

Correspondence relating to Reverend Durham

29.3.1844 TSA/Misc 62/ 1/A 1087/1 128
Commandant to Comptroller General

Mr. Durham's suggestions to the
Comptroller General.

"I would suggest the necessity of the church, and its concerns to be under the special care of the Clergyman. He to have the selection of his own Clerk, Sexton and singers as it is natural to suppose he will be guided in the selection by the best of motives . "

"Those men should have some small privilege allowed by government as they may from a variety of circumstances refuse to perform their duties on the Lord's day as the singers at Point Puer did a few months since."

"I would suggest the advantage of the prisoners attending the church (instead of the yard) for morning prayers, when the Clergyman could give a short address which under God, would have a most salutary effect in restraining the men from rushing into crime, during the day."

"I would suggest the propriety of permitting all the prisoners to attend public worship on the Lord's day, none to be confined in solitary cells during divine worship; also to allow the prisoners confined in solitary cells and those chained on to log, to attend the school for one hour each day for educational purposes, as they are debarred from all instruction; not even

The Commandant begs to make the
following observations.

This has always been the case provided they are eligible for situations of ease by the regulations submitted through the Commandant.

The Commandant begs to state that he has never found any difficulty in finding substitutes whenever such has been the case, the case at Point Puer for example. The Commandant would not recommend any indulgence for this service.

The Commandant has fully explained to Mr. Durham that it is impracticable without serious infringement on time causing several unnecessary musters.

No one would be more desirous than the Commandant and often have had it in contemplation but find it cannot be done without much risk.

They are allowed one hour or near it each day in the school room.

No book but the Bible is allowed to men under such circumstances. If books of amusement were permitted it would

allowed a book, from the library or do away with the punishment.
to attend the evening school."

"In reference to the evening school, I beg to suggest it should be under the direction of the Clergyman (subject only to your approval). He should be allowed to appoint the Monitors and arrange the classes, for it is expected he should know more of these matters, than any officer on the settlement.¹

On this point the Commandant would beg to recommend that the school should be under the Schoolmaster alone unless the Roman Catholics and Protestants each have separate evenings of attendance which perhaps may not be advisable.

"While I give Mr. White every credit for the numerical increase of the school, during Mr. Manton's residence here, still faithfulness compels me to state that the present system, carried on in the evening school, retards the progress of the men instead of promoting their improvement. This I know from personal examination. I would therefore suggest the propriety of having no free Schoolmaster, but select the best educated and moral prisoners to fill this office. Let him be allowed clothing different from the rest of the prisoners and some small privilege say 6d per diem (similar to the Dispenser of the hospital) this sum to be held by government, as it accumulates until he leaves this with credit, or any other time you judge fit."

Mr. White certainly deserves much credit for his zeal and interest in these duties and the Commandant cannot help feeling would be a great loss to this part of the establishment.

A salary to the subordinate Schoolmaster would be an unnecessary expense in my humble opinion.

"I would suggest that there should be two Head Monitors 1st and 2nd under the Schoolmaster, to be allowed some privileges, their duties should be

It is much more satisfactory to see the attention and interest that is now given purely voluntarily than under these circumstances though they deserve every

to perambulate the school hours and see if the ordinary Monitors perform their duties."

"I would suggest if it be practicable, that the Monitors act as Overseers of the gangs, under the free Overseers, this would give them an opportunity of seeing the conduct of the men and report accordingly to the Clergyman, and furnishing you with the individual character of the prisoners."

"I would suggest that the men be properly classified according to their attainments not as they are at present huddled together without any regard to their progress. I have found in the same class men that could not say their alphabet with those who could read, write etc ."

"As to the library which has been formed by Mr. Manton I beg to say that the great majority of the works are better adapted for a Methodist preacher's library than for the instruction of prisoners. I would suggest the propriety of writing to the Rev. Mr. England, Chaplain to Parkhurst Prison requesting him to make a selection of books suitable for the prisoners.

encouragement but quite unnecessary to attain the point of attendance.

This would be very likely to interfere with the interior discipline.

In respect to the classification Mr. Durham might have ascertained from the Commandant that Mr. White had good motives for that arrangement and notwithstanding it appears irregular much improvement was made as might have been expected from voluntary attendants.

Many of the books certainly are rather of the description but none that the Commandant is aware of but well calculated for the object in view without being too rigid on these points. This remark of Mr. Durham's also strengthens my opinion that the school had better be under the Schoolmaster, the Religious Instructor to be entirely confined to other opportunities the more extensive the library can be certainly the better and the more select the works but I cannot consider these condemnable at any rate until others are obtained.

