

Remains on board Ship Robert Edgar

Saturday July 14th
~~falling~~ gale moderating sea
falling weather cloudy appearance unsettled
all hands employed in getting off
wood and water so birds

Sunday July 15th

Strong winds from S.E. & E.
weather more settled four men despatched
to day Mr. Spranger, Thomas Kain
George also Edward Ellis, Edward
Watson Ship with me, Sutherland
Down in January last & signed
articles to return to Hobart Town in
the ship without any time specified

Monday July 16th

Wind light weather
Clear at 2 h A.M. Took a boat crew
went up to Corambene 10.00 up the
bay expecting to find my men with
the Natives but did not succeed
engaged three Natives to pilot us up
to a tavern some eight miles dis after
wading through mud and water knee

Jervis Bay Darling Roads 1861

deep for three ^{owners} arrived at Purnell's Public
house about day light and well tired & covered
with mud took breakfast there but got
no clue of the men knew they must have
gone shore having may sent a messenger
to the sergeant of police with note offering
£2000 per head for their apprehension
took three of them same day and in-
stead of bringing them down to the
boat as they ought to have done
they were taken to the jail or goal
and I was sent for to appear before
the magistrates the next day to claim
the men as deserters from my ship
the magistrates said that they being
British subjects I had no claim upon
them & dismissed them I went to the
expense of about £40 to get these men
and after all my trouble they were
let go by the imbecility of the
court, and according to their law
every man in my ship might leave
when they choose and leave the ship here
to rot I am now forced to go to sea
short handed by the loss of these men
I returned to my Ship on the morning