

Admiralty - November 29. 1828.

My dear Father

I little dreamt at the period of writing my last to dear Sophy, that the time to bid adieu to you all again was so near, although my letter prepared you in some degree for it, in consequence of the application I had made for the Surveyorship of the proposed new settlement at Swad River. Much as it will grieve me to leave behind those I love so much, I must nevertheless say that it is with pleasure I add, success has attended that application, and I am just returned from an interview with Sir George Murray at the Colonial Office, who has confirmed my appointment to it. I am aware this will make you all look sad - but be assured my dear Father, that my success in this affair is not unaccompanied with very considerable regret at again leaving England and those I love so dearly at Newbury, and that I shall most gladly hail the arrival of the period which will again welcome me to its shores. There are however so very few good things in this world without their accompanying evils, that we ought not to consider my own case as extraordinary, and must look forward to every thing as being intended for the best. These are matters of fact so well known to

my dear Father that I certainly ought to offer many excuses for calling his attention to them. — To Captain Pany I feel quite entirely indebted for this piece of good fortune, with the exception of a small matter / certainly unintentionally / done by Capt. Shitup, who looked rather foolish when I gave him the intelligence. — In consequence of the note of the former to Mr. Swiss, the under secretary for the colonies, which appears to have been worded most strongly in my favor, that gentleman soon after I waited upon him yesterday, mentioned my name to Sir George Murray, laid Capt. Pany's opinion before him, strengthened it with his own, and immediately despatched a letter to my lodgings, appointing to meet him today at 2 o'clock, for that "Sir George had been pleased to appoint me to the superintendance of the survey which was to be made of the intended new settlement, at a salary of £300 a year." — Of course I was true to the appointment, and after a couple of hours' consultation upon the subject, Mr. Swiss introduced us to the Colonial Secretary, who severally gave us a verbal confirmation, and satisfied himself of many points he wished previously to ascertain. — I have at present only one assistant appointed, a very gentlemanly young man, who has had 10 years experience as a land surveyor, named Sutherland, whose salary is not yet fixed — but on Monday we begin making some few arrangements about Instruments,

fr., and one of my earliest endeavours shall be to get into Barbours
as quickly as possible, that I may spend as much time with you as I
can. — The Sulphur, which is to convey us out, is reported to go
out of dock at Chatham on 22^d Dec., and will be ready for sea early in
January. — I have now of course to look out for "pots and kettles and all
the paraphernalia of house keeping", which will be a most wretched
piece of business by myself, and makes me more than ever wish I
was married. — but I must now draw to a close, or shall be
too late for post. — I shall earnestly hope to receive a letter
from you. — of your kind amusements, very soon. — with
I hope the news of your being all well. — Tell dear Aunt Matilda
that I had a letter from George this morning — quite well. — I children im-
-proving. — They had on some morning / 25th / received letters from her dear
Bepie and from Lou, who appeared to be thinking a short trip to
New South Wales would do him good. — To my dear Aunt Matilda
give my warmest love, as also to dear Sophy, William, Matilda, Miss
Laurie, and with kind remembrance to all friends, I am, in haste

My dear Father, as ever

Your affectionate Son
John September Roe.

5.45 P.M.

PAID
JAN 10 1840

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Rev. James Roe

Newbury North

[Large decorative flourish]

