Goyder, G W. Northern Territory Survey Expedition, 1868-70: Diary kept by the Surveyor General (G W Goyder), Jan 1 to Sept 28, 1869

INDEXED ENTRIES

ABORIGINES

FEBRUARY

6 – Visited in the evening by two native boys in a canoe.
7 - The two natives who visited us last night took [officers and men] to where we had already sunk a well.
11- [East Arm] found a native grave on north bank in a small opening above high water mark
12- Goyder decided that bar shown on Stokes’s chart must be at the opening to the native grave. Afterwards proved to be the case.
19- the blacks brought in only three sheets of bark but profess themselves willing now to get more – agreed to give them another trial.
23- Received letter from Mr Woods relative to familiarity of men with natives. Took necessary steps to prevent this in future. Wrote memo to officers and men as to treatment of natives

MARCH

1 – Specimen of echidna brought in by black
6 – Had again to insist upon natives keeping outside the camp. Issued notice in writing insisting upon having dogs tied up in camp at night.
9 – Had to scold men for again being too familiar with the natives.
12- Blacks report two-masted vessel outside
18- [Escape Cliffs] Natives friendly

APRIL

16- Found two Malays in camp the survivors of a wreck and brought to camp by Mire who had interfered and saved them from being speared – ordered Mira a rations for his humanity
29- Blacks all disappeared yesterday morning but returned again today. One [Talings?] threatened to spear Mr Schultze for not giving him tum tum (food0 but was prevented by [Belamuck?] who also dissuaded Mr Schultze from getting his revolver, saying ‘no food no food’. Mr Schultze moved his tent to within the fence and had no further trouble….Men obtained a canoe, paddles &c from a native for which I gave him a tomahawk and a little food. He would have sold all he had save only some dry human bones which the Dr coveted but which he was not allowed to even look at.

MAY

8 – [Main Camp] Blacks had been troublesome. Doctor had organised double watch – app’d and [?] issued circular
10- Sent men to Mitchell’s camp putting him on his guard against natives.
11- a few blacks returned at noon bringing specimen of bat for Schultze.
12- No blacks at camp today
14- A few natives about, chiefly women and children
15- Well lost mosquito curtains and other articles by theft supposed by natives
24- [River Finiss] Goyder found an old native camp
25- Bennett and Guy speared See PEEL for details
29- Dr Peel -Three natives – men – and a boy came to camp today with fish – they are the same as have been about here for the last three weeks. They seemed very fearful of approaching camp this morning without first calling out for leave to do so. They left immediately preparations were being made for Bennett’s funeral. I do not think they knew of Bennett’s death
30- Peel – Towards evening Mira and several of his tribe came in
31- Peel - With Mira and his men and the natives who are generally here, there are now about twenty
native men about the camp.

JUNE
5 – Mira and his men not here today
10- Peel – Two or three natives came into camp this afternoon who have not been here for many
weeks past
12- Goyder to Fort Point – Blacks running before and trying to burn us in the long grass. Blacks
followed us into Main Camp and were heard talking in mangroves at night but dispersed on seeing
preparations made to receive them.
17- Blacks crawling about in bushes around camp.
22- Fort Point – 5 canoes arrived with Blacks. They were not allowed to approach. They afterwards
camped at the Gully but were prowling round the camp at night.
23- Three blacks on road near camp but ran away on being seen by Mr Schultze
24- Sent to gully for water. The men, four, had to drive the blacks away, the latter fully armed and kept
returning. Rowe and Spooner then drove them to cliff and presented their pieces when the blacks
made off, got into their canoes and crossed to Talc Head

JULY
6 – About a dozen blacks arrived at noon but were not allowed to come near the camp.
23- as natives persisted in going towards timber cutting party, a couple of shots were fired which had
the effect of sending them away.
28- Natives suddenly appeared to men cutting timber. As usual the men neglected orders and went
out without arm and had to return for them. Sent out a special guard with the party. As natives
persisted in going towards timber cutting party, a couple of shots were fired which had the effect of
sending them away.

AUGUST
1 – Two empty canoes floated past camp. Goyder made inquiries about them to no avail but in the
evening, Hardy and Greene admitted they had destroyed all canoes on a beach except these two
which they had set adrift. Goyder furious on both humanitarian grounds and the practical one of
antagonising the natives and inviting reprisals.
3 - Tuesday - On Mr Knuckey’s report for May – entry on the 24th relative to attack on the camps by
natives – Had my original plan been adhered to no camp would have been left with so few to
defend themselves, or the property under their charge.

ACCIDENTS  SEE ALSO HEALTH

FEBRUARY
8 – Monday – Samson – bruised by the horses rushing past and knocking him down.
19- Dalwood hurt by a fall from a branch of a tree
20-Dalwood’s seventh rib fractured by fall last night.

MARCH
8 – Palmer upset cart on sideling [side of slope] crushing tank, through carelessness going up hill.
19- Mr Mills cut his foot whilst bathing

APRIL
4 – Dr fell from horse

MAY
6 – Moyse stung by scorpion
7 – Donald McAulay accident from negligent use of gunpowder
14- Wells fell off cart whilst driving on the beach from jetty, the wheel passed over both thighs. Cart not loaded at the time and accident occurring in soft sandy place, Wells came off with only a slight bruise.

JULY
21- Andrew Smith nearly lost his life attempting to swim in his clothes to long boat. He was rescued by the dingy, not a second too soon. Dr applied necessary restoratives. By 5 pm he was about again.

AUGUST
4 – Wednesday - Stanborough met with accident from slipping of crowbar – it took off nail
9 - Doctor met with an accident and sprained his ankle after leaving me last night...Doctor’s ankle too bad to enable him to move about freely
21- Edwards unfortunately got his finger crushed between two rocks at road. Doctor removed it from the middle joint of third finger of left hand.

ACCOMMODATION  SEE ALSO MESSES

FEBRUARY
27- Goyder left ship. Dr still living on board

MARCH
5 – Men getting up deckhouse which Dr Peel now declares is unsuited for his purpose. Gave draftsmen deckhouse and Dr Peel my tent to reside in for the present.
6 – Fitted up doctor’s tent.

MAY
27- Peel - Landed Bennett and Guy and had square tent erected for them

JUNE
2 – Peel – had Hatch and Robinson’s tent struck as they do not use it now. [Looking after Bennett, etc]

JULY
3 – Two iron stores to be cleared for Mess houses for 12 surveyors and 12 cadets, and a cook appointed for each mess of 12. The remainder of parties to be in round tents and divided into four messes, each with a cook and camp keeper. The Camp party to remain as now with Hardy and Ringwood added to east [Lean-to?]
7 – Marked out site for tents, mess sheds, stables, officers tents &c preparatory to return of party so as to have accommodations without confusion or loss of time on their several arrivals which I anticipate will be about the end of month.
17- Forty men returned from bush. Tents erected

AUGUST
12- Doctor’s house removed, put up afresh and properly secured.

ADAM BAY  SEE MALAYS, ESCAPE CLIFFS

ADELAIDE RIVER

APRIL
11- Goyder on exploration. Adelaide River and Plains visible to the eastward.

MAY
29- Goyder’s exploration. Reaches Mount Charles on the west side of the Adelaide. Rocket Creek appears to be a west branch of the Adelaide [Goyder corrects this on 30 May]....the whole of the country at the head of the Adelaide admirably adapted for triangulation, abundant [shade?] for stock and abundance of grass. Next two days Goyder exploring around the Adelaide.

