

A world of wood

Timber in Colonial Tasmania



LEFT:

Bert Jackson

Serviette rings: six Tasmanian timbers, c. 1930

wood (blackwood, sassafras, horizontal, sheoak, whitie
Wood, King Billy pine); metal (silver)

3.5 x 5.4 x 5.4 (dia.) cm

From the estate of KK Parker, 1971



BELOW: Tasmanian timber souvenirs for sale at The
Devil's Den in Huonville





GW Evans
(attributed)
View of Sullivan
Cove, 1804
mounted on
card 23.5 x 35.9
cm
SLNSW

Hobart Town Gazette and Southern Reporter (Tas. : 1816 - 1821), Saturday 9 August 1817, page 2


MUSTERS of the extensive and elegant Investment, per the BRIG GOVERNOR MACQUARIE, are now expected for Inspection ; which will be Disposed of for WHEAT ; consisting of Bengal rum, sugar, hyson tea, hyson skin do, tobacco, port wine in pipes and bottles, sawed cedar of all dimensions, blue & yellow nan-keens, white plates, jugs & mugs, men's, women's & children's shoes, curry powder in bottles, glue, blue cups & saucers, swing looking glasses, plated stand glasses, English fur & silk hats, lamp cotton, wire sieves, batten & shingle nails, blue cloth jackets & coats, cotton shirts, purple velvet jackets, red shirts & caps, striped & duck trowsers, white shirts & Gurnsey frocks, striped linen shirts, waistcoats, jean trowsers ; brown cloth jackets & trowsers, prints and bed furniture, all of which are of a superior quality ; nankeen Wellington pantaloons, Bogla iron, check, bonnet wire, hair caps, gown stuffs, blue thread, calico, shawls, hat irons, locks with brass tops, &c.

Apply to the Commander, Mr. THOMAS REIBEY.

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Apply to the Commander, Mr. THOMAS REIBEY.

TO be Sold by Auction, by Mr. LEWIS,
in Mrs. Sergeant's Barn, on Wednes-
day next, the 2d of December, at Twelve
o'Clock, a great Quantity of good season-
ed CEDAR, cut in 3, 2, 1, and $\frac{1}{2}$ Inch
Planks and Boards For the Accommoda-
tion of Purchasers, it will be put up in
small Lots.

 Prompt Payment in Sterling Mo-
ney will be required.

Hobart Town Gazette and Southern
Reporter (Tas. : 1816 - 1821)

Saturday 28 November 1818, Page 2

TO be Sold by Auction, by Mr.
LEWIS, in Mrs. Sergeant's Bard, on
Wednesday next, the 2d of December,
at Twelve o'Clock, a great Quantity of
good seasoned CEDAR, cut in 3, 2, 1,
and $\frac{1}{2}$ Inch Planks and Boards For the
Accommodation of Purchasers, it will
be put up in Small Lots. Prompt
Payment in Sterling Money will be
required.

AT THE STORES OF EDWARD LORD, Esq.—
All descriptions of British and India Goods:
—Teas, sugars, piece goods, slop cloathing, &c. of the latest importation, besides the usual extensive stock of spirits, wines, &c. of the best qualities and strength, at the lowest prices; and (now landing from the Jupiter) 10,000 feet of CEDAR, of various dimensions, in log, at a lower rate than heretofore offered in Van Diemen's Land.

☛ Settlers who have engaged to bring in their Wool, and other Growers indebted to the House, are informed, that the Wool Warehouses are now open for its reception.—This article, as well as their other produce, already agreed to be taken in liquidation of debts, must be brought in without delay.

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-Teas, sugars, piece goods, slop cloathing, &c. of the latest importation, besides the usual extensive stock of spirits, wines, &c. of the best qualities and strength, at the lowest prices; and (now landing from the Jupiter) 10,000 feet of CEDAR, of various dimensions, in log, at a lower rate than heretofore offered in Van Diemen's Land.
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This article, as well as their other produce, already agreed to be taken in liquidation of debts, must be brought in without delay.

