

It is to be observed that those sums have no
reference to the purchase of Materials from
the Merchants which His Excellency must
be aware must have been paid for in
Sterling Money. I would also remark that
I advanced the sum of £81,15⁰ & Sterling
to William Stewart and Robert Hilton privates
in the 73^d Regiment before they began their
work in order to enable them to procure their
discharge by finding substitutes. I surely
could not gain any advantage by this
advance as they remained long in my debt
before they could repay me and had no
means of procuring Provisions but by my
assistance. The Workmen I supplied with
Provisions were all Drunkards and most of
them at the time were, or had been Convicts
and had Families to provide for had I at
all times given them Money to purchase
Meat, Wheat, Sugar &c &c they would have
gone to the Publicans and spent it leaving
their Families to starve and the Building
could not have gone on, this fact the Colony
will admit notwithstanding my wish
that their Families should be supported
by their earnings. Their Wives frequently
with Tears in their Eyes applied to me to
procure for them a Bushel of Wheat when
their Husbands Drunkenness had
deprived them of the means of procuring
the articles they wanted which were then
scarce in the Colony and for which they
paid no more than their current price whether
I purchased from the Public or supplied it
from my own store; The Sugar they received
at