

STATE LIBRARY OF N.S.W.
MITCHELL LIBRARY

DSM/
A923.6/
C542.2/
6A1



David Scott Mitchell.

WHAT HAS
MRS. CAROLINE CHISHOLM

DONE FOR

THE COLONY OF NEW SOUTH WALES?

There is yet another mode in which the energetic and benevolent may do incalculable good. They may feel a particular vocation ; they may be specially impressed with some peculiar form of social evil, and may devote themselves to war with it ; their line of usefulness may be indicated to them by their capacity rather than their position ; they may master one particular branch of philanthropy, and bind all their powers to its service. They are certainly the most speedily successful of all the messengers of mercy. SUCH IS MRS. CHISHOLM, WHO BY YEARS OF UNWEARIED INDIVIDUAL EFFORT HAS REMODELLED THE WHOLE SYSTEM OF AUSTRALIAN EMIGRATION—HAS RE-UNITED MANY FAMILIES LONG BROKEN AND APART—HAS SAVED MANY UNPROVIDED WOMEN CAST DESOLATE UPON THE STREETS OF SYDNEY FROM DESTITUTION AND FROM SIN, AND HAS STARTED THOUSANDS ON A RESPECTABLE AND PROSPEROUS COURSE.—*Westminster Review.*



"FOR FURTHER PARTICULARS ENQUIRE WITHIN."

Sydney :

PUBLISHED BY JAMES COLE, BOOKSELLER,

120, KING STREET EAST.

1862.



PREFACE.

A FEW words in explanation of the motives which have led to the publication of this little pamphlet, will probably not be deemed superfluous. Of the thousands and tens of thousands who have heard of the philanthropical and successful labours of Mrs. Caroline Chisholm in India, in Europe, and Australia, but comparatively a small number have had the opportunity of learning *precisely* what those labours were, and what has been their result. The above remark is probably applicable to a large majority of the inhabitants of this colony : to such, therefore, who may be desirous of some authentic and reliable information on this subject, the present brief sketch is tendered, which, however,—limited, as it must be to the compass of a few pages, is unavoidably incomplete and imperfect ; although it is hoped it will be found not altogether insufficient or inadequate to the object in view. Those who would wish for more ample details, will have no difficulty in obtaining them from numerous publications which, during the last fifteen years and upwards, have been issued from the press in Great Britain, and some of which are frequently to be met with on the book-stalls in Sydney, such as a well known work of considerable merit, entitled “ The Three Colonies of Australia,” by Samuel Sidney ; and “ Caroline Chisholm, her Life and Labours,” by Eneas Mackensie, &c., &c.

It will be but right to add that this compilation consists almost entirely of articles, either reprints or original, which from time to time have appeared in the columns of the *Empire*, during the last two or three years ; this acknowledgment having been made, it will scarcely be requisite to offer any further remarks in commendation of the persistent zeal, as well as the ability, with which the proprietors of that journal have laboured to avert from this colony, the discredit or—it might perhaps more truly be said—the *disgrace* of leaving, without any adequate requital, the valuable and unquestionable services of the above-mentioned excellent lady.

Lest it should be surmised, however, that this pamphlet is a mere commercial speculation on the part of the proprietors of the *Empire*, the fact should be mentioned that those gentlemen have had no share whatever in originating it, and that they are not in any way concerned or interested in

this publication, beyond being engaged to print it in the ordinary course of their business.

In justice also to Mrs. Chisholm, it should be stated that this little *brochure* was projected and published without the slightest previous knowledge, on the part of that lady or of any member of her family, that such a step was in contemplation.

In conclusion, the compiler of this humble publication takes leave to remark, should a copy of it (as is not improbable) reach the hands of Miss Florence Nightingale (who designates herself "the friend and pupil" of Mrs. Chisholm), or of Lord Shaftesbury, or of the numerous other distinguished friends and admirers of Mrs. Chisholm in England, they will not doubtless for a moment hesitate to declare that a complete and triumphant answer has been given to the question—"WHAT HAS MRS. CAROLINE CHISHOLM DONE FOR THE COLONY OF NEW SOUTH WALES?" And it is equally clear, or at least highly probable, that after having pronounced this opinion, they will naturally ask—"WHAT HAS THE COLONY OF NEW SOUTH WALES DONE FOR MRS. CAROLINE CHISHOLM?" The only answer to the last question, which can at present be given, is found in the announcement or advertisement which has from day to day for some time past appeared in the Sydney newspapers, from which it is to be inferred, that in order to discharge her duty to the younger and dependent branches of her family, Mrs. Chisholm is *compelled* (with diminished health and strength, but *undiminished* energy) to wage "the battle of life" by undertaking the laborious task of imparting instruction to the children of others.

Whether such a blot on the escutcheon of the colony as arises from leaving unliquidated a claim like that of Mrs. Chisholm will remain or will ere long be removed—remains to be seen; in the mean time this noble-minded woman may console herself with a knowledge of the fact, that while several thousands of pounds have been recently expended (it might not untruly be said have been completely *wasted*) in a bootless and fruitless attempt to promote immigration to this colony, she, by means of sagacious and well-considered plans, carried on by a long course of indefatigable exertions, (without seeking and as certainly *without receiving* fee or reward) succeeded in bringing out from poverty and its privations, thousands to settle and prosper in this fertile and beautiful land,—a land flowing with milk and honey—"Where nature rejoices in her splendour, and smiles at her own loveliness."

WHAT HAS
MRS. CAROLINE CHISHOLM

DONE FOR

THE COLONY OF NEW SOUTH WALES ?

In these days of testimonials, presentations, statues, and pensions,—when a recognition, pecuniary or honorary, of worth—public or private, real or imaginary—seems ready to ooze from the finger ends of the whole community, it will, we are sure, be deemed an act of charity to many who are eagerly looking forward for an object on which to bestow their favours if we bring to their notice the claims of a lady to whom many thousands in this community are deeply indebted. The following notice is from an old number of *Chambers' Journal*, but it has, we believe, never before been printed in Australia, and consequently will be new to most of our readers:—

The story of the early life of Caroline Chisholm, her adventures, her trials, her triumphs over ignorance, prejudice, and tyranny, during the seven years she passed in Australia, we have already related.* Before the close of this year, she will have again quitted England, after a career of seven more years, passed not less usefully to her country and gloriously to her own reputation for wisdom, foresight, energy, and philanthropy, than those she spent in colonising Australia. She is about to depart, to renew under strange, yet favourable auspices, her old labours, in colonising and cultivating the earth, and in civilising and humanising the people. On her first sojourn, she had to aid and protect the poorest labourers, exposed to all the oppression that falls to the lot of the helpless ignorant; now she will have to guide and even govern the wealthiest labouring-men the world has ever seen. A movement has been made, and met with enthusiasm by all conditions and ranks of society, for presenting Caroline Chisholm with a testimonial of national gratitude.

The time is appropriate for relating in what manner and by what means she has acquired in this country a reputation and an influence even exceeding that she earned in Australia. Plain words will suffice for this purpose. In 1846, Caroline Chisholm, with her husband, Captain Chisholm, and family of children, landed in England from Australia. She came the unpaid agent and representative of many hundred humble colonists, some who hoped through her means to obtain justice from the home government, others to discover long lost relatives. One of her last and most important

* See Journal, No 326.

labours had been to collect from word of mouth "statements of the condition of settlers in New South Wales." These statements were valuable in two points of view: in the first place, they afforded evidence—not now, but at that time much needed—of the advantageous prospects afforded by the colony for hard-working families; in the next place, as each person gave the particulars of the parish, county, and country from which he or she came, and the names of the relations left behind, it followed naturally that many entreated Mrs. Chisholm to find out parents, brothers, sisters, children, and either to convey to them the means of proceeding to Australia, or to induce them to take advantage of government facilities for proceeding to New South Wales.

In addition to these communications from the authors of the voluntary statements, two other important commissions were placed in Mrs. Chisholm's hands. During the time that emigration was carried on by private contractors, who received a certain sum, or bounty per head, for each of a certain quality delivered alive in Sydney harbour, parents who could not reduce their families to the number and age required by the bounty standard, were induced by the contractors to leave young children behind them to the care of workhouses. These deserted infants amounted to some hundreds. Those reclaimed filled two ships. There were also convicts who, under a public regulation, had been promised that, in case they conducted themselves with propriety in the colony for a certain period, they should, on obtaining their liberty—according to colonial phrase, ticket-of-leave—have their wives and families sent to them at the cost of the government. The promise was performed as regarded a few, but in those days the great sheep-owners, not having been chastened by the gold-digging dearth of labour, considered women and children rather a nuisance on their sheep-stations; so, in consequence of their representations, the promises made to reformed prisoners were not performed, and there remained due on this account a considerable number of families.

Charged with these heavy commissions to contest with the Colonial Office and the Home Office—in addition to the task of corresponding with some five thousand souls of the humblest class of society, spread over the breadth of England, Scotland, and Ireland—Caroline Chisholm commenced her work in 1846, without rank, without influence, with an income barely equal to English notions of a decent competency. She had all her way to make: Australia was so little known and so little esteemed seven years ago, that the reputation she had gained there availed her little.

She began by arranging in regular order, dated and docketed, the documents upon which she based her claims for free passages for the wives and children, who were in this instance her clients, suing *in forma pauperis*. It is one of the characteristics of Caroline Chisholm, that she never makes a claim or a charge—whether it be against a government department or a commercial system—which she is not prepared to establish with the strongest judicial proof. Met, in the case of the deserted children, by the Park-street Emigration Commissioners, first with delay and then with evasion—for a whole winter, when the snow lay ankle deep in the streets, and walking was no pleasant task for one who had spent ten years in India and Australia—backwards and forwards, again and again, day after day, she passed with her neatly-tied evidence between her lodgings in King-street, Covent Garden, and

Downing-street, Park-street, and Whitehall. Unwearied, undaunted with written as well as personal application she urged the cause of the poor creatures who, trusting in her, were never likely to be able to thank her. At length, worn out by so much pertinacity, the emigration commissioners condescended to discuss one or two cases. They began, as is the custom with officials in such cases, by doubting the facts; but when as each doubt was hinted, a bundle of papers was produced, untied, and such particulars as the following were detailed:—John Brown, and Mary his wife, sailed from Liverpool May the—, 1836. Ship's name, —, Emigration agent, —, &c. The third time was enough; the production of further evidence was waived. "That will do, Mrs. Chisholm; we are quite satisfied," said the bland commissioner, and the order was made that transferred two shiploads of children from workhouses to their parents.

