

Sandhurst

March 13, 1855 Sir, I have taken the liberty of enclosing the document that this note accompanied to be laid before his Excellency as it will appear in the Public Points of the Colony Yours Respectfully,
Robert Benson To Capt. Kay At a Meeting of The Committee of the Bendigo Reform League held at The Criterion Hotel Sandhurst on the Evening of Wednesday the 7th of March it was Resolved

That this Committee having carefully considered the circumstances attending the postponement of the State Trials are of opinion that the unprecedented course adopted by the Attorney General is most discreditable to any Government subversive of the benefits of Trial by Jury and evincing an unbecoming desire for vengeance And this Committee would earnestly warn the Government against the inevitable consequences of such proceedings the sowing of the seeds of discontent and disaffection among the people and perilling of the Loyalty of the Colonists to the British Crown and that these are likely to be the consequences on this Gold Field this Committee records its solemn conviction And this Committee would urge upon the Government that the Peace of the Country and Justice to the Prisoners demands the immediate abandonment of the State Trials and the restoration of the Prisoners to Freedom.

Robert Benson Chairman Richard Baker James Egan Hall (?) William Meaton Angus Mackay F.R J
Wiseon William D.C Denovan Edmund H? R P. Ravenfield (?) no.

15 March 1855 R Benson Letter to His Ex.