

Tasmania, FR (Francis Russell Nixon DD - 1803-1879)

Sponsored: Harriet Firman nee Challis (Suffolk, cook)
Charles Firman (Suffolk, groom and coachman)



FR Tasmania was the pseudonym of Francis Russell Nixon, DD, Lord Bishop of Tasmania. The Rev. Dr Nixon was the first Bishop of Tasmania. A letter in *The Mercury* on Friday 11 July 1862 (p5) confirms FR Tasmania as his pseudonym. According to the *Dictionary of Australian Biography* Nixon was appointed first bishop of Tasmania on 21 August 1842 and three days later was consecrated in Westminster Abbey. Nixon was an anti-transportationist. Nixon left Tasmania due to ill health and returned to England. He resigned from 19 August 1863, telling the archbishop of Canterbury he could not conscientiously retain his office with

satisfaction to himself or with efficiency to the church. He was given the important living of Bolton Percy, Yorkshire, but his health did not improve. In 1865 Nixon retired to Vignolo on Lake Maggiore, Italy, which he loved. The milder climate brought benefit, although he was seldom free from pain. He died on 7 April 1879, aged 75, and was buried in the British cemetery at Stresa.

Photograph by an unknown photographer is at the Allport Library and Museum of Fine Arts, State Library of Tasmania.

Bishop of Tasmania, Hobart Town applied for Bounty Immigrant Tickets.