Hobart Town Gazette and Van Diemen's
Land Advertiser (Tas. : 1821 - 1825)
Saturday 2 March 1822

SHIP MARY FOR ENGLAND DIRECT.—Will sail on Sunday the 9th Instant.—For Freight or Passage apply to Mr. KERMODE, or to Mr. E. ABBOTT, Jun. who have for SALE, the following Goods; viz. Tea in quarter chests, tea trays, wool bagging, locks assorted, mortice furniture, sickles, tire nails, pick axes, tinned iron spoons, ladles, toasting forks, house and table bells, knives and forks, buttons, axes, anvils, shingling hammers notched, coopers' strong drawing knives, Italian irons and heaters, improved coach wrenches, pit and hand saw sets, castor oil, and deals for building.

☛ To close this Investment, they will be disposed of on moderate Terms, for Cash or Colonial Produce, or Credit will be given on approved Security.

SHIP MARY for ENGLAND DIRECT.—Will sail on Sunday the 9th Instant.--For Freight or Passage apply to Mr. Kermode or to Mr. E. Abbott, Jun. who have for SALE, the following Goods; viz, Tea in quarter chests, tea trays, wool bagging, locks assorted, mortice furniture, sickles, tire nails, pick axes, tinned iron spoons, ladles, toasting forks, house and table bells, knives and forks, buttons, axes, anvils, shingling hammers notched, coopers' strong drawing knives, Italian irons and heaters, improved coach wrenches, pit and hand saw sets, castor oil, and **deals for building.**

Hobart Town Gazette and Van Diemen's Land Advertiser (Tas. : 1821 - 1825), Saturday 1 September 1821, page 2

SHIPPING & COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE.

Arrived at Hobart-town,

August 5.—The bark Lucy Anne, 213 tons, Ranulph Dacre, commander, from Sydney 27th ultimo, with 110 planks New Zealand pine timber, 4 casks molasses, 200 baskets tobacco, 19 coils rope, 18 packages bottled wine, 5 pipes ditto, 261 bars iron, and other goods, for John Kerr, C. Wright, James Grant and Captain D'Arcy.

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Hobart Town Gazette (Tas. : 1825 - 1827; 1830), Saturday 11 August 1827, page 5

We have taken the pains to collect materials in order to form an estimate of the value of cedar annually imported to Hobart town from Sydney, and we find it amounts to the incredible sum at first cost of nearly 7000l. Now though we very much approve of a mutual reciprocity of trade between the two colonies, and Sydney has doubtless during the last 2 years been of great service to this island in purchasing our wheat, we think, if we have any pretensions to economy, that many of us might be satisfied with the timber of our own island when applied to domestic purposes quite as useful as cedar, and in many kinds much more beautiful.

Hobart Town Courier (Tas. : 1827 - 1839), Saturday 4 September 1830, page 2

We have taken the pains to collect materials in order to form an estimate of the value of cedar annually imported to Hobart town from Sydney, and we find it amounts to the incredible sum at first cost of nearly 7000£. Now though we very much approve of a mutual reciprocity of trade between the two colonies, and Sydney has doubtless during the last 2 years been of great service to this island in purchasing our wheat, we think, if we have any pretensions to economy, that many of us might be satisfied with the timber of our own island when applied to domestic purposes quite as useful as cedar, and in many kinds much more beautiful.

It must afford a melancholy satisfaction to the relatives and friends of our late LIEUT. GOVERNOR, to know that every possible mark of respect and attention was paid to his honoured remains—The Body was placed in a Shell of Huon pine wood (which is impenetrable to the worm) this was inclosed in a leaden Coffin, and the whole deposited in another Coffin of the same wood covered with black Cloth, having a Silver plate with the following inscription,

H I S H O N O R

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR COLLINS,

AND

COLONEL IN THE ROYAL MARINE FORCES,

Departed this Life March 24th.

A. D. 1810.

The Rooms of Government House were hung with black cloth and two Officers of the Establishment regularly sat up with the Corpse until the interment on the 28th prior to which LIEUT. LORD, of the Royal Marines, who succeeded to the Command on the death of the late GOVERNOR, published the following Orders.

GENERAL ORDERS.

Head Quarters HOBARTTOWN, March 25th 1810.

The Body was placed in a Shell of Huon pine wood (which is impenetrable to the worm) this was inclosed in leaden Coffin, and the whole deposited in another Coffin of the same wood covered with black Cloth, having a Silver plate with the following inscription, HIS HONOR LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR COLLINS, AND COLONEL IN THE ROYAL MARINE FORCES, Departed this Life March 24th. A. D. 1810.

