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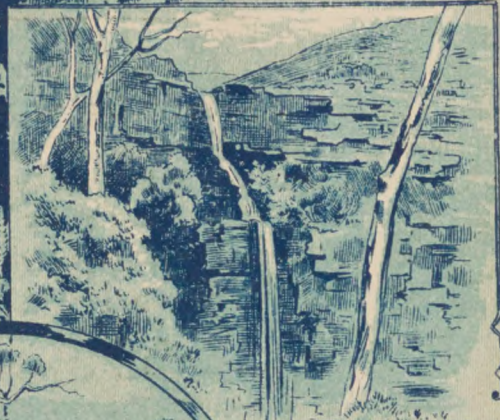
N



David Scott Mitchell.

BLUE MOUNTAINS

Railway Tourist
Guide



KATOOMBA FALLS



AT
WENTWORTH FALLS.



PRICE 3^d



THE PROPRIETOR of the above Hotel has pleasure in bringing directly under the notice of visitors to the Blue Mountains the numerous advantages specially possessed by Katoomba:—The Town is situate 66 miles from Sydney at an elevation of 3,333 feet, thus ensuring a healthy climate, and giving the beneficial change of New Zealand or Tasmania, without the discomforts and dangers of a sea voyage. It is ABSOLUTELY IN THE CENTRE OF ALL THE FAMED SCENERY of the District; being nine miles from Govett's Leap; five miles from Wentworth Falls; $1\frac{1}{4}$ miles from Leura Falls (the most favored of all Mountain sights); $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles from Katoomba Falls; three miles from Nelly's Glen. From Katoomba also the big Zig Zag can be seen during the morning, and the Jenolan Caves can be visited; the trip taking three days.

"THE CARRINGTON" occupies a most perfect position, and is everywhere admitted to be the best Hotel on the Mountains. The rooms (numbering 120) are large and well ventilated. Hot and cold baths. The Cuisine is under the direction of a thoroughly competent *chef*, so that every satisfaction in this direction is assured.

BILLIARDS.

TENNIS.

SHOOTING PARTIES ARRANGED.

TERMS: 10s. per day; 56s. per week; 53s. per week for a fortnight or longer. Special prices quoted for families. Private suites of rooms procurable on application. Buggies and horses always on hire. Letters and telegrams promptly attended to.

F. C. GOYDER, PROPRIETOR.

WENTWORTH FALLS.

Hotel Wentworth,

By J. TOLL.

THE most charming of the Blue Mountain Resorts is Wentworth Falls, and the most comfortable and best situated of mountain hotels is HOTEL WENTWORTH.

The Proprietor and MRS. TOLL give personal attention to all visitors and endeavour to make their guests as comfortable as if they were in their own homes.

The hotel is modern and replete with all up to date facilities, the rooms cheerful and well ventilated.

The hotel is built overlooking the Falls and Kanimbla Valley, and the view from its balcony is always a marvel. In the early morning, as the valley opens to the first sunshine, the light gilding the green tree tops over a thousand feet below, the visitor has a series of changing views that never weary and can never be forgotten.

The grounds are laid out with Tennis Court, Swings, etc.

Saddle horses and vehicles are on hire, and trips can be arranged to any of the mountain sights, or a journey can be arranged for *via* the Kanimbla to the famous Burragorang or Sunken Valley.

TERMS REASONABLE.

Please address letters or telegrams to

J. TOLL, Proprietor,



D. T. ENG. C.

KERRY PHOTO

A MOUNTAIN WATERFALL

MANOR HOUSE,
MOUNT VICTORIA,
Private Hotel.

Coaches Daily
TO
JENOLAN CAVES
AND
OTHER SIGHTS.

G.H.COOPER.

Proprietor.



Terms: 10s. per Day.

Special Terms for Weekly Boarders and Families, and Private Suites of Rooms.

THIS HOTEL COMMANDS THE BEST SITE ON THE MOUNTAINS.
CLOSE TO THE STATION.

Replete with every convenience, and every attention is paid to Visitors.

COACHES LEAVE DAILY FOR JENOLAN CAVES.

G. H. COOPER, Proprietor.

DRIVES.—Jenolan Caves, Mount Wilson, Covett's Leap, Katoomba Falls, Wentworth Falls, Hartley Vale, Mount York, Mount Victoria Falls.

WALKS.—Mount Victoria, Fairy Bower, Witches' Glen, Fairy Dell, Little Zig-zag, Engineers' Cascade, Mount Victoria Pass, Fern Gully.

BY TRAIN TO GREAT ZIG-ZAG DAILY.

LIST of TRIPS.—**JENOLAN CAVES**, via Mount Victoria, Leave Sydney by Evening Train, stay night at Manor House Hotel, Coach next day arrives at Cave House in time for afternoon inspection. Second Day, inspect Caves. Third Day, return to Manor House Hotel, Mount Victoria. Fourth Day, return to Sydney. Cost, including Hotel and Coaching, 1st Class Rail, £4 12s. 6d.

Rail
Katoomba
 Showing
 Routes to
 Minnie
 etc. etc.

Minni.
 La Ha Falls
 740 feet below
 Katoomba Sta
 Creek



Diagram
 SHOWING
 PATHWAYS
 at
 MINNIE LA HA
 FALLS




SCALE
 YDS. 0 25 50 100 150 YARDS

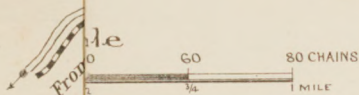
Distance from
 Sydney 66 Miles
 Time of
 Journey about 2
 Morning and
 Afternoon Train
 RETURN FARE
 1st Cl. - 2nd
 Ordinary 14/9 - 9/-
 Excursion 11/- - 5/-



the Sisters

Notes

Pathways shown thus 
 Routes following Roads 
 Fences 

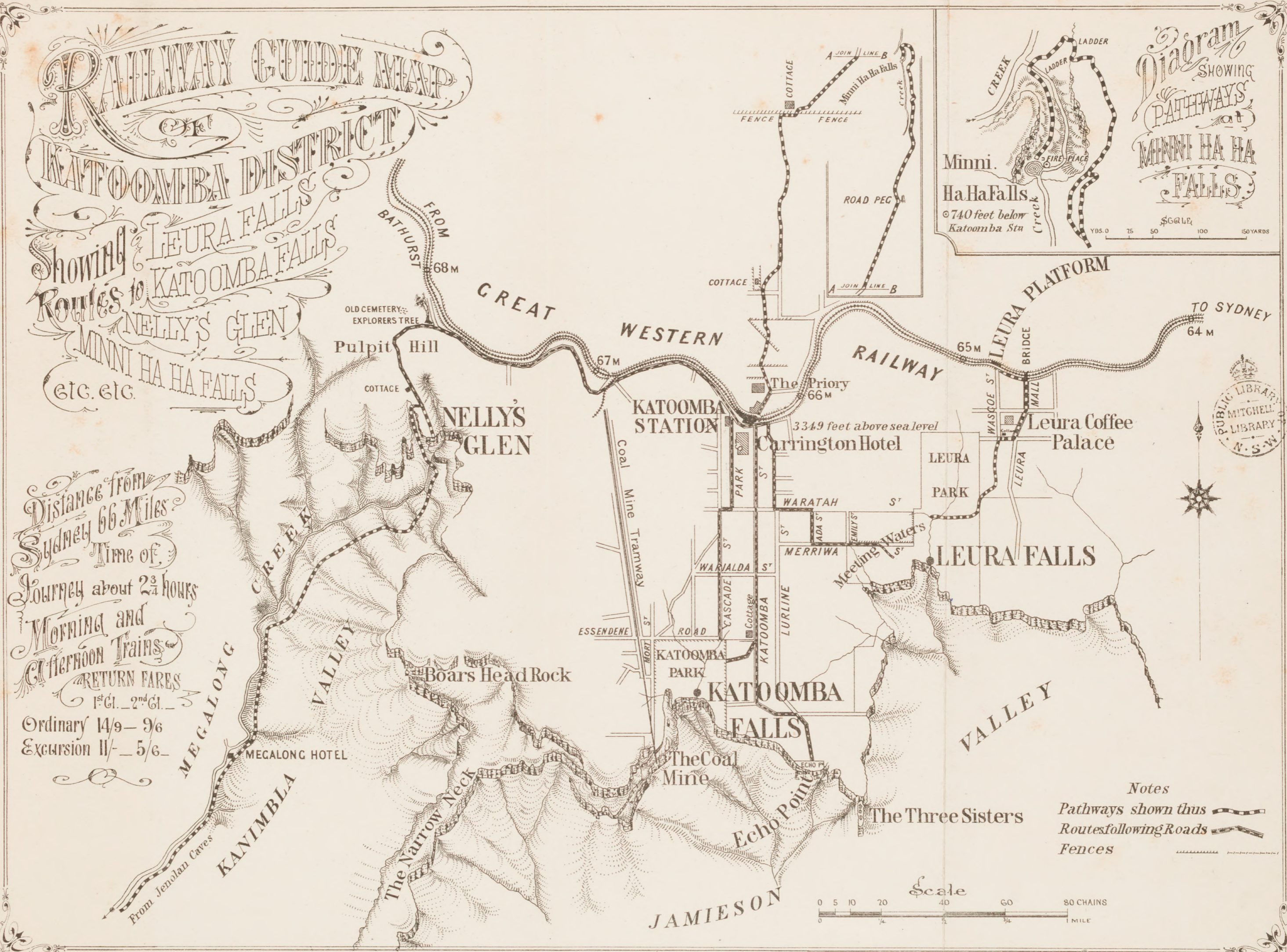
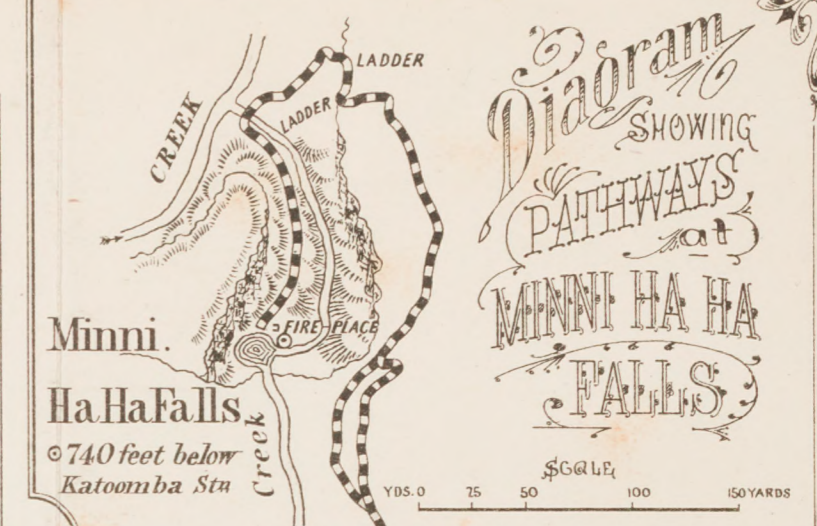




