

DOCUMENTS RELATING TO THE HISTORY OF HUNTER'S RIVER

Exerpts from *Historical Records of New South Wales. Vol. IV. Hunter and King. 1800, 1801, 1802. Edited by F.M. Bladen. Sydney: Charles Potter, 1896.*

pps. 390-391)

GOVERNOR KING TO LIEUTENANT JAMES GRANT (King Papers)

Instructions

9th June, 1801

As the winter is now advancing, which renders it unsafe for the Lady Nelson being sent to renew the survey of Bass's Straits and the south-west coast of this country until the spring, and as the surveying Hunter's River, lying between this place and Port Stephens, is of the utmost consequence to be ascertained, - you are hereby required and directed to receive Lieut.-Col. Paterson and the persons on board, as per margin, [these persons were – Ensign Barrallier, Mr. J. Harris, six soldiers, two sawyers, a pilot, a miner, and one native] bearing them on a supernumerary list for provisions, and proceed without loss of time to Hunter's River, for which place you are provided with a pilot. When arrived there, you will give every assistance to Ensign Barrallier, in making as complete a survey as possible of the entrance and inside of that river, its shoals, depth of water, and every other particular, as pointed out by the second paragraph of your former orders.

You will take under your command the Francis, colonial schooner, and cause her to be laden with the best coals that can be procured ; and should that vessel be laden before the survey is completed, you will dispatch her to this place without loss of time.

If the weather will admit of your going into Port Stephens, which Lieut.-Col. Paterson is desirous of visiting, you will make every observation on that place, as well as Hunter's River, agreeable to the second paragraph of your former instructions and the directions added to this instruction. As the Service will require your returning to this port by the first of August, you are not to make a longer delay, delivering me a journal of your proceedings, and such specimens as you may be able to collect, as pointed out by your orders from the Duke of Portland, and my instructions of March 5th.

Given, &c.,

PHILIP GIDLEY KING