In conclusion the Commandant would beg to submit that the Clergyman or Catechist should be instructed to refer to the Commandant before he makes any representations of this nature as the Commandant would always be anxious to afford every facility consistent with the regulations for the general good.

2.4.1844 TSA/Misc 62/1/A 1087/1128

Protestant Chaplain to Comptroller General Before this reaches you I dare say you will have received Captain Booth's communication. I beg to offer my observations on his remarks intimating once and for all, that I am ready to adopt any plan, which you think will be for the general good of the men.

Captain Booth's observations on my letter submitted to Comptroller General I beg to submit the following observations on the appropriate remarks of Cap. Booth.

1. "This has always been the case provided they are eligible for situations."
 2. "The Commandant begs to state he has never found any difficulty in finding substitutes whenever such has been the case. The case at Point Puer for example. The Commandant would not recommend any indulgence for this service."
 3. "The Commandant has fully explained to Mr. Durham that this impracticable without serious infringement on time, causing several unnecessary musters."
1. I regret Captain Booth has made this statement; for the present Clerk, J. Hawkins was appointed by him, without my knowledge.
 2. I admit that Cap. Booth thinks Mr. Mitchell did succeed in obtaining another set of singers, but not until the decencies and solemnities of the service of God were outraged, so much so, that an influential person present, deprecated the circumstances of being obliged to depend on the mercy of the boys; at such an interesting part of divine service.
 3. I had a variety of reasons for suggesting the church, in stead of the yard for divine service morning or evening. 1st. this plan has been adopted with considerable success, amongst the juvenile offenders in Parkhurst Prison, by the Rev. Thomas England. 2nd. This would afford instruction generally, as only 250 attend the evening school. 3rd. It is very unseemly, if not injurious to be exposed to
? and operation of the weather when a place of worship is unoccupied. Lastly, the only objection Cap. Booth makes is the additional trouble it would give the Muster Master and "infringement on time." It would only require one additional muster and the loss of one hour, if it be considered a loss.

4. "No one would be more desirous than the Commandant and after have it in contemplation but find it cannot be done without much risk . "They are allowed one hour or near it each day in the school room. No book but the Bible is allowed to ? men under such circumstances, if books of amusement were permitted it would do away with the punishment.

4. I am very much surprised at the concluding part of this sentence "much risk." Surely no risk can be run in marching 14 men (mainly ironed, and every way unarmed) from the cells to the church; besides if there by any prospect of impressing the minds of these men and thus effecting a reformation we may reasonably expect it in the use of the means, God has appointed, bit (?) attendance on public worship. I am glad to find the men in the crime class are allowed to assemble in the school room since I made the request, which called forth the opposite remark.

I beg most respectfully to differ with Cap. Booth as to his remark, concerning solitary cells. He appears to think these are only places for punishment. I humbly suggest that if they be properly managed, this may prove a means of very great reformation and while the Bible is the best book to produce this reformation, I have frequently seen in Her Majesty's gaols in Ireland, a religious and moral work directing the minds of the prisoners into a train of thought, which has aided in his reformat ion.

Crawford in his report on prison discipline strongly recommends books to be left in the solitary cells.

5. On this point the Commandant would beg to recommend that the schools should be under the Schoolmaster alone unless the Roman Catholics and and Protestants each have separate evenings

5. I have been mixed up with schools upwards of 20 years, government, parochial etc. and do not remember any instance in which the clergyman of the place was not the responsible person. Besides Cap. Booth's observation is totally at variance with your regulations which I have received, further I beg most respectfully to

observe that no Schoolmaster should be left to himself. The idea of the officers superintending the evening school is a mere farce, for faithfulness compels me to say that I have only seen Cap. Booth but once at the school; since my appointment being the evening before he left the settlement.

6. Mr. White certainly deserves much credit for his zeal and interests in these duties and the Commandant cannot help feeling would be a great loss at this part of the settlement.

7. Many of the books certainly are rather of this description none that the Commandant is aware of but were calculated for the object in view without being too rigid on these points this remark of Mr. Durham also strengthens my opinion that the schools had better be under the Schoolmaster, the Religious Instructor to be entirely confined to other opportunities. The more extensive the library can be certainly the better and the more select the works but I cannot consider those condemnable at any rate until others are obtained. In conclusion the Commandant would beg to submit that the Clergyman or Catechist should be instructed to refer to the Commandant before he makes.