JUNE
2 – Goyder “arranging for adjustment of overlap in survey...also continuation of survey and avoidance of Lands upon the Adelaide”

ADMINISTRATION

JANUARY
2 – The pay sheets for the whole of the party were made out and entered in pay book. The Surveyors and their several parties were paid in orders but the payment of the orders to the remainder of the expedition was deferred till Monday
4 - Remainder of men signed pay sheets and were paid their orders for period from the 22nd to 31st December....Formed new mess forward.
5 - Case of stationery got up from hold and opened

MARCH
2 – Preparing for mail
3 – Draftsmen excepting Hardy engaged nearly all night preparing for mail

APRIL
26 - Calculated averages of work to be done in field and sent statement to surveyors.

MAY
3 – Examining diagrams and plans and preparing for mail.
4 – Closed mail. Diagrams and plans completed

JUNE
21 - Sent [to Smith and Harvey] cheques for extra work

AUGUST
3 – Examined Mr Hoare's drawings and fixed upon their value to the Govt. Critical comments on the surveyors' progress reports.

SEPTEMBER
10 - Making good progress with accounts and correspondence
27 - Preparing documents for departure for Adelaide.

ALCOHOL

JANUARY
2 – Served out grog at 7 pm
3 - Discovered that the hands were getting grog and beer from the stores – ordered the place to be boarded off and set a watch to guard the stores till such had been done.
4 - Steward drunk and nine bottles of spirits short. Had all removed at once to store...Carpenters putting up bulkhead to prevent any person getting at the spirits
17- NB Packard queer – found that he has been getting grog. Warned him
25- Saw Steward again drunk.

FEBRUARY
13 - A memorial was presented in the afternoon by the men, relative to grog allowance 9vide correspondence)
26 - Goyder returned to main camp. “Found the steward drunk, he had opened cases in my own and the doctor’s cabin [rifling?] one bot. Light wine, 2 of brandy and 2 ¾ bottles port.

MARCH
3 – Gave Captain memo... respecting Charles Rennie’s drunkenness on 22nd ult.

MAY
24- Peel – “Her Majesty's birthday...Grog served to all hands”

ARMS & ARMOURY

JANUARY
12– Opened cases containing revolvers, fowling pieces and ammunition
16- Revolvers and carbines got on deck
23- Trying revolvers this morning
MAY
15- Peel - Issued order for revolver practice at 5 pm
16 – Peel – 1.45 am aroused by a rifle shot and at once went out and found that a carbine had been discharged by accident
JUNE
24- Gave further orders as to ammunition and arms – day of discharging and clearing pieces, &c.
JULY
3 – Mr Guy to be set apart to clean arms. All the guards to be armed with carbines and revolvers. All other arms except those of parties from protection to be cleaned and placed under Mr Thomas’ care to whose orders Guy is to attend as to cleaning arms. The rifles to be discharged and cleaned twice a week.
AUGUST
1 – Armory vacant from 6.40 to 6.55 pm – door open. Spoke to Mr Thomas on the subject, and pointed out to him the means by which he could make arrangements that such be avoided in future.

ARTHURS HILL
APRIL
20- Goyder named hill near Tumbling Waters ‘Arthurs Hill’

BARRY’S CREEK
APRIL
13- Goyder on exploration came across Barry’s Creek ‘flowing WSW with tributaries from E and SE’

BEATRICE HILLS
APRIL
11- Goyder on exploration – “Beatrice Hills bearing NE...Western slope of Beatrice Hills NNE ½ E”

BLACKMORE RIVER - see also EAST ARM/EASTERN ARM
Name often used by Goyder to denote township of Southport and East Arm.
MAY
18 – [From] “Elizabeth” to Harvey’s works, thence to the Township on “Blackmore”
22- Goyder notes waters SW and [S?] draining into Blackmore
JUNE
19- As usual long boat loading for Blackmore
21- Long boat started for Blackmore with Dr Peel’s rations for Smith and Harvey
22- Started Midge for the Blackmore with July rations for Woods and Mitchell
JULY
3 – Party to go on gold search expedition inland, ‘taking necessary appliances and provisions and starting from the Blackmore’
10- Fire extending from west of Darwin and Blackmore in direction of Bynoe Harbor
12- Midge to leave for Blackmore and leave Blackmore on receipt of letters from respective parties
13- Arranging for surveyors to close surveys and be at the Blackmore to be picked up by the boats on various dates.
14- Midge loaded for Blackmore. Letters to parties, to bring back June diagrams and reports
16- Started all three boats for Blackmore. Mr MacLachlan on board to rejoin his party.
27- Midge for the Blackmore at 2.30 pm
AUGUST
19- Started Midge at 8 am for the Blackmore with note to Mr McLachlan and Brooks to take photos
27- started of 21 men in Midge and Eliza for the Blackmore at 6 pm
28- Boats returned from the Blackmore at 11.40 am.
SEPTEMBER
22- Sent of Midge at 11.30 pm to Blackmore for Mitchells, Knuckles and Daly’s parties.

BOATS
FEBRUARY
11- Started with Captain, Doctor, Mr. A.H. Smith and boats crew to examine the Eastern Arm...explored... returned to boats and ascended stream about three miles examining banks narrowly...
16- Left the ship accompanied by Captain, Doctor, Mr Harvey, Roberts, Burton and boats crew at 1.30 pm for South Arm. Camped in boat at 8 pm.
26- [West Arm] – Tide had fallen 20 feet and the dingy had to be carried to the west side.
MARCH
2 – Boat parties engaged fetching water &c.
4 – Doctor came on shore in dingy
12- Sent Sackwell in gig to see if 2-masted vessel reported by blacks was there...Instructed Burton to take lifeboat and long boat and go to Escape Cliffs...
18- Boats returned [from Escape Cliffs] at 5 pm...The Julia worm eaten...Julia bottom good.
19- McLachlan’s party started for East Arm in boats at 3 pm
20- The boats with McLachlan’s party had a fine breeze last night.
27- Dr and Roberts had taken the dingy without leave. Sent off Burton in gig to show Captain [of schooner Guldare which had just arrived] the best anchorage. ...Had Midge hoisted out into water and gave orders for boats to be in readiness to discharge cargo and proceed up South Arm on Monday at low water. Arranged working parties at camp and boats afresh.
APRIL
2 – Started 11 am in gig for inlets E and SE of Lee point.
24- Started at 4 am for Fort Point, arrived at noon, sailing from Tumbling Waters for 3 miles in dingy when we embarked on board Midge
30- Doctor started for South Arm on Midge to bring down letters and diagrams.
MAY
1 – Gig returned with letters and diagrams from McLachlan and Mitchell’s parties at 1 am.
6 – Goyder returning from Smith’s camp to Fort Point...”Arrived 6 pm – 12 hours sail – what with carrying dingy over falls and headwind and tide.
14- Peel – Went to Doctors Gully for water in dingy. Long boat returned at noon, was reloaded and started again for East Arm.
15- Longboat returned about 8 pm
18- Boat arrived at night. Peel’s report: Midge returned at 2 am with Mr Brooks, Nottage, Schultze and son. Life boat despatched to East Arm. Midge to South Arm with Mr Berry and rations. Life boat left Theodolite legs on beach.
19- Life boat returned for Theodolite legs and left again immediately. Midge returned about 7 pm bringing J. Packard to be treated for bad thumb
22- Boat to Doctors Gully for water.
25- Peel – 7 15 am Mr Thomas arrived in Life boat from East Arm bringing news of the spearing of Bennett and Guy. “Left with Mr Thomas in life boat for East Arm at 1 pm and arrived at East Arm Jetty at 7 pm.
30- Peel - Boat returned early this morning.
31- Peel – Boat returned from East Arm with message that they were to be there on Monday June 7th to receive load of camp equipage which Mr Woods wished to send to store.