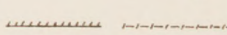
RAILWAY GUIDE MAP

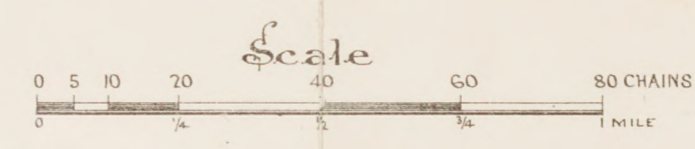
OF KATOOMBA DISTRICT

Showing Routes to LEURA FALLS
KATOOMBA FALLS
NELLY'S GLEN
MINNI HA HA FALLS
etc. etc.

Distance from Sydney 66 Miles
Time of Journey about 2 $\frac{3}{4}$ hours
Morning and Afternoon Trains
RETURN FARES
1st Cl. - 2nd Cl. -
Ordinary 14/9 - 9/6
Excursion 11/- - 5/6



Notes
Pathways shown thus 
Routes following Roads 
Fences 





BLUE MOUNTAINS RAILWAY TOURIST GUIDE.

THE TOURIST RESORTS of the Colony are yearly attracting greater attention, while the convenient train services and cheap fares arranged by the Railway Commissioners are doing much to make them more popular.

The Blue Mountains are at once acknowledged as the premier resort of the excursionist, alike from their natural beauty, the advantage from a health point of view of a visit to them, and their convenient location to the capital city.

Tourists' guides, descriptive of the Mountains, are legion, and it is not sought so much in these pages to give a florid description of the rocky fastnesses and waterfalls as to point a "finger post" to the more prominent of the scenic resorts lying between Lawson and Mount Victoria. The maps attached will, it is confidently believed, be found to meet a "long-felt want" to the stranger within our gates and to those who have not yet enjoyed the beauty of the mountain scenery.

6 *Blue Mountains Railway Tourist Guide.*

Starting from Sydney, a choice of a morning or afternoon train daily (Sundays excepted) may be had to the Mountains, and, if the visit commences on a Saturday, there are four trains. It is set clearly forth hereunder ; the train service being as follows :—

| DOWN. | MONDAY TO FRIDAY (Inclusive). | | | SATURDAY (Increased and Complete Service). | | | |
|------------------|----------------------------------|-------------|-------|---|-------|-------------|----------|
| | a.m. | * | p.m. | * | a.m. | * | * |
| SYDNEY ... dep. | 10.15 | 5.35 | 8.0 | 8.0 | 10.15 | 1.30 | 6.5 |
| Parramatta ,, | ... | ... | 8.28 | 8.33 | ... | 1.56 | ... |
| Penrith ... arr. | 11.20 | 6.28 | 9.0 | 9.15 | 11.20 | 2.33 | 7.0 |
| Emu Plains ,, | 11.29 | 6.35 | 9.10 | 9.23 | 11.29 | 2.42 | 7.8 |
| Glenbrook... ,, | 11.46 | 6.48 | ... | 9.44 | 11.46 | 2.56 | 7.26 |
| | | p.m. | | | p.m. | | |
| Springwood ,, | 12.10 | 7.10 | ... | 10.11 | 12.10 | 3.26 | 7.50 |
| Woodford ... ,, | 12.42 | <i>a</i> | ... | 10.43 | 12.42 | <i>a</i> | <i>a</i> |
| Hazelbrook ,, | 12.50 | <i>a</i> | ... | 10.51 | 12.50 | <i>a</i> | <i>a</i> |
| Lawson ... ,, | 12.57 | 7.45 | 10.26 | 10.58 | 12.57 | 4.5 | 8.37 |
| W'ntw'th Falls,, | 1.17 | 8.2 | ... | 11.20 | 1.17 | 4.24 | 8.57 |
| Leura ... ,, | 1.30 | 8.12 | ... | 11.33 | 1.30 | <i>a</i> | 9.10 |
| Katoomba... ,, | 1.36 | 8.17 | 11.4 | 11.39 | 1.36 | 4.39 | 9.16 |
| Medlow ... ,, | 1.51 | 8.31 | ... | 11.54 | 1.51 | <i>a</i> | 9.31 |
| | | | | p.m. | | | |
| Blackheath ,, | 1.59 | 8.38 | 11.29 | 12.2 | 1.59 | 5.3 | 9.40 |
| Mt. Victoria ,, | 2.10 | <u>8.50</u> | 11.39 | 12.15 | 2.10 | <u>5.15</u> | 9.50 |
| | | | a.m. | | | | |
| Eskbank ... ,, | 3.27 | ... | 12.49 | <u>1.32</u> | 3.27 | ... | 11.1 |
| LITHGOW ... ,, | 3.30 | ... | 12.52 | ... | 3.30 | ... | 11.12 |

* Return tickets, at 2d. per mile first-class, and 1d. per mile second-class, are issued by the 5.35 p.m. train on Fridays, and also by the Saturday trains marked thus *, available for return by certain trains on Saturday or Saturday week, eight days from date of issue, or within ten days by the Monday morning trains. As instances of the reasonableness of these fares, the following are quoted as examples :—

RETURN FARES, SYDNEY TO WENTWORTH FALLS (62 miles) :

First-class, 10s. 4d.; Second-class, 5s. 2d.