Like difficulties and like successes attended her exertions in the cause of convicts' wives. It was on behalf of this class that she one day refused an invitation to spend a quiet Sunday in the country, saying: "Many prisoners' wives are in service, and that is the only day they can come to see me."

Of a different character, yet wonderfully wearying to any one less steadily determined to fulfil a self-imposed duty, was the task of hunting out the relatives of the bond and free settlers in New South Wales, whom she had met in her bush-journeys. From Ireland alone came 5000 letters—and such letters, such writing, such spelling, as required art almost equal to that of a Champollion or a Rawlinson to decipher!—while the postage of unpaid letters received, not to mention the cost of replies, amounted to no mean sum. From morning until evening the pen hands of the Chisholms seemed never to cease moving, except when relieved in order to shake hands with their numerous unknown friends. Callers came, asked their questions, and departed; the door was always on the swing; no one was asked to give name or address.

By degrees it became known to the working-classes, that honest useful information might be had from "one Mrs. Chisholm." It was the beginning of the terrible years of famine and commercial distress. The Chisholm pen, no longer confined to private correspondence, was translated into print. Homely penny tracts, or pamphlets, told in plain words of "meat three times a day;" and true stories of paupers becoming owners of land and live stock, by the profits of their own work, in distant Australia, were thus circulated. Up to this period—between 1847 and 1848—Mrs. Chisholm had contemplated a scheme of emigration, or rather for colonisation, the relief of home distress on a large scale, under the auspices of government. Great schemes of colonisation were in favour in those days. Societies were formed under the most aristocratic and highest financial auspices, for doing wonderful things at the Antipodes. All these have since died out, more or less ignominiously; some killed by jobbing; some by extravagance; others by their impractical folly. None asked the assistance or advice of so humble a person as Mrs. Chisholm. But Caroline Chisholm soon appreciated the character of the people of this country, and saw that the only useful colonisation must be at once domestic, popular, and self-supporting.

She began with a Chartist carpenter, who, with irregular work and irregular habits, which kept him always in debt, had a mother he wanted to

“clutch out of the workhouse.” When his hopes of revolution and a political millennium fortunately failed on the great 10th of April, he flew in despair for peaceful councils to Caroline Chisholm. She persuaded him to begin by dropping beer and tobacco, and saving a shilling a week. The shilling, as steady habits grew and work improved, soon increased to five shillings. Within a few months assisted by a loan from Captain Chisholm and some friends of his own, the Chartist carpenter emigrated with his wife; in less than twelve months, he sent for his mother. This was the beginning of the Family Colonisation Loan Society.

In 1850, having prepared the full details of the working of the society, and obtained the names of a number of decent working-people of both sexes, who had paid for a considerable period weekly and monthly instalments toward a passage to Australia, she laid her scheme before her fellow-townsmen; the member for Northampton, the Right Hon. Vernon Smith; the Earl of Shaftesbury, at that time Lord Ashley; the Right Hon. Sydney Herbert; the Countess of Pembroke; and a few other friends. By their aid, a sufficient sum was raised to try the experiment of loans instead of gifts to emigrants. The society started where many societies finish. A committee was formed to take up the work which had been privately carried on up to working-point by the Chisholms, and the whole machinery was set in motion before a single advertisement had appeared, or a single paid officer had been employed. Captain Chisholm acted as honorary secretary, and his office was no sinecure; Mr. Windham Harding, whose time was already fully occupied in the duties of secretary to a great railway, under which his health has since entirely failed, undertook the troublesome office of treasurer; Mr. Samuel Sydney, author of several popular works on Australia, volunteered to take from Mrs. Chisholm part of the labour of explaining the objects of the society at public and weekly meetings.

For a considerable period, the proceedings of the society occupied very little public attention. Newspapers and orators of Parliamentary standing were monopolized by the Canterbury Colonisation Scheme, for erecting an empire at the Antipodes. Mrs. Chisholm's ideas were less magnificent, although destined to leave more permanent traces. The Family Colonisation Loan Society was devised to promote, as its name implies, colonisation by families instead of by units. The government and public companies had been previously only anxious that labouring emigrants should be able-bodied and of equal numbers in sexes—domestic and social ties were forgotten in the desire to obtain as much labour-power as possible in return for the passage-money. Grandfathers, grandmothers, and infants, were counted as so much ship space and money lost; nay, some shipowners called for men only as they would have asked for slaves. Mrs. Chisholm said: “Always arrange, if possible, for the emigration of a whole family; carry complete families, if you cannot carry complete institutions, to the other side of the world.” The grandfather and grandmother may be as useful to the colony by the influence they will exercise over their grandchildren and children as if they were model government emigrants, agricultural labourers under thirty years of age, able to dig and plough, and able to write or read. Then government officers and colonial employers objected to infants; but care for the comforts of mothers and young infants formed an especial part of Mrs. Chisholm's plans. “More space,

better food on ship-board, cost money, I know ; but then," she added, "I save mothers, and infants born on the sea." Next she set her face against gratuitous emigration—against the pauper-making machine of government free passages. Candidates for assistance from the Family Colonisation Loan Society were expected to show that they could help themselves by saving steadily towards their passage-money, by realising all they could from their property, by borrowing from relations and friends, and only in the last extremity coming to the society for a loan to be repaid in the colony by instalments fixed in reference to the current rates of wages.

In order to create the *esprit de corps* necessary for success, and to diffuse sound information in an inexpensive manner, Mrs. Chisholm established her group-meetings.³ These were a kind of colonising "at homes," without refreshment, which took place at her own small house in Islington. The whole expense was confined to the candles, and an old woman who opened the door.

On these evenings, to which each person was invited who came privately for advice in the course of the week, the room devoted to the purpose was crowded with persons of very different conditions of life. Horny-handed mechanics, with their wives and one or two children, often an infant in arms, governesses and frugal servant girls, dock-labourers and unsuccessful surgeons and lawyers, young lads just from school and not fond of office work, grey-headed hodsmen anxious to provide for large families. In one corner of the room was an exact representation, in size and fitting, of a berth in one of the model ships. A desk and table were formed, by a sea chest, on which were arranged various articles, or new contrivances, likely to be of use on a voyage. At the desk Mrs. Chisholm took her seat, often supported by some of the subscribers to her society. Sometimes a patent-safety cab, dashing up at full speed, brought Mr. Sidney Herbert, or Lord Shaftesbury. Sometimes the dowdy neighbourhood was astonished by the blazing lamps and gorgeous footman of Mr. Vernon Smith's carriage, on his way to the opera. At times, ladies of the highest aristocracy came to assist at these colonising reunions. But no matter who came, the simple order of the day was the same ; the practical was never forgotten.

Mrs. Chisholm generally began with a short address on a subject of practical importance to hearers. She generally tried to answer the more pressing questions that had been put to her in the course of the week. On one occasion she began her discourse straight off with : "The best shoes for wearing on board ship have moderately stout soles, and no heels." There were no fine phrases ; it was plain advice, addressed to plain earnest people. When, as not unfrequently happened, persons who had emigrated as labourers and returned when successful, to take back poor relations, were present, they were invited to give the result of their experience. Letters were read from immigrants to their friends in England, often containing, in simple language, matters of great interest. Occasionally, friends to the plan of the society said a few words of advice, encouragement, or explanation ; but all fine language, and high-flown premises were considered out of place. Then the intending emigrants were invited to put any questions ; and these questions brought out very useful information : the whole tone was conversational. These group-meetings had not only the effect of saving the repetition of the same information

to many different parties, but of making those about to sail in the same ship acquainted with each other. Mutual confidence and mutual assistance were thus cultivated. To these group-meetings, assembled without parade or expense in advertisements or placards, the spread of sound information, and the creation of a more healthy public opinion on the subject of emigration, may be traced.

At the same time that these group-meetings were being held, Mrs. Chisholm did not relax her labours in correspondence and private interviews with enquirers among intending emigrants. Very soon the books of the society contained more than enough paying subscribers to fill a ship. After the discovery of the gold regions had rendered it unnecessary to stimulate emigration, the society gave up chartering ships.

In the enterprise of chartering ships, Mrs. Chisholm found herself embarked in a new sphere of duties. The government, in its supervision of shipowners, had acted on the principle, that so long as ordinary precautions were taken for the preservation of the health of third-class passengers in food and air, enough was done. Modesty and comfort beyond necessities were not regarded, and health was sought to be preserved in inadequate space, only by limiting the families of young children. Under this system, or want of system, the sacrifice of infant life was frightful, the deterioration of female morals, awful.

Mrs. Chisholm determined to set the example of ships, in which men and women would not have to dress and undress before each other; in which married couples should not sleep on open shelves or bunks in sight of each other; in which ventilation should be secured by fixed apparatus, instead of a canvas pipe; in which the closets should be sufficient in number, retired in situation, and so firmly secured, as not to be liable to destruction from a rough sea. She insisted on having light in all the berths, even if it were needful to cut the deck for the purpose; an ample supply of water by pumps the emigrants could work; convenience for washing clothes on the voyage; a more ample and regular supply of food of a better quality. In fact, she, for the first time, drew out the charter party in the interest of the emigrant.