6. While I have given Mr. White credit for the increase of the school, it would be an act

of injustice if I passed over in silence the incessant labours of the Clerk and Monitors of the school; these are the men that have brought the school to its present state of propriety, these are the persons, that order the work, under this impression I suggested the propriety of holding out some remuneration.

7. The library contains 391 vols. more than the 2/3 of which are strictly religious. On Saturday last there were 107 books issued and amongst them there were not more than 3 religious works chosen by the men. This fact confirms my observation that the great majority of the books are not suitable for the prisoners.

In conclusion to differ with Cap. Booth as to the Commandant of Port Arthur, being the only medium of communication between the Comptroller General and the Chaplain.

A Clergyman of the Church of England if he be a man of principle, purity and diligence should as the friend and pastor of the prison have unrestricted communication with the head of the department. The prisoners from a variety of reasons will never regard any officer over him (however just and impartial) as his disinterested friend. He will only confide in his Clergyman and I do humbly suggest the

confident of the prison should not be obliged to make known his case, to any on the settlement. Besides, when I received my appointment from Lord Stanley, confirmed by His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor I had not the most distant idea that I should be subject to any head save the Comptroller General, the representative of His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor in the Convict Department. However, as I observed before I am anxious to ? every thing, in which conscience is not concerned, and to adopt any or every plan; that may ultimately promote the welfare of the prisoners and the propriety of the colony at large .

27.4.1844 TSA/Misc 62/1/A 1087/1128

Schoolmaster to ?

When I had the honour to address you on the subject of the convicts school on the 26th January last (the day on which Mr. Durham commenced his spiritual duties) the numbers attending my school were as follows

Teachers	-	28
Adults	-	503
Boys	-	26
Total	-	557
Increase	-	430

Owing to Mr. Durham's injudicious conduct however the numbers have been reduced as follows

Teachers	-	29
Adults	-	266
Boys	-	32
Total.	-	327
Decrease	-	230

Ever since Mr. Durham commenced his duties, there has been a gradual change for the worse.

Mr. Durham recommended classification contrary to my wishes. By Captain Booth's orders it was tried and has proved as I felt confident it would, a complete failure.

Mr. Durham in order to win the affections of the men, has held out promises, which I am confident he never can fulfil. Such as procuring mitigations of sentence, remission, etc. The minds of the men, in consequence have become excited to the highest degree and they no longer pay that attention to their studies, for which they were formerly so remarkable. Neither are they so obedient.

In fact, they are in a very disaffected state and an officer (Mr. Newmans) told me a few days ago, that if Mr. Durham remained here much longer, there would be a mutiny and such also is my firm belief.

Mr. Durham until yesterday evening has never interfered with the discipline of the school although, when he is present the minds of the men are in a very excited state. They are anxious to see him not in his spiritual character, far from it, but because, they blind themselves to the belief, that he can do almost anything for them.

Last night because I ordered some of the men to their desks, who were walking about the school Mr. Durham asked me by what authority I ordered a man (a very bad character) of the name of Green to his seat. I told him I had done so in accordance with the regulations of the school and that I had strict orders from the Commandant on the subject. He immediately said, "I order you to appoint John O'Donnell (another bad character whom I had sent to his seat) to act as second Monitor at the

other O'Donell's desk." I replied that I should do so if such were the Commandant's orders he then said "mind you see and do it." Mr. Durham was very violent in his manner and shook his stick at me and said to the man whom I had ordered to his seat "come along with me" and he took him from the place I had ordered him to.

Of course my authority for the remainder of the evening was neutralised and the men in a state of downright disaffection.

I respectfully submit, that the schoolroom is not the proper place for Mr. Durham to see the men at and request that you will have the goodness either to appoint me to another station or give me full power over the school as either Mr. Durham, or I, must be sole master.

Mr. Durham, as I told Captain Booth has done more injury to the interests of this school, than it will take 12 months to recover .

To Captain Booth and the Revd. Mr. Manton do I respectfully refer you as to the admirable state of the school, prior to Mr. Durham's interference and also to Mr. Champ for the manner in which I have discharged my duties since he came.

I have reported this matter to the Commandant also the contents of a note received this morning from Mr. Durham wherein he orders me to give an account of the stationery he received since the 1st Feb. how applied etc. and to teach the crime class. Mr. Champ however does not recognise Mr. Durham's authority to order me to do anything of the kind.

27.4.1844 TSA/Misc 62/ 1/A 1087/1128

Schoolmaster to Lieutenant Governor

Since I had the honour to forward to Your Excellency, a statement relative to the prosperous state of the affairs of the convict school, I regret to state that there has been a gradual change for the worse, the numbers having decreased from 557 to 327.

