

AUSTRALIAN JOINT COPYING PROJECT

SIR JOHN LEFROY

Papers, 1877-1954

Reels M938, M974

**Colonel J.L. Knyvett
Thornleigh
High Street
Sunningdale Berkshire**

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Filmed: 1974-75

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE

Sir John Henry Lefroy (1817-1890) was born at Ashe, Hampshire. He was trained at the Royal Military Academy at Woolwich and entered the Royal Artillery as a lieutenant in 1834. He was promoted to captain in 1842. He was the director of the magnetical observatory at St Helena in 1840-42 and at Toronto, Canada, in 1842-53. Lefroy was the scientific adviser on artillery and inventions at the War Office during the Crimean War. He was inspector-general of army schools in 1857-60 and director-general of ordnance in 1868-70. He became a colonel in 1865, a major general in 1868 and a lieutenant general in 1877.

From 1871 to 1877 Lefroy was governor of Bermuda. He was knighted in 1877. In 1880 he was appointed administrator of Tasmania, owing to the new governor, Sir George Strahan, being diverted temporarily to the Cape Colony. Lefroy arrived in Hobart in October 1880 and remained administrator until November 1881. He had a strong interest in scientific and technological matters and regularly attended meetings of the Royal Society of Tasmania.

SIR JOHN LEFROY

Reel M938

Grant to John Lefroy of the dignity of a Knight Commander of the Order of Saint Michael and Saint George, signed by Queen Victoria, 31 May 1877.

Warrant for the dispensation with the investiture of Major General Lefroy as a Knight Commander of the Order of Saint Michael and Saint George, signed by Queen Victoria, 31 May 1877.

Robert Herbert to Lefroy, 1 June 1877: sends warrants and insignia of a Knight Commander of Saint Michael and Saint George.

The Statutes of the most distinguished order of Saint Michael and Saint George, 1877. (34pp)

Program of the proceedings to welcome Sir John Lefroy on his entry into the city of Hobart and in honour of his assumption of the administration of the government of Tasmania, 19 Oct. 1880. (printed in gold)

Speech of his Excellency the Governor of Tasmania upon opening Parliament, 19 July 1881. (3pp)

Order of proceedings at the prorogation of Parliament, 8 Nov. 1881. (1p)

Speech of His Excellency the Governor upon proroguing Parliament, 8 Nov. 1881. (2pp)

Miscellaneous newspaper cuttings, mostly vice-regal notices, 1880-82. (2pp)

Copy of an inscription on bamboo in a Pacific language.

Charles E.C. Lefroy. *The Lefroy Family in England in 1877: a memoir*, Guildford, 1936. (typescript, 11pp)

Alexander Milne-Robertson (compiler). *1853-1953: to commemorate the marriage of Henry Maxwell Lefroy and Annette Bate in December 1853 and their arrival in Western Australia in April 1854, 1954.* (privately printed, 10pp)

Henry Lefroy (1818-1879) was the brother of John Lefroy. The work consists of genealogical tables relating to the descendants of Henry and Annette Lefroy. Milne-Robertson (b. 1884) was one of their grandsons.

Reel M974

Volume of letters, autographs and miscellanea of the Lefroy Family.

Select pages:

- 106 Duke of Cambridge to Lefroy, 21 Aug. 1880: congratulations on his appointment as Governor of Tasmania; colony's climate; financial difficulties in relation to Patriotic Fund.
- 117 Lord Kimberley to Lefroy, 11 Aug. 1880: is glad that Lefroy will go to Tasmania.
- 125 Rev. John Burgon (Chichester) to Lefroy, 2 Sept. 1880: congratulations.
- 160 Lord Kimberley to Lefroy, 10 Aug. 1880: offer of the temporary governorship of Tasmania; Sir George Strahan going temporarily to Cape Colony and not likely to arrive in Tasmania until March 1881.

Note: The four letters were filmed from right to left on the reel, with the title page appearing at the end of the reel.