These matters, which to the uninitiated would seem of course, exposed Mrs. Chisholm to the vehement and virulent opposition of shipowners, who had been in the habit of making handsome profits by the packing system which she made it her business to expose by word and by deed. One great shipowner, of the highest mercantile respectability, declared, with strong adjectives, that he considered himself robbed of a certain ten per cent. of air and room which the charter party he had signed, without close examination, gave to the family colonization emigrants. Because, in favour of the health and comfort and morals of the emigrant classes, she touched the pockets of a most thriving class—the woman who devoted her time, her health, and all of comfort or luxury that her narrow means would afford, to the relief of her suffering countrymen, was calumniated as a corrupt jobber, and accused by those who ought to have known better, of making profits by emigration, when she was living more barely than any mechanic's wife.

Mrs. Chisholm knew that, without setting an example, it would be declared by practical men that the reforms in shipping she claimed were impracticable. Therefore, she sent off ship after ship, improving on the

arrangement of each—on the occasion of the departure of each, holding great public meetings, at which the true principles of self-supporting emigration were explained, and the public were initiated in the details needful for making emigrant-ships safe, decent, and economical. She knew, too, that any system to be permanent, must be self-supporting. Therefore, when the family-colonisation plan of fitting out ships had become well known, and had been adopted by private shipowners, she ceased to send out vessels at the risk of the society. So, too, when the discovery of the gold fields entirely altered the position of the labourer, then she deemed it unnecessary to stimulate emigration here by loans, but confined her efforts to removing destitute women to a land where they were much needed, and to promoting the reunion of families. To assist in such reunions, she laid such facts before the bank of Messrs. Coutts and Co., as led that eminent firm, rather in a philanthropic than commercial spirit, to undertake the receipt, by their colonial agents, of small remittances. The example of so great a firm soon led other banks to follow the same course. Before Mrs. Chisholm took the matter in hand the charge for the remittance of £10 was the same as for £100; indeed, small remittances were treated with so much contempt, that the kind feelings of successful emigrants towards relatives in England were often frustrated or crushed in the bud by an insolent banker's clerk.

Thus it will be seen that the seven years which Mrs. Chisholm has passed in England, during which she has advanced by the power of active wise philanthropy from obscurity to a position of influence which no other woman in this age has enjoyed, have been years of hard, continuous work—years during which she has first slowly matured principles of action, and then laboriously worked out the details. In her task,—her patience, her industry, her self-devotion, her courage, have always been found equal to the occasion. At the latest and the earliest hours, her house has been besieged by humble inquirers, and she has been most kind and encouraging to the feeblest. Sometimes, indeed, it was complained, that “she did not know how to treat a gentleman.” But no working man ever had reason to accuse her of being proud or impatient.

When it was necessary for the success of the Family Colonisation Loan Society, that some one should proceed to Australia to receive the instalments of loans advanced to emigrants, the society at that time having no funds wherewith to pay an agent, Captain Chisholm, one of the most devoted of husbands and fathers, volunteered, with the consent of Mrs. Chisholm, to proceed at his own expense to perform the ungrateful task.

When the time had arrived for exposing the abominable cruelties practised on emigrants in Liverpool ships, Caroline Chisholm, at a sacrifice of personal feelings, it is difficult to appreciate, undertook and performed the task effectively, and yet with nothing offensive or aggressive, in two speeches, which were reprinted verbatim by the proprietors of the *Liverpool Mercury*. Though warned that she stood in danger of personal violence from touts and crimps, she proved that a system of robbery and oppression was practised in that great port, in defiance of law, and disgraceful to a civilised, not to say a Christian state.

Mrs. Chisholm has been compared to O'Connell, to whom she bears a decided personal resemblance, in the massive character of the upper part of her

head, her forehead, and firm chin ; but her small finely cut nose and sweet feminine truthful mouth, are the opposite of that eloquent and mendacious agitator.

The eloquence of Caroline Chisholm is the eloquence of earnestness, seriously expressed in flowing Saxon English, without ornament or metaphor. Her illustrations of argument are all from real life, whether humorous or pathetic. Her strength lies in her practical common sense and undeviating truthfulness. She never allows herself to be carried away by the temptation of saying something fine or something witty, although she has powers of pathos, and of humour and sarcasm in a high degree. It is these qualities—enthusiastic yet practical, earnest yet patient and laborious—that have united all parties and sects in her favour, and enabled her to live down calumny.

She is about to leave us now. She is to proceed to the midst of the wild life of the gold diggings of Australia ; and, as the apostle of social virtues, and the ambassador of wives and children abandoned, if not forgotten, to call together the rude gold gatherers, and in those soft, clear, feminine, yet thrilling tones to which thousands have listened here in rapt attention—by turns moved to laughter and to tears—recall them to a sense of their duties as men, as patriots, as fathers, as husbands, as Christians.

The work before her is heavy, but she is equal to the work. All who wish well to their country and our triple dependencies at the Antipodes, will, in full confidence, wish her God-speed.

EMIGRATION LECTURERS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE EMPIRE.

SIR,—In perusing the discussion which took place in the House of Assembly, on the proposal of withdrawing from England the two lecturers, Messrs. Parkes and Dalley, I find that the Hon. Thomas Holt thought proper to speak of my services, with reference to this colony, in disparaging terms, he having, as reported in your number of the 5th July, spoken of me in these words :—“ Reference has been made to the labours of Mrs. Chisholm ; but he thought if she was neglected it was because she had neglected them—she became weary of well-doing, and directed the emigrant from England to go to Victoria.”

In my earnest endeavours to ameliorate the condition of my fellow-creatures for a period, I may now say of twenty-five years, I have not unfrequently found my labours traduced ; but I very rarely indeed, unless I thought such traducements injurious to my usefulness, took any notice of them. But when I find a public man, a member of Parliament, speak of me in the national House of Assembly of New South Wales, in a way disparaging to my public character, and deviating so widely from palpable facts, I consider it due to myself, due to my children, and due to the public, and to public men, to meet such traducements with proofs that cannot be controverted. I say due to the public, and to public men, for I have had the gratification, and

the honour of having testimonials and addresses presented to me by public bodies in this colony, in England and Ireland, Scotland and Wales, as well as in Victoria, and it would be insulting to the judgment and observation of such men to imply that they subscribed to my testimonial, or signed an address to me as per enclosed No. 1, if they did not deem I merited such; their doing so under such an assumption, would be to impute to them the grossest inconsistency. And although Mr. Holt said the other night, I "was entitled to no thanks from them," the honorable gentleman himself would, were such the case, come under the dishonorable implication; for on the eve of my leaving this colony for England, in March, 1846, he formed one of our committee (as per enclosed list) of thirty-four gentlemen in order to present to me a testimonial for services rendered to this colony. He also subscribed a guinea to my testimonial. Can Mr. Holt also have forgotten that on the occasion of my passing by his place at Liverpool, on my way to the districts of Tumut, Murrumbidgee, and Yass, with a large party of emigrants, he so far approved of my exertions, that he feasted the party with a sumptuous breakfast, offering me at the same time money, should I stand in need of it, for my party, when I informed him that Mr. Bradley had given me authority to draw upon him for any funds I might require for the support of the people?

With reference to Mr. Holt's assertion that I "directed the emigrant from England to go to Victoria," allow me to assure him, that through my rather varied life, I have always endeavoured to put in practice the sound maxim, "Do unto others as you would be done by." Of the many thousands who consulted me while in England, respecting emigration to these colonies, I never attempted to control their wishes and desires, or to mislead them; and in corroboration of the crowds who used to visit me for information, I beg to refer him to a copy of letter No. 2, as annexed. All the facts in my possession I laid before them honestly and candidly. Some time before I left this colony for England, I travelled through several of the districts of the interior. I went from house to house, from farm to farm, in order to see the people, and to judge of their circumstances, and I must say that they had such confidence in my disinterested intentions, that I never met with one refusal. They each and all stated to me candidly and truthfully, what they were previous to their arrival in the colony; how much they were worth on their landing; and what was the value of their stock there. Some even told me of their hoarded and secret treasure in silver and gold. One man assured me that he landed in Sydney with only one penny piece in his pocket, and he then showed to me his title deed for 700 acres of land, his own—the fruit of his industry. Several thousands of these "facts" thus collected from the people of New South Wales, and which I called "The Voluntary Information of the People," I took with me to England. At all my group meetings, and they were numerous, these telling facts were placed before the people; they were continually open upon the table in my office; numbers I gave away at the request of inquiring parties, as per subjoined letter, No. 3; others again I brought out in small pamphlets at great personal sacrifice, and a few of which pamphlets I transmit to you herewith; one headed, "*Comfort for the Poor—meat three times a Day*," was greatly in demand. In the original statements the names of the parties were entered, and some of which I took down in the ploughed field, making use of the plough as my chair. I have still in

my possession some of those statements, and if Mr. Holt will honour me with a call as in days gone by, he will be very welcome to the perusal of them. Chiefly through the "Voluntary Information of the People of New South Wales," I received within a year of my arrival in England no less than 3381 applications for passages to *this very colony*, and a list of which I laid before the Home Government, besides a roll of 500 young women of good character. As the question is one of a public character, allow me to transcribe what the *Sydney Morning Herald*, of date April 9, 1847—says of the "Voluntary Information of the People." The object for which Mrs. Chisholm had collected these statements was at once patriotic and philanthropic. She wished to advance the interests of the colony, by attracting useful immigrants to its shores, and she wished to mitigate the sufferings of the poor in the mother country by causing numbers of them to be removed to this land of plenty. The means employed for this twofold purpose were the best that could have been thought of. She appealed to the actual experience of those who had made the experiment; she left the parties to tell their own story in their own words, each, *in propria persona*, subscribing his name, occupation, and place of abode, the whole being authenticated, in most instances, by a certificate under the head of a resident clergyman, magistrate, or other gentleman of known respectability. A body of facts was thus obtained which could admit of no doubt. They were in evidence. The witnesses were marshalled before the reader, and the depositions placed in his hands." The *Herald* further adds, in the same article, "On that occasion we bore the following testimony to the usefulness of this excellent lady's kind-hearted exertions. Her zealous devotedness for six years past, both to the cause of immigration, as a system of high national and colonial importance, and to the cause of the immigrants, as a class of her fellow-subjects standing peculiarly in need of counsel and consolation, has acquired for Mrs. Chisholm a distinguished name amongst the philanthropists of Australia. Amid discouragements which less ardent spirits could not have brooked she has persevered in her labour of love with unabated earnestness and untiring assiduity. In town and country, in prosperous and adverse times, she has followed out her useful and disinterested plans, seeking to alleviate distress, to soothe the sorrows of the stranger in a strange land, to encourage the despondent, to advise the perplexed, and to assist the newly arrived in procuring comfortable and permanent settlements. She has done good to her adopted country—she has been a benefactress to her kind." The *Morning Herald* in continuation says, that, "The extracts from her recent communications, published in our paper of Monday, shows that she was not less stirring in London than she had been in Sydney; she has found access to the fountain head of the department of the colonies; Earl Grey had honoured her with an interview, and paid marked attention to her representations of the state of this colony with regard to labour. The Emigration Commissioners, too, had the benefit of conversing with her on two occasions; in these, and other influential quarters, she was exerting all her powers in the cause of emigration to New South Wales." Yet, in the face of these public acknowledgments by a leading journal, Mr. Holt tells the Sydney public I "neglected them;" I "directed the emigrant from England to go to Victoria."