Derwent Star and Van Diemen's Land
Intelligencer (Hobart, Tas. : 1810 - 1812),
Tuesday 3 April 1810, page 2

Account of Sales by Auction effected by Lt. Colonel Geils at
Restdown May 19th and 21st 1814 by J. Beaumont.

Description of Goods	Buyers Names	Amount £ s d
A Couch Bed & curtains complete	M ^r . Colquhoun	19 19 "
a Bureau & Wardrobe	" M ^r . Carty	28 7 "
" Bachel Organ	" do	12 " "
1 Mahogany Pembroke Table	" Andrews	5 5 "
1 do do	" Gordon	6 " "
12 Mahogany Stuffed Cotton Chairs	" Williams	27 6 "
7 Cedar Cane bottom do	" Peters	11 11 "
7 do do do	" Mann	5 1 "
An elegant Sideboard complete	" Birch	48 6 "
A Set of Dining Tables	" Andrews	29 8 "
1 Huon Pine Bedstead	" Williams	5 " "
1 do do	" Ingle	11 " "
1 Cedar dressing Table	" Mann	2 4 "
+ 1 Huon Pine do	" Mitchell	1 10 "
+ 1 do do	" Williams	1 10 "
2 Cedar Washhand & Basin stands	" Mitchell	4 " "
2 Huon Pine do	" Ingle	1 " "
A Mahogany Book case	" Colquhoun	6 5 "
a Set of fire irons and Pender	" M ^r . Carty	6 6 "
do do do	" Gordon	6 " "
do do do	" Gordon	6 6 "
1 Set of Fire irons	" Mann	2 15 "
1 do do	" do	2 " "
A Pig Irons	" Williams	12 " "
57 Squares of window Glass 9 ft. by 11	" Birch	4 5 "
67 do do " 10 by 12	" do	8 " "
A quantity of large do	" do	4 " "
a quantity of Broken do	" do	2 8 "
100 lbs Coffee	" Peters	3 " "

Account of Sales by Auction effected by
Lt. Colonel Geils at Restdown, May 19th
and 21st 1814 by J. Beaumont
SLT

SALE BY AUCTION,

BY MR. ELLISTON,

On Monday the 2nd of April, at his Mart in Argyle-street, at 12 o'clock, without reserve.

TWO large huon pine chests

4 boxes of wearing apparel and sundries

100. lbs. of gunpowder

2 bullock collars, saddles & bridles and pair of hames

Cloth cloaks, trowsers, coats, waistcoats, shirts, &c.

Table knives and forks, pocket knives, &c.

TERMS:—Prompt payment.

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4 boxes of wearing apparel and sundries 100. lbs. of gunpowder

2 bullock collars, saddles & bridles and pair of hames

Cloth cloaks, trowsers, coats, waistcoats, shirts, &c. '

Table knives and forks, pocket knives, &c. TERMS:—Prompt payment.

The Hobart Town Courier
Saturday 31 March 1832



One of four torcheres made for Government House, Hobart
c. 1840

Wood (Huon pine; Huon pine veneer); metal (cast iron; steel and brass fittings and fasteners); porcelain
170 x 67 x 62 cm

R. V. HOOD, CARVER and GILDER, . LOOKING GLASS and PICTURE FRAME MAKER, begs most respectfully to return his sincere thanks to his friends and the public for the support he has hitherto received, and informs them that he has now ready for SALE a few FANCY ARTICLES, made of the very best Huon Pine, Ladies' Work Tables, Work Boxes, and Writing Desks, with secret drawers, superior to any hitherto manufactured of colonial wood. Also, a few Prints of the Virgin after the celebrated picture by Murillo.

**32, Liverpool-street, two doors from
Elizabeth-street, Oct. 27.**

R. V. HOOD, CARVER and GILDER, . LOOKING GLASS and PICTURE FRAME MAKER, begs most respectfully to return his sincere thanks to his friends and the public for the support he has hitherto received, and informs them that he has now ready for SALE a few FANCY ARTICLES, made of the very best Huon Pine, Ladies' Work Tables, Work Boxes, and Writing Desks, with secret drawers, superior to any hitherto manufactured of colonial wood. Also, a few Prints of the Virgin after the celebrated picture by Murillo.
32, Liverpool-street, two doors from Elizabeth-street, Oct. 27.

