

1800.

the present vessel is not worth a third of that. A vessel for the service of Cape Breton must be sheathed with copper, on account of the worms. Is informed that Americans carry off nearly all the fish caught by the inhabitants, paying for them in contraband goods. Col. Cor., vol. 77, p. 681

Enclosed. Report on the state of the Treasury schooner, dated Halifax, 4th December, that the cost of the necessary repairs would exceed her value and that she is too small for the service of Cape Breton. 685

December 22,
London.

Memorandum by Hames to King on the violent conduct of McKinnon at Cape Breton, and enclosing documents in relation thereto.

A. & W. I., vol. 598

December 23,
London.

Enclosed. Documents relating to McKinnon.

Hames to King. For six months' leave of absence.

Col. Cor., C.B., vol. 77, p. 809

1801.

Of same date, asking for a short interview with King. 811

January 1,
Sydney.

Despard to Secretary of State (Portland). Transmits state of the Council. Col. Cor., C.B., vol. 78, p. 1

Enclosed. State of the Council. 5

January 6,
John Street.

Sam. C. Cox to King. Transmits memorial from Ball, the statements in which he believes to be true. 331

Enclosed. Memorial from Ingram Ball. 335

January 31,
Sydney.

Despard to Secretary of State (Portland). Has drawn in favour of Tremain & Stout for the expenses of the "Hope," to 24th December last. 9

Enclosed. Vouchers. 13, 17

Pay list of the "Hope." 19

February 5,
London.

W. Baker to King. Has delivered dispatches to the Secretary of State and is ready to remove all misapprehension in regard to the state of affairs in Cape Breton. Asks for the settlement of a bill for £500, drawn in his favour on account of work done at the colliery. A. & W. I., vol. 598

February 8,
Sydney.

Despard to Secretary of State (Portland). Sends minutes of Council from 15th September, 1800, to 15th January, 1801. Col. Cor., C.B., vol. 78, p. 21

Enclosed. Minutes of Council. 25

February 8,
Sydney.

Despard to Secretary of State (Portland). Refers to his letter of 26th October, respecting the agreement with Stout to continue working the coal mines; their ruinous condition leaving no alternative, the business having been completely neglected by Murray and his agent, Baker. Sends return of expenses and of coal raised; the people have been employed in finishing a new pit and other work; the pit is finished, and he has reason to believe 4,000 chaldrons will be ready to ship by 1st June. Owing to the rise in the price of provisions, recommends an advance in the price of coal, those who purchase for shipment at the present rate making excessive profits, so that an increase of two or three shillings would cause no diminution in the demand. This would largely make up for previous losses and justify a higher duty if the mines are let on contract. Has deferred advertising the mines till he can receive further instructions; a larger revenue, he believes, can be raised than has hitherto been the case. The amount exported since the mines were taken over by the Crown has been 2,008½ chaldrons, and the price, amounting to £1,606 13s. 4d., has been applied to the payment of wages, &c. 73

Enclosed. Account of articles furnished to the mines. 81

Account of coal shipped. 85

February 19,
Whitehall.

Secretary of State (Portland) to Despard. The agreement with Stout about the coal mines is the best under the circumstances. Approves of his proposal to let them on lease, and to advertise this as generally as possible; it will be best to send out an overseer, and he has no doubt of procuring a suitable person. He is right in refusing to pay any charges incurred by