For the further satisfaction and information of the honourable mem-

ber, Mr. Holt, I beg to annex a list of my London committee, thirteen of whom are gentlemen whose interests are closely identified with New South Wales. I ask Mr. Holt, I ask every candid reader, if men of this stamp, like Mr. Brooks, Mr. Flower, Mr. Gore, Mr. Alexander, and Sir Stuart Donaldson would be likely to work with me on a committee for three years, if, as Mr. Holt says, I "directed the emigrant from England to go to Victoria." The honourable gentleman again says, that "he thought if she, (Mrs. Chisholm) was neglected, it was because she had neglected them." Let me ask the honourable member for Newtown if this charge is in conformity to another fact of my exertions to serve some of the people in this colony, when I undertook, on my return to England, to become the bearer of a petition to the Imperial Government from those poor men who had gained, by their good conduct in this country, their social condition amongst their fellow-men, and beseeching the Home Government to be pleased to grant a free passage to this colony, to their wives and children. Many a weary and cold walk, through sleet and snow, for it was in winter I commenced my operations, I had to undertake from Prince's-street, Mile-end, the eastern part of London, to the Home Office, before I succeeded in obtaining a passage to Sydney for those poor people. Although I met with every consideration and attention from the Home Secretary of State, Sir George Grey, forms and enquiries had to be gone through, and I had also to hunt out the wives and families by postal communication. I am sure I may say, without egotism, that if Mr. Holt had seen those long-afflicted people embark, the aged wife separated twenty-one years that very day, as she told me, from her expatriated husband, he would not say, I "was entitled to no thanks." Then, does he, Mr. Holt, recollect the arrival in Sydney of a number of the children of Bounty emigrants, who were left behind by parents owing to their poverty. I was instrumental, and I thank God for it, in sending those children out; but I had to fight a much harder battle with the Hon. Commissioners of Emigration, then I had to do with the Home-office, before I succeeded. But I went to those gentlemen well prepared with vouchers from this colony, that could not be disputed, so the children were sent out. If Mr. Holt wants more proof I can produce to him abundance of further evidence that I have not worked for one colony more than another. My political creed, or rather my principle has been through life, to work to the best of my ability for all. I have never for a moment considered country, or creed, or colour; my sole object has been to do all the good I could. I leave the public to be my judge. I have some thousands of letters now in this house which I received, while in England, from applicants for passages to the Australian colonies, some from parties in England, Ireland, Scotland, and Wales, nay, several from Germany, France, and Italy, for I travelled through those countries before I returned to this colony. Mr. Holt or any other party is most welcome to see them. Amongst the mass are numbers of letters from some of the first men and ladies in the kingdom, all advocating the cause of colonisation. Those letters from the poor and rich, I shall leave as heir-looms to my children.

It may not be irrelevant for me here to state that, soon after my arrival in England, Earl Grey informed me that he had received from Sir Charles Fitzroy, then Governor of this colony, a recommendation that my "distinguished services in promoting emigration to this colony," as noted in

the despatch) should be recognised and rewarded by a pecuniary grant ; but I at once, in a letter addressed to Earl Grey, respectfully declined it, on the ground that it might "peril my present usefulness."

I must say that it is deeply painful to my feelings that I should have to enter thus into such a lengthened detail of my past services ; but unfounded animadversions, and injurious misrepresentations, are often like a cankering sore caused by a small thorn, for small as it may be, it may cause much pain and trouble to eradicate it.

In conclusion, I cannot help remarking that it was hardly kind of Mr. Holt, at this time of my life, to say that I "became weary of well-doing." Hard work for many years, for both body and mind, with late heavy domestic afflictions, with severe bodily ailments, brought me some three years ago to death's-door, and my medical men at Melbourne sent me over to Sydney as my only chance of recovery ; and that venerable and venerated medical gentleman, Dr. Bland, who in the most liberal and kindest manner attended me, without expectation of fee or reward, never thought I could recover ; nay, I was so far gone at one period, that a clergyman asked the doctor, in my presence, how many hours he expected I could survive. He remarked to the doctor as he stood by, as he supposed, my dying bedside, that as I was a strong-minded woman, he was sure he would be excused if he asked him how many hours he thought I could live,—that he had a pressing engagement at Parramatta, and he would not like to be absent, as he would have to superintend the ceremonies at St. Mary's. I mention this merely to show how near I was, to all appearance, to my end, and how incapable I was for some years back to labour as formerly ; but Providence has been pleased to spare me for a time, and if with some renewed health, I make an endeavour at this late hour of my day to do something for myself and my two little girls, I must say it was scarcely friendly, or neighbourly, in Mr. Holt, to proclaim I "became weary of well-doing," and thus, perhaps inadvertently, throw a stumbling block at the threshold of my door.

Yours faithfully,

CAROLINE CHISHOLM.

Rathbone House, Newtown,
Sydney, June 10th, 1862.

N.B.—I would have addressed you earlier, only that having lately moved to this place, I had to unpack my boxes before I could get at the documents herein referred to.—C. C.

No. 1.

Devonport Mechanics' Institute.

September 21st, 1853.

TO MRS. CAROLINE CHISHOLM.

MADAM,—The Committee of the Devonport Mechanics' Institute, acting in the name and behalf of thirteen hundred members, gladly avail themselves of the opportunity presented by your presence in this town, to convey to you the earnest expression of their gratitude for the unwearying efforts you have put forth for so many years on behalf of the multitudes of our countrymen and women so constantly crowding the vessels which bear them to other and distant lands. The Committee regret that the short duration of your visit prevents them from adopting some more public mode of giving expression to the feelings of admiration they entertain for the plans you have

devised, and their appreciation of the privations and sufferings you have personally undergone for the purpose of adding to the comfort, convenience, and moral improvement of those whose welfare you have so earnestly sought.

We have the honour to remain,

Madam,

(On behalf of the Committee,)

Your most obedient servants,

(Signed) U. H. KING } Honorary
J. C. RADFORD, } Secretaries.

No. 2.

Mrs. Hawkins begs to inform Mrs. Chisholm she was at her office Bell's Buildings by *appointment*, and was greatly disappointed and annoyed by finding an impossibility of gaining admission as the passage was completely blocked by men who would not allow us to enter, saying, "*we must wait our turn.*" I waited patiently some time, until I found it hopeless and useless waiting in a pouring rain, particularly as we were reminded by the persons waiting we *must* await our hour. I felt very much vexed, not being able to see you after making an appointment and paying five shillings for a cab, which I can ill afford, and keeping us in town, which is another great expense, as I intended to leave here this day for the country. Will it be possible for me to see you to-morrow, Tuesday, at your house at Islington, at any hour you may appoint, as on Wednesday we leave London.

St. John's Villa, Mornington Crescent,
January 10th, 1853.

No. 3.

Society for the Promotion of Colonisation
No. 4, St. Martin's Court,

13th January, 1853.

MADAM,—The Society has at present no short publications to give to those persons who come for information respecting the colonies, and I therefore take the liberty of writing to request that you will kindly give us some numbers of your very admirable pamphlets to distribute to the working classes who come to our doors. We hope in a few days to have some short works out on the subject, but in the mean time we would rather distribute yours than any others we are acquainted with.

I remain, madam, your obedient servant,

(Signed) WILLIAM H. KINGSTON, Hon. S. C. Secretary.

GENERAL COMMITTEE—The Right Hon. The Earl of Shaftesbury; the Right Hon. Sydney Herbert, M.P.; the Right Hon. R. Vernon Smith, M.P.; W. Monsell, Esq., M.P.; John Tidd Pratt, Esq.; F. G. P. Neison, Esq.; Charles Buxton, Esq.; Wyndham Harding, Esq.; Robert J. Brooks, Esq.; P. W. Flower, Esq.; Edmund Gore, Esq.; W. Jackson, Esq.; W. Fanning, Esq.; James Levick, Esq.; W. Walker, Esq.; Thomas Learmonth, Esq.; Frederick R. Gore, Esq.; Robert Low, Esq.; G. H. Donaldson, Esq.; T. Aspinwall, Esq.; J. A. Jackson, Esq.; D. Q. Henriquez, Esq.; T. S. Atkins, Esq.; S. Kennard, Esq.; J. R. Morrison, Esq.; E. Armitage, Esq.; Thomas Lowndes, Esq.; W. Millikin, Esq.; S. Jackson, Esq.; E. J. Wheeler, Esq.; G. H. Smith, Esq.; James Alexander, Esq.; Louis Nathan, Esq.; Joseph Webb, Esq.

HON. SECRETARY.—Captain Chisholm, Melbourne, Port Phillip.

BANKERS.—For Donations—Messrs. Williams, Deacon, Labouchere and Co., Birch-in-lane, London: For Deposits—Messrs. Currie and Co., 29, Cornhill, London. For Remittances to Australia—Messrs. Coutts and Co., Strand, London.

