

Reel 6002; 4/3491, pp. 308-10

1812, August 10

To C. W. Gardiner, Bengal, re production and export of coal

Sections 7 & 8 describe mines at Newcastle

Per Ship Peggy}

Murray Mast. }

Sydney New South Wales

Secretary's Office 10th Aug. 1812

Sir,

1.- I have been honored with your letter of the 3rd Dec. 1811, which reached me by the Brig Sayle(?) on the 3rd of May last.

2.- I have now the honour to inform you that agreeably to the request of the Rt. Hble. The Gov. Gen. in Council, His Excy. The Gov. has made a shipment of 134 Tons

[] of Coals for the use of the Presidency of Bengal on board the ship Peggy – Murray Master now about to sail for Calcutta –

3.- The expense of this shipment as made out by the Commissary, and the Bill of Lading, is transmitted herewith, conformably to the wish expressed by His Lordship the Gov. Gen.-

4.- Capt. Murray, not being disposed to prolong his stay for a further arrival of Coals, has thereby prevented the Shipment being made to the full extent of your Demand namely 154½ Tons, but the Deficiency will be made good by the latest opportunity which shall offer.

5.- Gov. Macquarie not being conversant with the rates of Freightings has not made any specific terms on that head with Capt. Murray but it is hoped his Letter, a copy of which is enclosed herewith will be found perfectly satisfactory, and should your Gov. wish to have a specific freight mentioned in future, you will please to Communicate the terms it would deem reasonable to offer.

6.- His Excellency the Gov. desires me to add that in case it should be equally agreeable to the Gov. Gen. To make a return for the Amount of the Coals, £ 268.14 Sterl. in Bengal Rum for the use of this Govt. such mode of payment would be more agreeable and satisfactory than any other.

7.- This country abounds in Coals but the only Pits heretofore wrought are at an Out Settlement called Newcastle, seated on the Hunter River nearly one Degree to the North of this place from whence they are sent hither by sea – There is no variety of Pits at the Mine and of course any difference which may occasionally appear in the quality arises merely from the different Strata Beds which the Miners may happen to be at work upon.

8.- The Coal of this Mine is not generally so large as that found in England, but in every other respect we here consider it not inferior to that of Wigan, Whitehaven, or even Newcastle itself.

9.- If the Gov. of Bengal should be desirous of a Continuance of supplies from hence, His Excellency the Gov. requests that you will have the goodness to inform His Lordship the Gov. Gen. that they shall be furnished as regularly as opportunities shall

offer to ship them off by, and in the mean time your Instructions as to further supplies shall be strictly attended to.

[] pen }
Cyclops }
7 Sept. 1812 }

I have the honor to be

Sir

Your Ob & very Hble Serv.

“signed” In Thos Campbell Esq.

C.W. Gardiner Sig.

[] [] to Gov.

Military Department

Fort William

Bengal