JUNE
5 – Midge left for East Arm at 10 am with Mr Brooks for Messrs Woods and Mitchell’s camp and Packard for McLachlan’s. Midge to wait for goods from Mr Woods.
6 – Peel – Lifeboat went out with pleasure party early in the morning without my leave.
8 – Midge returned in the evening, with Mr Brooks.
9 – Peel – ordered engineer of Midge to take out boiler and overhaul everything as the Coxwain told me the boiler leaked
10- Peel – Engineer of Midge reports boiler unsafe so have ordered it to be brought up into camp.
16- Midge returned from Elizabeth at 2 pm
17- Midge’s boiler under repair
19- As usual long boat loading for Blackmore
21- Long boat started for Blackmore with Dr Peel’s rations for Smith and Harvey.
22- started Midge for the Blackmore with July rations for Woods and Mitchell
23- long boat returned at noon with Dr and Mr Smith.
25- Midge returned at 2 am.
30- Midge returned at 2 pm bringing remains of camp equipage and Hazard suffering from rheumatism.

JULY
3 – Instructed Burton to go up in Midge to see if equipage left at the Elizabeth. ...On completion of sectional surveys, McLachlan and AH Smith with Gem coxwain, crew and other men to survey points of harbour inlets.
4 – Midge started for Elizabeth.
5 – Midge returned at 8 pm
9 – Using Midge’s boiler to distil salt water
12- Midge to leave here on Wednesday afternoon and to leave Blackmore on receipt of letters from respective parties. Parties to be picked up [at Blackmore?] on 27th and 29th inst and on 2nd August.
14- Midge loaded for Blackmore....Midge started with letters and to bring back June diagrams and reports from field parties from landing place on the Blackmore
15- Midge in sight with head wind – four people on board - about 4 ½ miles distant.....arrived at ¾ past 7 pm. Gave McLachlan instructions for additional survey – boats to be for his party at landing place.
16- started all three boats for Blackmore
17- no appearance of boats at 6 am. Boats returned at 3.15 pm.
19- Instructions given to Burton for his gold search and Midge loaded with rations for 15 persons to 1st September.
21- Midge returned at 11 pm with letters from Harvey and Burton.
22- Sent Rowe with Midge to deliver letters and bring back replies.
26- No sign of Midge though fully expected back by this morning’s ebb tide
27- Midge in sight at 8.30 am...returned at 10 am with letters from parties. Started off Midge for the Blackmore at 2.30 pm
28- At noon Midge not in sight. In sight at 1.45 with head wind. She anchored at 2.30 all right.
31- Long boat returned at 11 am with [12?] casks of water.

AUGUST
1 – Midge loaded for South Arm...started between 2 and 3 pm. At 6 pm sent off boat to examine two canoes floating past....later Goyder sent Gem out to try and retrieve them
2 – Spooner and crew returned with the Gem at 8 am. After a 3 hours pull they had seen nothing of the canoes. Midge in sight at 3.30 pm...arrived at 5.30 pm with Mr Smiths party
3 - Midge under repair
17- Harvey has completed survey – ordered boats to be prepared at once for a start, sent them off at 1.35 pm with rations etc.....Rather alarmed at non-arrival of Gem with coast survey party until long after time – fixed signal rockets to hasten their return which were shortly answered. Mr Woods had simply extended his survey further than anticipated and the men had to pull ten miles back.
18- Memo – to speak to Spooner about the slovenly and idle pulling of his boat crew. Harveys party returned in Midge and long boat at 10 and 11 pm.
19- Discharged long boat and Midge. ....started Midge at 8 am for the Blackmore with note to Mr McLachlan and Brooks to take photos.
20- Midge returned at 4 pm with McLachlan’s party
27- Loaded boat (s?) with stores &c for Mitchell’s, Daly’s and Knuckey’s parties and started off 21 men in Midge and Eliza for the Blackmore at 6 pm.
28- Boats returned from the Blackmore at 11.40 am
SEPTEMBER
1 – Boat party out with Mr Woods
18- To send long boat and pinnace to Casuarinas for water on Monday
19- Whale boat started at 9 am for Casuarinas
20- (?) boats off to Casuarinas for water. Captain and Mr Brooks accompanied them...Boats not returned at 8 pm They have probably hauled on shore and had to wait the tide.
21- Boats did not return till 3 am
22- Sent off Midge at 11.30 pm to Blackmore for Mitchell’s, Knuckey’s and Daly’s parties.
23- No appearance of Midge
25- No sign of Midge at 6 pm.... Midge arrived at 9.45 pm

BUILDING MATERIALS
FEBRUARY
8 – Horse fittings being taken down (in ship) and rafted ashore, clear of high-water mark.
MARCH
1 – sent Burton out for samples of timber
3 – Party out cutting bark
9 – Men burning lime and charcoal. Trying wood for pegs, decided upon ironbark.
10- Men cutting wood and burning lime and charcoal.
18 lime-burning. From Escape Cliffs:– 400 bricks, 4 batten doors, 1 table, 2 do., doctor’s weather board cottage, 4 rooms with six panel doors and pair of sash windows, 2 tables, 1 batten door, two forms, 3 horse drays (bodies only) ironwork only part good. Table and batten door, 4 heavy gates, bolts and hinges complete, Govt House weather boarded and lined in good order, 6 panel doors, 2 pr sash windows, 2 single back do., 2 tables. Armoury in good condition. Store: 150 gal tank, 1 plough, batten doors and hinges, scales, 12 tent poles, old counter table panel, panel door, 2 sash windows, door on hinges, rafters. Well, 2 half tanks. Julia bottom good, punt cable. Mushroom anchor on beach, chain and cable – do- . Remains of gun carriage. 7 400 gal tanks fit to remove, 2 wheelbarrows, 2 stools.
19- Burton brought back specimens of tent pegs used at Escape Cliffs - a very hard peppermint gum.
The worms [white ants?] had attacked all more or less but chiefly the sappy portions. They had commenced on heart of solid wood of one however.
APRIL
28- Sent boat for coral – obtained some poor specimens
29- Sent again for coral – none obtained – water too muddy.
JULY
21- Visited Gully and thatching Parties wiith Doctor – all satisfactory...three loads of thatching grass brought in from swamp and a quantity of timber for stable.
22- Eight loads of thatching stuff got in by the evening, 30 loads in all will be required to tatch stable and cart sheds which is 108 feet long by 20 wide.
24- 15 loads of thatching grass brought in in 4 days – not above half the proper quantity...Mr Mitchell to take remainder of his men to Gully and cut remainder of thatch on Monday
26- 6 loads [of thatching stuff] sent in by Mr Mitchells party from swamp.
28- All grass cut in camp for thatching.

AUGUST
10- Men burning lime, road making, quarrying and surveying harbor
19- Mr King’s granite proved to be ordinary Quartz Rock

SEPTEMBER
2 - Men set to quarry rocks for Jetty
3 - men blasting rocks for Jetty

BUILDINGS see also BUILDING MATERIALS and ACCOMMODATION

MARCH
15- Men employed completing store, building shed and [cook’s] galley.
18- Men completing west lean-to [of store?] 
19- Store completed including both lean-tos
24- galley and cook house complete.

