

STATE LIBRARY OF N.S.W.  
MITCHELL LIBRARY

DSM/  
Q981.5/  
R



David Scott Mitchell.







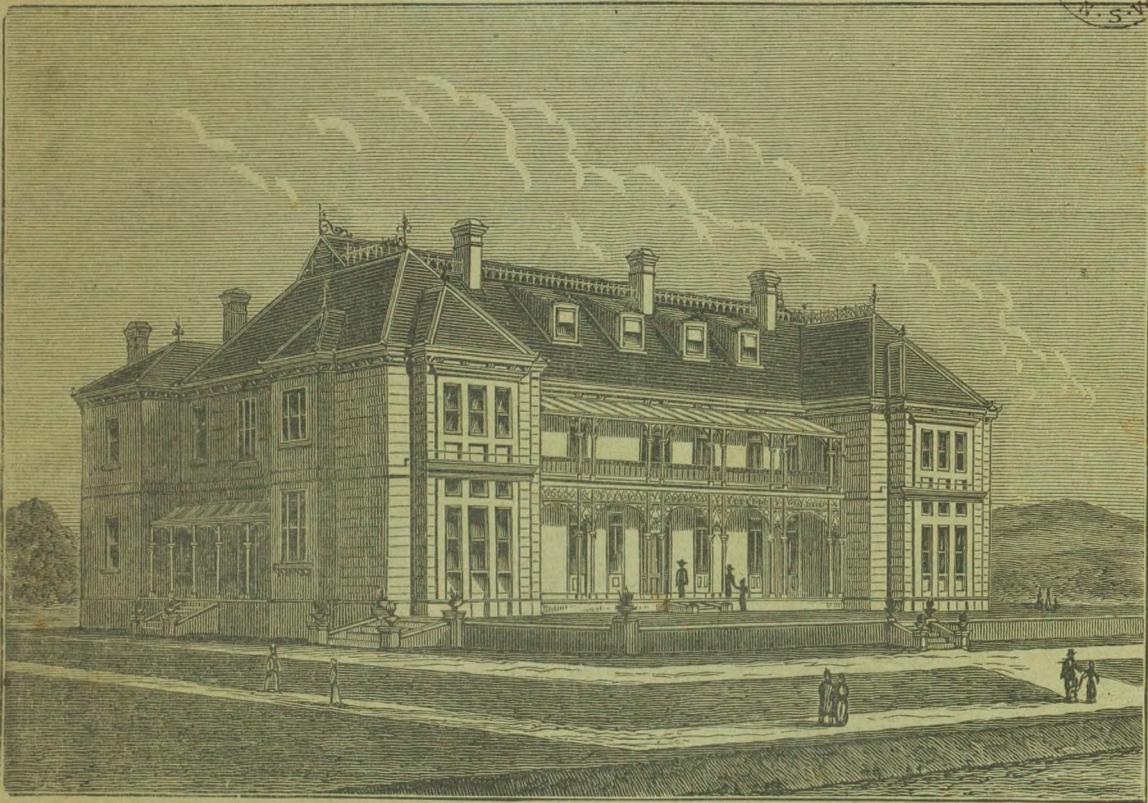


SOUVENIR

OF A VISIT TO

THE BLUE MOUNTAINS

NEW SOUTH WALES.



"THE CARRINGTON," Late "GREAT WESTERN" HOTEL.

PRESENTED BY F. G. GOYDER,

PROPRIETOR OF

"THE CARRINGTON," Late 'Great Western' Hotel

KATOOMBA.

*Attack 12/8/85*

DRINK CADBURY'S

MAKERS  
TO THE QUEEN



Cadbury's

"PURE"

"REFRESHING"

Cocoa



"ECONOMICAL"

Essence.

PURE COCOA.

*Dr. Marshall*

# WOODFORD HOUSE

WOODFORD,

**BLUE MOUNTAINS.**

CHANGE OF AIR & MOUNTAIN SCENERY.

SUPERIOR ACCOMMODATION FOR VISITORS.

A FIRST-CLASS TABLE KEPT.

**SAFE BATHING PLACE FOR LADIES AND CHILDREN AT  
THE FALLS ON THE ESTATE.**

CHOICE FRUIT FROM THE ORCHARD AT TABLE.

**TERMS STRICTLY MODERATE.**

SPECIAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR FAMILIES.