This is owing to Mr. Durham's injudicious and improper conduct with regard to the men; who are in a state of disaffection.

In order to win the affections of the men Mr. Durham has held out promises that he will procure through the medium of Lord Stanley mitigations and remissions of sentence for them.

Mr. Durham until yesterday evening never interfered with the discipline of the school, but the men when he is present are in a state of high excitement and instead of attending to their studies as formerly and being orderly and obedient are anxious to see him, as they blind themselves, into a belief that he can do almost anything for them.

Last night amongst several others who contrary to the regulations of the school were walking about the school room I ordered two men one named Green and the other O'Donnell (both bad characters) to their places. Mr. Durham asked me, by whose authority I had ordered Green to his seat. I said in consequence of strict orders I had received from the Commandant and in accordance with the regulations of the school, he then said to Green "come along with me" and he took him to where he (Mr. Durham) was sitting and said to me "I order you to place John O'Donnell as second monitor at the other O'Donnell's desk and mind you see to it." I replied that I should do so if I had the Commandant's orders to that effect.

Mr. Durham's conduct was very violent and he shook his stick at me in the presence of all the men.

As a matter of course my authority for the remainder of the evening was completely neutralised.

Mr. Newman Snr. told me a few days ago that if Mr. Durham remained there would be a mutiny and such is my firm belief also as the men are quite disaffected towards the authorities and say "Mr. Durham is their man as he neither cares for the orders of the Commandant or Mr. Carte."

Mr. Durham has this day given me orders to render an account of stationery he received for the use of the evening school and likewise to teach the crime class but the Commandant does not recognize his right to order either.

I respectfully refer Your Excellency to Captain Booth and the Revd. Mr. Manton as to the admirable state of the school prior to the 26 January when Mr. Durham first visited it and also as to my conduct.

(Note by Lieutenant Governor, 1.5.1844) Comptroller General to enquire into this immediately and report.

(Note by Comptroller General, 3.5.1844) Forwarded to the Commandant who is requested to have the goodness to report fully on the representations here made.

5.5.1844 TSA/Misc 62/1/A 1087/1128

Commandant to Comptroller General

I have shown these letters to Mr. Durham and for his version of what took place in the school room on the particular occasion complained of by Mr. White, I must refer to a letter addressed by Mr. Durham to the Comptroller General or the 2nd instant, in which Mr. Durham places the whole matter in a very different light from Mr. White. There was no other person present in the school except the convicts and I have not thought it advisable to put any questions to any of them, but from what I have indirectly heard I am inclined to think that Mr. White's representation is not much if at all exaggerated. That Mr. Durham has acted imprudently in interfering at all with the school there can be no doubt. I have on several occasions explained to him that Mr. White is not in any way subordinate to him or under his orders though at the same time every attention would be paid to his suggestions if practicable. This however he is not satisfied with persisting in claiming the sole management of the school both virtule officie and under instructions from the Comptroller, conveyed to him as he says in a memorandum which he has shown me. I have told him that in my opinion the Comptroller General's memorandum does not bear the construction he puts upon it and also when he has complained in general terms of Mr. White's unfitness for his office, that I have no reason whatever to be dissatisfied with his management.

Under these circumstances and as a good feeling between Mr. White and himself has not existed for some time it was certainly ill-judged in Mr. Durham to take any part in opposition to Mr. White, and particularly to allow his excited feelings to get the better of him in presence of the convicts.

1.5.1844 TSA/Misc 62/1/A 1087/1128

Schoolmaster to Commandant

Observing an unusual number of men coming to school nearly all of whom appear in a very excited state I enquired of Pavelin if Mr. Durham had stated anything in his address to the men to cause it. He informed me that Mr. Durham had spoken to the following effect.

He advised the men all to attend tonight to let the authorities see that it was not his wish for the prisoners to leave the school and it would then be seen whether the clergyman was the cause of their most whether the clergyman was the cause of their not coming.

He said he had taken no steps except for their benefit neither did he intend.

He hoped God would help him against his enemies and those of the prisoners. He said to Hawkins "Now Mr. Hawkins mind you keep a correct account of the numbers."

I felt confident that something had been said to irritate the men against me from the looks they gave, so very, very, very different from last night when all was peace and harmony.

If Mr. Durham has recourse to these means I can scarcely consider my life safe for there were men present whom I consider capable of anything. I therefore wish to draw your attention to this.