The fares to other stations are at proportionately low rates, according to the distance.

| UP. | MONDAY TO FRIDAY (Inclusive). | | | MON. addit'n'l | SATURDAY. Increased & Complete Service. | | | |
|------------------|----------------------------------|------|-------|-------------------|--|------|-------|------|
| | a.m. | a.m. | a.m. | | a.m. | a.m. | a.m. | a.m. |
| LITHGOW ... dep. | 1.0 | ... | 11.38 | 5.29 | 1.0 | ... | 11.38 | ... |
| Eskbank ... " | 1.4 | ... | 11.41 | 6.36 | 1.4 | ... | 11.41 | 5.0 |
| | | | p.m. | | | | p.m. | |
| Mt. Victoria " | 2.16 | 6.10 | 1.0 | 7.44 | 2.16 | 6.10 | 1.0 | 6.10 |
| Blackheath " | 2.28 | 6.20 | 1.12 | 7.56 | 2.28 | 6.20 | 1.12 | 6.21 |
| Medlow ... " | ... | 6.26 | 1.21 | 8.5 | ... | 6.26 | 1.21 | 6.30 |
| Katoomba " | 2.51 | 6.38 | 1.36 | 8.18 | 2.51 | 6.38 | 1.36 | 6.44 |
| Leura ... " | ... | 6.42 | a | a | ... | 6.42 | a | a |
| W'ntw'th Falls " | ... | 6.50 | 1.52 | 8.34 | ... | 6.50 | 1.52 | 7.0 |
| Lawson ... " | 3.20 | 7.2 | 2.7 | 8.50 | 3.20 | 7.2 | 2.7 | 7.15 |
| Hazelbrook " | ... | 7.6 | 2.12 | a | ... | 7.6 | 2.12 | 7.20 |
| Woodford... " | ... | 7.11 | 2.18 | a | ... | 7.11 | 2.18 | 7.26 |
| Springwood " | 3.52 | 7.31 | 2.42 | 9.26 | 3.52 | 7.31 | 2.42 | 7.53 |
| Glenbrook " | ... | 7.49 | 3.4 | 9.47 | ... | 7.49 | 3.4 | 8.15 |
| Emu Plains " | ... | 7.59 | 3.17 | 10.2 | ... | 7.59 | 3.17 | 8.27 |
| Penrith ... " | 4.34 | 8.7 | 3.26 | 10.10 | 4.34 | 8.7 | 3.26 | 8.35 |
| Parramatta arr. | 5.19 | ... | ... | 10.47 | 5.19 | ... | ... | 9.20 |
| SYDNEY ... " | 5.50 | 9.0 | 4.40 | 11.15 | 5.50 | 9.0 | 4.40 | 9.50 |
| | § | | | | | | | |

§ Mondays Excepted.

a Calls to pick up and set down when required.

The run from Sydney, *via* its Western suburbs and Parramatta, to Penrith is accomplished under the hour, and is of interest, particularly if made for the first time, and more especially if seen in spring, when the country is green, and the orangeries beyond Parramatta glow golden with their fruit; but the Mountains are the vantage point, and the glance is turned westward, the "Hills" coming nearer with every beat of the powerful locomotive.

PENRITH is 34 miles from Sydney, and is at the foot of the Mountains, although the River Nepean lies between them. The Nepean warrants a visit if time permits, as a few miles above Penrith it boldly breaks into the Mountains, flowing then placidly under beetling cliffs, and, at a convenient distance from Penrith, opening into the "Basin," a magnificent sheet of water hemmed in by the hills, and affording a splendid halting-place for the

excursionist. Of this stream an enthusiastic writer says :—" Rapids alternate with limpid sheets of open water ; while, far up-stream, standing out in bold relief, towers some peak, around the base of which winds the mountain torrent ; and where, save the noise of the distant fall, the purling of running water, with perhaps the note of the bell-bird, heard far away in the glades of some creek, there is all that stillness necessary to complete our imagination of the home of fairy and romance."

At Penrith a brief stoppage is made for a "refresher," a few minutes after which the train rumbles over the iron bridge spanning the Nepean, stopping for a minute at Emu, and then commencing its climb up the hills, the grade on the first rise being one of the steepest (1 in 30) on the Government railway lines in the Colony.

The train rises quickly, and this is made apparent as the view from the windows shows an ever-increasing extent of plain below. Formerly the first of the well-known "Zig-Zags" had to be negotiated here, but the utilitarian spirit of the age has caused it to give way to a more direct ascent. Between the railway cuttings, however, charming vistas open up across the tree-tops, and the Nepean is seen now some hundreds of feet below, flowing like a silver streak through a fertile plain, the farm lands standing out like the squares of a natural chess-board, and the townships below, small in the distance, looking like the homes of a Lilliputian race. The view is shut out by a sudden darkness as the train enters the Lapstone Tunnel, some 500 yards in length, and as the train comes once more into daylight the view is purely of the hills ; the air is fresher, the foliage brighter, and the traveller feels that he is now actually on the Mountains, the first station—Glenbrook—coming into notice 600 feet above sea level.

For a dozen miles the train runs through a quiet country, bright and charming to one who seeks in Nature's heart that rest which is often the best medicine. Blaxland and The Valley, two small stations, are passed, and the train stops up at Springwood, which claims note as the first of the Mountain townships. It lies sheltered by its westerly walls from the colder air of the higher

altitudes, and, lying as it does on an easterly slope, invites a pleasant sunshine all the year round. As a summer residence it is widely appreciated, and its cottage homes are overflowing throughout the season, and in winter the climate is so equable that many families make Springwood a permanent residence, the train service admitting of the morning journey to town and a return home at a convenient hour in the evening.

SPRINGWOOD is 1,216 feet above sea level, and affords a number of pleasant views within easy walking distance of the station. Madeline Glen lies within ten minutes of the station, and is a charming fern gully, through the centre of which a bright stream flows over masses of rock and fallen trees, losing itself among tangled masses of ferns the whole forming a beautiful picture.

The chief tourist attraction here, however, is the "Sassafras Gully," the designation arising from the large number of sassafras trees which stud the valley, several rising to a height of over 100 feet. The gully is deep and generally rocky, but easily descended, steps being cut where necessary, and awkward corners protected by rustic railings. The gully itself is simply a mass of rich fern foliage, shaded on every side by immense honeycombed overhanging rocks, and concealed in places by huge sassafras trees towering proudly above myrtle, turpentine, and other forest trees, and interlaced and bound together here and there with beautiful climbing and twining plants. Along the bottom of the glen a crystal stream, suggestive of elves and fays, glides peacefully among the great moss-covered boulders lying scattered about in picturesque confusion, its surface concealed at times by the broad leaves and showy blossoms of aquatic plants. For about a mile the scene retains its fairylike character, and then above another valley is entered, even more beautiful than the first.

Leaving Springwood, platforms are passed at Faulconbridge (49 miles) and Linden (52 miles). At Woodford (54 miles) comfortable accommodation is obtained at the well-known "Woodford House," and while such majestic sights as Wentworth Falls or Govett's Leap may not be found in the vicinity, the dainty dells and glens are very

pleasing, and render a short visit enjoyable. Woodford is beginning to be appreciated as a desirable residential area, and a number of city folk are commencing to put up cottages here.

HAZELBROOK (56 miles) is marked by an air of business, and a number of new cottages are seen. Local residents are "emphatic in inviting the world to their beautiful Terrace Falls," and they have reason to feel proud of them. The Falls have only recently become known as a tourist resort, and well deserve a visit. They lie within a mile and a half from the station on the southern side. Leaving the station by the level crossing at the western end the roadway leads over rising ground and then by a picturesque pathway through the bush. At a distance of about three-quarters of a mile the path dips into a hollow through which a pretty little mountain stream passes, which is crossed by stepping stones. The stream is particularly picturesque, broken as it is by numerous tiny waterfalls, broadening out into pools at intervals, fringed with a luxuriant growth of sedges and water plants, with banks thickly covered with mosses and ferns. Following the course of the stream for about three-quarters of a mile, the path again rises until, from a vantage point immediately above the Falls, a magnificent view is obtained of the Falls and the valley down which the stream passes after its plunge into the gorge by means of the series of terraces or steps from which the Falls derive their name. Continuing, by means of the pathway constructed by the Progress Association, the visitor descends by a zig-zag route to the bottom of the amphitheatre at the foot of the Falls, where a magnificent view of the terraces, 300 or 400 feet in height, hemmed in and surmounted by thick and luxuriant foliage, is obtained, the growth of ferns also being extremely rich and beautiful, completely clothing the steep walls on either side with a thick mantle of verdure.

LAWSON (58 miles), 2,400 feet above sea level, is one of the best known of the mountain resorts, and for many years enjoyed the distinctive title of "Blue Mountain" station, but the wideness of its designation being seen to be inappropriate, its present name was selected in honour of one of the intrepid band of first explorers who

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U. S. A.



Kerry, photo.

A MOUNTAIN PATHWAY.

D. T. Co., Eng.

scaled the ranges to reach the Western Plains. Lawson is quite a town in itself, possessing the preliminary step to a municipal body, in the shape of an active Progress Committee. It contains two hotels and a large number of cottage residences where accommodation for families may be secured on moderate terms. Its scenic resorts are numerous and easily reached, and have a charm in their peacefulness, the mountains here breaking more gently into glen and waterfall than at the mountain stations which follow in the westerly course of the line.