The Courier, Friday 27 October 1843, p. 1

It will be seen by an advertisement in this week's Gazette, that specimens of our Colonial Timber may at any time be purchased of an Inhabitant of this town, who has explored much of the Island in search of the same. There are twenty-seven different sorts grown in Van Diemen's Land, their names and use being as follow :—White and Yellow Huon Pine and Sassafras for house work ; Black and Silver Wattle, Dark and Pale Lightwood, Pencil Cedars, and Adventure Bay Pine, for house work and furniture ; Cotton Tree, Musk, Silver Wood, Myrtle, Yellow Wood, and Plum Tree, for furniture ; Lignum Vitæ, for mill cogs ; Red and White Honeysuckle, for boat timbers ; Gum, for heavy buildings ; Stringy Bark, for general work ; Peppermint, for shingles ; Cherry Tree and Pink Wood, for furniture and gun-stocks ; Forest & Swamp Oak, for furniture, fuel, and boat timbers ; and Tea Tree, very little used.

Hobart Town Gazette and VDL Advertiser
Friday 1 October 1824

It will be seen by an advertisement in this week's Gazette, that specimens of our Colonial Timber may at any time be purchased of an Inhabitant of this town, who has explored much of the Island in search of the same. There are twenty-seven different sorts grown in Van Diemen's Land, their names and use being as follow :- White and Yellow Huon Pine and Sassafras for house work ; Black and Silver Wattle, Dark and Pale Lightwood, Pencil Cedars, and Adventure Bay Pine, for house work and furniture ; Cotton Tree, Musk, Silver Wood, Myrtle, Yellow Wood, and Plum Tree, for furniture ; Lignum Vitæ, for mill cogs ; Red and White Honeysuckle, for boat timbers ; Gum, for heavy buildings ; Stringy Bark, for general work ; Peppermint, for shingles ; Cherry Tree and Pink Wood, for furniture and gun-stocks ; Forest & Swamp Oak, for furniture, fuel, and boat timbers ; and Tea Tree, very little used.



Maker unknown (Tasman Peninsular, Tasmania)

Couch or verandah seat, c. 1830

Wood (Tasmanian blackwood); metal (iron fittings)

77 x 218 x 62 cm

Beattie Collection, 1932

A new specimen of colonial wood, suitable to the purposes of the cabinet-maker, was shown, stated on the card of the exhibitor (Mr. Dickenson) to be "abundant in Van Diemen's Land," attracted much attention. If the specimen be a fair sample, we may observe, that it throws the American bird's-eye maple into the shade, which, indeed, has been already effected by the Huon pine. The new specimen is of three different shades of brown, so intermingled as to defy the painter's art. It is susceptible of the highest polish, and, we are informed, grows in almost every gully of the island. We believe, however, that, unlike the Huon pine, it will require several pieces to be joined together for a panel in a ship's cabin ; but for picture-frames, small cabinet work, and other purposes, it is the most beautiful wood hitherto known. This is another of many discoveries in developing the hidden treasures of the colony.

The Courier, Saturday 8 April, 1848, page 2
GARDENERS AND AMATEUR HORTICULTURAL
SOCIETY.

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Possibly Michelangelo Barberi, Rome (Italy); James Whitesides, Hobart (1803-90 Tasmania)

Centre table: The 'Scott' table

Micromosaic image a detail from Peter Paul Rubens, Romulus and Remus, painted 1615-16 (Capitoline Museum, Rome)

glass micro-mosaic; stone (slate; various specimen pieces); wood (Tasmanian blackwood); glass

77 x 95 x 95 cm

TMAG Collection

Purchased with the assistance of : Australian Government through the National Cultural Heritage Account, the Art Foundation of Tasmania, Mr John Hawkins, 2009

