

uncumbered with Woods. Bread, Beef, Mutton and Pork are very plentiful indeed and the meat is nearly equal to that in England for fatness and quality. The Wool is very coarse and of an hairy nature and it will not in all probability be materially improved until there is a demand for it. It lays here, as it does in some parts of New South Wales, as on hills, they upon the ground.

The population near the Downs including the Settlement at Port Dalrymple amounts according to the latest return, to two thousand and seventy seven persons, but I am very sorry to observe in a religious point of view a dark cloud overspreads the whole country. It was observed to us by an aged friend who paid us a visit "that there could be no situation throughout the world where a Missionary was more wanted than at Van Diemen's Land. To his certain knowledge he had seen the Gospel preached since the first formation of the Settlement. I am now sickly, advanced in years and it cannot be expected that I shall live long, but it is my prayer that a pious minister may be sent out and that I may have another opportunity of hearing a Gospel sermon before I die." I heartily join our friend in the above wishes, for a Pastor of established piety, might, I have no doubt by the Divine Blessing erect a noble Standard there to the Honor of his Divine Master.