It has been well said that "the Blue Mountains with their innumerable hills and ravines, present extensive panoramas of the grandest description. As the traveller on the railway is sped along the summits of the range, and catches glimpses of the thousand valleys stretching like ocean waves to the horizon on both sides of the line (which for a considerable distance is laid on a narrow causeway that looks as if built up out of awful depths of precipice and ravine), he finds it difficult to imagine a nobler representation of the grandeur and sublimity of nature."

The energetic local Trust has laid out a Park and the paths to the different falls to much advantage, and a charming walk is had on either side of the line. On the north, within a few hundred yards of the station, the best known place is Dante's Glen; while on the south a direct road leads to the Junction Falls. Both reveal a wealth of ferns and delightful waterfalls. The sylvan basin at the Junction receives two distinct falls and the music of the waterfalls, with the rustic beauty of the place, make it one of the most charming little spots on the mountains. Anyone wishing for a restful day in a pleasant atmosphere cannot do better than take his ease at Lawson, and leisurely pass the day in visiting the resorts mentioned, or enjoying the many pretty views to be found close by in the locality.

Proceeding westward from Lawson the line quickly ascends through picturesque country. To the left is the King's Table land, a fine promontory jutting out into the Jamieson Valley, and situated about four miles from Lawson Station and between two and three miles from that at Wentworth Falls. From whichever station the

RAILWAY GUIDE MAP OF WENTWORTH



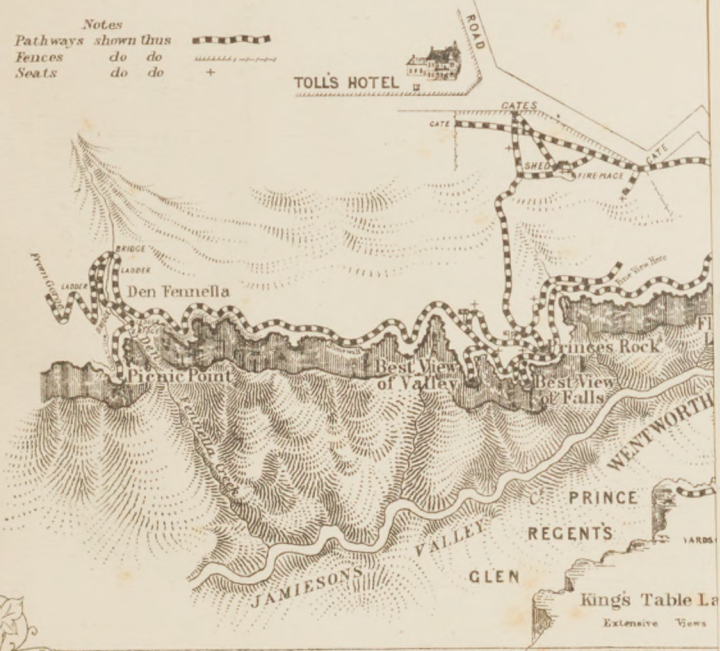
From Bathurst



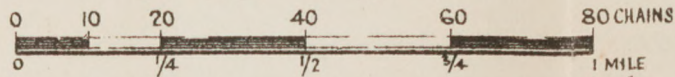
Distance from Sydney 62 miles
 Time of journey about 2 1/2 hours
 Morning and Afternoon Trains
 RETURN FARES
 1st Class 2nd Class
 Ordinary 13/9 & 8/9
 Excursion 10/4 & 5/2

Notes
 Pathways shown thus
 Fences do do
 Seats do do

TOLL'S HOTEL



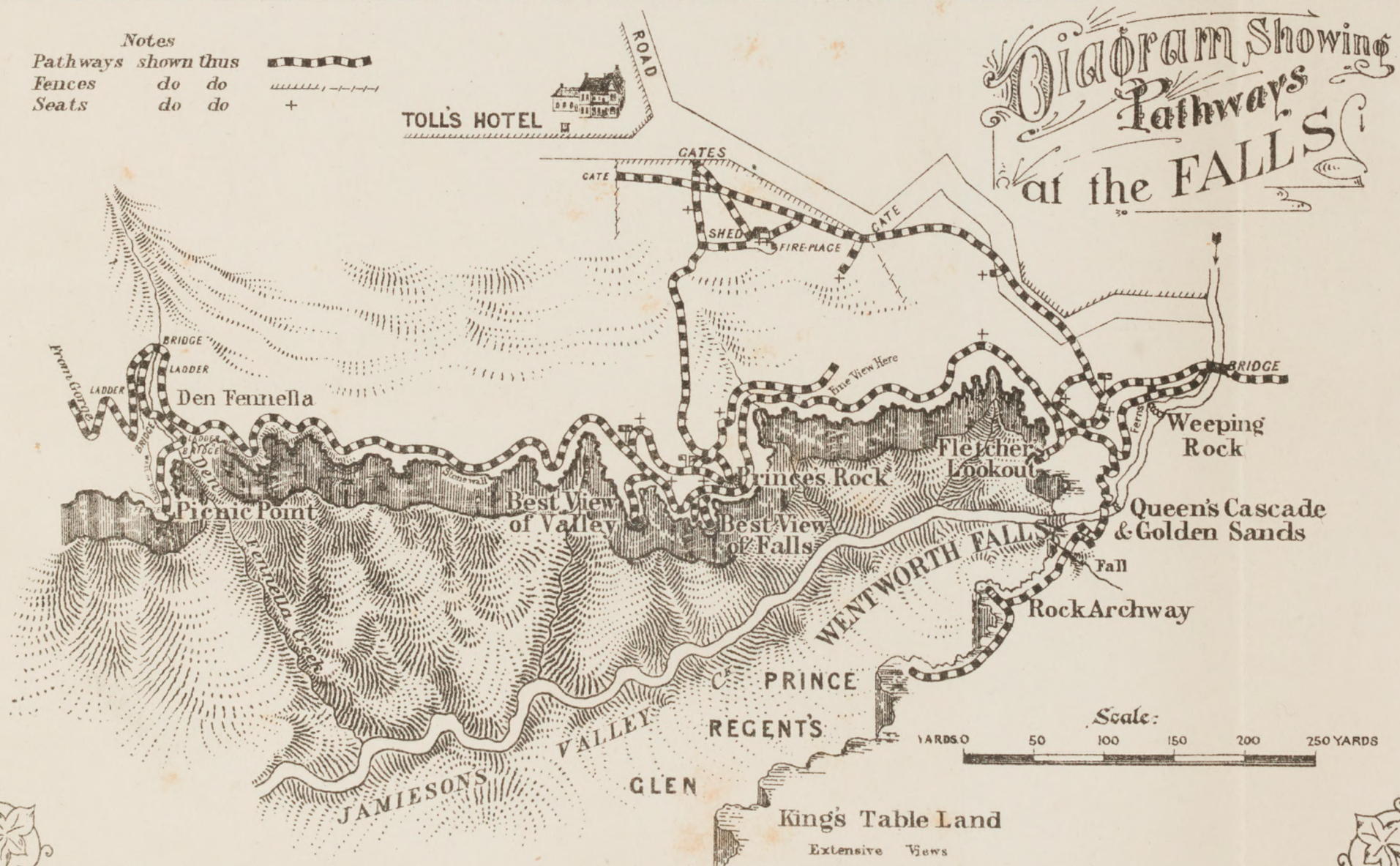
RAILWAY GUIDE MAP OF WENTWORTH FALLS



Distance from Sydney 62 miles
 Time of journey about 2 1/2 hours
 Morning and Afternoon Trains
 RETURN FARES
 1st Class 2nd Class
 Ordinary 13/9 & 8/9
 Excursion 10/4 & 5/2

Notes
 Pathways shown thus [checkered line]
 Fences do do [dashed line]
 Seats do do [plus sign]

Diagram Showing Pathways at the FALLS



tourist starts, the first portion of the drive lies along the old Bathurst road, after leaving which the carriage road leads over a pleasant open country, passing one or two enclosures that have been reclaimed and made fruitful. Very delightful views of the Dividing Range are obtainable stretching far away on the southern horizon to Hill Top, Bowral, &c., and to the eastward to Botany Bay and the broad waters of the Pacific Ocean. Below the spectator's feet lies the Jamieson Valley and the Warragamba River, with here and there farmsteads nestling amidst the trees, hundreds of feet beneath. Very beautiful mist effects are observable at times in this valley, and the attention of the tourist will not fail to be attracted by the curiously weathered sandstone cliffs, in which bands of ironstone have been left in thin layers in bold relief. If he desire to explore the hidden beauties in the valley below, he will find a pathway that will enable him to do so, continuing in a southerly direction, which, though somewhat precipitous in places, is perfectly safe for pedestrians..

