and youths when hunting frequently sleep in the open air at all seasons with the “recado” or saddle for a pillow, and the saddle-cloths as their only covering; no injurious results follow, and the only cases of rheumatism I heard of were slight chronic cases, originating in Wales before arrival in Patagonia.

I obtained no evidence of the occurrence of any severe continued fevers, or acute inflammatory disease; there is little or no bowel complaint; dysentery is unknown.

During my two visits to the settlement, I personally visited nearly every one of the inhabitants, and can testify to the remarkable healthiness of the whole community, but more especially of the children, and in many cases the evidence was conclusive as to great benefit having been derived from the change of climate experienced in leaving Wales and settling in Patagonia; there was no evidence of a contrary character.

Fifty-four births have taken place in the Colony; there has been no instance of still-birth, or *trismus infantum*, a disease so common and fatal to new-born children in the countries bordering on the River Plate.

Reference to the list of deaths will prove the small rate of infant mortality, which is the more remarkable when taken in connection with the very indifferent housing that existed as a rule until a very recent period, and is found even now in some few cases; in addition to this the colonists have since their arrival undergone great privations, and on two occasions, 1867 and 1868, experienced partial famines.

A case of epilepsy, one of chronic heart disease, and another of diarrhoea in an infant were the only cases of importance brought to my notice; some of the more elderly women complained of indigestion, apparently due to the character and sameness of their food,—brown wheaten bread, the grain ground whole, milk, butter, and cheese, with guanaco and ostrich meat as animal food.

The strongest evidence as to the salubrity of the climate is obtained from an examination of the list of deaths accompanying this Report, from which it is at once apparent that the mortality has been chiefly confined to the first eight months after their original landing, and occurred among young children and old people debilitated by a two months' sea voyage, and undoubtedly in some cases by pre-existing chronic disease.

They were landed towards the end of the winter, in what proved to be a most inclement wet season; they had at first no housing save what they constructed of reeds, in the ditch of an old earthwork, and their food was of such a character that scurvy broke out among them; under such circumstances, the death rate in a community of over 150 of all ages is not to be wondered at.

The subsequent mortality among the adults was due to diseases established ere their arrival in Patagonia; one infant, a month old, died of convulsions, its mother dying a few weeks subsequently of advanced phthisis; one child died of cerebral disease following whooping-cough, which latter disease was introduced into the settlement by a tribe of Indians visiting it, and spread generally among the children.

I found a large and well-stocked medicine chest in the Colony, which, however, had been useless owing to the absence of any directions for the administration of the contained remedies; the bottles are now all labelled, with their popular names, properties and doses.

On arrival I found all the children born in the Colony were unvaccinated, and with your approval endeavoured, during our short visit, to remedy this evil, and establish vaccination in the settlement.

During my first visit, a few were vaccinated from a small supply of lymph obtained from the Public Vaccine Institution, Monte Video, and three cases having proved successful, I was enabled on my second visit to vaccinate over a dozen children in various parts of the settlement.

The majority of the people are fully alive to the danger of small-pox being introduced by the Indians visiting them, and there is every probability that all, or nearly all, will be vaccinated, and many re-vaccinated, as more than one of their number undertook to vaccinate after the departure of this vessel.

In so small a community, there is always a danger of the supply of vaccine lymph becoming extinct, and it is, therefore, very desirable that any vessel visiting the Colony should endeavour to take a fresh supply, which can always be procured in Monte Video.

I have, &c.

(Signed) ALEXR. TURNBULL, M.D., Surgeon.

LIST of Deaths from Disease, occurring in the Welsh Colony, Patagonia, founded July 28, 1865, by the arrival of 153 men, women, and children, from Wales.

(The names of the diseases as given in the local register are retained, but in some cases alterations are suggested from inquiries made by the Surgeon of Her Majesty's ship "Cracker.")

Date.	Sex.	Age.		Disease, &c.
		Yrs.	m.	
August 5, 1865..	Male ..	1	9	Effect of voyage.
" 6, ..	Female ..	1	3	Ditto.
" 20, ..	" ..	38	0	Black fever. (Scurvy?)
" 22, ..	" ..	4	0	Hooping cough. (Doubtful.)
September 22, ..	" ..	0	3	Effects of voyage.
October 5, ..	" ..	50	0	Consumption.
" 12, ..	Male ..	1	0	Inflammation.
November 9, ..	Female ..	37	0	Fever.
" 22, ..	" ..	3	0	Inflammation.
" ..	" ..	6	0	Brain fever.
December ..	Male ..	60	0	Consumption.
March 6, 1866..	" ..	1	3	Convulsions.
" 13, ..	" ..	33	0	Consumption.
May 3, 1868 ..	" ..	43	0	Ditto. Chronic bronchitis of old standing.
" 26, ..	Female ..	0	1	Convulsions
July 15, ..	" ..	34	0	Dropsy; phthisis } Mother and child.
April 18, 1869..	" ..	62	0	Heart disease. (Sudden.)
December 4, 1870..	" ..	3	0	Convulsions. (Whooping cough.)