EMIGRATION LECTURERS.

 TO THE EDITOR OF THE EMPIRE.

SIR,—In your paper of the 13th instant, I have read with much regret a letter from Mrs. Chisholm, commenting on certain remarks of mine in the Legislative Assembly, having reference to herself.

I have read Mrs. Chisholm's letter with much regret—first, because she has misunderstood the purport of those remarks; and secondly, because it appears I have (though most unintentionally) wounded the feelings of a lady for whom I entertain the highest respect.

Mrs. Chisholm's quotation from the report of what I said on the occasion alluded to is substantially correct; and I believe that that statement is borne out by facts, as it is indeed corroborated by her own letter. But Mrs. Chisholm has put a totally wrong construction on that portion of the quotation which appears to have given her the greatest offence. I refer to having said, "She (Mrs C.) became weary of well doing." I think if Mrs Chisholm will do me the favour to read again the report of what I said in reference to her, she will see that I then spoke, not as a colonist of *Australia*, but as one of the representatives of the colony of New South Wales. From information I had received, I was under the impression that Mrs. Chisholm had directed all her energies towards forwarding emigrants to Victoria (whither she herself also followed them), and not to this colony, as heretofore; hence my saying, as a colonist of New South Wales, "she became weary of well-doing." Nothing, however, was further from my thoughts than to insinuate that Mrs. Chisholm was not perfectly justified in seeking that repose which her long, indefatigable, and most beneficial exertions had so well entitled her to.

Mrs. Chisholm has evidently mistaken my expression, "became" (having reference to the past) for "has become," which, if I had used, would, as I have above implied, have justly laid me open to Mrs. Chisholm's censure; so, also, with regard to my having said: "She (Mrs. Chisholm) deserves no thanks from them" (the colonists of New South Wales), was only intended to refer to that portion of her life which was devoted *exclusively* to the interests of Victoria.

Mrs. Chisholm's name is too well and too favourably known to require the testimony appended to her letter; it is written in the hearts of thousands who have to thank her for the happy possession of comfortable and independent homes.

And even though, during the latter part of her active career, Mrs. Chisholm may have forsaken her first love for the more aspiring pretensions of our favoured rival, I do think that the invaluable services she formerly rendered to this colony have met with but scant reward. In my opinion no one more worthily deserves a pension than Mrs. Chisholm.

Mrs. Chisholm reminds me of some slight assistance I once rendered her, and of my having been one to present to her a testimonial. I recollect the circumstance with much satisfaction, and can assure Mrs. Chisholm that, were occasion again to offer, I should, with very great pleasure, give my services to the one, or my subscription towards the other.

It is unnecessary for me to say more on the subject of Mrs. Chisholm's letter, for I am second to none in acknowledging her indefatigable zeal in the cause of immigration; and I can only repeat, in conclusion, that I am very sincerely grieved that any remarks of mine should have given pain to one who has earned and secured the gratitude of so many.

Yours faithfully,
THOMAS HOLT.

Camden Villa, Newtown, 17th June.

LEADER FROM THE "EMPIRE," AUGUST 15, 1859.

AMONG the inhabitants of this Colony, how many thousands are there who owe, under Providence, the comfort and affluence they now enjoy to the philanthropic efforts and untiring exertions of one person, and that person a woman? Australia has few names of wide celebrity or historical interest. Half-a-dozen words would exhaust the catalogue of those known beyond colonial circles. There is little danger at present of our falling into the idolatry of hero-worship. Our sages, warriors, and patriots are yet to come. Their advent is in the future. No doubt, there have been at times symptoms that the tendency to set up a golden calf, and to fall down and worship it, is as strong in human nature now—in the nineteenth century—here in Australia—as it ever was in any age of the world's history elsewhere. Men, who must themselves have been astonished at the extravagance of colonial folly, have had testimonials, addresses, and ovations of all kinds presented to them—from all classes of persons—from a purse of two or three thousand pounds, to a public breakfast or "complimentary pigeon match"—for no other reason apparently than that they had consented to honour the colony with their presence for a few years—until they had accumulated wealth enough, or had a sufficiency thrust upon them—to enable them to gratify their modest desires to live *a la Mitor Anglais* on the continent of Europe, or to enjoy the reputation which attaches even to a Botany Bay millionaire in the parent country. In addition to the magnificent salaries which many of them received in the colony, they have not only had princely grants of land conferred on them in the olden time; but, when they resigned the cares of office, an extravagant pension for life. For what? Aye, for what? Let those answer who were instrumental in getting up the address, who subscribed to the testimonials, or who gave the ovations. There have been recent and very significant indications that this species of flunkeyism—this worship of mere wealth—is dying out. Some hints of intentions to leave have met with no response. "Positively my last appearance," has been proclaimed in vain. The public was deaf to the appeal, and the intentions of leaving have apparently been abandoned.

There is now an opportunity offered to those who have been foremost in this folly—who have made themselves and the colony contemptible by their adoration of reputed wealthy speculators and fortunate birds of passage—to retrieve their character—to make amends for the past, by shewing that they are not insensible to the claims of real worth—that they can appreciate true

philanthropy—untiring devotion to the welfare of the more humble of their fellow-colonists—a life spent in doing good.

If Captain James Cook discovered Australia—if John Macarthur planted the first seeds of its extraordinary prosperity—if Ludwig Leichhardt penetrated and explored its before unknown interior—Caroline Chisholm has done more: she has peopled,—she alone has colonised it in the true sense of the term. To her influence, her untiring efforts, her self-sacrificing devotion is owing, in great measure, the spreading over the face of the land of a prosperous—a happy—a teeming population. How many hundreds of homes have been founded, how many families settled throughout the length and breadth of Australia by her efforts? How many family circles re-united, whose members, but for her influence and exertions, would have been still separated by half the circumference of the globe?

We are convinced that no inducement—no argument is wanted to persuade the great mass of the humbler class to come forward and show by their acts how fully they appreciate the character and admire the conduct of Caroline Chisholm. All that is wanted to wipe off the disgrace which so deeply attaches to the colonists of New South Wales, for not hitherto recognising her claims to public gratitude, is, that some person or persons, in whose character and position the people have confidence, should take the initiative in the matter. Those who have most directly benefitted by her efforts—to whose welfare her energies have been most devoted—although many of them are now living in comfort, and even in opulence, do not, for the most part, occupy that elevated social position which it is thought necessary to entitle them to take the lead in such a movement as would show the world the appreciation in which Mrs. Chisholm's character is held in Australia. Besides they are mostly scattered over such a wide extent of country, that co-operation cannot reasonably be expected, unless the movement is commenced under the auspices of some one whose name is known from one end of the Colony to the other.

A testimonial to Caroline Chisholm should enlist the sympathies and ensure the co-operation of all sections of the community—and unite without jealousy of creed or class—without national or political animosity—without sectarian or party differences—every man and woman who has found in Australia a refuge and a home.

We confess that we are utterly ignorant, and do not care to inquire whether Mrs. Chisholm is an English, an Irish, or a Scotch woman. All three nationalities have been equally benefitted by her. Indeed, for that matter, the character of her efforts has been truly cosmopolitan. She, more than any other philanthropist, succeeded in enlisting the help of people of all classes and all creeds in the cause she had espoused. In her endeavours to transplant an industrious and virtuous, though almost starving population from the over-crowded countries of the world to the shores of this land of promise, she secured the co-operation of people who never co-operated for any other purpose. No tongue has dared to charge her with designs of proselytism, personal aggrandisement, or pecuniary cupidity. No tongue but speaks in terms of unqualified admiration of her character and her conduct. Let the whole Colony, then, unite in wiping off the foul stain of ingratitude which clings to us, for our indifference to the claims of one who has done and

sacrificed so much on our behalf—whose exertions for our welfare have extended over a period approaching a quarter of a century. Let it no longer be said, that we have flattered and fêted the men, who, by a stroke of fortune, less straight-laced honesty, or sharper practice than their neighbours, have become inordinately rich, while we have shown an utter indifference to the claims of her who has been one of our greatest benefactors. Let all true men, and women too, unite in proving the falsity of the cynical aphorism that “Gratitude is a lively sense of favours expected.”

Were we not fully convinced that the feelings of love, esteem, and gratitude with which Mrs. Chisholm is regarded throughout the Australian Colonies were of the most lively character, and waited but a fitting opportunity for their expression, we should have hesitated to make, through the columns of the *Empire*, an appeal to the justice of our fellow-colonists on the part of that lady,—whose name, we may remark—entirely without her knowledge—we have thus taken the liberty so prominently to allude to. We are convinced that an opportunity alone is wanted to induce thousands to come forward and give practical expression to their feelings, by contributing each according to his means, towards such a testimonial as shall be deemed a worthy token of their gratitude, and a fitting, if not an adequate, reward for the labours, the sacrifices, and the toils of more than twenty years.

Statues in bronze, mural tablets, and storied urns, have been erected in honour of those who, while living, were wholly neglected. The recognition of their worth and services has come too late—when that recognition could no longer avail. Let not this be the case with regard to the lady who is the subject of these remarks—whose claims we have thus endeavoured to advocate. Her comparative retirement for some time past from the conspicuous position she so long occupied in the public view, has not in any way lessened those claims, or blunted, we should hope, the feelings which her services and sacrifices so recently engendered. Let the colonists do honour to themselves, by doing justice to one who has such undoubted claims on their consideration—their gratitude—and their love,—as Caroline Chisholm.

POETRY.

TO CAROLINE CHISHOLM.

