

month of December several improvements were made at Sydney Cove, and in particular a building was covered in at Paramatta, which was intended as a place of worship until a church could be built.

By that time the settlement at Norfolk Island was considerably improved. The wheat harvest was successful, yielding about a thousand bushels of wheat, which were well got in, and thatched in stacks. The Lieutenant Governor had established some military regulations, and laid down rules for the observance of every person on the island; so that on the 15th of January, 1792, things in general wore a promising aspect in this settlement: 260 bushels of Indian corn were gathered in; many acres were in different states of growth, and likely to yield plentiful harvests. The storehouses and granaries were in good repair; and every effort was made to extirpate the vermin with which they were infested. The vines flourished exceedingly, and afforded the colonists the pleasing expectation of a speedy and ample supply of wines. At Norfolk Island a quantity of excellent lime-stone was discovered, which forming a very good cement, obviated every inconvenience to which they had been previously subjected in erecting their buildings. This account arrived in 1793.

From dispatches received in 1795, it appears, that great improvements were making at the settlement called Paramatta, which is situated on an elevated spot, in the form of a crescent. A strong redoubt is constructed in that place, where there are barracks for a detachment of the military, which is always on duty there, as well to preserve good order and regularity among the convicts, as a check upon the natives, who, from the distance to Sydney Cove, might be tempted to molest the settlers, were there no armed force to protect them.

Much order and decorum prevailed among the convicts, who were in general more attentive to their business; and respectful to those who are appointed to superintend them, than can be easily imagined. Some are employed in making bricks and tiles, others in building warehouses, huts, &c. a great number in