Inclosure 3 in No. 9.

General and Statistical Report relative to the Welsh Colony on the River Chupat, Patagonia, when Visited by Her Majesty's ship "Cracker," 4th to 16th April, 1871.

Population.—ON the 15th of April, 1871, the population amounted to 153: viz., 31 married couples with 78 children, 1 widow with 2 children, 4 single men, 2 female, and 4 male servants.—*Vide* Appendix, Table 2.

Original Population.—The Colony was established on the 28th July, 1865, by the arrival from Wales of 151 men, women, and children, including 30 families.

Births, Deaths, and Marriages.—In the Appendix, Table I, the births, deaths, and marriages, as shown in the records of the Colony, together with all arrivals and departures since its establishment are given in detail; viz., 54 births, 18 marriages, and 27 deaths, 18 from disease and 9 nine from accidental causes; of these, 2 men strayed in the camp and were lost, 1 man was drowned in the river, and 6 men perished in the colonial schooner lost at sea.

Departures and Arrivals.—The departures amount to 50, the arrivals to 25 souls.

Employments of the People.—By reference to Appendix, Table II, the original profession or occupation of each colonist will be found; viz., 1 Congregationalist clergyman, 1 farmer, 1 clerk, 1 printer, 1 bookseller, 4 carpenters, 1 cabinet maker, 2 masons, 1 blacksmith, 1 brickmaker, 1 saddler, 1 tailor, 1 sailor, 1 militiaman, 1 quarryman, 4 farm labourers, 1 miner, and 10 colliers.

Men.—Since their arrival in the Colony one and all have endeavoured to farm the land allotted to them, with, as might have been anticipated, very various degrees of success.

The farming operations are almost entirely confined to the cultivation of wheat and a small amount of barley and the rearing of horses and cattle.

Owing to the very small number of cattle in the Colony, the supply of animal food is at present almost entirely derived from hunting the guanaco, ostrich and hare, the animals being run down on horseback with the aid of dogs, the lasso and bola of the country; hunting, consequently, occupies a considerable amount of the time of the men and youths, and severely taxes their horses.

As buildings, &c., increase, so do the demands on the services of the mechanics among them, and there is every indication of the artificers confining themselves chiefly to their trades, and leaving the farming operations in the hands of those best suited to conduct them.

Women.—The women confine themselves entirely to household duties, and the management of the dairies.

Youths.—The young men and women assist, and the former, by their skill in the use of the lasso and bola, and excellent horsemanship, will unquestionably greatly excel their seniors in hunting and the management of cattle.

Farms.—Each family on arrival was allotted from 100 to 300 acres of land, according to the size of the family, two children counting as one adult, each allotment having a nominal river frontage of 750 yards; two years' residence gives a *bonâ fide* title to the land, with powers of sale, and also the first right of purchase of lands adjoining their free grants; unfortunately, however, there is at present no fixed price for these lands.

All the proprietors may be said to reside on, and farm their own land, employing such amount of labour as is available; the nominal rate of wages, which are of necessity paid in produce or goods, is as follows:—

Wages.—Farm labourers or men-servants, 12*l.* per annum, with food; female servants, 6*l.* to 10*l.* per annum, with food; labourers, 4*s.*; mechanics, 5*s.* per diem, without food.

Crops, 1870-71.—The amount of land under cultivation by each owner, together with the yield of the crops for the season 1870-71, and the number of horses and cattle owned by each individual, are given in a Tabular form in Table II of the Appendix.

The totals are as follows:—259 acres wheat, with a yield of 16 tons 8 cwts., 9 acres barley, with a yield of 11 cwts. 2 qrs. 12 lbs., 1 acre potatoes, with a yield of 17 cwts. 3 qrs. 12 lbs.

Cattle, &c.—148 cows, 80 she-calves and heifers, 73 he-calves, oxen and bulls, 108 horses, 39 mares, 31 colts, 2 rams, 2 wethers, 4 ewes, and 2 lambs.

Almost every family have a few fowls, but the number is very small, owing to the scarcity of grain for food.

Extent of Valley at present occupied in part.—The settlement at present extends some ten miles up the valley, commencing from the village, named Rawsonville, which is

situated about four miles by land from the mouth of the river; the farms, with but four exceptions, are all on the north bank of the river.