How little have the powerful of the earth
 Aided in raising up God's image marred
 In falling, and from age to age trod down !
 Crowns have but crushed it ! shepherds and their flocks
 Only the more defiled it ! Laws have buzzed
 Perplexing round about ; before the prance
 Of war they cower'd awhile, then seized his hand,
 And, running at his side, took half the spoil.
 Europe and Asia raised Gods over Gods,
 Men over men ; but gentle brotherhood
 They never knew. Our island sent beyond
 The Atlantic wave stern stubborn hearts, unmoved
 By pity, and intolerant of tears.
 One after sent she forth of milder mien,

And Peace and Justice were the counsellors
 On right and left of that sage patriarch.
 Brave was the sire, but braver was the son,
 Founder of States to live when Europe dies.
 Greater than he comes one whom never gain
 Attracted, never sanguinary field
 Delighted, never idle peace allured
 From earnest duty ; through remoter seas
 Her vessel sails . . . *Her vessel?* Yes, that helm
 A woman guides . . . but One alone guides *her*.
 Chisholm ! Of all the ages that have rolled
 Around this rolling globe, what age hath seen
 Such arduous, such heaven-guided enterprise
 As thine ? Crime flies before thee, and the shores
 Of Austral Asia, lustrated by thee,
 Collect no longer the putrescent weeds
 Of Europe, cast by senates to infect
 The only unpolluted continent.
 Thither hast thou conducted honest toil
 Fainting of hunger on the wealthy street,
 Thither the maiden, in whose palid face
 Lust thought he saw his victim, but could raise
 Only one blush and one indignant tear.
 These, these hast thou watch'd over, nor hast looked
 Beyond, where Glory sits awaiting thee ;
 Nor wouldst thou hear, with any fresh delight,
 What sages in their histories will record,
 That the most potent empire of the earth
 Was planted, some five centuries before,
 Under God's guidance by his Chisholm's hand.
 Semiramis begirt with terraced walls
 Her mighty city for the prince and slave ;
 Thy grander soul threw open a wide world
 With one command—"*Be virtuous and free.*"

WALTER SAVAGE LANDOR. ✓

MRS. CAROLINE CHISHOLM.

THE following eloquent tribute to Mrs. Chisholm is from the pen of the Right Honourable Robert Lowe, M.P., Vice President of the English Education Board. During that gentleman's residence in Sydney he had ample opportunities of making himself personally acquainted with the arduous and successful labours of this most estimable lady, who, we are happy to learn, is about to open a Ladies' Educational Establishment, near Sydney. Most sincerely do we wish her every success ; and the best testimonial to her virtues will be an extended and sustained patronage in her new sphere of action :—

The guardian angel of her helpless sex,
 Whom no fatigue could daunt, no crosses vex ;
 With manly reason and with spirit pure,
 Crown'd with the blessings of the grateful poor.
 For *them*, with unrepining love she bore
 The boarded cottage and the earthen floor ;
 The sultry day in tedious labour spent,
 The endless tale of whining discontent ;
 Bore noonday's burning sun, and midnight's chill,
 The scanty meal, the journey lengthening still ;
 Lavished her scanty store on *their* distress,
 And sought no other guerdon than success.
 Say ye who hold the balance and the sword,
 Into your lap the wealth of nations poured,

What have ye done, with all your hireling brood,
 Compared with her, the generous and the good ?
 Much ye receive and little ye dispense,
 Your alms are paltry, and your debts immense ;
 Your toils reluctant—freely *her's* is given :
 You toil for Earth, *she* labours still for Heaven.

Empire, May, 13th, 1862.

A CAROL ON CAROLINE CHISHOLM.

(From the *London Punch*.)

COME, all you British females of wealth and high degree,
 Bestowing all your charity on lands beyond the sea,
 I'll point you out a pattern which a better plan will teach
 Than that of sending Missioners to Tombuctoo to preach.

Converting of the Heathen's a very proper view,
 By preaching true religion to Pagan and to Jew,
 And bringing over Cannibals to Christian meat and bread,
 Unless they catch your Parson first and eat him up instead.

But what's more edifying to see, a pretty deal,
 Is harty British labourers partaking of a meal,
 With wives, and lots of children, about their knees that climb,
 And having tucked their platefuls in, get helped another time.

Beyond the roaring ocean, beneath the soil we tread,
 You've English men and women, well housed and clothed and fed ;
 Who but for help and guidance to leave our crowded shores,
 Would now be stealing, begging, or lie starving at our doors.

Who taught them self-reliance, and stirred them to combine,
 And club their means together to get across the brine,
 Instead of strikes, and mischief, and breaking of the law,
 And wasting time in hearing incendiaries' jaw ?

Who led their expeditions ? And under whose command
 Through dangers and through hardships sought they the promised land ?
 A second MOSES surely, it was who did it all,
 It was a second MOSES in bonnet and in shawl.

By means of one good lady were all these wonders wrought,
 By CAROLINE CHISHOLM's energy, benevolence, and thought,
 Instead of making here and there a convert of a Turk,
 She has made idle multitudes turn fruitfully to work.

The ragged peuper crawling towards a parish grave
 She roused—directed to a home beyond the western wave ;
 She smoothed his weary passage across the troubled deep,
 With food, and air, and decencies of ship-room and of sleep.

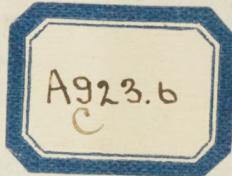
There s many a wife and mother will bless that lady's name,
 Embracing a fat infant—who might else have drowned the same.
 A mother, yet no wife, compelled by poverty to sin,
 And die in gaol or hospital of misery and gin.

The REVEREND EBENEZER I'd not deny his dues,
 For saving Pa agoninns, and Bosjesmen, and Zooloos;
 but MRS. CHISHOLM'S mission is what I far preter;
 For saving British natives I'd give the palm to her.

And now that a subscription is opened and begun,
 In order to acknowledge the good that she has done
 Among that sort of natives the most important tribe—
 Come down like handsome people, and handsomely subscribe.



J.P.
 a.



MRS. CAROLINE CHISHOLM.

TO THE EDITOR.

Sir,—Mr. W. E. Abbott's letter in this morning's "Daily Telegraph," suggesting a memorial in remembrance of that admirable woman, Mrs. Caroline Chisholm, better known in the forties and fifties of last century as the "Immigrants' Friend," is worthy of our best consideration. The following lines from the Sydney "Spectator," of February 28, 1846, are eloquent in her honor:—

TO MRS. CHISHOLM.

The guardian angel of her helpless sex,
Whom no fatigue could daunt, no crosses vex;
With manly reason and with spirit pure,
Crown'd with the blessings of the grateful poor;
For them with unrepining love she bore
The boarded cottage and the earthen floor,
The sultry day in tedious labors spent,
The endless tale of whining discontent;
Bore noonday's burning sun and midnight's chill,
The scanty meal, the journey lengthening still;
Lavished her scanty store in their distress,
And sought no other guerdon than success.

Poet and prose writer, humanitarian and statesman, all vied in praise of that remarkable woman. What Mrs. Elizabeth Fry had already done in England to ameliorate the conditions under which female prisoners voyaged to Sydney, and to Christianise their lives when ashore, Mrs. Chisholm endeavored to consummate for the voluntary exile from the day she landed in Sydney, in 1839, until she finally returned to England, in 1854. Immigrants in the Bent-street cottages were interviewed, and their welfare was not forgotten upon their removal to Hyde Park barracks. She established a home for female immigrants in 1841, and dispersed her dependents among country settlers, travelling on bullock waggons and springcarts where duty called.

When she returned to England in 1846 her philanthropy quickened. During the following seven years' activity she dreamed of young Australia. A Family Colonisation Society was founded, lectures throughout the British farm centres were delivered, and passage money collected by weekly instalments. Needless to say, she did more to popularise New South Wales than all the Government machinery. She was instrumental in bringing to the colony 11,000 males and females. Personal gain was not her incentive. Although she enjoyed a pension for about 10 years prior to her death—March 29, 1877—this should not stitch up the pockets of those among us who admire the woman that had "a tear for pity and a hand open as day for melting charity."—Yours, etc.,

Sydney, February 12. J. P. M'GUANNE.

THE D

MRS. CAROLINE CHISHOLM.

TO THE EDITOR.

Sir,—All Australian women who have delved even slightly into the large field of Australian records know of, and respect, the labors of Mrs. Caroline Chisholm, who, although she was only in Australia for a few years, did so much for the good of the people and for immigration. Some slight account of her work (about six pages), with a sketch portrait of herself, is given in Ward, Lock's "Fifty Famous Women," from which we learn that she was counted worthy of a place on the long roll of female British worthies. So much was thought of her work at the time that the Pope had two busts of her made, one of which he presented to Mrs. Chisholm. This was for years in Yass, in the possession of her son, Colonel Chisholm, the then police magistrate of the town.

One phase of Mrs. Chisholm's work has been completely overlooked by the writers whose letters have appeared in your pages. May I quote her own words:—

"It was upon the principle of family colonisation . . . that I carried out my matrimonial excursions in the Australian bush. I at times took a number of single young females with me. . . I took care to place the young women in situations from which they might enter with propriety and respectability into the married state."

Mrs. Chisholm tells of one man who shouted after her as she was passing, and on being asked what he wanted said, "Want? Want? Why, what every man like me wants when he sees Mrs. Chisholm," and he pointed to his farm and neat cottage, his bank notes, and the character he had received from the magistrates, and said, "Come, now, Mrs. Chisholm, do be a mother to me, and give me a wife."

We have often heard that "the occasion makes the man," but in this case it was the occasion who made the woman, and none but a woman with a big, motherly heart could have done the work needed at the time. Owing to Governor Gipps' too lavish use of "bounty orders," there were about six hundred homeless and friendless girls in Sydney, living in destitution, having come out with the impression that work was to be had in plenty.

Hundreds of families throughout New South Wales at the present time owe to Mrs. Chisholm the position of respectability they now enjoy.—Yours, etc.,

M. E. J. YEO.

February 17.

with the . . . in a peculiar manner, fitted me for the work. . . My delay pressed on my mind as a sin, and when I heard of a poor girl suffering distress, and losing her reputation in consequence, I felt that I was not clear of her sin, for I did not do all I could to prevent it. . . I determined on a visit to Sydney (Mrs. Chisholm resided at Windsor), and, on arrival there, requested two friends to call at the 'Herald' office; both refused. I went myself, and am glad of this opportunity to acknowledge the attention I met with, and the support the proprietors of that journal gave me—indeed, to the press of Sydney I feel indebted, and thank them sincerely for their support. . . I waited on the ladies who now form the committee, and not one refused me."