WENTWORTH FALLS station, 2,900 feet above the sea, is four miles from Lawson. The first view is probably one of disappointment, so much having been written of the glories of the Wentworth Falls district, but it can safely be said that the visitor will leave after examining the magnificent falls and gulfs, fully satisfied that the charms of the place have not been over-written, nor the descriptions given in any way extravagant.

For the guidance of visitors a map is attached (page 15) which will help to indicate the notable sights, and the road is so well defined that no further detailed directions are necessary to enable the tourist to reach the many points of interest.

The name of the place demands a notice, it being in honour of the early explorer and statesman, W. C. Wentworth. Years ago it was known as the "Weatherboard," but the new generation have taken more kindly to its present nomenclature. It has a bustling little population, and yearly grows into favour as a desirable summer residence, many city families having cottage homes here, and some, charmed with its climate, have made it a permanent resi-

dence. It offers excellent accommodation to travellers, the principal hotel overlooking the Falls, and being well equipped and roomy.

The road leading from the main street to the Falls has been greatly improved, and a route for its extension has been surveyed to points from whence another view of the Falls and the Gorge may be seen. A local Board is doing excellent work to ensure the safety, increase the convenience of visitors, and also add to the facilities at their command for seeing to the best advantage the many magnificent features of this aggregation of natural beauties. Well-made paths cut in the side of the hill, and in places almost flush with deep precipices, leading at times to spots which would be otherwise inaccessible, securely fenced with protecting railings and walls, are pointed out by kindly finger-posts; look-out points like turret keeps have been built and made secure, from whence the best views of the Falls can be obtained; in places, steps have been cut in the solid rock to assist tourists in their passage from point to point of interest, and rustic seats placed wherever they are most welcome, either by the wearied climber or by the spectator desirous of studying the strange, overhanging vista before him; basins have been cut in the solid rock on the pathsides for the catchment of pure and deliciously cold spring water for the use of tourists, the basins being also provided with drinking cups suspended by chains at the sides; and a shelter-shed, or picnic pavilion, has been placed on the plateau within the entrance gates. Much money has been expended on these improvements, and as funds become available more will be spent in a similar manner.

A good method of seeing the many charms of this delightful district, by following the made pathways and eschewing the innumerable tracks which would lead through the bush to spots less frequented—but certainly not less lovely—is to turn to the left after passing through the Reserve gate, and leisurely stroll to the uppermost cascade, above the main Falls. After running over its rocky bed, the stream, which varies in volume according to the rainfall, flows on until it sweeps gracefully over the projecting semi-

RAILWAY GUIDE MAP

SHOWING PATHWAYS

at LEURA FALLS



EMILY STREET

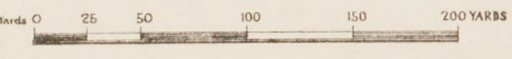
MERRIWA STREET

From Katoomba Station

To Leura Coffee Palace, and Station



SCALE



Notes

- Pathways shown thus
- Seats do do
- Fences do do

RAILWAY GUIDE MAP SHOWING THE PATERA FALLS

To Leura Coffee Palace
Station
and
Meeting of the
Waters

Meeting of the
Waters

Cascades

The Forest

LEURA

EMILY STREET

MERRIWA STREET

From Katoomba
Station

ROAD

LARGE SIGN BOARD

Station

Dining Hall

Shed below

FIRE PLACE




BRIDGE

BRIDGE

FENCE

FENCE

Notes

- Pathways shown thus 
- Seats do do 
- Fences do do 

circular ledge of the Weeping Rock, and plunges in white foam upon the hollow sandstone bed some twenty feet beneath, from whence it playfully emerges, then hurries on its way to the Queen's Cascade, and glides over the Golden Sands to the final fall. Behind the veil of water which supplies the Weeping Rock with its flood of crystal tears, is a cool grotto filled with a luxuriant growth of ferns, the green and bronzed fronds of which form a delicately picturesque background. To the right, at the foot of a flight of steps, there nestles an ever-moist bed of ferns, which, not to the credit of tourists who fail to observe the *sixth* commandment, have to be protected from vandalism by a barbed wire fence. The whole of the rocky glen through which the waters run over the cascades, and whose banks are clothed with coarse grasses, verdant shrubs, and ti-tree brush, is a lovely little natural cutting, leading to the tremendous valley beyond.

It is when crossing the securely pinioned timber bank which serves as a footbridge across the Golden Sands to the rocky road mounting the hillside on which Rocket Point and the Arched Cave are situated, that a full view of the gorge is seen. It is here that the valley is deepest, and the rocks most abrupt in the whole mountain range. One stands almost upon the rim of a huge natural basin with precipitous rocks, scarred by the rains of ages and reddened with ironstone stains, on either side. Adown their abrupt faces, from summit to base, niches far beyond the reach of man are green with growth of fern and shrub ; and now and again, a larger accumulation of earth, upon a projecting ledge, or in a deeper crevice is seen, supporting a clump of trees of mature growth. In the bed of the gorge, at a vasty depth, nothing is visible except a forest of trees, whose tops of olive green verdure form a carpet which, by distance of the depth, appears motionless and even as a bed of violet leaves.

Arising out of the Jamieson Valley, immediately in front, is Mount Solitary ; and further on, a little to the right, fully 50 miles away, the Table Top Hill, overlooking Goulburn. In the early morning, on a clear summer's day, the whole vista seems to be reclining against a sumptuous cushion of velvet in colour as deep and

soft as the royal blue in a Sevres China vase. There is a solitude of solemnity about the whole scene suggestive of Nature's innermost sanctuary, and there flashes across the mind of the spectator, while gazing on mountain and valley, on rock and stream, the thought of an antiquity almost incalculable.

The view from the head of Wentworth Falls, magnificent as it is under bright sunshine, presents a different aspect with every change of circumstance or season ; endless transformations follow with the changing lights, each succeeding change being simply natural beauty in another guise. Mounting to Rocket Point, a grey and rugged ledge overhanging an abyssmal depth, the main waterfall descending over its first deep and precipitous rock is slightly to the right, and below, the tree-tops hide the mountain stream as it ripples over its rocky bed to join the waters of Cox's River. Streamlets of water after a rainy spring, new-born rivulets—offspring of the storm—are trickling down every gully, and finally vanish into the misty depths below.

It is from an outlook in the vicinity of the Eagle's Nest, a hole in the western wall of rock, that the finest view of the great Falls is caught. The water, like a silver current, descends over its three cascades of fully a thousand feet to the basin at the head of the gorge. In the final drop the depth is so great that the continuous stream is broken into liquid globules which, when met by the wind, are shattered into spray that eventually sinks to the pool beneath. Paths are cut in the steep hillsides to lateral glens and gullies, the home of the fern and the bush flower, which thrive in rank luxuriance ; while on the sandstone surface of the higher grounds, where little or no soil seems to be, there is a vigorous growth of flowering heaths and bells, interspersed with our national flower, the waratah.

If staying at Wentworth Falls, the tourist should visit the "Water Nymph's Dell," situated on the northern side of the railway line, and distant a little over one mile from the station. Crossing the line at the station, west of the railway water tank, a path leads along an enclosure for a short distance. Passing two cottages and turning to the right at a finger-post which marks the direction, the

track should be followed until a wire fence is met with, thence along the fence, and turning again to the right, a second finger-post is seen. At this point the path takes a turn to the right over some rocks, when the track down to the Dell will be seen, well defined, leading from this point to a narrow crevice in the side of a cliff, through which the descent is made to the Water Nymph's Dell. Upon reaching the bottom, the visitor, turning to the right, and following the wall of cliff round, will find the waterfall and clear pool before him, and although a little trouble is experienced in the walking, the sight will prove a full reward for the journey.

LEURA (65 miles) has only recently claimed a place amongst the railway stoppages, but it is likely to become more widely known from the beauty of its great show-piece, the Leura Falls. These, in themselves alone, are worth the trip to the Mountains, and, in the opinion of very many, offer the grandest and most charming series of views on the Blue Mountains. While placing them under the head of Leura, it should be said that they are equally accessible from Katoomba, and in fact the greater number make the journey from that station. The Falls are on the southern side of the line, and distant about one mile from either Leura or Katoomba station. If starting from Leura, the visitor should travel to the Coffee Palace, which is a conspicuous object from the railway. Passing the Coffee Palace, the first street to the right is taken. This is followed for a short distance until a cottage is reached, from which a well-defined path in a southerly direction leads to the bridge above the Meeting of the Waters, and from here the guide map will conduct the visitor to the principal sights.