APPLY

**NEW ZEALAND INSURANCE COMPANY,**

**81 PITT ST., SYDNEY;**

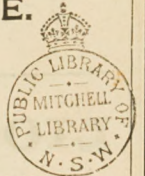
OR,

**JOHN R. PLACE**

**WOODFORD, BLUE MOUNTAINS.**

**A CAPITAL TENNIS COURT ON THE GROUNDS.**

Extensive additions have been made. Woodford House is now one of the most complete Establishments on the Mountains. It is replete with every convenience, and has a Balcony of upwards of 100 feet in length, by a width of 8 feet.



# JOHN A. WILKINSON

Wine Grower and Merchant

Vineyard, **COOLALTA**, Branxton, N.S.W.

Cellars, **352 GEORGE STREET**, Back of Paling's.

## LIST OF WINES.

Red—

Hermitage  
Shiraz  
Burgundy  
Claret  
Port

White—

Madeira  
Hock  
Shiraz  
Reisling  
&c.

PRICE LISTS ON APPLICATION.

## LION FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED.

Chief Offices—5 LOTHBURY, LONDON, E.C.

Paid-up Capital .. ..	Subscribed Capital .. ..	£1,000,000.	Reserved Fund .. ..	£50,000.
	£300,000.			
	Annual Income .. ..	£200,000.		

### DIRECTORS:

JAMES STAATS FORBES, Esq. (London, Chatham, and Dover Railway Co.), *Chairman*.  
JAMES J. ALLPORT, Esq.  
CHARLES ELEY, Esq. (Eley Brothers, Limited).  
Lord CLAUD JOHN HAMILTON, M.P. (Great Eastern Railway Company).

ELLIS ELIAS, Esq.  
LORD NORREYS (Anglo-Universal Bank).  
JOHN STANFORTH, Esq. (Anglo-Universal Bank)  
Hon. E. G. STRUTT, Springfield, Chelmsford.  
G. H. TOD-HEATLY, Esq.  
FRANCIS WEBB, Esq., Chancery Lane.

**FIRE INSURANCE** on every description of Property in  
Town and Country, at Lowest Rates.

**LOSSES PROMPTLY ADJUSTED AND PAID IN SYDNEY.**

NEW SOUTH WALES & QUEENSLAND BRANCH: 26 BRIDGE STREET, SYDNEY.

**JNO. C. NEILD, Manager.**

THE  
PICTORIAL GUIDE  
TO THE  
BLUE MOUNTAINS  
OF  
NEW SOUTH WALES,  
AND TO THE  
Districts between Parramatta and Bathurst  
Including the Jenolan Caves.

---

WITH MAPS AND ILLUSTRATIONS.



---

COMPILED, AND DRAWN FROM PERSONAL SURVEY, BY J. E. M. RUSSELL.

---

SYDNEY:

GIBBS, SHALLARD, & CO., PRINTERS AND GENERAL PUBLISHERS, &c.

---

1885.

## THE STEYNE HOTEL.

THIS old-established and comfortable Hotel offers accommodation of a superior class to all visitors to "The Village." The situation has exceptional advantages. Fronting both Corso and Steyne, its broad verandahs and balconies afford sunshine or shade, shelter from the winds, or free play of ocean breeze, as may be desired. The rooms are all of good size, thoroughly ventilated and well furnished.

THE CUISINE IS GOOD, AND THE LIQUORS THE BEST PROCURABLE.

All arrangements are under the personal supervision of the Proprietor and Mrs. Cousins, whose constant aim is to maintain, and, if possible, better the reputation they enjoyed at their well-known Hotel, Mount Victoria, Blue Mountains. There is a well appointed Billiard Room, and Shower and Plunge Baths, conveniently placed. The Pier is within easy five minutes' walk, and the Ocean Beach but a stone's throw from the front balconies.

A FIRST-CLASS ORDINARY DAILY AT ONE.

THE STEYNE HOTEL, STEYNE AND CORSO, MANLY.

J. G. COUSINS, PROPRIETOR.

**GIBBS, SHALLARD, & CO.**

—

LETTER-PRESS **Printers** LITHOGRAPHIC

ARTISTS, ENGRAVERS, ELECTROTYPERS

70 PITT STREET NORTH, SYDNEY.

## ELVY & CO.'S — ELVY & CO.'S

*Pianoforte Gallery, Organ, Harmonium, and Music Warehouse,*

**329 GEORGE STREET, SYDNEY.**

The Highest Class Pianofortes,  
(ENGLISH AND GERMAN)

WITH IRON OR WOODEN FRAMES.