But many delays hampered her plan. Sir George Gipps looked suspiciously upon it. At length he granted an interview to the "lady labouring under amiable delusions." He afterwards told a friend, "I was amazed when my aide introduced a handsome, stately young woman, who proceeded to argue the question as if she thought her reason, and experience, too, worth as much as mine." Finally, on receipt of a guarantee that the Government would suffer no expense, he agreed to the use of a Government building as an emigrants' home. It was a low, wooden structure, and Mrs. Chisholm's office measured seven feet by seven. She decided that she must live at the home. This meant parting from her children, and also enduring much privation. Ninety-four girls were in the home in its first days. An appeal for support was liberally responded to. There were neither sufficient arrangements for removing emigrants into the interior, nor for protecting females on their arrival. She received several who had slept out many nights in the Government domain, seeking the sheltered recesses of the rocks. It was estimated that there were 600 females unprovided for in Sydney at the time. Mrs. Chisholm commenced work. She made an offer to the Government of gratuitously devoting her time to the superintendence of a Home of Protection for them in the town, and also to an endeavour to procure situations for them in the country.

"Although the home was crowded," she wrote, "I could not get a girl to go into the country. I found it necessary to go first myself. I proceeded into the interior, to form committees and to establish country 'homes,' taking in some cases parties of females with me. I took them to Campbelltown, Maitland, Liverpool, Parramatta, and Port Macquarie. The first parties varied from 15 to 60 in number. I went from farm to farm, getting them places in service. Soon after the opening of the Sydney Home I received 64 girls from ships, and all the money they had amounted to 14s 1½d; 22 had no money, several twopence, others fourpence. These girls I sent into the country. The majority are married, and not one lost her character."

Meanwhile, she was not forgetting the male immigrants. She instituted a registry office for servants, having a printed form agreement, to be signed by both parties. Out of all the agreements made only 10 were ever disputed, and these disputes were arranged by reference to the original documents. Many labourers were idle in Sydney, supported at Government expense. She undertook journeys of 300 miles into the interior with families. Public support was now assured. The Government contributed £150, and so eager were the settlers and citizens to help that in seven years Mrs. Chisholm's personal expenses amounted to only £1 18s 6d. Fares were advanced by her, and the advances were always repaid. From first to last, she was the means of settling 11,000 souls. The largest number that ever left Sydney under her charge was 147, which number increased considerably on the road. The longest journey occupied five weeks, three of which were passed on the road. She established a female registry office in Sydney, with the very best results.

Mrs. Chisholm writes further: "I should not feel the interest I do in female emigration if I did not look beyond providing families with female servants—if I did not know how much they are required as wives, and how much moral good they may spread forth in society as wives." Although she received hundreds of applications for wives, she would not make matches, but placed single girls as servants or teachers with families, in districts where wives were most wanted.

Also she induced the New South Wales Government to make grants of land, and to sell land in lots of 50 acres. Her last great work in the colonies was to collect "Voluntary information from the people of New South Wales," to make known to the British public the resources of the Australian colonies, to furnish the labourer, the mechanic, and the capitalist, with information that can be depended upon, to point out obstructions to emigration which ought to be removed, and to expose evils which ought to be eradicated. The information consisted of brief biographies of settlers and servants. Upwards of 600 were collected. She travelled from farm to farm and station to station in a covered spring van, welcomed and known by all. Her husband, who had arrived from India in 1845, accompanied her. She hoped to make them the basis for the formation of a Family Colonisation Loan Society.

In February, 1846, a public meeting was held in Sydney to consider the presentation of a testimonial to Mrs. Chisholm, then on the eve of departure for England. The leading citizens formed a committee, and raised 150 guineas, which were presented to her with an address. She accepted the testimonial in order to expend it in promoting further emigration. As soon as she reached England, her residence was thrown open to aid those desirous of emigrating. She communicated with the friends of settlers, gave gratuitous advice to others, and personally superintended the shipment of the inexperienced. In 1850 she published her pamphlet, "The A.B.C. of Colonisation," in which the existing plans of emigration were denounced. The Family Colonisation Society despatched in less than two years a total of 1831 souls. During the gold rushes of the 'Fifties she performed incredible labours. The letters she received averaged 140 daily. She interviewed about 100 people daily, too, and visited the docks to inspect the emigrant ships.

In 1854 Mrs. Chisholm returned to Australia to devote herself to the needs of the multitudes at the gold diggings. 'Chambers' Journal,' in a notice of her departure, said: "On her first sojourn, she had to aid and protect the poorest labourers, exposed to all the oppression that falls to the lot of the helpless ignorant; now she will have to guide and even govern the wealthiest labouring men the world has ever seen." A testimonial of gratitude was presented to her. Till 1866 she continued her work in Australia, then returned to England, dying at Fulham on March 25, 1877. In 1867 she was granted a Civil List pension of £100 per annum.

Specialists



THE PASSWORD
TO PROSPERITY—
RICKARD'S
EASY
TERMS.

Eastern boundaries of the present municipality. But it cannot be forgotten that apart from the gardens and the tannery already spoken of, the district was, in a large measure, bush country, and much of it of a swampy nature, with sandhills on the outskirts. Indeed, Elizabeth-street, between the area now occupied by Syrians and the Redfern Park, was one immense swamp. Part of this land afterwards became the old Albert Cricket Ground, where many of the early cricket battles with representative teams from England were fought. It was there that the and were fought. It was there that Gregory, Bannerman, Spofforth, and others did battle for the colony. As the visitors passed out from the cricket field through the gates, they sometimes gazed upon a scene on the opposite side of the road—that of cows stuck in the bog. Where these cows were bogged is now the Redfern Cricket Oval and the Redfern Bowling Green. The and is known as Redfern Park.

SALES OF THE WEEK.

Messrs. Arthur Rickard and Co., Limited, report having sold by public auction and private contract during the past week the following:—By Public Auction.—Bedlow, Hydro View Estate: 25 allotments, at from 5/6 to 50/ per foot. Total, £2143/6/6. By Private Contract.—Bankstown, Condell Park Estate: Lot 46, £24/6 per foot, £57/18/; lot 61, at 17/6 per foot, £57/15/; lot 403, at 12/6 per foot, £41/5/. Beaconsfield Estate: Lot 26, sec. 10, at 11/ per foot, £25/2/6; lot 3, at £15 per acre, £32/9/6; Lot 81, at £35, £87/10/; lot 180, £35; lot 188, at £25 per acre, £25; lot 213, at £30 per acre, £30; lot 2, at £12 per acre, £29/5/. Greenacre Park Extension Estate: Lot 53, sec. 1, £65; lot 16, sec. 13, £50; lot 1, sec. 14, £75; lot 7, sec. 14, £50. Heart of Bankstown Estate: Lot 1, at 22/6 per foot, £56/5/. Carlton.—Carlton Home Sites Estate: Lot 76, at 21/ per foot, £52/10/; lot 92, at 23/ per foot, £57/10/; lot 96, at 23/ per foot, £57/10/; lot 214, at 20/ per foot, £50. Abbotsford.—Renwick Park Estate: Lot 32, at 40/ per foot, £100. Balmoral.—Warringah Estate: Lot 5, at £7/15/ per foot, £387/10/; lot 34, at £4/5/ per foot, £321. Cronulla.—Cronulla Acres Estate, lot 28, 11 per, £65. Kensington, Kensington Estate: Lot 194, sec. 14, at £8 per foot, £376; lot 260, sec. 14, at £7/10/ per foot, £337/10/. Mortlake, Grasmere Estate: Lot 205, at 26/6 per foot, £87/9/. Hurstville, Marine View Estate: Lot 70, sec. 1, at 8/ per foot, £24/8/6; lot 6, sec. 2, at 10/6 per foot, £34/7/9. Homedale Extension Estate: Lot 21, at 12/6 per foot, £41/5/; lot 63, £45; lot 66, at 11/6 per foot, £37/19/; lot 67, at 11/6 per foot, £37/19/; lot 91, £35. Homedale Acres Estate: Lot 14, £30; lot 15, £30. Granville, Dellwood Park Estate (No. 2 Subdivision): Lot 40, sec. 1, £18/10/. Quaker's Hill, Quaker's Hill Estate: Lot 85, sec. 2, at £18 per acre, £90. Woy Woy, Merritt's Wharf Estate: Lot 309, £10. Ettalong Beach Estate: Lot 224, at 12/6 per foot, £32/6/10; lot 273, at £21/10/ per acre, £46/16/6. Port Hacking, Bay View Heights Estate: Lot 85, £25/10/; lot 86, £25/10/; lot 87, £25/10/. Guildford, Greenlawn Estate: Lot 14, at 18/ per foot, £40/10/; lot 15, at 18/ per foot, £40/10/; lot 16, at 13/ per foot, £30/5/6; lot 17, at 13/ per foot, £20. Sherwood Heights Estate: Lots 9, 10, 11, sec. 12, £12/10/. Guildford Downs Estate: Lot 12, sec. B, at 7/6 per foot, £15/8/; lot 13, sec. B, at 7/6 per foot, £15; lot 14, sec. B, at 7/6 per foot, £15. Merrylands, Longview Estate: Lot 77, at 6/6 per foot, £18/1/10. Auburn, Heart of Auburn Estate: Lot 24, sec. 1, at 57/6 per foot, £126/10/; lot 18, sec. 3, at 18/ per foot, £36. Pittsburg Estate: Lot 11, sec. 6, at 14/6 per foot, £31/18/; lot 12, sec. 6, at 14/6 per foot, £31/18/. Clyde, Longlawn Estate: Lot 83, £40; lot 128, at 15/ per foot, £30.