A faithful description of Leura would be an impossibility, and the place has been so well laid out as a tourist resort that it offers a perfect kaleidoscope of views. From the shelter-shed, the tourist obtains such a general view of valley and waterfall, ferny glen and forest masses that he is figuratively entranced with the bewildering beauty of the scene.

The comfort and convenience of the public have been largely studied. Leaving the shelter-shed, pathways lead, as indicated by

the map, to the Railed Point, the Lovers' Nook, the Foot of the Fall, the Leura Weeping Rock, a view of the second Fall, the Amphitheatre, the Adeline Cascade, the Marguerite and Sylvan Cascades, not forgetting Honeymoon Point, where, as it is only proper it should be, the sylvan beauty of the place is most pronounced. The Meeting of the Waters also is a sight alone worth a long journey.

From Leura to Katoomba the line affords a series of changing views, rendering the railway journey interesting until the latter station is reached.

KATOOMBA (66 miles from Sydney and 3,350 feet above sea level) is the largest of the Mountain tourist resorts, and offers a wide choice of accommodation to visitors, from the palatial Carrington Hotel to the quietly-furnished cottage. Horses and vehicles are always obtainable. It also offers a wide choice of charming picturesque views, as will be evidenced by an inspection of the general map. In the immediate vicinity of Katoomba the Falls are naturally the principal attraction. Here, as at Wentworth, there is in the enormous mass of rock a deep indentation, semi-circular in shape, extending from the higher section of the Jamieson Valley to its confluence with the northern arm of the Kanimbula Valley. In massiveness and immensity likewise the view of the huge valley is similar to that obtained from Wentworth, but there are several minor characteristics with peculiarities of their own. The water of the Falls first gathers from the gullies on the higher land, and collecting into a stream which bubbles forward over small cascades more beautiful than the main fall itself, plunges over the edge of the back cliff down a sheer drop of fully 200 feet into the apparently fathomless gulf below. On either side of the rugged, water-worn receiving basin, perpendicular cliffs, unscaleable by man, rise to the height of 1,000 feet. Winding paths, steep but secure, lead to the Lower Falls, and the pedestrian, in making the descent, is lost to sight by those on the cliffs above, as he disappears amid the shrubs and bushes growing on the hillsides.

ESSENDENE

RAILWAY
GUIDE MAP
SHOWING
KATOOMBA FALL
PATH

COAL

MINE

WIRE

TRAMWAY

STREET

MORT

ROAD

The Witch's Leap

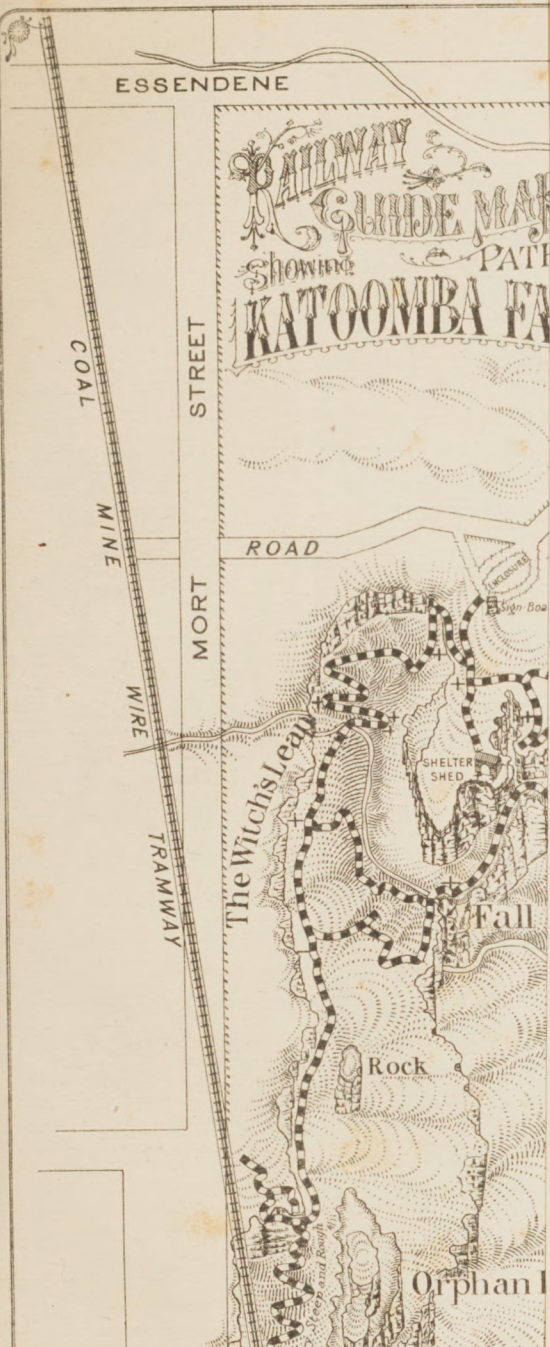
SHELTER
SHED

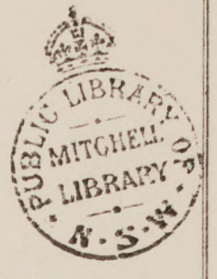
Rock

Fall

Orphan

Deep and Rough





RAILWAY GUIDE MAP SHOWING PATHWAYS at KATOOMBA FALLS

ESSENDENE ROAD

ROAD

CASCADE STREET GATE

ROAD GATE To Katoomba Station

STREET

COAL

MINE

MORT

ROAD

WIRE

TRAMWAY

Cascades

SHELTER SHED

KATOOMBA FALLS
225 feet below Shed

Fall

Cliff View

Rock

KATOOMBA

CREEK

Orphan Rock

850 feet below Shelter Shed

OLD SAW-MILL

OLD HOUSE

The Coal Mine

IRON HOUSE (SCHOOL)

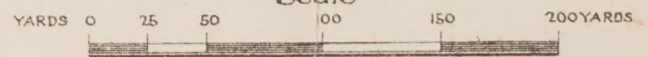
640 feet below Shed

Path not well defined from here to Creek.

Notes

- Pathways shown thus
- Fences do do
- Seats do do

Scale





KATOOMBA FALLS.



The approach to the space below Katoomba Falls is through a charming little amphitheatre named Fern Gully. A sinuous footpath leads to the natural circular chamber, which has the blue sky for its canopy, and is lined with Nature's designs of fern, grass, and wild flowers. Here a fairy waterfall dances from the rocky summit into the sheltered hollow. This is known as the Witch's Leap. The streamlet in its fall keeps verdant the clinging mosses and lichen upon the sandstone wall, and, after coating the recumbent boulders at the base of the precipitous wall with a green garb, flows on beneath a rustic bridge constructed of a fallen forest giant until it is lost in the sunless gloom of a rocky chasm, which ends in the face of the rock over which leap the waters of the main fall in their final descent to the Gorge.

On the right beyond stands the well known Orphan Rock, a picturesque pillar of grey, time-worn stone, detached from the main mass, towering far above the coal mines. The best view of this section of the valley is obtained from the cliff on the opposite side; and another sight, including an extensive stretch of Jamieson's Valley, with Echo Point and the Three Sisters on the left, is afforded from the high head of the cliff, railed in and surmounted by a summer-house, situated on the point above Fern Gully. Mountain Chain View, Nellie's Glen (or Megalong Cliff), Blackfellow's Ladder, Ruined Castle, Jersey Falls, the Neck of Land, Minehaha Falls, etc., are other scenes in the same vicinity. Echo Point is an altitude from which a magnificent view of the Kanimbula Valley in the far-reaching hollow in the direction of Goulburn, meets the gaze. Between the main thoroughfare, known as Katoomba-street, and Echo Point, Sir Frederick Darley has built a mountain home, which is approached by a road recently named Kanimbula Avenue. The Jenolan Caves (31 miles) can be reached by a bridle track from Katoomba.