P2009.71



CATALOGUE

OF THE

SPECIMENS of CURIOUS WOOD,

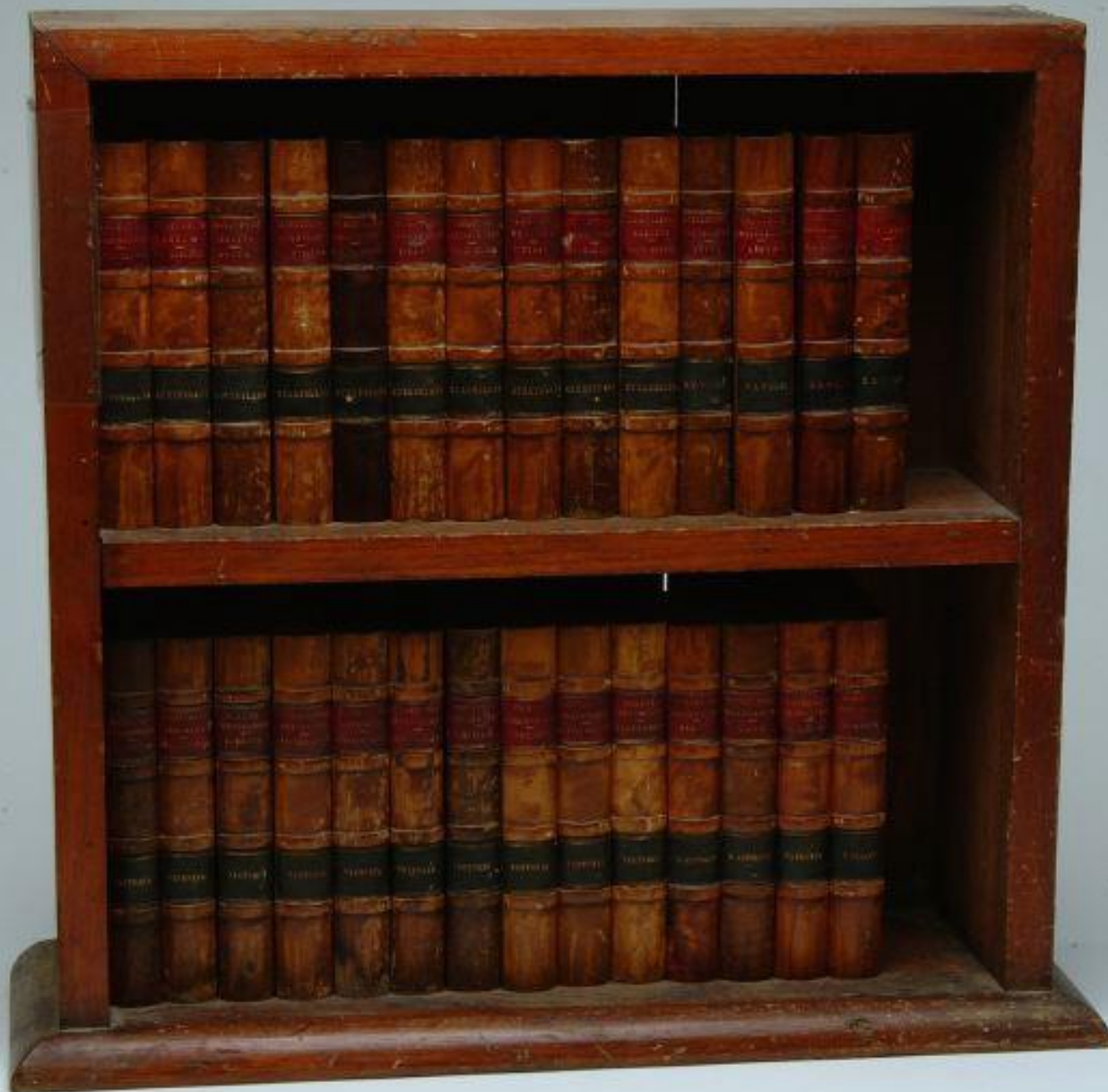
(ENGLISH AND FOREIGN)

Introduced in a WORK-BOX, made for Miss GIFFARD, of Nerquis,

By ROBERT GILLOW and BROTHERS, of Lancaster, in August, 1808.

