

Sydney August 15<sup>th</sup> 1827

Mr Joseph Harper lately the Government Schoolmaster at Windsor having this day appeared before the Board as the Applicants Referee, states as follows,

I have known the applicant John Peisley ever since his arrival in the Colony; he came out as a Prisoner of the Crown and his wife (a free woman) followed him, he has a large family by him I think of ten children.

I believe he obtained a Conditional Pardon from Colonel Patterson while in the temporary Government of the Colony and it was afterwards confirmed by Governor Macquarie. Soon after I knew him, he was the principal Overseer of the Government Gangs at Parramatta, which situation he held for several years, he afterwards kept a Public Houses at Parramatta and had

some landed Property at Prospect which he has since sold. I consider the applicant an honest industrious character, and he has given a tolerably good education to all his children, his eldest son in particular is well educated and they all of them behave well. I know that the applicant has about 30 head of cattle pastured on this farm of Mr Blackman at Bathurst, besides some working bullocks and horses on his farm at Prospect.

He has also some pigs and sheep at Parramatta, being a butcher by trade, but I do not know the exact number. I know his second son (John) he is about 18 years of age or up onwards and works on his father's farm at Prospect, he also Superintends his father's servants and he is a very steady industrious young man.

Joseph Harper.