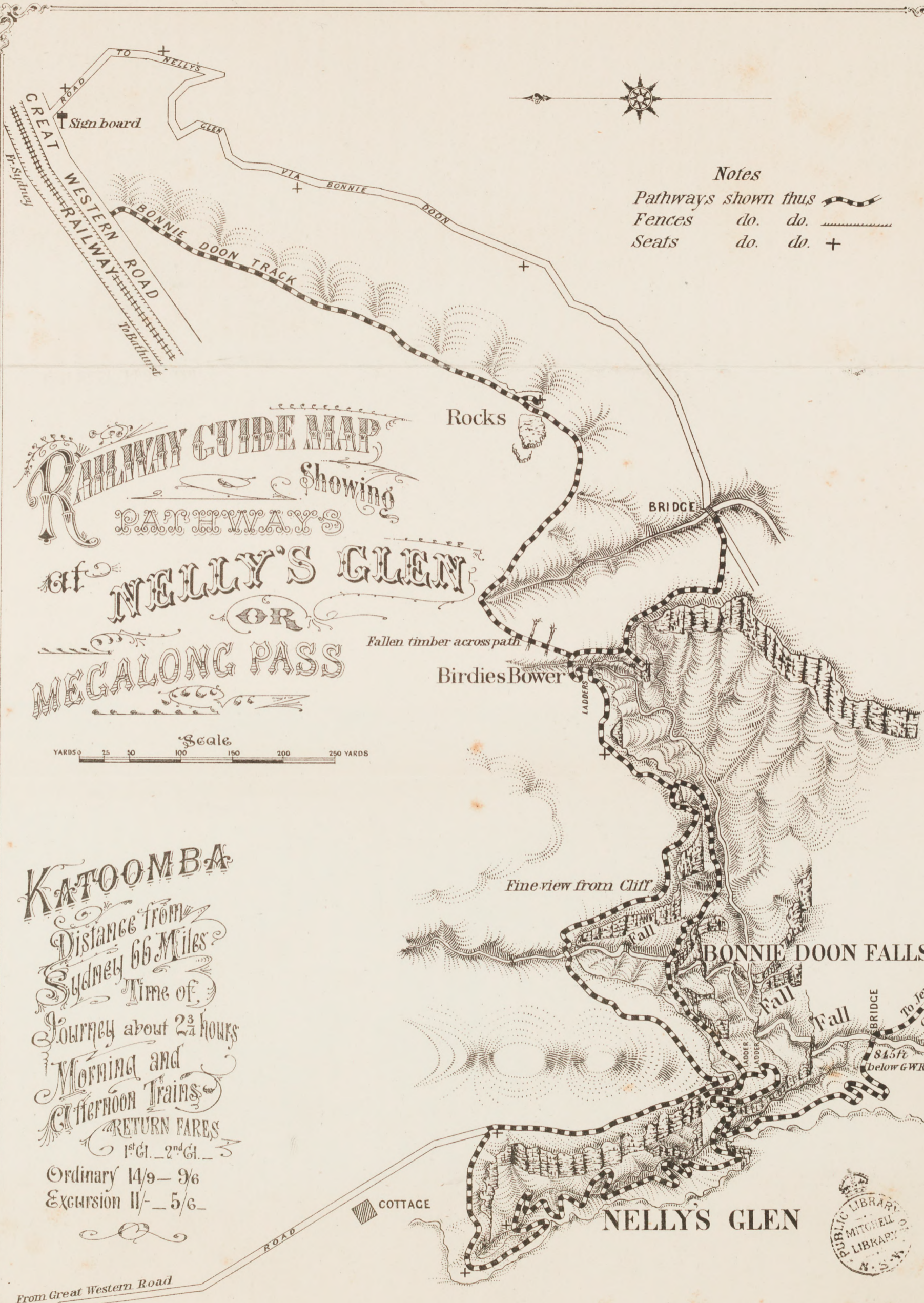
MEDLOW (70 miles), 3,450 feet above sea level, and four miles beyond Katoomba, is a pretty little village, rising rapidly in tourist favour, and justly proud of its fine hotel. The village is surrounded by numerous beauty spots, as yet very little known. It

overlooks the Kanimbula Valley, a descent into which is effected by following the "Miner's Track," commencing near the hotel, and so called by reason of its formerly constituting a means of access to the now deserted coal mines below. The path is a circuitous one, passing at intervals through thick masses of bush, or around large boulders, until the increasing number of ferns indicates the vicinity of a romantic creek, with numerous tiny cascades, running through the valley. A buggy drive of less than a couple of miles from Medlow brings the visitor within a short distance of the Minnehaha Falls, situated midway between the village and Katoomba. Here the water descends in a series of fairy-like cascades to a mass of weatherbeaten rock, whence they abruptly leap into the glittering pool, some 70 feet below. Close by a cave has been discovered in the sandstone cliff, also a small subterranean river, and shaping, during its course, additions to the New South Wales cave system. Fern gullies and small waterfalls are frequent in the neighbourhood, and pleasant rambles may be made in almost every direction.

BLACKHEATH (73 miles), three miles from Medlow, is one of the most frequented tourist resorts on the mountains, the principal attraction being the world-famous "Govett's Leap." The town is well laid out, has excellent roads, and hotels, and other accommodation. A half-hour's walk in almost any direction will bring the visitor to some of the most picturesque scenery in Australia. A good road, about one mile and a half in length, leads to the head of the Valley of the Grose, where, from Breakfast Rock, a magnificent view of the gorge and the falls, on the right, is obtained. The "Govett's Leap," or fall, is a stream which plunges headlong over a perpendicular wall of dark-tinted rock on to a mass of boulders, some 520 feet below. "This descending mass of water," says a visitor, "white and misty as the driven snow, sways, as the wind blows to and fro, like the veil of a bride; the vast height of the waterfall, the strong contrasts of colour, and the undulating motion so produced, imparting a very singular and most charming effect. When the sun attains to a

certain altitude, a rainbow plays for hours around the cloudy folds of this fairy veil." In the valley below is the Trinity Cascade, and, to the left, the Left Hand Falls. The centre of the valley is fully 1,800 feet below the standpoint of the visitor, thence gradually descending to a depth of 2,027 feet, where the falling waters mingle with those of the River Grose. Another road from Blackheath leads to "Perry's Look-Down," from whence "Docker's Ladder," a wild, precipitous track, leads to the bottom of the valley, 2,150 feet below. The "Mermaid's Cave" is on the other side of the township, the track being easily followed. A more picturesque scene cannot be imagined. It is like a glimpse of fairy-land. It is a cave-like formation, clothed with ferns, mosses, and lichens, kept soft and cool by the ceaseless trickling of crystal waters. At the end of the path, masses of fantastically-shaped rocks, covered in places with trees, tower high above, while below the ground seems like a carpet of dainty ferns and mosses, a runnel of water playing laughingly over the stones as it descends into the valley. There are other places of interest in the vicinity of Blackheath, including Look-out Hill, on the Bathurst-road, from whence, in clear weather, with an ordinary field-glass, the greater portion of Sydney can be distinctly seen.

MOUNT VICTORIA (77 miles), the highest peak of the Blue Mountains, is four miles from Blackheath. It is widely known throughout Australasia as a tourist resort, and the continual influx of visitors during the summer months has led to an abundance of good and comfortable hotel accommodation being provided. It is 3,422 feet above sea level, and is the best starting point for the Jenolan Caves. It is surrounded by magnificent scenery, and a fine view can be obtained from almost every part of the township. There is a good path to Mount Piddington, from the summit of which may be obtained a series of glorious panoramic pictures of mountain, upland, and valley. To the west of Mount Piddington a track leads down into the Witches' Glen, forming portion of the Kanimbula Valley, a charming spot, having a rare wealth of ferns



Notes

- Pathways shown thus
- Fences do. do.
- Seats do. do.