N ^o .	N ^o .	N ^o .
1 English Oak	26 Green Ebony	51 Kangaroo Wood
2 Spanish Mahogany	27 Angola Wood	52 English Apple Tree
3 Sycamore	28 Tamarind Wood	53 Box
4 Tulip Wood	29 Amboyna Wood	54 Brown Box
5 Sandal	30 Purple Wood	55 Air Wood
6 Partridge Wood	31 Gambia Wood	56 American Yew
7 East-India Yew	32 English Yew	57 American Maple
8 Zebra	33 Snake Wood	58 Hicory
Orange Wood	34 St. John-Wood	59 Plane Tree
10 Jamaica Satinwood	35 Guiana Wood	60 English Oak, cut from Framing of Lancaster Castle old Gates
11 King Wood	36 Ceylon Wood	61 Fustic
12 Dutch Elm	37 Havannah Wood	62 Mexican Wood
13 Iron Wood	38 English Pear Tree	63 Plumb Tree
14 Guiletiety	39 Brazil Wood	64 Poplar Tree
15 Manganiel	40 Nova Scotia Wood	65 Moss Oak
16 Rose Wood	41 Calmandra	66 White Ebony
17 East India Satinwood	42 Camphire Wood	67 Manilla
18 Caracoa	43 English Maple	68 Barr Wood
19 Canary Wood	44 Mangrove	69 American Beech
20 Botany Bay Wood	45 Grove Wood	70 Dutch Oak
21 Yellow Sander	46 Mill Wood	71 English Beech
22 Casuarina Wood	47 Italian Walnut	72 English Ash
23 Black Ebony	48 Wood Sandford	
24 Holly	49 Cape Wood	
25 Brown Ebony	50 Honduras Satinwood	

* * The dark Vandyke, in Edge, Savacoe Wood; light Vandyke, in Edge, Parama Wood; the Squares in upper Side of Top, Parama Wood; the Squares in under Side (Top) Orange Wood.

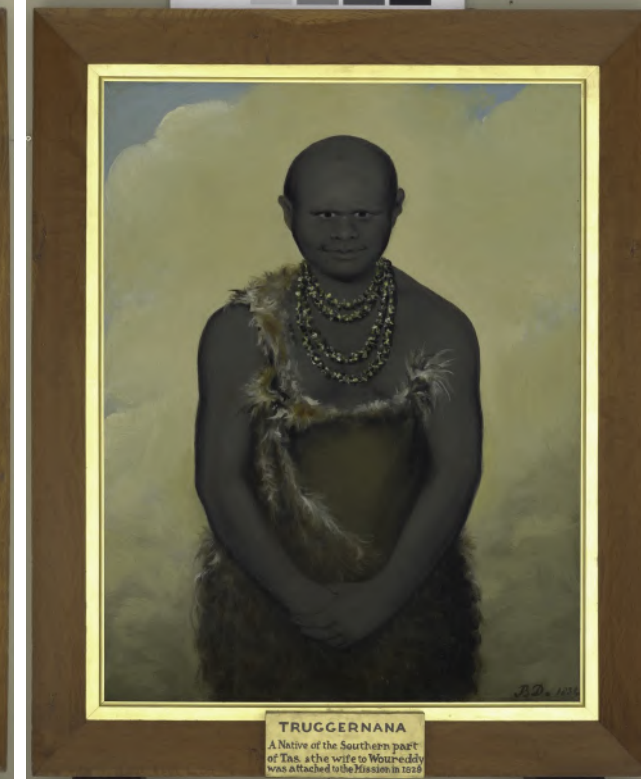


Ferdinand Von Mueller
Wood samples
Australian red cedar & various
Australian timbers
TMAG
S1978.379



Maker unknown (Tasmania)
Exhibition table, c. 1840
Wood (Huon pine, Australian cedar secondary
Huon pine veneer, blackwood veneer, unidentified eucalypt veneer); metal (proprietary steel and brass fittings)
74.5 x 98 x 98 cm

Mona State Collection of the
Tasmanian Museum and Art
Gallery collected by Mr George
Burrows, 2006
P2006.49



Benjamin Duterrau (1767-1851)

Portraits of Tasmanian Aboriginal people., 1834

- Wurati (Woureddy)
- Tanleboueyer (Tanleleboyer)
- Trukanini (Truganini)
- Manalargenna

Eucalypt frame

Blackwood frame

Casuarina frame

Huon pine frame



R Dowling
Correspondence box
c. 1850
wood (Australian red cedar, Huon pine, musk, native cherry, burr oak, honey suckle, other unidentified native timbers); metal (brass and steel fittings); textile (silk velvet cloth)
17.2 x 49.7 x 26 cm
Purchased with the assistance of : The Art Foundation of Tasmania, 2008