Pianos from £27.

AN INSTALMENT SYSTEM,

Easy and Equitable. For Town or Country.

**AT ELVY & CO.'S**

The Finest Toned Organs  
FOR  
Church and Household Use.  
PRICES LOW.

THE NEWEST MUSIC.

THE POPULAR MUSIC.  
THE STANDARD MUSIC.

**AT ELVY & CO.'S**

# INDEX



## MAPS.

BLACKHEATH ... .. facing page	34	WENTWORTH FALLS ... .. facing page	28
KATOOMBA ... .. " "	30	WOODFORD ... .. " "	24
LAWSON ... .. " "	24	VALLEY, THE ... .. " "	20
LITHGOW ... .. " "	42	VICTORIA, MOUNT ... .. " "	38
SPRINGWOOD ... .. " "	22	JENOLAN OR FISH RIVER CAVES ... .. " "	44

## ILLUSTRATIONS.

	PAGE		PAGE
Christabel Fall, Dante's Glen ... ..	27	Orphan Rock, Katoomba ... ..	31
Fern Gully, Blue Mountains ... ..	20	Parramatta Park .. ..	11
Flying Fox, or Sassafras, Gully ... ..	23	Parramatta Orange Grove ... ..	13
Govett's Leap, Blackheath ... ..	37	Sassafras, or Flying Fox, Gully ... ..	23
Livingstone (late Adelina) Fall, Lawson ... ..	26	The Carrington (late Great Western Hotel), Katoomba ... ..	33
Nepean and Warragamba Creek ... ..	16	Wentworth (late the Weatherboard) Falls... ..	29
Nepean and Euroka ... ..	18		

## PLACES AND OBJECTS NOTICED.

	PAGE		PAGE
Addenda .. ..	48	Leura and Lurline Falls .. ..	35
Birdie's Dell .. ..	34	Lithgow .. ..	42
Blackheath .. ..	35	Look-out Hill .. ..	37
Blacktown .. ..	14	Lucas Cave, The .. ..	47
Blaxland .. ..	19	Lucasville .. ..	17
Clarence Siding and Tunnel .. ..	41	Madeline Glen .. ..	22
Coal Mine, Katoomba .. ..	35	Mermads' Cave .. ..	37
Elder Cave, The .. ..	47	Mount Piddington .. ..	39
Emu Plains .. ..	17	Mount Victoria .. ..	38
Engineer's Cascade .. ..	40	Mount Victoria Pass .. ..	41
Engine Point Bluff .. ..	34	Mount Wilson .. ..	41
Fairy Dell, Mount Victoria .. ..	41	Nellie's Glen .. ..	34
Faulconbridge .. ..	24	Nepean, The .. ..	15
Flying Fox Gully .. ..	22	Numantia .. ..	24
Gap, The, Katoomba... ..	35	Parramatta .. ..	10
Glenbrook .. ..	19	Penrith .. ..	15
Govett's Leap .. ..	36	Perry's Look Down .. ..	37
Gracie's Hill .. ..	34	Rooty Hill .. ..	15
Hartley Vale .. ..	41	Sassafras, or Flying Fox, Gully .. ..	22
Hazelbrook .. ..	25	Seven Hills .. ..	14
Hints and Suggestions .. ..	9	St. Mary's (late South Creek Station) .. ..	15
Introduction .. ..	7	Springwood .. ..	22
Itinerary .. ..	10	Toongabbie .. ..	14
Jenolan or Fish River Caves .. ..	43	Tourists' Information .. ..	9
Kanimbla Valley and Zigzag .. ..	40	Valley, The .. ..	21
King's Cave, Woodford (late Buss's) .. ..	24	Water Nymphs' Dell .. ..	30
Karrabar .. ..	19	Wentworth Falls (Weatherboard) .. ..	28
Katoomba .. ..	31	Witches' Glen, Mount Victoria .. ..	40
Katoomba Falls .. ..	34	Witches' Leap, Katoomba .. ..	33
Ladies' Rock .. ..	34	Woodford (late Buss's) .. ..	24
Lawson (late Blue Mountains) .. ..	25		

