

PUBLICATION ADVICE

NSW COLONIAL SECRETARY'S

IN LETTERS INDEX 1826 ~ 1896

Based on the late Joan Reese's Convicts & Others index (1826-1894)
Edited by Aileen J Trinder (**PASTKEYS**); Copyright © 2021 Linda Bowman

The second edition of this index is published again in a field-searchable format on CD-ROM and USB. The number of entries now totals **205,863** with **7,965** entries being added for the 1896 year alone. As well as that addition, there have been 839 entries added for the earlier periods. It was found that some Norfolk Island convict records had been missed in the original index so those have been added..

- The type of entries over the whole period reflects the history of the Colony. As well as the convicts and early settlers, there are many memorials (petitions) from people in various districts on various subjects and bearing signatures of the residents. There are entries for maps and various lists including names of ships with early crew lists. There are many different types of records in the later periods.
- This selective index does not include every letter and only a 'cover' letter is recorded in a bundle.
- Most entries particularly in the early period have a ship name and year of arrival for convicts and those who came free have been indexed with the same information if available with '(CF)' noted. Otherwise a location, occupation or other identifier was noted. There's only rarely a description of the contents of a letter given in this index and an entry could be for anything from a short sentence to many pages.
- There are records relating to aborigines; military; free immigrants; asylum admissions; deaths; children being placed in both Protestant and Roman Catholic orphan schools; naturalization applications; settlers' applications for immigration, some deposits under the Remittance Regulations which officially began on 1 January 1849. During the editing, searches were made for these early immigration deposits and it was found that many deposits were made during 1848 both in NSW and the Port Phillip District. Additional data has been included in the index entries for these records to help identify the depositors and immigrants and family members and it was found that many records had been missed so they have now been included. That scheme followed on from the assisted passages for the wives and families of convicts. There are also many local government references; exhibitions both within Australia and overseas and even references relating to other Australian colonies. 1887 and 1888 were times of high unemployment and many people applied for free rail passes to country areas where they hoped to find work. There are also lists of those recipients of bravery awards.
- The entries have been coded as 'Subject' and 'Name' although some references include entries from both sections. The subject type entries have been rearranged to make searching easier; for instance you could find all references relating to a particular area listed under the name of the location.
- Where the contents of the shelf containers have been microfilmed, the reel numbers have been added in a separate field.
- Some records have been relocated for 1826 to combine them with related records. Where possible, those relocations have been noted in a separate field; also, where any amendment was made to the original record, the change has been noted in that separate field.
- The index will be fully searchable by most fields or a combination of fields OR by **★Full Search** which searches most fields in one search.
- Compatible up to and including Microsoft Windows 11.
- The index will fully install from the CD-ROM or USB.

The price is (~~\$65~~) reduced to **\$50 plus \$5 p&p** within Australia. Purchasers of the 1st Edition wanting to purchase this edition are offered a **\$10** discount if proof of purchase is provided.

PASTKEYS

(Aileen J Trinder T/as)

5 Garbala Road
GYMEA NSW 2227
Australia

E: pastkeys@tpg.com.au

W: www.pastkeys.com



Joan at State Records The Rocks