The valley, at present but partially occupied, extends some 70 miles, as the crow flies, with an average breadth of from 3 to 4 miles, level grass land, all rich alluvial soil, only requiring irrigation to insure luxuriant crops; this is subdivided into an upper and lower valley by a ridge of hills which approach the river on the north side, some 29 miles distant from the sea.

The country beyond has not been satisfactorily explored up to the present time.

Houses.—In April 1871 there was the following house accommodation in the Colony:—6 burnt brick, 15 sun-dried brick, 5 rancho fashion, viz., with willow poles, mud, and grass, 7 of mud and gravel combined, and 4 houses of turf simply.

There are burnt bricks sufficient to build three more houses, which will shortly be proceeded with.

Accommodation.—As regards the accommodation furnished, there is one house of six rooms (building), 1 of four rooms, 3 of three rooms, 5 of one room, 27 of two rooms.

Wood for Building.—For buildings the beams and rafters are obtained from the willow trees growing by the river side, the only wood found in the valley. All plank, boarding, &c., must be imported.

Roofing.—The houses are thatched with reeds or grass.

Farm Produce.—As shown in Table II, Appendix, the wheat crop is that to which most attention is paid, and for which the land and climate are peculiarly well adapted.

Wheat.—The fertility of the land is that of virgin soil; a yield of thirty-fold may be considered as the average return of wheat under favourable circumstances.

Irrigation required.—Owing to the excessive dryness of the climate, and tendency to prolonged droughts, it is essential that the lands be irrigated; and fortunately the land is particularly well adapted for the purpose, with an outlay of a comparatively small amount of capital, an amount, however, hitherto beyond the means of the Colonists.

In the meantime each individual endeavours to irrigate from the adjacent river to the best of their ability, and the success in so doing has decided the amount of his crops at the harvests of 1870 and 1871; the seasons of 1869-70 and 1870-71 being both characterized by prolonged and excessive drought.

Barley.—Barley yields well, but has not been much cultivated.

Potatoes.—Potatoes answer admirably, both as regards quantity and quality.

Maize.—Indian corn has been tried but it does not ripen ere the frosts arrest its development.

Garden Produce.—Garden operations are virtually in abeyance owing to the want of seed, difficulty in inclosing land, &c., but past experience proves that all English vegetables can be raised with ease; and, from a few specimens of carrots, parsnips and turnips seen in the ground, they unquestionably furnish splendid results.

Difficulty of inclosing Land.—The difficulty of inclosing land seriously affects the yield of the crops, where, as in this settlement, dairy farming is combined with grain growing; there is no timber in the Colony or its immediate vicinity suitable for fencing, and the land under cultivation has to be protected by ditches, and the mound resulting from the excavations, a most laborious, and at the same time unsatisfactory means of excluding horses, cattle, &c.

Blight.—Since the settlement in 1865 no locusts have been seen, nor has any blight affected the crops in any way.

Cattle Diseases.—The horses and cattle have also been free from disease. Considering the experience of farmers, &c., in the vicinity of Buenos Ayres, and the country adjoining the Rivers Parana, Uruguay, and Paraguay, both as regards crops at all times, and cattle and sheep in recent years, this freedom from blight and disease must be considered highly satisfactory.

Amount of Grain in Colony, April 1871.—As regards the amount of food produced in relation to the number of persons in the settlement, it was calculated at the time Her Majesty's ship "Cracker" visited the Colony, shortly after the harvest of 1871, that with but very little assistance from without there was grain enough in hand to feed the people until the following harvest, but no grain would in that case be available for seed, the amount of which at least must therefore be imported.

Cause of Scarcity.—The great scarcity of food at this time was due to the crops harvested in 1869, having been almost entirely carried away by a flood, occurring immediately after harvest operations were completed, and the subsequent harvests of 1870 and 1871 being exceedingly poor owing to two years' drought.

Dairy Produce.—The yield of milk is stated to be a good average as regards quantity, and is of excellent quality.

The cows will not give milk without their calves are allowed to suck.

Butter and Cheese.—Excellent butter is obtained from the milk, and a large amount of cheese is made, partly from skimmed milk, partly from new milk, and in part from a combination of both. There appears to be great room for improvement in cheese making.

Prices.—Large quantities are sold at 1s. per lb. for butter, 6d. per lb. for cheese; the ordinary retail prices in the settlement being nominally 1s. 6d. and 8d. per lb. respectively.

Food of the People.—The food of the Colonists consisted chiefly of wheat bread (the grain ground whole and no separation of bran, &c., effected); eggs, milk, butter, and cheese are also largely consumed, almost every family having one or more cows, and some poultry.

Meat.—Animal food is obtained chiefly by hunting the guanaco, ostrich, and hare. Water-fowl are abundant, and are eaten when they can be obtained; owing to the scarcity of ammunition this, however, is a supply not to be depended on.