APRIL
29- mentions fence. Goyder moved into one of the iron houses.
30- Iron house though painted dreadfully hot – 100° Fahrenheit from noon till 4 pm then gradually declined to 80°

MAY
11- Carpenters completing 7th house to receive balance of grain...Men completed 7th store and stowed greater part of barley.
19- Tables and forms completed for Tradesmen’s Mess room. Messes rearranged.
28- Had [Bennett’s] body removed to Survey Office

JULY
3 – Made arrangements for final completing of camp, new stable, Hut, Cart shed...After completion of roads all available hands to be at work under Mr McMinn at Jetty save those required to complete the Stable and Hut.
5 – Marking out proposed new stable, Mess tents, Hut....Arranged for removal of Deck house to a point where the Coxwains can keep a look out on the Boats.
6 – Deck house taken away from store and removed to [?] to be cleaned and painted.
22- ...Stable and cart shed which is 108 ft long by 20 wide – the west side divided into 24 paved stalls, the east side 12 cart sheds.
24- Armstrong, Cornish and R Horn to be thatching party on roof of stable.
26- Thathing stable commenced.
30- Arranged for removal of Iron store to end of Mess hut so as to form a stage by removing Iron at one end for Saturday evening concerts.

AUGUST
4 – Workshop and boathouse completed... Five stalls and three divisions of Cart shed of new stable completed. Removed horses and harness and began taking down old stable. ... Concert stage worked well.

6 – Half of new stable completed – old one entirely cleared away, a vast improvement in appearance and comfort as the flies from the stables were a perfect nuisance in some of the men’s tents. New boathouse and workshop completed.

7 – Half the stable thatched by noon.

10- Woodwork of new stable completed.

20- Thatching of stable completed.

21- New stable completed.

**BYNOE HARBOUR**

**FEBRUARY**

5 - Fires/smoke seen south of Bynoe Harbour

**JULY**

10- Large fire extending from West of Darwin [River] & Blackmore [River] in direction of Bynoe harbor

**CADETS**

**SEE ALSO INDIVIDUAL NAMES**

5th **JANUARY** – Tuesday – Commenced an examination of the cadets. Cadet Giles passed very fairly as far as the examination was carried out. Cadet McKay a little deficient in the practical application of rules.

6th Continued examination of Cadets. Cadet Bee utterly ignorant of the theoretical branch of the profession and education all behind hand. Cadet Brooking passed a good examination

9th Commenced examination of junior cadets. Mr Sprigg’s examination except sector Logm and Trig was very satisfactory.

12th Examination of cadets continued. Beeton bad, Roberts better, Aldridge still better but all had to be sent back.

13th Examination of cadets continued. Burden exd and sent back. Wells better than expected, but had to be sent back.

**CASUARINAS – ‘Hightree’/’Hightrees’** [now known as Casuarina]

**APRIL**

3 - ...examined country at Hightree. Fresh water swamps – small and large creeks....Strong shallow stream near “Night Cliff” from [?] at Hightrees

**SEPTEMBER**

18- To send long boat and pinnace to Casuarinas for water on Monday

19- Whale boat started at 9 am for Casuarinas

20- [?] boats off to Casuarinas for water.

**CELIA CREEK**

**JUNE**

5 - Goyder’s exploration - went from Mitchell’s camp ‘thence by Darwin [River] to Celia Creek to Smith’s camp

**CROCODILES**

**FEBRUARY**

7 - First alligator seen this morning.
DARWIN RIVER
APRIL
13- Goyder’s exploration – camped on the east bank of the Darwin River
20- Examined country to the Darwin on east and camped on one of the flats draining into South Arm.
JUNE
5 – Moved from Mitchell’s camp ‘thence by the Darwin to Celia Creek
JULY
10- Fire extending from west of the Darwin & Blackmore in direction of Bynoe harbor
SEPTEMBER
5 – Gave orders for the departure tomorrow morning of all horses but four for the Darwin

DISCIPLINE & MORALE see also ABORIGINES

JANUARY
3 – Several of the men complain of leakage into their berths through the seams of the deck planking – to see that this is attended to as soon as possible.
5 - Steward censured [for drunkenness] and told what the consequences of another slip on his part would lead to.
18' Settled dispute among men in No 10 mess.
31- Chief Officer of ship insubordinate

FEBRUARY
5 - Charge made by E.M. Smith against Messrs Mills and Thomas – bad language “contrary to my instructions”. Investigated same and decided that Thomas should be censured and Mills suspended for a few days.
15- The decision arrived at with respect to Mr Ass't Surveyor Mills as follows. Mr Mills to join [expedition?] as to [future?] and to give pledge of strict obedience in future. Mr King allowed to return to his duty. Men went to work as agreed.
26- Found the steward drunk, he had opened cases in my own and the doctor’s cabin.

MARCH
1 – Disrated the steward. Mr McLachlan asked to have him as cook for his party and I consent. Schultze complained of Homeyer.
10- Mr McMinn complained of Nottage being lazy and inattentive. [Dr reports Hicks off work without leave.] Hicks lazy and skulking. Ordered Mr Lambell to inform him that his pay would be stopped as Dr reports him fit for duty.
11- Hicks to be surcharged rations and pay to be stopped from 10th inclusive.

MAY
15- Received letter from these Gentlemen [Woods and Mitchell] …respecting survey, mileage, &c – answered verbally that I would have nothing to say further until the Survey was complete and that any man declining to carry out his agreement should be at once dismissed.

JUNE
4 – Goyder going over survey work Saw Mr Thomas and talked seriously to him as to an error and certain omissions in work. Repeated same to Mr Woods who promised to see all corrected and such avoided in future
6 – Peel – Lifeboat went out with pleasure party early in the morning without my leave.

JULY
1 – A. Miller again laid up – talked to him sharply

10- Miller’s pay to be stopped from the 1st inst. As the Doctor thinks he ought to be at work.

SEPTEMBER
4 - Concert in evening pretty good but I left in consequence of an impious remark by one of the performers which was totally uncalled for.
8 – Fined Almers a day’s pay for quarrelling
9 - Investigated charge and counter-charge producing quarrel between Almers and Wells. Decided that both were wrong and took off a day’s pay from each.

DRAFTSMEN     SEE ALSO INDIVIDUAL NAMES
2nd JANUARY – Saturday – Draftsmen appointed to watch at the cook’s galley from this date to prevent water from being abstracted from the coppers and to ensure proper precautions against fire
13th Instructed Draftsmen Bennett, Berry and Ringwood to each make four copied of township plan drawn by Brooks and Hardy to copy the Moonta Herald....Noon – Draftsmen preparing plans of township...Draftsmen engaged at plans from 2 to 4 pm.
14th Draftsmen still engaged at plans of township. Ditto 15th
16th Draftsmen engaged till noon
19th Draftsmen still at work. Steel (?) still queer
20th Draftsmen still engaged at plans during the day
21st Draftsmen only engaged till 12.30, it being too close afterwards to work
22nd Draftsmen engaged at work till 12.30
26th Draftsmen engaged till 12.30

DRIPSTONE CAVES

EASTERN ARM     SEE ALSO WELLS & WATER

ESCAPE CLIFFS     SEE also BURTON

FIRES – BUSH     see BYNOE HARBOUR

FISHING
23rd AUGUST – Monday – Fishing party organised....Boatmen got nothing but shellfish which were divided amongst the several messes.
31st Men sent out with net in afternoon – they obtained one large fish – like the salmon, ????? or dace, and between two and three dozen small ones.
8th SEPT – Wednesday – A good haul of fish obtained in afternoon by Burton
9th A good haul of fish got by Burton – sufficient for the whole camp

FLAGSTAFF     SEE ALSO LABOUR
4th SEPT - Saturday – New Flagstaff erected
16th Flagstaff [completed]

FORT POINT     SEE ALSO ROADS
9th AUGUST – Monday - Funeral [Hazard’s] took place at 5 pm on Fort Point

GARDEN
MARCH
18- Escape Cliffs - In garden, bananas, tamarinds, Tomatoes, Chillies, Pine apples &c &c.

