

Macquarie sends a gift of swans, 1821

4 Emus and 2 black swans sent to England per 'Coromandel' as presents from Macquarie to Earl Bathurst, Lord Castlereagh, and General Sir George Nugent, 24 July 1821. This is written in Macquarie's own hand. NRS 897 [4/1748, pages 383-385; Reel 6051]

383

Memorandum for Captain

Downie Com^m of HM Store Ship

Dromedary – Sydney 24 July 1821

1st

Cap^t Downie having kindly

taken charge of 4 large

Emus and two black

swans in three separate

large cages for England

they are to be delivered

on his arrival in that

country as under mentioned

viz^t

Two Emus for the Right

Hon^{ble} Earl Bathurst K (?)

Sec^{ry} of State for the Colonies.

Two Emus for the Right

Hon^{ble} Lord Viscount Castlereagh

R G (?) Sec^y of State for

Foreign Affairs.

Two Black Swans for

General Sir George Nugent Bart

Colonel

384

Colonel of the 6th Reg^t foot.

2nd

These birds are to be

Kept on board the Coromandel

after her arrival in the

River Thames until they

are sent for by the persons

to whom they belong;- but in

case that should prove inconvenient to Capt

Downie, he is requested to

send the Emus to Downing

Street, and the swans to
Mes^r Greenwood, Cox & Co in
Craig's Court Charring Cross
in London.

3rd

In the event of any of the
Four Emus dying before
they are landed in England,
the remaining surviving
ones are to be Disposed of as
follows. Viz it three
survives, two are to be given
to Earl Bathurst and one
only to Lord Castlereagh

it

385

if two survives, one is to be given
to Earl Bathurst and one to Lord
Castlereagh – and if only one

Emu survives, it is to given
to Earl Bathurst. The Governor
thinks it proper to decide these
points, in order to prevent eventual
disputes between the parties for whom
these presents are intended, as well
as to save Cap^t Downie himself
trouble.

4th

Mr Anderson the second
Master of the Coromandel having
been no good as to undertake to
select one of the sailors for feeding
and cleaning the Emus + Swans
during the Voyage and to take
the more immediate charge of
them. The Gov has given Mr
Anderson a discretionary order on
his Bankers in London to pay the
sailor so appointed a present
in proportion to the number he lands

alive.