## ADVERTISEMENTS.

	PAGE		PAGE
Anderson & Co., Sydney .. ..	back of cover	King, Henry, Sydney .. ..	44
Baird, Wm., Katoomba .. ..	34	Lion Insurance Company .. ..	2
Biles' Hotel, Katoomba .. ..	28	Marshall, Miss, Mount Victoria .. ..	39
Brush, J., Son, & Co., Sydney .. ..	back of Springwood map	Mullany, P., & Co., Katoomba .. ..	34
Brav Brothers, Sydney .. ..	21	Mulheran, Mrs., Wentworth Falls .. ..	28
Butts, Mrs., Blackheath .. ..	35	Park Gates Hotel, Parramatta .. ..	10
Cadbury's .. ..	2nd page of cover	Plummer, E., Mount Victoria .. ..	39
Cadbury's .. ..	3rd page of cover	Richardson & Wrench, Sydney .. ..	back of Springwood map
Cale, James, Jun., Blackheath .. ..	35	The Steyne Hotel, Manly .. ..	4
Dunn, Mrs., Katoomba .. ..	34	Tattersall's Hotel, Lithgow .. ..	42
Elvy & Co., Sydney .. ..	4	The Carrington, Katoomba .. ..	32
Ennis, Mrs. J. M., Mount Victoria .. ..	38	Watkin & Watkin, Sydney .. ..	12
Geggie, J., Lawson .. ..	25	Webb & Co's, Manly .. ..	6
Gibbs, Shallard, & Co., Sydney .. ..	4	Wentworth Hotel, Wentworth Falls .. ..	28
Howell, Mrs., Mount Victoria .. ..	39	Wilkinson, John A., Sydney .. ..	2
Hydora House Family Hotel .. ..	35	Wilson, Sarah, Lawson .. ..	26
Illustrated Guide to Sydney .. ..	12	Wilson, Mrs. A. A., Blackheath .. ..	35
Imperial Hotel, Lithgow .. ..	42	Woodford House, Woodford .. ..	1

# THE FISH RIVER OR BINDA CAVES.

THOSE persons who travel to see the wonders of the world should not remain too long in artificial Sydney. Sydney has some beauties natural to her, but these can be seen at any time. It is in an obscure spot that the greatest treat to all travellers is to be found. As the gold hideth itself in quiet nooks, and the beautiful sparkling diamond secludes itself in the place where man would last think of looking for it, so nature has planted one of the most interesting sights of the world in a most secluded place, not far from that pretty and busy city, Bathurst, where persons are seen securing the latest fashions, brought out direct from London and Paris to the firm of

E. WEBB & CO., Universal Providers.

In our younger days we read of the marvels of the East, the magnificence of the Continent, and the excitement and wonders of London. Our curiosity was excited! On the 18th day of December, 1874, we started off to satisfy ourselves. Putting up with much inconvenience in consequence of heavy seas, we got to Point de Galle. Finding this spot uncomfortably hot, we went on immediately by the P. & O. Steamer "Pekin" for Suez. This was "out of the frying-pan into the fire." The Red Sea was a caution,—no pleasure seeker should ever attempt it—it was real misery and no mistake. We spent rather a pleasant time in Egypt, travelling without any fear of being taken prisoners by the Mahdi, who at that time did not anticipate the arrival of an Australian Contingent in his country, or near it even. After visiting Suez, Ismaili, Cairo, the Pyramids, and the tombs at ancient Memphis—which last we did on donkey back, and fine fun we had too, one of our party getting no less than sixteen falls from that everlasting goer, "Dr. Kenealey," we think, was his name—we soon got full of the Khedive's country, so hastened on to Alexandria,—got nearly drowned in getting on board steamer for Brindisi. Saw Italy, arrived near the heel of the famous "Wellington Boot." Journeyed round to Naples, Rome, and Turin; then on to Paris, and eventually London. Well! what did we see? Some wonderful and grand sights, of course! London, with its everlasting streams of human beings tearing along the streets, and the apparently unlimited miles of houses astonished us.

Reader, on our return from all these wonderful places, we took up our abode in Bathurst, and soon visited the Fish River (now Binda) Caves.