GOLD
28th AUGUST – Saturday – Burton handed in Journal and specimen of Gold
GOYDER’S HEALTH

JANUARY
4 - Self suffering from sickness
11- Had a slight bilious attack last night from which not quite recovered.... Carpenter stopping off foul air from my berth
12- suffering pain and relaxed bowels
14' a bilious attack, the worst
15- Self better. Ditto 16th
17- Self still improving
18- Self a slight return of sickness
19- Self and other patients improving
20- Self a good deal better
23- Self again a little queer
24- Self unwell – stomach out of order

FEBRUARY
2 – Doctor reports 4 cases including myself – all trifling
6 - Self still suffering from bilious attack
7 - Self still ill;
8 - Self still unwell.
26- on ‘walking tour’ of sic mil es from West Arm: “was obliged to sit down and rest, feeling for a time much fatigue from weight of wet trousers, leather legging and the quantity of long grass to carry or step over each time. At 8 o’clock taking off legging, started off for, and reached the boat.”

AUGUST
9 - Self rather better. Have been suffering for past ten days from diarrhea with [?]
11- Self no better
14' Self a good deal better until midday then all old symptoms returned in aggravated form – felt dull and weak. Saw Doctor who at once gave me an efficient remedy and by night felt much better

GOYDER’S WORK
See summary of Goyder’s Diary.

GULNARE
SEE also LABOUR, SWEET, WELLS
21st AUGUST – Saturday - No appearance of the schooner which I consider due today.
23rd No appearance of Schooner.
24th The schooner rounded Point Elliott at 5.15 pm Sent off Doctor and Postmaster to see if all is right as to health &c. Signal made by the Gulnare that all was right. Captain Sweet landed at 6.30
27th Completed discharge of schooner
28th ...Tanks are required to water Schooner
31st Four tanks sent on board the Gulnare to hold the water for the home trip – vessel ballasted and men sent of board to measure size of timber required for lower deck bunks, &c, &c
1st SEPT – Wednesday – Burton watering schooner
3rd Sent ten casks tallow and sundry packages to Gulnare
4th Specimens and (loading?) sent off to Gulnare
9th Lower deck in schooner finished, and lockers commenced
13th progress in schooner fittings satisfactory
23rd Fittings & repairs to schooner completed
28th Tuesday – Embarked on board the Gulnare at 10 am. Tripped anchor for Adelaide via Koepang

HARBOUR
16th AUGUST – Monday - ?????? of Harbor survey resumed

HARVEY RIVER SEE also McLACHLAN

HEALTH see also HYGIENE, ACCIDENTS
Dislocation of shoulder “cleverly reduced”. Bilious attack [Goyder]
Suppression of urine [McIntyre] Painful abscesses in the finger and had (Thecal abscesses)
Purpura [Andrew Smith] ‘Ill from heat’. ‘many of the men have swellings from boils and slight abrasions of the skin’ Chronic bronchitis [Dalwood] – invalided out
Retention of urine [Collard] Diarrhoea [Hinton, Goyder] Dysentry [Harvey]
Fever from cold [Wilson] Fever 8 May - Allowance of Quinine to be sent to the Elizabeth
Ulcerated legs [Hoare] REF – Kerr. Cold and swelled face [Rowe]
Rheumatism then ‘fatal pleurisy’ [Hazard] Lame [Packard] Bad eyes [Mr Smith]
Scurvy – 23 August lime juice served out to men. ‘Sick and giddy from effects of heat’

DEATHS – Bennett [speared] and Hazard [pleurisy]

HORSE GULLY – SEE ALSO LIVESTOCK

HOSPITAL TENT
11th AUGUST – Wednesday - Hospital tent to be removed

HYGIENE
16th JANUARY – Saturday - Issued circular as to sanitary state of 2nd cabin
18th Noon – Second class officers’ and cadets’ cabins cleared and thoroughly cleansed.

7th AUGUST – Saturday - camp cleaned up and everything looking well
14th Camp cleaned up at 12.00 pm

ILWADDY CREEK SEE also McLACHLAN

INSECT PESTS SEE MOSQUITOES & SANDFLIES, WHITE ANTS

JETTY SEE ALSO BUILDING MATERIALS
3rd AUGUST – Tuesday - engineer set to construct winding gear, for raising stone &c for Jetty
9th Jetty making fair progress

LABOUR – Division of... Opinion of...etc. SEE ALSO BUILDING MATERIALS, LANDING
11th JANUARY – Monday – Men engaged covering boats with tarpaulins
15th [Men?] making masts and sails for boats
8th FEBRUARY – Monday – Timber cutting going on satisfactorily, also clearing of rock from landing place, preparatory to the construction of a small jetty for landing goods. Fixed the working hours of the parties from 7 to 11 am and from 2 to 6 pm ...Progress of all parties, with the exception of well party satisfactory
5th AUGUST – Thursday - more draftsmen required. Detached Messrs Knuckey and Sprigg from guard and sent them into the Drawing room; substituting Fisher and Barrow in the guard
9th Men burning lime, road making, quarrying and surveying harbor
24th • Surveys & works making fair progress
14th • Works making satisfactory progress
24th • Officers and men at usual duties and all making satisfactory progress.
25th • Three parties landing and storing goods from Schooner
26th • Officers and men at usual duties and discharging and landing cargo from Gulnare
2nd SEPT – Thursday – [men set] at roads, flagstaff, &c
6th • Sent Carpenter to prepare lower deck of Gulnare for passengers and to paint cabin
7th • ...other men at well, Gulnare and roads...Officers at usual duties, men at new well, surveying and jetty
8th • Officers and men at usual duties
10th • Jetty making good progress, also plans & diagrams of survey and accounts and correspondence
11th • Men at work on road to Tableland
25th • Altered hours of work from 27th inst to 6 to 11 am & 3.30 to 5.30 pm Those doing (no? so?) little work take ???? in pay

LANDING • SEE ALSO LIVESTOCK
5th FEBRUARY – Friday – Went on shore with Doctor, captain, Naturalist, ?? Mitchell, McMinn and Burton, Tuckwell, Alick ??? and William Rowe. Examined country and returned ???...Landing (party under?) Mr G.R. McMinn consisting of Dalwood, Lowther, Kruss, ??? Robinson, Wilson and Farrant. Mr E.M. Smith (and?) Mr McMinn. Landing party under Mr Knuckey consisting of P. Kelly and R. Horn....It was arranged that the party should remain on board under Mr Harvey consisting of Cadets McKay, Giles, Packard, Bee, Buttrose, Aldridge, Roberts, Burden, Springg, and Wells and Mr W.W. Mills.
6th • Captain and self left vessel at 5 am to sound along coast for best landing place and to look for water....Found that the best landing place was close to Fort Point. Landed parties to work as arranged on the previous evening. Captain removed vessel from anchorage to as near landing place as possible, about an eight of a mile from shore....Track cleared through from landing place to well.
8th • Cases got up from hold preparatory to landing such as are required.