Vegetables.—Ordinary vegetables at present may be said to be wanting, but, both from necessity and choice, many wild plants have been substituted, one of which closely resembling the common dock of England is most commonly employed.

Farm Implements, Ploughs.—American ploughs are most popular in the Colony, they are made of steel, are much lighter than the ordinary English plough, and better suited to the horses of the Colony. Nine of the former and two of the latter are in the Colony, but the latter are seldom used; in fact, one lies on the beach in New Gulf, not having been considered worth the carriage to the valley of the Chupat.

“Cultivators.”—Three “cultivators” are also employed on certain ground favourable for their use.

Harrows are in general use.

Reaping.—The grain is cut by means of reaping-hooks, scythes, and “grain cradles.”

Threshing.—Threshing is effected by means of unshod horses treading out the grain; flails were at first employed, but their use has been abandoned in favour of the plain of the country.

Mineral Resources.—Information relative to the mineral resources is very limited, the country in the vicinity having been but little explored; but so far as the colonists have been able to penetrate it, they have been led, as men well acquainted with mining operations in Wales, to anticipate the most satisfactory results from future explorations of the mountainous country from which the River Chupat arises.

Salt.—Salt of most excellent quality is obtained in great abundance in the immediate vicinity of the Colony, both as rock-salt and on the surface of the dried up beds of salt lakes.

Gypsum.—Gypsum is obtained in the country bordering on the settlement.

Granite.—Granite abounds in the neighbourhood.

Limestone, &c.—A recent hurried journey with the Indians through the country to the west of the Colony brought to light limestone, marble, sandstone, mica slate, and carboniferous shale.

Paints.—Green, red, and blue pigments, largely used by the natives, can be obtained in abundance about 100 miles up the river. The red pigment has been valued in England at 6l. per ton, but its chemical composition is unknown in the Colony.

Clay.—The clay on the banks of the river has been proved workable for all building and earthenware purposes.

Timber.—Two varieties of willows, the red and white, on the sides of the river afford the only workable timber found in the settlement.

The rising ground on either side of the valley and the elevated plateau extending between the river and New Gulf are covered with thorny brushwood, only fit for firewood; the drift-wood brought down by the river is also available for fuel.

The Indians report good timber growing in the upper country, stating that there wild cattle are to be found, which they are unable to hunt, owing to the wooded character of the country.

Potatoes, obtained from a plant or shrub growing near the river, serve to make soap, but one of very inferior quality.

Hours of Labour.—Nine hours constitute a day's labour. The holidays kept are Christmas Day, Good Friday, St. David's Day, and the 28th of July, the anniversary of their first landing in Patagonia. A half-holiday on Saturdays is generally kept.

Education.—Up to the present time no system of education has been established, but the people are fully alive to the necessity of providing means of instruction, and have forwarded an appeal to the Argentine Government for the customary educational subsidy.

One of the colonists is well fitted to hold the office of schoolmaster whenever the requisite arrangements can be made to secure him an adequate income and the necessary appliances.

Religious Instruction.—The community may be described as Nonconformists, and at present religious instruction is imparted by a clergyman educated at the Welsh Independent College, Bala. He came out as an emigrant, and gives his services gratuitously, his income being dependent on his own farming operations.

Church.—A small building in the village serves as church, and to hold all public meetings in; there is a movement on foot for the erection of a brick church, one colonist having promised the requisite timber, another the burnt bricks.

Language.—With the exception of one man and three women all speak Welsh, and the above-mentioned persons are rapidly acquiring a knowledge of the language in common use around them. The majority can speak English more or less perfectly, and the younger members of the community more especially are acquiring a fair knowledge of Spanish, that being the trading language of the Indians visiting the settlement, and of such gauchos as occasionally accompany them. The Spanish language being that of the Argentine Government will of necessity in time be the language of the people, but hitherto they have had so little communication with that Government, the necessity for a knowledge of it has hardly arisen. One or two have a slight acquaintance with the Indian language.

Crime.—Hitherto crime has been almost unknown among the colonists. No prison exists. Minor offences are punished by fines. Civil and criminal cases are decided by a jury of twelve, presided over by the Justice of Peace; the decisions of this Court are enforced by the militia of the colony if requisite. Recently it was found necessary to call out this body to enforce payment of a debt declared by the jury to be due, and which the debtor refused to settle, threatening violence to his creditor; this is the only instance in which a display of force has been considered requisite: as a rule they are obedient to their own constituted authorities.

Public Morality.—Apparently very good. Only one instance of illegitimate birth has occurred in the Colony, the mother being a domestic servant: she subsequently married. Instances of marriage after pregnancy has declared itself are rare.

The testimony is unanimous as to the young men of the community having no intercourse with the Indian women visiting the settlement.