2.5.1844 TSA/Misc 62/ 1/A 1087/1128 Chaplain
to Comptroller General

The Commandant has permitted me to see Mr. White's letter to you of the 27th ult. To follow him in his course of recrimination, would be derogatory to the character which I sustain. However, I feel it a duty that I owe to myself, to disabuse your mind by respectfully submitting to you, a statement of facts. I regret that my attendance at the evening school to instruct the men, has displeased Mr. White, as I did so by the direction of your note of 21 January and your printed regulations, but Mr. White has omitted to state, why the daily school has decreased to almost a nonentity, though I never interfered with the same, and also the impossibility, I found, to induce the parents to send their children to the schools, assigning as the reason, the very great neglect, which has been shown to the education of their children. I have respectfully suggested to you; the necessity of classifying the prisoners from the utter impossibility of giving a just and correct report of the progress of the men, and that I might with great facility instruct the men; and not leave them always to the instructions of their fellow prisoners. Faithfulness compels me to state that I have never seen Mr. W. do anything but sit in his arm chair or perambulate the school room. If I have been so fortunate, as to gain the affections of the prisoners, it has been owing to my incessant anxiety to promote their temporal and spiritual welfare. I have employed no other argument or means, but those desirable from the Gospel of the Grace of God; I have invariably impressed on their minds that a course of submission and obedience would promote their freedom. As to Mr. W. Newman's feeling respecting a mutiny, I am sure no one has any apprehension of it, but himself. I beg to say his observation is a bad compliment to the incessant exertions of an excellent Com. and the officers under him. The fact is the settlement was never more peaceable, than at present. No absconders abroad and in the solitary cells (which I visit daily) there are very few for crimes of moment. I have enquired of Mr. Newman as to the correctness of Mr. W. statement and he has declared it is perfectly untrue. So much for Mr. W. veracity. I have most cautiously refrained from interfering with the regulations of the school until compelled to do so, by Mr. W's. undue exercise of authority on last Friday evening. A prisoner requested permission to see me, but Mr. W. would not allow him. I enquired of Mr. W. if he would not permit a prisoner to see the Clergyman? He said he would not? I then desired the prisoner to go the the desk and I would see him; at the same time, I requested Mr. W. if he would permit a sensible, well conducted man, the Overseer of one of the gangs, to become 2nd Monitor of one of the desks in which there were some men whom he persuaded to come to school. I never raised my stick,

at Mr. W. nor had I the most distant idea of doing so. I had no stick in my hand at the time. Mr. W. has unfortunately referred to Rev. Mr. Manton. Unfortunately I say for Mr. Manton told me, shortly before he left this, that for a long time he took no interest in the school, in consequence of Mr. W. treatment to him and it was through my persuasion he was induced to visit the school and speak in Mr. W. favour. If Mr. Manton be referred to he can tell (if he wish) the improper means which he mentioned to me, by which the school was increased.

I did request a list of books, stationery etc. as I had received information that these things were clandestinely removed from the school. I also felt it my duty to request Mr. W. to attend the crime class every day at 11 o'clock, which I had been teaching for nearly 3 months without any assistance whatever from the Schoolmaster, and in these requests I humbly suggested that I acted according to your printed directions which you sent me. Finally I humbly and most respectfully observe that I hope you will accede to the wishes of Mr. W. and remove him from this, as I very much fear, his interfering with the men, will defeat the object of Her Majesty's government in sending me here, being the reformation of the prisoners. If you wish that Mr. W. should remain I would suggest that he confine his labours to the free school, and I shall take the entire management of the prisoners school according to your printed instructions to me.

Forgive me for trespassing so long on your time.

1.5.1844 TSA/Misc 62/1/A 1 087/1 128 Commandant
to Comptroller General

At the request of Mr. White I forward the enclosed letter for the information of the Lieut. Governor. I have enquired of Mr. Newman the Assistant Superintendent who was present at prayers this evening and find that he corroborates the statements of Pavelin and Hawkins as to the address of Mr. Durham to the convicts. I am sorry to add that this is not the only instance in which the line of conduct adopted by Mr. Durham has been to say the least of it injudicious.

13.5.1844 TSA/Misc 62/1/A1078/1128

Comptroller General to Lieutenant Governor

I transmit these papers for H.E's. perusal and instructions. I would submit that whilst I think that the Chaplain should be cautioned as to his mode of proceeding and in fact told that however amiable his intentions may be, yet that if in the prosecution of his duties he does not follow a quick and judicious course it will become a measure of necessity to consider how much longer he can be trusted among such inflammable materials as are to be found at Port Arthur.

Mr. White in these ? is strongly attached to the "independent persuasion" perhaps this may have something to do with the state of feeling existing. Under any circumstances I think he should be removed to some other station when a good opportunity presents itself.

