

A few Recollections of the Long ago  
By an Old Colonist 1<sup>st</sup>

I arrived in Hobart Tasmania, or as it was called in those days Van Diemens Land, on the ninth of November 1841. I am a Carver & Gilder by Trade and come out to join an Uncle my Father's Brother <sup>one</sup> of the first emigrants that landed in Hobart. But as things did not answer my expectations, after a few months residence there, I came to Phillip in July 1842 but as Tasmania and Port Phillip are so nearly allied, seeing that nearly all the early Settlers such as the Falkners, Batmans, Genty, Austins, Clarkes and a <sup>good</sup> many others were Tasmanians, I will relate two or three circumstances that occurred in the short time I was there. The first is how I first met a very remarkable man, Sir John Franklin. This is how it came about. The Annual Regatta at Hobart was coming off on the second of December the following month of my arrival, and Lady Franklin was giving a prize Boat a four oar gig, to be rowed for by Native youths. The Boat was painted black and she wanted a streak of Gold to be gilt round it to receive the Sombre appearance and I was sent to do the work. It was placed at the Observatory in the Gov<sup>t</sup> Domain where several of the Officers of the Erebus & Terror Discovery Ships were stationed. The Boat was under a Tent constructed by a large Sail hanging from the Trees. The wind was blowing very strong and annoying me very much by blowing the Gold Leaf about. I thought I was alone at the