Provision for the Destitute.—Hitherto no special provision has been requisite for the sick, aged, or orphans—private charity has been sufficient to accomplish all. There are no lunatics, blind, deaf, or dumb.

Public Roads.—There are simply tracks across the country, frequently of a somewhat serpentine course, owing to the non-removal of the brushwood; in some cases, however, by its removal a straight line of road has been obtained, as in the case of the road from New Gulf for a distance of twelve miles at either end. In the valley of the river little or no brushwood exists, but many natural ditches and hollows somewhat interfere with and influence the direction of the lines of road. No provision is made for road-making, or definite system of roads established by survey.

All travelling is carried on on horseback, as only one side-saddle exists in the Colony; men and women both ride alike on the Indian saddles or "recados" of the natives.

Carts.—Goods, &c., are either packed on horseback or carried in small carts built by the colonists with solid wheels of about 2 feet diameter, capable of carrying half a ton. The material for the construction of these carts has been derived in part from wrecked timber, and in part from willow wood. There are nine of these carts, and two ordinary two-wheeled carts, which were built in Buenos Ayres, but are considered too heavy; one, however, is in use.

Communication with New Gulf.—A road or track suitable for carts connects the settlement with New Gulf, the distance traversed being forty miles; after leaving the valley of the river it ascends to a gravelly plateau, which extends to within a short distance of New Gulf. This plateau is divided by a low range of hills about half way across, the road rising very gradually on either side of this ridge.

As the horses are unshod this gravelly road is very trying to them, and a riding-horse can seldom make more than two trips to and from the Bay without becoming lame.

The distance has been accomplished in four hours, but from six to eight hours are usually taken; the carts taking from twelve to fourteen.

The present charge for the conveyance of good between the two places is 5s. per 100 lbs.

Small vessels can, however, enter the River Chupat at high water and discharge cargo at the Colony itself, the bar, however, is a different and dangerous one to a sailing vessel, and the anchorage outside very much exposed.

Animals.—The following animals are found in the country: the puma, wild cat, guanaco, hare (averaging 18 to 20 lbs. in weight), armadillo, skunk, badger, fox, a species of guinea-pig, weasel and otter.

Birds.—Ostriches, flamingoes, partridge (the large and small varieties of South America), pigeons, plover, wild geese, ducks, swans, snipe, water hens, &c.

Fish.—Fish of excellent quality abound in New Gulf, on the sea coast, and in the River Chupat, but little attention has been paid to the fisheries, there are no boats, nets, &c.

Seals.—Sealing vessels from the Falkland Islands occasionally enter New Gulf in January and February, but they are rarely communicated with. The seal fishery hitherto has only been prosecuted by the Colonists so far as to supply their own necessities as regards oil and seal skins for harness, &c.

There are several seal rookeries within easy distance of the settlement, chiefly hair seals, but fur seals frequent Hidden Islet, about 28 miles south of the river.

Porpoises abound in New Gulf.

The black whale has been stranded at the mouth of the river.

Water Communication.—Two small canoes are employed for ferrying across the river, as some farms are situated on the south side, and the river is not fordable under ordinary circumstances. No other boats are employed or exist.

Proposed Canal.—It is proposed to convert an old bed of the river into a canal for irrigating and general purposes; this can easily be accomplished by opening into the river some 25 miles up the valley, it would run through the centre of the finest land in the valley and the best results are anticipated; the work, however, will require capital from without to carry it out.

Imports.—The Colony is dependent on imports for almost every thing they are unable to obtain from their farms; they have no manufactories.

They have received one small shipment direct from England since their arrival, but as a rule all supplies are obtained from Buenos Ayres, or Patagones (Carmen), on the Rio Negro.

Indian Produce and Trade.—From the Patagonian Indians visiting the Colony are obtained horses and horse furniture; the various kinds of quillangos or rugs manufactured by them from the skins of wild animals, which in turn constitute the most valuable articles for export.

From these Indians are purchased rugs and ponchos, manufactured by the Chileno Indians of the Andes, from the wool of the guanaco and sheep; at times they even trade goods of European manufacture obtained at Patagones or from traders visiting the interior.

Exports.—Only one small consignment of butter and cheese has as yet been sent to Buenos Ayres, where it obtained a ready sale, this was in February 1869, before the occurrence of the disastrous flood, since which time all produce has been used for home consumption, and the Indian trade to supply which the Colonists have been unable to raise sufficient produce.

Indian Produce.—Exports may therefore be said to have been confined to Indian products, quillangos of guanaco, ostrich, fox, skunk, hare, and puma skins, ostrich feathers, &c., all of which find a ready market in Buenos Ayres.

These rugs or robes are frequently of great beauty and highly prized for carriage or sleigh rugs and other purposes.