I cannot agree with the Commandant that the Schoolmaster is independent of the Chaplain. I find it laid down in the printed papers sent with other documents to H.E. this morning, that the Chaplain's especial duty is to superintend the school and our new regulations impose the same duties on Religious Instructions.

25.5.1844 TSA/Misc 62/ 1/A 1 087/1 128

Commandant to Comptroller General

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of yesterday's date relative to the misunderstanding between Mr. Durham and Mr. White, the contents of which I will communicate to these gentlemen.

In my own justification however I think it right to submit for His Excellency's information the grounds upon which I arrived at the opinion I expressed that Mr. White was not in any way subordinate to Mr. Durham, premising that I was not aware of the recommendations of the Inspector for Prisons in England or that they were to be acted upon here.

- 1st Mr. White's appointment as Schoolmaster distinctly states that he is to have "charge of the schools" and does not in any way allude to his being under the Chaplain.
- 2nd The notification of Mr. Durham's appointment as Religious Instructor here, makes no mention of the school neither has Mr. Durham although he has been here six months ever interfered in any way with the schools until the occasion in question, from which I inferred that he did not first consider it his duty to do so.
- 3rd Mr. Durham grounds his claim upon the printed regulations alluded to in your letter, a clause in these regulations states certainly that a school will be established at such stations under the care of the Religious Instructor, but the school here had already been long established under the charge of a first class officer appointed for the purpose; we have also two Religious Instructors here and if the regulation were applicable to one I conceived it would equally apply to the other, moreover the regulations in question were enclosed to Mr. Durham accompanied by a memorandum from the Comptroller that they were to be carried out as far as practicable "with the sanction of the Commandant. No sanction for any change in the superintendence of the school had ever been granted by the Commandant or asked for, and I therefore naturally thought that the school was still under the charge of Mr. White alone.
- 4th I am not aware that any communication has ever been made to the Commandant directing the adoption here of the whole or any part of the printed regulations, some of which are inapplicable to this settlement.

5th I believe (?) that the Schoolmaster at the probation stations is always a convict and of course requires supervision, whereas Mr. White is a gentleman, of good education, a solicitor by profession and in every respect equally capable of superintending the school with Mr. Durham.

In making these observations I sincerely trust that the Lieut. Governor will not consider me obtrusive or influenced by any unwillingness to acquiesce in His Excellency's decision. I am actuated solely by a feeling that I ought to be able to show that I had at all events some reason for the very decided opinion which I expressed in my memorandum of the 5th instant and if it should be thought that I have unnecessarily trespassed on His Excellency's attention I trust the motive may be considered a sufficient excuse.

27.5.1844 TSA/Misc 62/1/A 1 087/1 128

Commandant to Protestant Chaplain

With reference to the misunderstanding which has occurred between yourself and Mr. White the Schoonmaster I am directed by the Lieutenant Governor to acquainting you that the duty of superintending the schools is devolved upon you as Chaplain of this establishment.

Referring also to what has recently transpired, I am further instructed to point out to you, that the situation which you fill at this establishment is one which requires a great degree of discretion; the exercise of which however, will be found to be in no manner incompatible with the full and adequate discharge of your duties as a clergyman, in reference to the spiritual interest of those placed under your charge.

The maintenance of the strictest unity amongst the various officers and the careful avoidance of all topics likely to cause disagreement or excitement are objects of paramount importance at a station such as this, it is not enough that any officer who may be attached to the station should be animated by the best intentions, but regard must be had to the mode of carrying these intentions out and it is indispensable that this should be marked by the utmost calmness and judgement.

In conclusion I am to inform you that all communications connected with your duties at this establishment must be made through me.

27.5.1844 TSA/Misc 62/1/A1087/1128 Protestant
Chaplain to Commandant

I hope I am fully sensible of the momentous character and vital importance of the situation which I have received from Her Majesty's government. I flatter myself, that in all my interviews with the prisoners, private or public, I have exemplified that discretion which becomes a faithful minister of the Church of England and Ireland. So conscious am I that, heretofore, I have done my duty on this head, that it is, D.V., my intention to pursue the same course so long as I hold the spiritual charge of the settlement. So far as truth and fidelity permitted me; I have found a spirit of ? and forbearance and as to myself I believe I can say, I am on the most friendly footing with all the officers of the establishment. In reference to the Schoolmaster, I am certain I was in the path of duty according to the directions which the Comptroller General sent me and I beg most respectfully to say under these circumstances I was justified in writing to Mr. White as I did.