LIVESTOCK AND OTHER ANIMALS • SEE ALSO BEARD, McMINT, WELLS, McLACHLAN
1st JANUARY – Friday – Beard reports horses and stock all right and in good order
3rd • Stock all right and in good order...One horse unwell, required active treatment
4th • Two goats got leg each broken; one died shortly afterwards and the other shared the same fate at night
7th • One of the bullocks and a mare ill. Had two tanks removed from hold to allow more room for bullocks...Then men cut a tank in the afternoon for holding chaff. Captain complained that they had used one of his best and that £5 would have to be paid for it. Spoke to Beard on the subject and saw the tank properly stowed for chaff cutting
8th • Beard reports stock all right and in good order
13th • Two of the goats died during the night. Beard reports that they are the worst of any of the livestock. One had a bad leg. The Chief Officer thanks that the mortality among them is caused by their having eaten something they could not digest.
20th • A kid born during the night
22nd • Sheep died during the night from enlargement of the heart. Aldridge’s dog bit Homeyer
24th • Instructed Burton at his suggestion to make a large fan for horses and stock ‘tween decks
25th • Had fore-hold cleared out to make more room. Burton will have [fan?] ready by tomorrow
26th  Started fan made by Burton for the horses at 3 o’clock and took down the punkays formerly used...During the afternoon one of the horses got his leg over rail of stall but was extricated without any injury being done...Had all the fowls brought aft.

31st  Horse “Lightfoot” ill and under treatment by Gepp

1st FEBRUARY– Monday – Horses sick [Kennedy, Rowe and Beard in charge of the 3 decks where horses housed]

2nd  Horse died – wrong feeding and mismanagement by Beard

3rd  Mare dropped foal

4th  Stock OK. Newfoundland dog “Carlo” dying I fear

5th  Carlo died

6th  Commenced landing stock, bullocks all landed successfully, but one very weak. Half the horses landed, black mare badly handled by men in the dingy and nearly drowned (‘by ship’s carpenter’ crossed out) – wasn’t in life-boat to assist, and took mare safely ashore. Order given by myself and captain that the dingy should not be used any more in landing stock...examined locality and returned to ship where we found that, contrary to my express orders and those of the Captain, the ship’s carpenter had again attempted to land stock with the dingy and the result was that “Young Bobby” one of our best horses was drowned. But for the willingness and energy displayed by the Carpenter in landing stock I should have censured him ????solely attributed to him. My English terrier dog carelessly left on shore by Homeyer was found dead on the beach. ...Teamsters sent on shore in charge of M’r Rowe sent to take care of, and water stock.

8th  ...found that weak bullock had died...Remainder of stock safely landed from vessel...Sent the remainder of teamsters and stockmen on shore – the horses and bullocks to removed to Horse Gully tomorrow where there is better feed and an abundance of water, the stock to be tailed by Holland, Hemming and Hood under Alick Kennedy.


5th SEPT – Sunday – Gave orders for departure tomorrow morning of all horses, but four, for the Darwin (?). Bullocks to go with party which will consist of Deane, Bayfield, Price, Kruss, ??? and Armstrong

14th  Gave orders for stock not required to be taken out tomorrow morning. Mr MacLachlan to accompany men

15th  Spare horses and bullocks sent out to Rapid Creek. Good feed and water (Section 187?)

23rd  Stock all right

24th  Drays arrived overland from Mitchell’s Camp at 2 pm One horse died – got boggd & (stunned? Stranded?) iself, was attended to and fed but did not get ?????

MAIL

25th AUGUST – Wednesday – English mail due at Koepang on 6th August and 24th also on 6th and 24th October and each alternate month. Mails of the 6th go to Sourabaya via Macassar - in 7 days via Molluccas - in 24 days. The steamer only stays 24 hours at Timor

MALAYS

25th AUGUST – Wednesday – Capt Sweet reports that the two Malays sent away were part of the crew of one of six proas fishing for trepang – all the crews amounting to 100 perished save the two referred to 23 months ago at Adam Bay. The uncle of one arrived.
“MOONTA HERALD”
2\(^{nd}\) JANUARY – Saturday – The officers published a newspaper “Moonta Herald” a witty and amusing production without being in any way personal

13\(^{th}\) Mr Fisher in cabin in evening engaged in conversation respecting the newspaper...Lambell wrote up a social journal

14\(^{th}\) Barlow brought a pound note which he had found on the deck. Gave instructions to Fisher to advertise it in the paper

MOSQUITOES & SANDFLIES
7\(^{th}\) FEBRUARY – Sunday – Men who slept on shore last night report that they were undisturbed by mosquitoes and rested well.

MOUNT CHARLES CREEK SEE also SURVEY

PAPER BARK SWAMP SEE also WELLS

POINT CHARLES
5\(^{th}\) FEB – Friday – Sighted Point Charles ‘ the land lying low’

POINT ELLIOT SEE also GULNARE

RAPID CREEK SEE also McLACHLAN

RATIONS SEE ALSO SURVEY REPORTS
14\(^{th}\) JANUARY – Thursday – Spoke to the baker about the bread being made so badly

15\(^{th}\) Spoke to the baker again about bread and to McCallum about getting up hops for yeast or baking powder. Spoke to draftsmen not to allow cooking at night in the galley whilst the baker is at work....Ordered Mr McCallum to serve out biscuits to the men in lieu of bread as no baking powder had been got up out of the hold

23\(^{rd}\) Captain ordered that no more bread should be baked in the ship’s galley. This is contrary to Captain Simpson’s (?) orders. Issued instructions to storekeeper to give out biscuits until store is properly arranged.

4\(^{th}\) FEB – Thursday – Second bad tin of mutton

3\(^{rd}\) AUGUST – Tuesday - Mr Thomas call attention to some tainted meat. I requested him to do so through his senior officer. Sent for Mr Woods and some of the meat, and tasted it with the Doctor. It as decidedly tainted, but appeared sound, and the Doctor stated it to be wholesome, though the smell was disagreeable. Wrote memo suggesting same and that it should be smoked, and no further supplies from that lot (pickled beef) should be taken until all the other had failed – and requesting that cases of this kind should at once be brought under my notice by the senior officers - & that their juniors and men of their respective parties had a right to expect such to be done..

4\(^{th}\) Called in tainted meat and issued fresh – tainted (are?) pickled.

28\(^{th}\) Mr Mitchell reported that ...some of the flour received per Gulnare was bad...flour in tins [sent off at once] to replace bad

RECREATION
5\(^{th}\) JANUARY – Tuesday – Music on deck in the evening
8th  Music on deck in the evening – this amusement appears to be very attractive to the officers and men
10th Divine Service conducted by Dr Peel at 10 am. Music conducted by W. Fisher upon the harmonium for the first time; several anthems, glorias and C were chanted.
13th  Music on deck during the evening
20th An amusing burlesque trial on board this afternoon...Music on deck at night, it is intended to have a concert on Friday night
22nd Officers on deck practising singing for concert
23rd Saturday – Concert held by officers on deck in afternoon
30th A concert was held on board at 7 pm

MARCH
6 - Half holiday to men
11- Half-holiday to men
31- Hemming discharged for insubordinate conduct

APRIL
1 – Warren and Houston sent in from Wood’s camp for insubordination
28- Woods, Mitchell Thomas and Knucy came in to remonstrate as to high average fixed for work, pleading climate, nature of country and impossibility of making extra pay though they were working twice as hard as they did in South Australia. Went into figures with them – slightly modified average, but only to extent of my calculations and gave alternative if men were still dissatisfied to break up their parties and I would do the work myself. A clerical error had been made in calculating the rate of pay for extra work which had made them more dissatisfied; they departed for their camp at 10 by moonlight.

MAY
24- Being Her Majesty’s birth day it was observed as a public holiday. A Royal Salute was fired at 9 am; various sports enlivened the day. Grog served to all hands. A large bonfire lighted on the beach in the evening, three cheers given for the Queen and three for the Royal Family.
3rd AUGUST – Tuesday - Officers and men practising for tomorrow’s concert in evening
4th  Concert in evening a great success. Stage worked well the singing good and the attention and behaviour exceedingly good
6th  Officers and men practising for concert in evening.
7th AUGUST – Entertainment in evening exceedingly good – many amusing points and happy hits. The prologue as follows – “Spoken by Mr D.D. Daly at the Theatre Royal Port Darwin. 7th August 1869.