Home Trade.—The home trade consists of a species of barter, there being no paper or metal currency in common circulation, all payments are made and purchases effected by means of barter; the quillangos and ostrich feathers being much employed in lieu of money.

Currency.—The prices of all articles are quoted in English money or the Buenos Ayrean paper currency.

Weights and Measures.—The English measures are in common use, but Spanish are also employed more especially in dealings with Buenos Ayres, &c. While the French metre here as in all other parts of the Argentine Republic is employed in surveying and measuring land.

Revenue.—Fines constitute at present the only source of revenue; there may therefore be said to be no public revenue, and no taxation.

Municipal Regulations.—In the absence of any representative of the National Government, the settlers have drawn up certain rules of government, and appointed officers to carry them out and maintain public order.

The officers are Intendente or Colonial Superintendent, Legislative Committee of Twelve, Justice of Peace, Secretary, Treasurer, and Auditor.

The elections for these offices are annual, every man over 18 years of age and six months' residence being entitled to vote, voting by ballot.

Colonial Superintendent.—This officer must have been at least two years resident and receive two-thirds of the votes polled. He can veto all laws passed by the Committee, but if again passed by at least two-thirds of the Committee he must give his assent and see them enforced.

Committee.—Every Committee-man must have been entitled to vote for one year.

The Committee decide all matters of importance connected with the Colony, and draw up regulations for the maintenance of public order, &c., the majority deciding all questions, save in the case of any law vetoed, as above noticed.

Justice of Peace.—This officer must have been entitled to vote for a year.

To him all complaints in civil and criminal cases are made, and when of sufficient importance, are tried by a jury of twelve, who decide not only as to the guilt or innocence of the accused, but also the penalty to be imposed. The Justice of Peace presides over the Court and regulates the proceedings. The decision of the jury must be that of at least two-thirds of the jurymen.

Secretary, Treasurer, Auditor.—Secretary, Treasurer, and Auditor all require the same qualification as the Justice of Peace. The Secretary keeps the records of the Colony, the other officers are almost nominal.

Registrar.—A Registrar has been nominated, who keeps an accurate register of all births, deaths, and marriages. All marriages have been conducted in his presence by the clergyman.

Medical Resources.—A medical man arrived with the original settlers, but remained only a few months, and no successor has come in his place.

Medicine Chest.—A large and well-stocked medicine chest exists in the Colony, but was useless, owing to the bottles, &c., being labelled with the ordinary pharmacopœial names, and no book of explanation accompanying it.

Measures were taken during the visit of Her Majesty's ship "Cracker" to render the medicines available.

The recognized medical authority, in whose charge the medicine chest is placed, is an intelligent mechanic, a self-taught herbalist.

There is no qualified midwife; an elderly matron is recognized as an authority on such matters.

No hospital exists, or indeed has any been required.

Climate.—The climate is characterized by great dryness, the prevailing winds being westerly and dry.

Rain.—Rain is generally associated with northerly, north-westerly, and north-easterly winds, which are all, as a rule, damp, heavy continuous rain coming invariably with north-easterly wind.

South-easterly winds, as a rule, come as gales with rain squalls; these gales last from two to three days, but are not of frequent occurrence.

Rain falls in greatest abundance at or immediately after the equinoxes.

Snow.—Snow fell in the winter of 1868 to an average depth of 3 to 4 inches; this is the only heavy fall of snow since the settlement was established.

Frost.—Frost is common at night during the winter half of the year, never lasting during the day.

Flood.—The year 1869 was characterized by a most disastrous flood occurring in the month of February; it was accompanied by heavy rains, but the great rise of the river was undoubtedly due to an unusual rainfall over the whole country on the east of the Andes.

The Rivers Paraguay, Parana, and Negro, rose to almost an unprecedented height at the same time.

A prolonged drought has characterized the last two seasons (1869-70 and 1870-71), only a few showers having fallen during the last six months; previous to these there seems to have been a total absence of rain.

The Indians visiting the settlement assert that such a prolonged drought has not occurred before, and their testimony is confirmed by the fact of their having been unable, from want of water, to reach their hunting grounds in Valden Peninsula this year, an event, they assert, that never occurred to them before.

Communication with Abroad.—When Her Majesty's ship "Cracker" reached the Colony in April 1871 there had been no communication from without since May 1870, when a vessel arrived direct from England.

There had been no communication with Buenos Ayres or Patagonia since June 1869.

Two sailors who deserted from the vessel which arrived in 1870 contrived to leave

the Colony in a sailing-vessel calling at New Gulf in January 1871, but none of the colonists were able to communicate with this vessel, or even saw it. Such has been the state of isolation during the past two years..