Attributed to
William
Hamilton
Worktable, c.
1845

Huon pine,
Huon pine
veneer,
Australian
cedar, musk,
blackwood,
casuarina

Mona State
Collection of
the Tasmanian
Museum and
Art Gallery
collected by
Mr George
Burrows, 2006
P2006.70





William Hamilton [1796 - 1885]

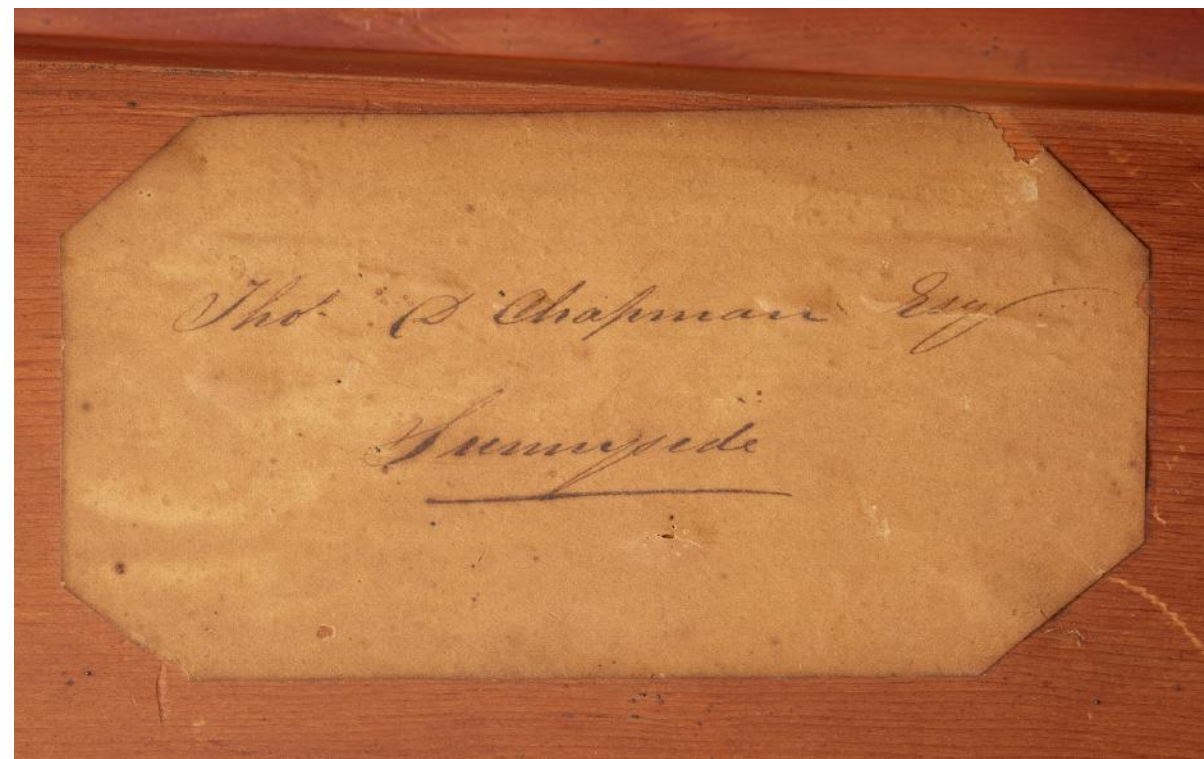
Centre table, c. 1845

Wood (Huon pine veneer, Huon pine, unidentified non-native pine, Australian red cedar); metal (brass and steel fittings.)

72.5 x 80 x 80 cm

Purchased with the assistance of : The Art Foundation of Tasmania; The Friends of the TMAG; the Public Donations Fund, 2009

P2009.64





The “Crystal Palace”
Great Exhibition of the Arts and Industry of All Nations,
1851

Tasmania’s display was the largest of the three Australian colonies represented.





William Hamilton
Table exhibited by William Champion in the Great
Exhibition, London, 1851
Musk; Australian red cedar

Museum of Applied Arts and Sciences, Sydney





James Lumsden
Loo table exhibited in London in
1851
Sold at auction in Launceston in
2010 for just under \$150,000



View toward the Tasmanian
Court at the 1862
International Exhibition in
London. The tall tower is the
Tasmanian Timber Trophy