“With conscious doubts we on these boards appear, Conscious of many faults, besides I fear, Our books are few – our means very slender But first to Mr Goyder we must tender Our very hearty thanks for his assistance Whilst some have kept aloof, or at a distance, Others I’d name, but all have pulled so well In the same boat, I’m sure I cannot tell You which are most to blame or praise. Yet still / I must refer you to our scene artist’s skill This view to nature is so true (dog barks). Why hark! / I surely heard that painted dog twice bark!

It may be said “the theater unorthodox is / It has no gallery, pit, nor private boxes, ‘twould answer well for country fair or village, (Well yes! The curtain looks the worse for milage How will you venture Shakespeare’s glorious plays, Presumptuous man! on such a stage to raise?

’Tis true! The stage I own is rather small But friends remember that to please you all Is our first aim, likewise our best desire; To raise a laugh and not your patience tire;
And with this purpose, we’ve secured ‘nough others The far-famed talents of the “Tum-tum” brothers
And hope to follow shortly with a groupe That’s known in Scotland as the ‘Burgoo’ Troupe
An Opera we’d try but on my honor! On no terms can we get a Prima donna.
To act a farce, to read, recite or sing, To dance a hornpipe, or a Highland fling
To play the flute – at all we’ll do our best While sounds from violin will swell each breast
With melody as sweet – e’en as the chime On the triangle, when ‘tis dinner-time!
The footlights! See! What an illumination! And surely there’s no lack of ventilation!
Pope’s words, I beg you’ll kindly bear in mind And “to our faults” then “be a little blind”
Hoping to see success, our efforts crown, And that the worst may be a mere “break-down”
That songs may please, each farce may be a screamer Till the arrival of th’October steamer.
We trust our humble plays may give us cause To win with merit your well-mea nt applause”

X – “Tum-tum” – the natives name for food – the term given to a survey party celebrated for consuming more than ordinary rations
11 – A Survey party, the head of which is a “Scott” whom with his men partake largely of oatmeal
# - The bell upon which the hours are struck & and the working hours chimed – is a large bar of steel bent in the form of a triangle
+ (should be a ‘=’) The stage of the theatre is an iron house with one end removed & the open end placed at the end of the men’s mess house, which serves as the body for the audience. It is 33 ft long by 24 ft wide with tables and forms across and open at the sides
14th Entertainment in evening a great success and vast improvement in performance and performers
21st The entertainment this evening – recitations, songs and instrumental solos concluding with (“Bev & Co”? ) the whole got up admirably and highly appreciated.
28th The entertainment at night good and the place full
4th SEPT - Saturday – Concert in evening pretty good but I left in consequence of an impious remark by one of the performers and which was totally uncalled for
11th Concert in evening a success
15th Captain [Sweet] gave a lecture on his voyage home and back via Timor in the evening. It was exceedingly well attended and considering the paucity of material, amusing
18th Entertainment in evening crowded and very successful. Dr Peel had three very large (requests?) from some of the appreciators of his powers, the after piece pretty good
27th Monday – Holiday at Camp

ROADS
5th FEBRUARY – Friday – It was aslo arranged that ??? parties should proceed on shore next morning
??? form a road under Mr A.J. Mitchell, consisting of Walters, Collard, Cornish, Neate, Frances, Ryan and ???.
8th examining for road at Fort Point

6TH AUGUST – Friday - Gave Mr Mitchell working sketch of embankment and method of tying timbers, roadway and fencing so as to form a compact whole.
12th Fort Point Road commenced
16th. roads round Fort Point and to Table land continued – placed both gangs of men at Fort Point road

SOUTH ARM  SEE also SURVEY

STABLES
4th AUGUST – Wednesday - Five stalls and three divisions of cart sheds of new stables completed.
       Removed horses and harness and began taking down old stable.
6th   Half of new stable completed – old one entirely cleared away, a vast improvement in appearance and comfort, as the flies from the stables were a perfect nuisance in some of the men’s tents.
7th   Half the stable thatched by now
10th  Wood work of new stable completed
20th  Thatching of stable completed
21st  new stables completed

STORE
21st JANUARY – Thursday - …designed a store for depot at Port Darwin should schooner not have arrived

STORM POINT  SEE also McLACHLAN

SURVEY
5th FEBRUARY – Friday – Trig piling party under Mr G.G. MacLachlan, ??? E. Ryan, P. Henley, J. London and D. Heir.
9th  Surveyors completed traverse of site to include township. Draftsmen engaged plotting work.

3rd AUGUST  - Tuesday - Received and perused progress reports – the only remarks necessary are: On Mr Woods’ progress report for July – entry on the 6th “Mr Woods, accompanied by Palmer and Deane with (part of?) equipage left for South Arm to meet the boat expected there in order to report to the Surveyor General on the subject of continuing survey till end of month – rations &c” Mr Woods knew by my letter of instructions - ???-69 – that no boat would be sent until the 15th July – this entry is therefore erroneous. On Mr Thomas’ report for June – entry on 24th “to work today in consequence of dray not arriving with rations from S. Arm” Mr Hood’s attention is directed to remarks on this date. On Mr Knuckey’s report for June entries on 22nd, 23rd and 24th. “Living on oatmeal and rice” This evidences bad management as extended rations had been supplied to last to 30th – as a further proof, the month’s rations that reached the party only lasted 14 days. On Mr Knuckey’s report for July – entries on the 5th, 6th 7th and 8th. “Waiting for orders” My orders had been received by the head of the party on the 1st – these remarks are therefore erroneous. SEE ALSO ABORIGINES. On Mr Mitchell’s report for June – entry on 18th “Shifted camp only got as far as Mt Charles Creek” A mistake – the party did not reach the creek in question which was several miles to the SE. Entry on 21st “Rations getting very low – no meat” See remarks on Mr Knuckey’s progress reports. Entry on 24th. “Drays arrived at midnight” In our report, the drays arrive at 9 pm – in another at 10pm – in this at midnight. On Mr Mitchell’s report for July. Entries on the 5th, 6th, 7th and 8th “Waiting for orders”. Erroneous as my instructions extended to end of month and had been received by Mr Woods the responsible head of the party. Entry on the 9th “Started for South Arm as we were quite out of rations. This shows great waste – or gross mismanagement as the supply of rations had been sent to last the whole of the month
17th Roberts and Loveday came in saying that Harvey had completed survey. Ordered boats to be prepared at once for a start. Sent them off at 1.35 pm with rations, instructions &c. Rather alarmed at non-arrival of “Gr?????” (or is it Gig?) with Coast Survey party until long after time – fixed signal rockets to hasten their return which were shortly answered. Mr Woods had simply extended his survey further than anticipated and the men had to pull ten miles back.

21st The survey so far as Town Allotment and Sectional blocks are concerned is now complete – the total area being a little under six hundred thousand (600,000) acres.

7th SEPT – Tuesday – Sent Mr McLachlan and party to run N. boundary of park lands

25th Survey completed

SURVEYORS SEE ALSO INDIVIDUAL NAMES

1st JANUARY – Friday – Progress reports for December received from the following Surveyors – 1st Class Messrs MacLachlan, Harvey, Woods, Mitchell, McMinn and Smith; 2nd Class Messrs King, Mills, E.M. Smith, Thomas and Knuckey.