In November 1870 an attempt was made to reach Patagones on the Rio Negro, by crossing from New Bay to the Gulf of St. Matias, and keeping along the sea coast to the mouth of the river, it failed, owing to their inability to distil more water than they required for their personal wants; their horses broke down in consequence.

In January 1871 a second attempt was made by crossing the country with a tribe of Indians, but it twice failed, owing to the want of water, and the travellers, after seven days' journeying, and reaching a point some 250 miles in a westerly direction from the Colony, were compelled to return.

Relations with the Indians.—Three "nations" of Patagonian Indians visit the Colony; they are all horse Indians, and consist of the Tehuelches or southern, the Medio Pampas or western, and the Mauzanas, "People of Sahiance," or northern Indians; their numbers are estimated at 2,000 to 3,000.

The largest body that have ever visited the settlement at one time were 300 men, women, and children.

They are peaceably inclined, and carry no weapons; the lasso, bola, and knife required in hunting are their only means of offence; their relations with the settlers have always been extremely friendly, and as long as the means of trading with them exist their visits are welcome and profitable.

They have decided pilfering tendencies, but readily restore the articles if detected.

All have a great craving for spirits and owing to the value they place on them, it is found impossible to prevent their sale.

When drunk they are at times troublesome, more particularly in their behaviour towards the women of the settlement, but on the whole no serious injury or violence has been sustained at their hands.

Indian Purchases.—The articles brought by them to trade with have been already mentioned; their purchases in return consist of almost every variety of goods, spirits they value most, then sugar, yerba or Paraguayan tea, tobacco, farinha, wheat, rice, flour, soap, clothing, &c.

They employ the blacksmith in making balls for their bolas, buckles, &c., and are anxious he should make them knives.

Means of Defence.—The Argentine Government furnished the colonists in 1868 with 36 muzzle loading rifles and ammunition. There are some 10 revolvers, and several fowling-pieces among the settlers are private property.

Militia.—All able-bodied adults are supposed to constitute a militia for defensive purposes, there are no regular drills.

Rifles, &c.—The Government rifles and 10 rounds of ammunition with each are distributed among these militiamen and kept at their homes, the spare ammunition being in charge of the adjutant.

There is a militiaman and two men who formerly belonged to volunteer rifle corps in the settlement, one of the latter as adjutant being in command of the colonial force.

Old Fort.—The ruins of an old earthwork are visible near the village, built by some Argentines who came to the valley some 20 years ago, to hunt wild cattle supposed, but erroneously, to exist in large numbers in the country.

The colonists have not considered it requisite to construct any works of defence.

(Signed) R. P. DENNISTOUN, *Commander,*
Her Majesty's ship "Cracker."

TABLE II.—A RETURN enumerating Heads of Families, Single Men, &c., with original Occupation and present Number of each Family. The Number of Acres of Wheat, Barley, and Potatoes sown, with Amount of Grain, &c., obtained at the Harvest of 1870-71; the Number of Cattle, &c.

Names of Heads of Families, &c.	Original Profession or Occupation.	Married or Single.	Children.	Servants.	Total Number of Family.	Wheat.		Barley.		Potatoes.		Cattle.				Horses.			Sheep.		
						Acres Sown.	Amount Harvested.	Acres Sown.	Amount Harvested.	Acres Sown.	Amount Harvested.	Milk Cows.	She-Calves and Heifers.	He-Calves, Oxen, and Bulls.	Horses.	Mares.	Colls.	Rams and Wethers.	Ewes and Lambs.		
The Rev. Abraham Matthews	Independent clergyman	Married	2	1	5	10	900	..	..	..	..	8	5	3	5	3	..	..	..	..	..
Jones, Richd. (Berwyn)	Bookseller	"	3	..	5	4	Nil	..	..	..	..	4	2	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..
Williams, Richd. H.	Carpenter's boy	"	2	..	4	2	200	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Williams, Rhys	Miner.	"	6	..	8	4	500	..	..	..	..	4	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Hughes, Rhydderch	Carpenter	"	3	..	5	6	Nil	..	..	..	..	4	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Williams, John	"	"	3	..	5	10	1,400	..	..	..	..	5	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Jenkins, Aaron	Collier.	"	2	..	4	8	Nil	..	..	..	..	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Dayydd, Evan	"	"	3	..	5	5	800	..	..	..	..	4	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Jones, Thomas	"	"	3	..	5	6	1,000	..	..	..	..	4	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Jones, Richard	"	"	2	..	4	7	1,000	..	..	..	..	5	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Jones, John	"	"	2	..	4	6	900	..	..	..	..	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Jones, Joshua	"	"	1	..	3	8	3,000	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Evans, Daniel	"	"	4	..	6	7	700	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Harris, Thomas	Brickmaker	"	7	..	9	4	300	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Davies, Thomas	Collier.	"	3	..	5	13	3,000	..	..	..	..	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Jones, Evan	Farm labourer and collier.	"	1	..	3	6	1,000	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Williams, Amos	"	"	3	..	5	9	2,000	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Thomas, Robert	"	"	1	..	3	8	700	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Jones, William R. (acting as miller)	"	"	3	..	5	10	200	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Rees, William	"	"	2	..	4	8	1,200	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Hughes, Hugh (Cadvan)	"	"	2	..	4	8	700	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Roberts, Edwin	"	"	1	..	3	6	250	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Jones, Lewis	"	"	2	..	4	6	300	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Hughes, Griffith	"	"	6	..	8	20	3,600	..	..	..	..	5	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Thomas, Thomas	"	"	2	..	4	5	1,000	..	..	..	..	4	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Davies, Lewis	"	"	4	..	6	5	1,400	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Rees, James Berry	"	"	2	..	4	5	800	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Roberts, John	"	"	1	..	3	6	1,200	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Jones, Ellis	"	"	1	..	3	4	100	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Hughes, Elizabeth	"	"	2	..	4	2	300	..	..	..	..	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Haycock, John	Widow of collier.	Married	1	..	3	5	400	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Williams, David	Militiaman	"	2	..	4	15	5,000	..	..	..	..	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Hughes, Richard	Farmer	"	..	..	1	6	200	..	..	..	..	5	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Griffith, John	Mason	Single	..	..	1	10	1,500	..	..	..	..	7	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Price, Edward	Merchant's clerk	"	..	..	1	10	1,500	..	..	..	..	4	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Jones, Thomas Harris	None	"	..	..	1	2	200	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Labourer	"	80	2 F. 4 M.	153	259	37,850	8½	1,300	1	2,000	148	80	73	108	39	31	4	6		