What we thought of the Caves.—

A great many persons have attempted to describe them. We do not intend to make any effort in this direction, for the simple reason that our knowledge of the English language does not extend far enough for us to find words to express our feelings of astonishment and utter amazement, as we climbed from rock to rock, from stalagmite to stalagmite, and gazed from stalactite to stalactite with our candles in hand. The climax came when the now famous "Jerry" (the caretaker), brought us to the Imperial Cave, and lit it up with the magnesian wire. To hear the interjections, "Oh, How beautiful!" "How grand!" "How lovely!" "See the pearls and diamonds in thousands!" and numerous others, more emphatic, according to the direction the person uttering them happened to be looking, was, to say the least of it, highly gratifying. But there were those among the party who had such an eye for the beautiful scene laid before them, that all they could do was to stand with eyes, mouth and ears wide open, and utter—not a word.

Before visiting the wonderful Caves it would be well to run on to Bathurst and secure a few pairs of those *Tenacious* Lawn Tennis Shoes from E. WEBB & CO., as they may save you many a nasty fall, if not save your life.

When asked to describe the Fish River Caves, we generally look much astonished, and commence by saying *something*, but always finish up by saying, "we have seen almost everything in Egypt, Italy, France and England, and were much disa, pointed, as a whole, except with London. Now, if you want to see one of the sights of the world don't miss the Binda Caves."

So far, perhaps, you may be tired of reading accounts of caves, &c., a little change might be

## WHAT DOES THIS PAGE SAY?

*Read it, and you will find it one of the best in the book.*

VISIT

**E. WEBB & CO.'S**

**STORES,**

**GEORGE ST., BATHURST.**

BRANCH CASH STORE—

CLOSE TO RAILWAY STATION,  
**KEPPEL STREET, BATHURST.**

UNIVERSAL PROVIDERS

In every sense of the word. They keep  
DRAPERIES, all kinds; FURNISHING,  
MEN'S MERCERY, CLOTHING, BOOTS  
and SHOES, GROCERIES, all kinds;  
also, IRONMONGERY, CARPENTERS'  
TOOLS, BEDS, BEDDING, and AGRICULTURAL MACHINERY.

For the convenience of Customers E. W. & CO. have opened a BLACKSMITHS' SHOP, where all repairs are neatly and well done.

Prices of Goods the same in Bathurst at WEBB'S as in London.

good. Whatever you do never visit the Caves in your best clothes, buy a cheap suit or dress from E. WEBB & CO., and you will be the gainer.

Tourists' Tweed Suits, 57s. 6d., made to order. A special line!

E. WEBB & CO. of Bathurst, have been established for over thirty-three years. They go in for all kinds of goods, chattels, and wares, from the proverbial "needle to the ploughshare." Their warehouse is more like an immense English Wholesale Store, handsomely decorated throughout, than what persons expect to see in a city so remote from Europe.

As to the prices goods are sold at in Bathurst generally, they have been acknowledged to rule lower than elsewhere, notwithstanding the difference in trainage. This is accounted for by the fact that E. W. & CO. import direct from the makers at first cost.

The climate of Bathurst is one of the finest in the world, beautifully dry, clear, bright, and generally warm, with just sufficient frost during a short winter to kill disease, and give a healthy summer. Sometimes, however, the clerk of the weather forgets us, and we do not get quite so much rain as we would wish, but our Government are getting on with the water-works in slow time.

At E. WEBB & CO.'S, Bathurst, N.S.W.,

You will find all kinds of

Haberdashery, Trimmings, Hosiery, Dress Goods, Mantles, Costumes, ready-made and made to order, Millinery of all kinds, Blankets, Calicoes, Quilts, Prints, Curtains, etc., etc.

Men's Hats, Caps, Ties, Scarves, Shirts, Collars, and Handkerchiefs, also Men's Ready-made Clothing are all a speciality.

E. WEBB & CO.

ARE

General Ironmongers, Grocers,

AND

BOOT AND SHOE MERCHANTS.

When the words "UNIVERSAL PROVIDERS" are applied to this firm, we may safely say they are correctly used.

If you want to buy first-class articles

at the most reasonable prices

while in Australia,

PAY A VISIT TO

«E. WEBB & CO.'S,»

GEORGE STREET,

BATHURST.

BRANCH CASH STORE—

CLOSE TO THE RAILWAY STATION,

KEPPEL ST.