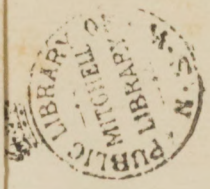
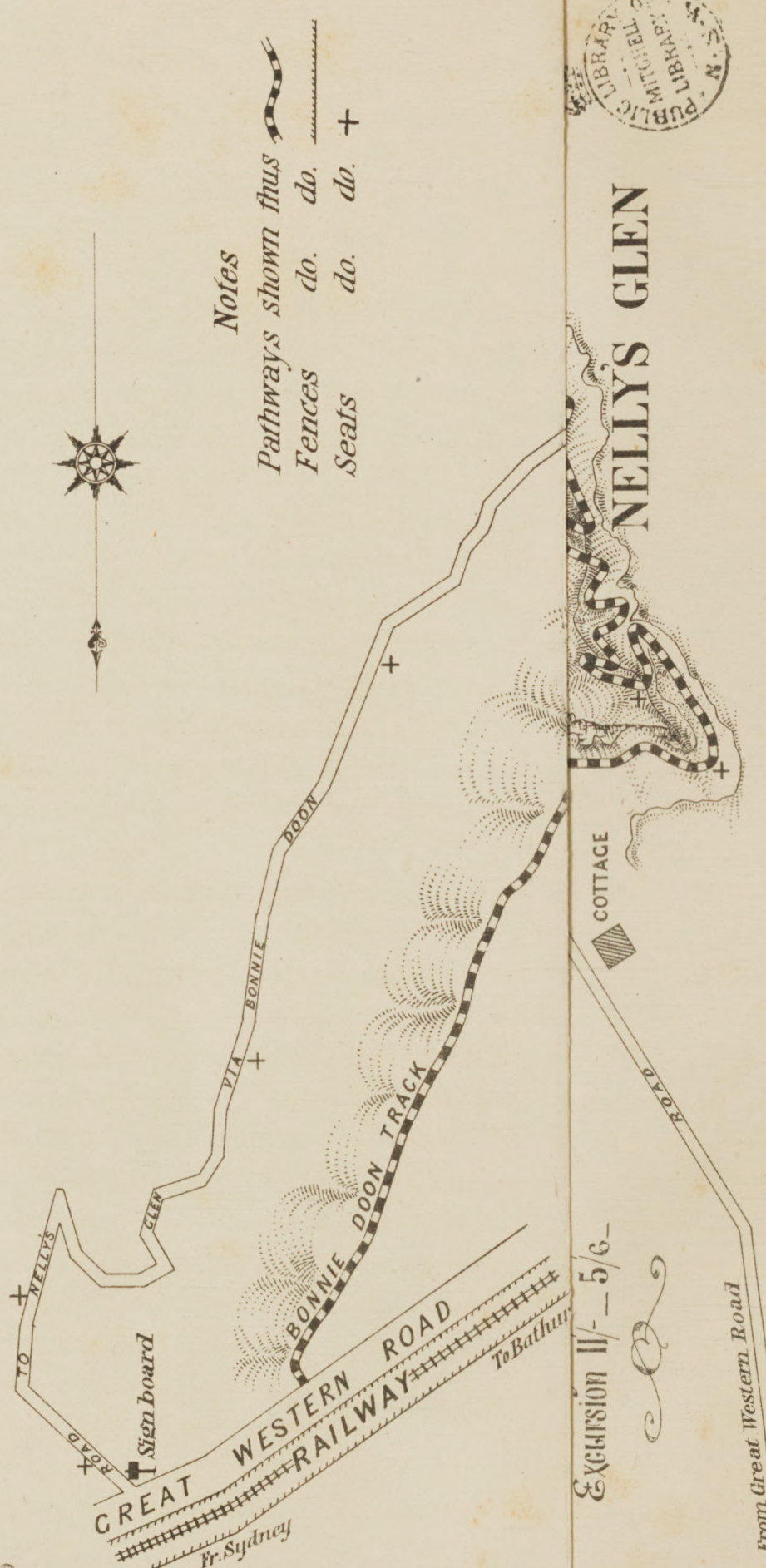
RAILWAY GUIDE MAP
 Showing
PATHWAYS
 at
NELLY'S GLEN
 OR
MEGALONG PASS



KATOOMBA

Distance from
 Sydney 66 Miles
 Time of
 Journey about 2³/₄ hours
 Morning and
 Afternoon Trains
 RETURN FARES
 1st Cl. — 2nd Cl. — 3rd
 Ordinary 14/9 — 9/6
 Excursion 11/- — 5/6-





Notes

- Pathways shown thus*
- Fences* *do.*
- Seats* *do.*

NELLYS GLEN

EXCURSION 11/- - 5/6-

From Great Western Road

and flowering ferns scattered about, and leading to the Fern Cave, Fairy Bower, Fairy Glen, Waterfall, Cox's Cave, Fern Tree Gully, and other lovely spots. Another road, branching off from the Bathurst Road, leads to the Kanimbula Pass, or Little Zig Zag, leading down into the heart of the Valley. It consists of seventeen terraced paths, very easy to descend, but somewhat fatiguing on the return. At the foot of the seventh terrace, are the Kanimbula Caves; from near the top of the Pass, the Engineer's Cascade—a fine waterfall—and Ross's Cave may easily be reached. Mount Victoria Pass is about two miles from the railway station and forms a pleasant walk or drive, commanding noble views all the way, the grand peaks of the principal mountains standing out sharply against the clear grey sky. In the Fairy Dell, some little distance to the north-west of the town, the waters of a cascade have been dammed so as to form a comfortable bathing place for visitors. Among other places of picturesque interest are Mount York, Titania's Dell, Victoria Falls, Hartley Vale, &c. The route from Mount Victoria to the Jenolan Caves is of a somewhat romantic character, adding considerably to the enjoyment of a visit to those subterranean marvels.

The Caves, as already mentioned, may be reached from either Katoomba or Mount Victoria, the latter being the favourite route, for although the distance is nearly one-third longer, the travelling is easier and the scenery more varied. From Katoomba to the Caves, *via* Nellie's Glen, a distance of 26 miles, the journey is performed on foot or horseback, the latter occupying from six to eight hours. The track is steep in places, but the romantic beauty of the surroundings amply compensates for the roughness of the ground. From Mount Victoria the distance is 36 miles, visitors being enabled to ride by coach to within a few hundred feet of the Cave House. The journey is by way of the Victoria Pass, from which fine views of the Kanimbula Valley, hundreds of feet below, Hassan's Walls, and Hartley township are obtained. The Bathurst road is left at the Lett River, and soon afterwards the Cox River is crossed and a mountain spur ascended. At a distance of about 19 miles from Mount Victoria, the Halfway House is reached.

The greater portion of the route is at a high elevation, one point, that at Bendo Pinch, being 4,632 feet above sea level. Beyond the Halfway House the road is a continual ascent, the latter portion winding down hills of great height, but the wild loveliness of the scenery prevents any feeling of monotony.

After leaving the coach, the visitor proceeds through the Grand Arch to the Cave House, where comfortable accommodation is provided at moderate charges. From here the various cave systems are visited in regular order, according to the length of the visitor's stay. The Grand Arch, which is about 100 feet high and 60 feet wide, is a kind of tunnel, somewhat irregular in shape, penetrating through a portion of the mountain. From here the Imperial Cave is entered by a steep flight of steps through an opening in the side of the arch. Here, taking the passage to the left are the Architects' Studio, Margarita, Wilkinson, Lucinda, and other caves, and Madonna and Child, while from the right passage are the approaches to the underground river, Shawl and Selina Caves, Coral Grotto, Crystal City, Crystal Palace, Gem of the West, Fairies' Retreat, and other natural marvels, the surpassing beauty of which cannot be described in words. Everywhere are found masses of lovely stalactites and stalagmites in endless variety of form and beauty, charming the eye with their fantastic combinations of shape and colour, their dazzling brilliancy, and their seeming vastness.

In the Lucas Cave, entered near the summit of the ridge above the Grand Arch, are the Cathedral, Shawl, Lurline, Snowball, and other caves, also the Jewelled Casket and Crystal Fountain. The Nettle and Arch Caves each possess numerous features of interest, especially the chamber known as the Ball-room, far more beautiful than any constructed by the hands of man. The Devil's Coach House, a magnificent cavern of considerable extent, and nearly 300 feet in height, is entered from the side of the hill down which the road from Mount Victoria descends. Then there is the Carlotta Arch, and, further on, the Elder Cave, with its countless stalactites and winding passages. The Mammoth Cave is reached about a mile and a half from The Devil's Coach House, the entrance being none of the easiest to penetrate. The New Cave

should also be mentioned. To visit the whole of the explored portions of the Jenolan Caves would occupy several days, in consequence of the numerous winding passages, and numerous chambers, but several of the more remarkable features may be inspected during a stay of a few hours, the Imperial Cave usually being selected for that purpose, the caretakers arranging the trips to suit the convenience of visitors. There is plenty of shooting to be had in the surrounding country, but a journey through the bush should not be attempted without the assistance of a guide. The visitor can return, if he so pleases by coach to Tarana, *via* Oberon, thence by rail to Mount Victoria, the round journey possessing many additional features of interest. If he decides on returning by way of Katoomba, he should, unless he be an experienced bushman, secure the services of a guide, for although the track is well defined, it is easy for those unaccustomed to the bush to become bewildered and lose their way.

It may be added that the journey by coach from Mount Victoria occupies about six hours, including an enjoyable rest at the Halfway House already mentioned, where a homely but well-served repast is set before the visitor, whose appetite has become sharpened by his drive through the mountain region. Visitors from Sydney can leave overnight by the 5.35 p.m. train, and after a night's rest at Mount Victoria, leave at 8.30 a.m in the morning for the Caves, which are reached about 3 p.m., thus affording time for a tour through some of the Caves before nightfall on the day of arrival. Visitors can also, at the Tourist Agencies in Sydney, obtain combination tickets for the entire journey, including railway and coach fares, hotel charges, etc., so that an itinerary can be drawn up and all necessary expenditure ascertained before leaving town, the cost being found to be most reasonable, considering the amount of service given and the varied wonders to be seen.

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