Welsh Colony, Patagonia, April 15th, 1871.

No. 10.

Mr. Wolley to Mr. Hammond.—(Received June 17.)

Sir,

Admiralty, June 16, 1871.

WITH reference to my letter of the 13th and your reply of the 18th ultimo, I am commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to transmit, for the information of the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, an extract from a general letter, of the 24th ultimo, from the Senior Naval Officer on the Brazil Station, in regard to the visit of Her Majesty's ship "Cracker" to the Welsh Colony of Chupat in Patagonia, and a copy of the report from the Commander of the vessel as to the state of affairs at that settlement.

I am, &c.

(Signed) THOS. WOLLEY.

 Inclosure 1 in No. 10.
Captain Bedingfeld to the Secretary to the Admiralty.

(Extract.)

"Gladiator," at Rio de Janeiro, May 24, 1871.

THE "Cracker" arrived at Monte Video from her Patagonia cruize on the 24th April, bringing a not very satisfactory account of the Welsh Colony. Commander Dennistoun, with the assistance of Dr. Turnbull, has made a most careful inquiry into their state. His letter of proceedings I inclose, and I trust his distribution of a small quantity of provisions and stores to the necessitous colonists, will meet with their Lordships' approval. A duplicate of this letter, with a very voluminous statistical and sanitary Report, has been sent to Her Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires at Buenos Ayres, and a copy put on the station Records. I shall not forward copies of these two letters to their Lordships, on account of their bulk unless they require me to do so.

In future, I think it would be desirable that the man-of-war going to the Falkland Islands in the summer, should call at Nuevo Golfo, either on her passage to or from the Islands.

 Inclosure 2 in No. 10.
Commander Dennistoun to Captain Bedingfeld, April 17, 1871.

[See Inclosure 1 in No. 9.]

 No. 11.
Earl Granville to Mr. Macdonell.

Sir,

Foreign Office, June 23, 1871.

I HAVE received your despatch of the 9th ultimo, inclosing Captain Dennistoun's Report on his visit to the Welsh settlement at Chupat in Her Majesty's ship "Cracker;" and I have to state to you that I approve the steps you have taken, and propose to take, with a view to promote the welfare of the Colony in question.

I am, &c.

(Signed) GRANVILLE.

 No. 12.
Mr. Hammond to the Secretary to the Admiralty.

Sir,

Foreign Office, June 23, 1871.

WITH reference to your letter of the 16th instant, relative to the visit of Her Majesty's ship "Cracker" to the Welsh Colony of Chupat, I am directed by Earl Granville to request you to suggest, for the consideration of the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, whether Commander Dennistoun's proceedings, as detailed in his Report, should not be approved.

I am, &c.

(Signed) E. HAMMOND.

CORRESPONDENCE respecting the Welsh
Colony on the River Chupat, in Pata-
gonia.

*Presented to the House of Commons by Command
of Her Majesty, in pursuance of their Address
dated July 3, 1871.*

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