Hardie and Gorman Proprietary, Ltd., report having sold by public auction and private treaty during the week the following:—Western suburbs (in conjunction with Messrs. Kaye and Crossing), residence and grounds for £6500. North Sydney: Pair of semi-detached houses, Nos. 169 and 171 Walker-street, for £1575. Mosman: Pair of houses, known as Vavau and Tarella, fronting Gladstone-avenue, for £1550. Mosman: Pair of houses, known as Vila and Hiue, fronting Gladstone-avenue, for £1250. Mosman: Pair of houses, known as Carmen and Casa, fronting Gladstone-avenue, for £1240. Maroubra: Four allotments of land, fronting Beaumont-avenue, at £3 per foot (£600 18s 9d). Bondi (in conjunction with O'Brien Bros.): Cottage, fronting Glenstreet, for £400. Manly (in conjunction with J. G. Edwards and Co.): Two allotments of land, fronting Jackson-street, being portion of the Jackson's Estate, for £262 10s. Artarmon (in conjunction with P. R. Cook and Co.): Two allotments of land, fronting Broughton-road, being portions of the Chamberlain Hills Estate, for £149 10s. Gladesville: Allotment of land, fronting Darwell and Quarrie streets, being portion of the Kinsley Estate, for £70.

Messrs. Stanton and Son, Ltd., report having sold the following properties during the week:—Rosebery model and industrial suburb: Total sales of vacant land for the week, £3990. Paddington: Terrace of 11 brick houses, known as Nos. 3 to 23 William-street, for £5400. Haberfield garden suburb: 40ft to Ramsay-road, with brick cottage, for £775; lot 436, 50ft to Logan-avenue, with brick cottage, for £1190. Barrenjoey; Careel Ocean Beach Estate, lot 84, Marine-parade, at 24s per foot. Punchbowl: Lot 41, Springfield Park Estate, with weatherboard cottages to be erected thereon, for £495; 90ft to Napoleon-road, with weatherboard cottage, for £475.

Mr. C. H. Crammond reports having sold during the week the following:—Pair of brick cottages and land, at Lewisham, £1106; terrace, consisting of 10 brick cottages, Goodsell-street, Newtown, £2850; one pair of brick cottages, also one detached brick cottage, known as Childor, Thanet, and Elmside, Juliett-street, Enmore, £1625; land, having about 230ft frontage to George-street, Leichhardt, by a depth of 190ft, with cottage erected thereon, £600; also the following lots of the Addison Estate, Addison and Illawarra roads, Marrickville: Lots 12 and 13, £5 per ft; Lot 18, £5/10/ per foot; Lot 20, £5/10/ per foot; Lot 21, £5/10/ per ft; and Lots 42 and 43, having frontages to Charles-street, Marrickville, at £4/5/ per ft.

Messrs. Barton and Ness report having sold the following properties during the last fortnight by public auction and private treaty:—Hurlstone Park Estate, 15 allotments, £2463; Dulwich Hill, weatherboard cottage, £450; St. Peters, block of land, 200ft, £600; Dulwich

Hi
br
£
sa
pe
ba
£
Es
4
we
fie
er
le
Ki
Ca
fo
Er
M
£
tr
Fi
in
we
fr
Ma
£
in
in
fr
fr
ta
dv
bl
in
Ju
o'
es
es
pr
m
fo
fo
ta
C
n
o'
R
a
tl
T
tl
v
ti
n
c
B
s
y
a
o
d
lc
E
c
d
b
I
t
r
P
e
g
d
tl
n
r
w
t
n
s
o
c
n
T
to
a
t
t
o
n
p
—
Y
K
p
o
"
s
V
T
f
u
n
n
t
t
V
S

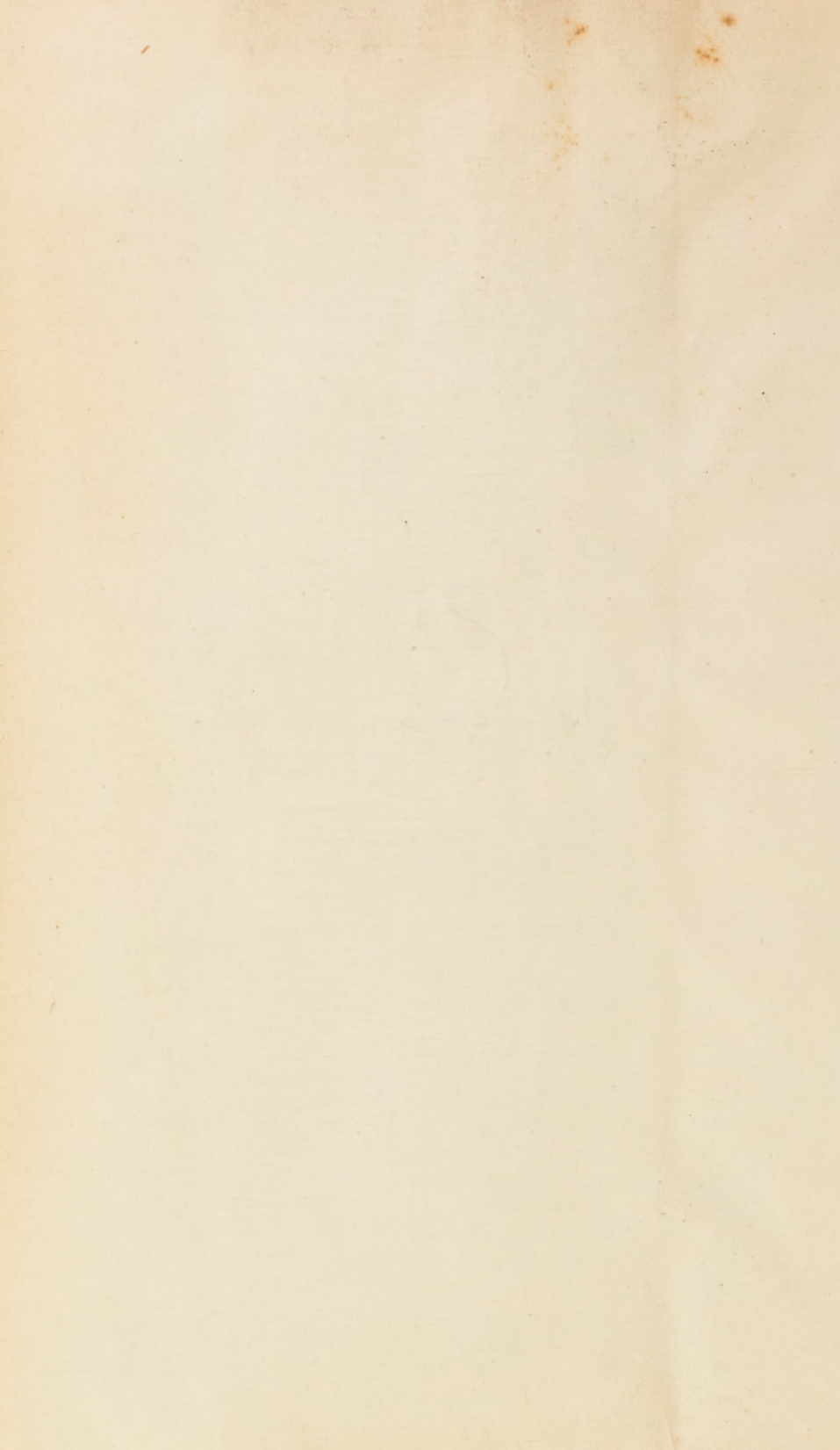
CAROLINE CHISHOLM.

(BY J. E. L.)

Caroline Chisholm was the daughter of an English yeoman of Northampton. Her father was accustomed to discuss business matters and politics before his children, and even to ask their opinion concerning them. At 20 years of age she married Captain Chisholm, of the Madras army, and two years later they sailed for India. Here she began those practical public works which were to distinguish her life. She established a girls' school for the children and orphans of soldiers, in which school general education and instruction in housekeeping were combined. The "School of Industry" gained the sympathy and support of the Madras authorities, and the housekeepers it trained were eagerly sought after as servants and wives of non-commissioned officers.

Mrs. Chisholm remained in India till 1838, when, for the benefit of her husband's health, they left with an infant family, for Australia. Towards the end of the year she landed in Sydney. Early in 1840 Captain Chisholm returned to his regiment, leaving his wife and family in New South Wales. Husband and wife had pondered plans for the betterment of the colonial society, and she now set herself to realise them. Of immigration at this time she wrote:—"At the Government depot in England we find congregated broken-up families, young couples without children, or single young women, perhaps perfect strangers to all around them. Here is a mass of human beings inwardly lamenting their separation from those most dear to them. They go on board with harrowed feelings, and the young women are placed under the care of a matron, who is viewed as a very subordinate character. These are trying situations for human nature, and a dangerous position for young women to find themselves in, for amongst these there exists no common feeling except that of perfect indifference to each other—the innocent and the helpless stand there exposed to the wiles of the snarer. Who has not been shocked by the frightful details we have read in the public papers? How orphan after orphan had been victimised on board emigrant ships by men calling themselves Christians? How modest maidens have been brutalised over and insulted by those whose peculiar duty it was to protect them."

She went among the helpless ones and gave them advice, she besought the captains and agents to act with caution and humanity, when she saw a poor creature amid danger she took her to her own house. But she saw that alone she could do very little. This was a national work. So she made her appeal. "In January, 1841," she says, "I wrote to Lady Gipps, and from that time on never ceased in my exertions. I knew that every ship's arrival would increase the necessity for an institution. For three weeks I hesitated and suffered much. I was prepared to encounter the opposition of some, the lukewarmness or the actual hostility of others, to the plan I might suggest. I saw I must have the aid of the press. . . . I was impressed



DSM

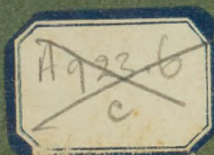
ML

AN 21511901

A923.6

C542.2

6A1



DSM/ A923.6/ C542.2/ 6A1
What has Mrs. Caroline
Chisholm done for the colony
of New South Wales?

STATE LIBRARY
OF N.S.W.



N2133834

