

F I L E C (10).

SUBJECTS FOR DISCUSSION WITH MR. CHAMBERLAIN.

Subject:-

NORFOLK ISLAND.

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Blue Book, (obtainable at the Office of the  
Secretary of State for the Colonies.)

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Norfolk Island.

Norfolk Island was at one time a part of N.S.W.
In 1843, it was annexed to Tasmania. In 1856, it
was separated from Tasmania, in consequence of
a despatch from Sir W. Denison, and created into
a separate settlement, by an Order in Council
under the Australian Waste Land Act 1855
(18 & 19 Vic. Cap. 56); which provides (S. 5) that
"it shall be lawful for Her Majesty at any time
by Order in Council to separate Norfolk Island from
the Colony of
Van Diemens Land and to make such provision
for the government of Norfolk Island as may
seem expedient.

Under this Order in Council, the governor of
Norfolk Island has vested in him full powers of
legislation, subject only to Royal Instructions;
and the governor of New South Wales for the time
being was appointed governor of Norfolk
Island.

On the appointment of Viscount Stamford as governor
of N.S.W. in 1895, attention was called by him to the
condition of affairs in the Island, and during his term
of office a Commission was appointed to report thereon.
It was proposed at first to annex Norfolk Island to
N.S.W.; and the Govt. of the day expressed its willingness
to undertake the administration of its affairs. A protest
was made against this course by the government of
New Zealand; and also by the Islanders.

In the letter covering the report of the above mentioned
Commission, Mr. Carruthers, one of the Commissioners
stated his opinion that N.S.W. should be prepared, on
the consummation of Federation, to hand over the
administration of Norfolk Island to the Federal