As to your concluding remark, I beg to say, I shall feel great pleasure in making a civil communication through you, but those of an ecclesiastical character, I beg most respectfully to say. I shall make direct to His Excellency the Comptroller General, or the Lord Bishop of Tasmania.

27.5.1844 TSA/Misc 62/1/1087/1128

Protestant Chaplain to Commandant

Before I commence the entire management of the schools daily and convict I beg to send you a copy of the rules which I shall require the Schoolmaster to observe.

1. The Schoolmaster to be under the sole direction of the Senior Chaplain in all matters relating to the schools .
2. The Schoolmaster to teach each class in rotation that he may be able to give the Senior Chaplain a monthly statement of the progress of the prisoners which can be submitted to the Comptroller General with the Senior Chaplain's signature according to the printed directions.
3. The Schoolmaster to draw no stationery for the use of the school without permission of the Senior Chaplain and all stationery to be issued according to his sanction to be issued according to his sanction.
4. The Schoolmaster to submit all memorials to the Senior Chaplain for his signature. No memorial to be signed in the school but by the Senior Chaplain.
5. The Schoolmaster to be accountable for all stationery etc. consumed (?) at the school.
6. The Schoolmaster to keep order and regularity in the school and to be answerable for the conduct of the man during school hours.
7. The Schoolmaster not to dismiss the children of the daily school at a quarter before eleven as heretofore when called on to attend the crime class as the Clerk of the Church can take his place until the crime class is finished.

29.5.1844 TSA/Misc 62/1/A1087/1128 Commandant to
Comptroller General

In Pursuance of the instructions contained in your letter of the 24th instant, I addressed a communication (copy of which is enclosed) to Mr. Durham. Mr. Durham's reply is herewith transmitted for the Lieutenant Governor's information.

I also forward the communication from Mr. Durham dated 27th May '44 not being aware how far its contents may be consistent with His Excellency's views in respect to the schools here.

(Note by Comptroller General, 31.5.1844) I transmit more from Mr. Durham. He evidently has not all that temper and discretion he thinks he has.

In regard to the daily school being under Mr. Durham he is mistaken. It is for the children of the free the parents paying a weekly sum for each child. Mr. Durham's instructions have been alone sent him in reference to convict duties.

Mr, Champ's letter requires no reply I submit altho' he is wrong in nearly every one of his positions, as I can show.

(Note by Lieutenant Governor, 31.5.1844) Let Mr. Durham be made acquainted with the ? of the daily school being for the children of the free, and that his duties are convict. Perhaps you had better drop the subject of discretion etc. until he gives some other instance of the want of it.

17.1.1845 TSA/Misc 62/1/A1087/1128

Comptroller General to Commandant

By the printed regulations for the Religious and Moral Instruction of the Convicts, the whole care of the schools is vested in the Religious Instructor.

The recent appointment of a Roman Catholic Instructor at Port Arthur renders revision of this regulation necessary as well at Port Arthur as at any other station which may be similarly situated now or hereafter.

There is a free Schoolmaster at this settlement and I would submit that he should have the whole regulations under the Commandant of the school at which the orders from home the fundamental parts of education alone are to be taught. The Religious Instructors should act as Visitors looking after the interests of their respective flocks and entering into a book to be kept for that purpose such suggestions as they may think proper to make for the consideration of the Commandant.

Religious instruction must be afforded by means of Sunday schools and at such other times as may be fixed on by the Commandant after consulting the Instructors.

That we shall have one school for the secular instructions of all sects whilst for religious each denomination will have its own Clergyman.

The school at Point Puer I would conduct on the same principle. There there will be two Catechists, Protestant and Roman Catholic. The former has the longest service to boast of and the highest salary, I think he should act as Schoolmaster and the Roman Catholic Catechiat should also visit this school as at Port Arthur.

I have reason to believe that this plan will answer and that it will be advantageous to economy as saving two sets of schools.

(Note by Lieutenant Governor, 28.1.1845) I have read and considered the above and approve of its being adopted.

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23.4.1844 TSA/Misc 62/1/A1087/1133

Protestant Chaplain, Port Arthur to Comptroller General In my last interview with the Hon. Mr. Hope (Secretary to Lord Stanley) he told me I should have a sufficiency to support myself and family in the rations which the government allowed.

I have been in receipt of the governments provisions for nearly 6 months and I regret to say, it falls far short of supporting my family.

You will perceive by the enclosed scale of rations, furnished by the Commissary Officer, that I am entitled to about 4 Ibs. of bread per day, for self, Mrs. Durham and now 7 children, the other rations are proportionally small. In fact, I have been sometimes so pressed for bread that I have been obliged to feed my poor children on potatoes and salt.