N.B.—E. W. & CO. are the only business people who keep up a weekly half-holiday in Bathurst. On Wednesdays the George Street Store is closed at 1 o'clock, and on Tuesdays the Keppel Street Branch Store closes at the same time.

# ❖ INTRODUCTION. ❖



THE characteristic grandeur of the Mountain and Forest Scenery of New South Wales has been the theme of many gifted writers; and among these have been men of the widest travel and experience of the picturesque features of most parts of the world.

The visitor who leaves the colony without having witnessed the natural marvels of Govett's Leap, the Kanimbla Pass, the Valley of the Grose, the Weatherboard Falls, Katoomba Scenery, the Fish River Caves, the Hawkesbury River, and other notable features—not to mention the vast engineering works by which some of these are reached—will have lost a most enviable opportunity, and one he will not fail to regret he had not taken.

One great drawback, hitherto, has been the absence of any reliable information to guide the tourist, or stimulate the visitor to fully explore these regions. To do justice to a trip of this kind he has been compelled to employ some one in the district to accompany him, and this has been expensive and inconvenient in many ways. Frequently, too, this guide has nothing but his knowledge of the locality to recommend him—lacking all sympathy, and every quality in common, with the party he takes charge of, who often vote him a drag and a bore.

It is to render the tourist independent of such assistance that this Guide has been prepared. The districts described have been thoroughly explored; trees, fences, and rocks marked; tracks indicated; and a detailed contour map drawn from an actual survey of each locality, by the compiler.

It is felt that the work cannot fail to be welcomed as exactly filling a great public need; and as giving an impetus to that health-promoting custom of occasionally visiting our mountain districts, and there taking in a fresh supply of ozone, which is so deficient in the crowded centres of population.

To the masses who cannot afford the luxury of a visit to the Alps, Pyrenees, and other mountain scenery of Europe and America, it should be a matter of congratulation that they have it in their power, by the exercise of a little economy, to witness, at least once a year, scenes quite as wonderful, quite as health-giving, quite as beautiful as the historic and popular old-world resorts of English tourists, yet possessing a characteristic and rugged grandeur unexcelled by scenery in any part of the world.

# THE TOURISTS' GUIDE

TO THE

BLUE MOUNTAINS and the Districts between PARRAMATTA and BATHURST,  
ADJACENT TO THE GREAT WESTERN RAILWAY.

**T**RAINS to all the important stations on this line of railway leave the Redfern Terminus twice a day—namely, at 9 a.m. and 5.2 p.m.—and a mail train leaves at 8 p.m., stopping only at Penrith, Lawson, Katoomba, Mount Victoria, and all stations to Bourke. On Saturdays, however, there are *two additional trains*, leaving Redfern at 7 a.m. to Bathurst, and 1.48 p.m. to Mount Victoria. No trains run on Sundays, except one to Penrith and intermediate stations, starting at 12.15 a.m. from Redfern.

By the additional Saturday trains the fare is 2d. per mile first class, and 1d. per mile second class; but special excursion tickets are issued for these trains at the rate of 2d. per mile first class, and 1d. per mile second class return; or, the double distance being reckoned at the single rate. These tickets are available for returning by *excursion train* the same (*Saturday*) evening, by the *Monday* morning, or on that day week by the same train. The visitor may, if he like, prolong his stay and return by any ordinary train by paying the amount of difference of the fare.

The times of departure of trains above mentioned are of course liable to be changed, and are only given as showing the arrangements in force at date.

The general details as to the rail service must also be taken in the same way, but it is improbable that any material change will take place either in the times of departure or in the fares, and of any such variation the fullest notice is given in the numerous penny pocket guides.

Trains leaving Sydney for the country are always called **DOWN TRAINS**; and all trains approaching Sydney are called **UP TRAINS**.

## THE RAILWAYS OF NEW SOUTH WALES.

**T**HE three main arteries of the railway system of New South Wales are the **GREAT SOUTHERN** and **SOUTH-WESTERN** line, terminating at Albury, but branching off at Junee to Narrandera and Hay; the **GREAT WESTERN**, terminating at Bourke; and the **GREAT NORTHERN**, starting from Newcastle, and running north and west towards the Queensland border. From these arteries branches extend right and left, connecting the more important towns and districts with the main trunk. A line of railway is also under construction from Sydney connecting the Great Northern line at Hexham, a point about 20 miles from Newcastle. Another line will bring the fertile coast districts of Kiama and Wollongong in immediate reach to Sydney, and tend to develop the vast mineral resources of those regions. Many other branches are in course of formation or are projected.