11th Examined surveyors’ monthly progress reports

TIDES

9th AUGUST – Monday - Spring tide up to first allotment peg – as on last spring tide

11th SEPT – Saturday – Tides higher and water rougher these springs than any hitherto seen. Water in channel about = 3 knots and water nearly as rough as at Glenelg Bay in ordinary weather

TIMBER CUTTING SEE ALSO LABOUR

5th FEBRUARY – Friday – Timber cutting party for store and jetty (under?) Mt J.M. Thomas consisting of J. Ryan, D. Johnson, Hanston, G. Bayfield and M. Keeley. Timber party under Mr S. King (consisting?) of Collett, Barrow, Bosworth, Kersley, Fraser and Deane. (Timber?) party under Mr Daly consisting of Armstrong, Irwin, ??? Stevenson. Timber party under Mr Brooking consisting of T. Loveday, Lowther, Richards, Hughes and C. Lines.

8th Timber cutting going on well

VEGETATION

6th FEBRUARY – Saturday – Most of the country thickly timbered, grass long and of but little service for stock

WAGES SEE ADMINISTRATION

WATER SEE WELLS & WATER

WEATHER

6th FEBRUARY – Saturday – Squall from South East at about 2 pm with thunder, lightning and a little rain.

8th Squall from SW accompanied with thunder lightning and rain at 10.30 pm.

9th Wind NW

14th AUGUST – Saturday - Day close, oppressive and threatening rain

21st A fine shower at 4 am – 0.06 ins

23rd A nice shower from 2 to 3 am for an hour

22nd SEPT – Wednesday – Day hot. 100° inside my house with fly over roof

26th Nice shower during the night
WELLS & WATER

3rd JANUARY – Sunday – Up to this time the quantity of water used has been equal to about 400 gallons per diem

19th Quantity of water increased to 4 quarts per man, eight gallons each horse and ten gallons each bullock

5th FEBRUARY – Friday – (landing day) – M. Moyse and F.J. Bennett should early next morning (land?) on shore with tube-wells and other tools to search for water ???? selected by me today.

6th Found surface water along coast oozing out of the rocks, also a fresh water swamp about 2 ½ miles distant E of Point Emery and surface water in a gully between Fort Point and Point Emery. ...Caused well to be sunk in gully between Fort Point and Point Emery and track cleared from well to beach....Proceeded with well – party to sink a second well in a flat, three-quarters of a mile E of Fort Point. Men sank four feet through nodulous earth to conglomerate when the ground became safer...Track cleared through from landing place to well

7th One of the boats reported finding water at 8 and 11 miles, the first in the sand on a point at the West entrance of the Eastern Arm, the second about a mile and a half to the north-east of the mouth of the arm, at the foot of a nodulous rise, skirting low swampy land beyond the mangroves fringing the reach – the distances however were exaggerated, the first being 5 ¼ miles and the second 7 ½ miles from Fort Point

8th Landed with well party at 6.30 am and erected tube-well apparatus at the well on the flat East of Fort Point, but were only able to penetrate about eight inches. Mem: this apparatus is only suited for alluvial soil. Left well sinkers at work to sink by the ordinary means and proceeded ENE examining country with Burton and Moyse in search of a more favorable site. Found a suitable place for sinking with every appearance of water at a few feet. Whilst examining the country more particularly, Burton came on a small creek with about a quarter of a mile of running water – the water was very good, and watercourse dying out at the edge of the mangroves. Returned to well party and left Moyse to continue operations....Progress of all parties, with the exception of well party satisfactory.

9th Well party have done no work save to erect a shade and rough wurly since yesterday at noon, cautioned them and sent Mr Woods to examine and measure work done and Mr E.M. Smith to see that they continue their work.

3rd AUGUST - Tuesday - Still stopped, as wells appear sufficient for supply

4th Measured water in new well – 12000 gals in well (& drives?)

6th 3 ft 8 in water in new well at 7 am. 1394 gallons – 3 ft 2 in at 4 pm....New well 30 gallons for every inch above 6 inches – up to 5 ft then ???? only = 5 ft x 3 ft 9 ½ gallons

7th At 7 am water in new well - 3 ft 9 ins – 1424 gallons

8th 3 ft 3 ins of water in well at 7 am – a great deal used on Saturday afternoon by men washing. 3 ft 2 1/3 ins at 5 pm.

9th Water in well at 7 am is 3 ft 7 ins

10th 3 ft 4 ins water in well at 7 am

11th 3 ft 5 ½ ins in well...3 ft 1 in of water in well at 5 pm

12th Sent set of men off to Gully Well. 3 ft 1 ½ ins water in new well....2 ft 9 ins water in new well at 5 pm

13th 3 ft 2 ins water in well...120 gallons of water brought in and stored from Gully Well – 2 ft 10 ins water in well at 5 pm...Timber cut for new well at Gully

16th work at Gully continued. No water at Gully and supply falling off at new well. Set Miller to work to distil more water....two casks of water distilled in six hours

17th A little water in new well at Doctor’s Gully

18th 70 gallons water brought in from new well in Gully
New well at Doctor’s Gully down 15 (18?) feet…. [presumably later]… New well down 16 (?) ft 6 ins at Gully
1 ft 5 ins water in camp well at 5 pm. Water increasing at new well at Doctor’s Gully
New camp well emptied this morning. Gave orders to adopt (simple?) pipes with wet rags over
2 ft 3 ins water in new gully well at 6 am = 363 gallons per diem.
5 ft 6 ins water in camp well. Gully well still being deepened to increase supply. 1000 gallons reserve at Camp being used as Tanks are required to water Schooner
Log trough sent round and fixed at Gully well.
Wednesday – New well at Gully 24 ft 6 in deep from frame work, 3 ft 4 ins of water this morning…. new well at Gully finished – a good supply… 7 ft of water in camp well this morning
3 ft 6 ins water in Gully well at 7 am
Camp well emptied watering Schooner
But small quantities of water in either well… gave orders to establish a distilling apparatus on a more simple plan than last – the work to be commenced at midnight. Sent Donald and Moyse out to look at Paper Bark Swamp with the men to sinking an additional well for stock. They returned reporting four feet water in gully well and they anticipated getting water in Paper bark swamp at a (trifling?) depth
Sent well sinkers off to dig additional well at Paper bark Swamp … Started fresh distilling apparatus at noon. New well in Paper bark Swamp down six feet
New well at Swamp down 12 feet
Well in Paper bark Swamp salty – abandoned it & commenced another under hill about ¼ mile from camp…. New well down 3 feet
2 ft 1 in water in Gully well, after days supply and 21 inches in Camp well. New well at camp about 9 ft down
3 ft 1 in water in Camp well… Stock watered at Gully well and 100 gallons carted – 3 ft 1 in left in well
270 gallons water taken from gully well to Schooner and 200 gallons for use of stock and camp. Sent ? Bayfield and George Deane to look for feed and water for stock a few miles from camp. They returned having found what was wanted.
New well down 22 feet
500 gallons water brought from Gully well – half for schooner… new well ?????1/2 mile NE of camp
Well ?????[same word as 17th] down 26 feet, ground damp, gully well emptied for schooner and camp (eleven 30 gallon casks). To send Longboat and Pinnacle to Casuarinas for water on Monday.
Start boats off to Casuarinas for water. Captain and Mr Brooks accompanied boats
100 gallons of water taken to ship from gully well
Camp well cleared and new well ????? (No 9?) down 30 feet
Earth in new well damp

WELLS (unspecified) SEE ALSO ALMERS

WORKING HOURS SEE ALSO BERRY
17th AUGUST – Tuesday – Altered draftsmen’s hours to 7 till 11 am and 4 to 6 pm.

WORKSHOP
4th AUGUST – Wednesday - completed (Repeats this on 6th August)