I am now desired to look to you and His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor as my diocesan and primate; I do so with every confidence persuaded when you realise I have as much to do as perhaps 3 clergymen in the diocese you will do what you can to enable me to educate, and support my family in comfort and respectability.

Again I was distinctly told at the Colonial Office, Downing Street that I am due that in consideration of the smallness of the island I would be allowed £40 per annum for the keeping of a horse whether I accept one or not.

I have not submitted the above to any one but yourself and if you can do nothing for me I have been thinking of writing to His Grace the Lord Primate of Ireland in whose diocese I held a perpetual cure and my leaving Ireland he desired me to write to him and promised to interest himself in my behalf.

30.8.1844 TSA/Misc 62/1/A1087/1133

Protestant Chaplain, Port Arthur to Secretary of State
In November 1842 I had the honour to receive Your Lordship's appointment to superintend the spiritual instruction of the Convicts on Tasman's Peninsula.

Prior to this, I had a communication from the Revd. E. Hawkins, Secretary to the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts, respecting the number of my family; after I had intimated to him that it consisted of six children, besides Mrs. Durham and myself, he informed me, I was to receive £200 per annum together with rations and house; as my salary.

Before I left England, I had an interview with the Honble. G.F. Hope in Downing Street; respecting my salary, he referred me to the Colonial Clerks, who read for me the following list, viz. £200 per annum, house, rations and 40 per annum for the forage of a horse.

After this, I waited (by the direction of the Colonial Secretary) on the Lord Bishop of Tasmania, at his residence in Kent, he handed to me a similar list, to that of the Colonial Clerk, and mentioned at the same time, that he would prevail on Your Lordship, to grant each clergyman on the convict establishment 10 acres of land with his house.

I most respectfully beg to observe to Your Lordship, that on the faith of these promises, I have resigned a permanent curacy, left a people, among whom I was respected and beloved, given up a salary nearly equal to what I enjoy and have exposed myself and family to all the evils, dangers, and privations of a penal settlement 16,000 miles distant from my own country .

On my arrival in the colony His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor, Sir Eardley Eardley Wilmot was pleased to appoint me, to take the spiritual charge of the penal settlement at Port Arthur on Tasman's Peninsula with the concurrence and license of the Lord Bishop of Tasmania, I was then placed on a scale of ration; far inferior to what I was given to understand I should receive, but I beg most respectfully to observe to Your Excellency, since that there has been a considerable reduction in my scale of rations, so that I now receive the same scale as my convict servant and in fact very many of the convicts receive a better ration than mine.

With very great deference, I beg to remark to Your Lordship, that in accepting my present situation, I did so under the conviction that house, rations etc., were to be considered as part and parcel of my salary.

If then Your Lordship has deemed it right to make this general reduction, I trust' Your Lordship will take my particular case into your benevolent consideration, and when Your

Lordship recollects I am the Church of England Chaplain of a penal settlement a most responsible, arduous and self denying situation, a situation that prevents me from rising in my profession, a situation that endangered the present, and eternal welfare of my family I am sure Your Lordship will not consider me too extravagant in my requesting an increase of salary.

-7.1845 TSA/Misc 62/1/A1087/1133

Comptroller General to Protestant Chaplain, Port Arthur I am directed to acquaint you that the Lieutenant Governor has been honoured with a despatch from the Right Honourable the Secretary of State in reply to His Excellency's despatch transmitting your letter addressed to Lord Stanley under date 30th of August last, representing your allowances as Chaplain at Port Arthur representing the inadequacy of your actual emoluments as compared with the expectations which you had been led to entertain before accepting the office, that your rations are insufficient and that you have not been allowed forage for a horse, which you had been informed by a member of the Colonial department and by the Bishop of Tasmania would be allowed to you.

Lord Stanley states that he fears you must have been some misapprehended in the matter thus brought under his notice, as in reference to your statement that a list was read to you at the Colonial Office, in which the emoluments of your situation was specified and that a similar list was afterwards given to you by the Bishop of Tasmania. His Lordship is not aware of the existence of any list of the kind except the schedule attached to Mr. Stephen's letter to the Secretary of the Treasury of the 28th of February. In that schedule His Lordship observes that there is no mention made of forage and that even had such an allowance been promised it could not have been paid except on proof that a horse had been kept. In regard to rations His Lordship presumes that issues of this description are regulated by a fixed tariff and that you have all which you are entitled. His Lordship therefore regrets that under the Crown it will not be in his power to afford you any relief.