## Hints and Suggestions to Mountain Tourists and others.

ON entering upon any excursion it is well to be prepared for little emergencies or adverse events; and there is no reason why the pleasure should be marred by deprivations which a little foresight and arrangement would obviate.

If the party consist of several, and the intention be to "rough it" in the bush, a light *tent* or awning will be useful, but a good *rug* will be absolutely essential, whether the trip be in summer or winter. A spare suit of clothes should always be taken, one being of light tweed and the other somewhat heavier, and a strong loose calico coat is pleasant for hot days. Crimean shirts without collars and with a loose necktie are better than white ones for bush work, and woollen socks or stockings are better than cotton ones. Good strong Blucher boots are to be preferred to elastic-sided or half Wellingtons, as in wet weather the latter are difficult to get on. A pair of serviceable leather slippers are always handy, and give great relief to the feet after a long journey. A soft, shady felt hat is better than a stiff, close-brimmed one. An overcoat and comforter for the neck will give a sense of snugness in cold weather, and a light waterproof coat will save much discomfort in showery weather. Leggings, unless they fit well and are easily fastened, are often a nuisance, as they cramp the legs or interfere with the free action of the muscles. A leather waist strap for the trousers is useful, and especially when brace buttons give way, as they are provokingly prone to do on occasions when an extra strain is put upon them.

Clothing attended to, the next consideration is that of food. This should be as portable as possible, the preserved meats, jams, condensed milk, concentrated coffee and chocolate, &c. (all in tins), are very convenient. Biscuits and bread, sugar, salt, pepper, a bottle of Worcester sauce, and some tea, in quantities to suit the size of the party and length of stay will suggest themselves. A covered strong tin billy and cups or pannikins for the tea or water, with knives, forks, plates, and spoons, are all necessary.

Sundry conveniences are the following:—A good knife, small tomahawk, pencil and paper, small pocket compass, a good field glass, leather strap, a dozen yards of parcel cord, sticking plaster, pins, needle and thread, and a few buttons.

Tea is the most comforting beverage for the bush, and it is very portable. Beer and porter are cumbersome to carry and heavy to drink. If any alcoholic drink be deemed necessary a little good brandy, schnapps, rum, or whisky in a pocket flask, may be taken, always bearing in mind that in high mountainous country even a slight indulgence in spirit is very liable to be soon followed by numbing headache and lassitude.

A good handy valise or expanding leather bag will be requisite for clothes, &c., and this should not be too large to be carried in one hand when full.

Soap and rough towel should not be forgotten, and a small bottle of chlorodyne has often been of service in cases of internal pain or diarrhoea.

In many of the districts herein described the necessary provisions and refreshments will be obtainable, and so the trouble of taking a supply from town will be quite unnecessary. Usually in the text is given the nature of the accommodation to be obtained in a given district; and it will only be in rare cases where foresight will have to be exercised as to taking food and refreshments by visitors from town or distant districts.

## ⇨ ITINERARY. ⇨

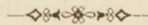


IT is of course no part of the object of this Guide to offer any details as to the purely suburban district of Sydney passed through to Parramatta. Information as to Sydney and suburbs will be found in Gibbs, Shallard, and Co.'s popular "Guide to Sydney." The stations on the line are:—Sydney, Eveleigh, M'Donald Town, Newtown, Stanmore, Petersham, Summer Hill, Ashfield, Croydon, Burwood, Redmyre, Homebush, Rookwood, Auburn, Granville (Parramatta Junction), and Parramatta. These places present the usual features of thriving suburbs of a large and prosperous city. Villa residences of merchants and tradesmen, cottages of every grade, gardens gay with flowering plants, and in the season brilliant with fruit-laden trees; each township having its nucleus of shops, public-houses, churches, and schools.

All these places are rapidly passed by the main line trains, except perhaps Homebush, where a halt for a few moments is usually made. A few years back Homebush was the great "contesting ground" that the Randwick Racecourse has since become, but it was too far from town and otherwise inconvenient, and had to yield to modern requirements. Rookwood is the Station for the Haslem's Creek Cemetery, the chief Necropolis of the Metropolitan district. At Granville, or, as it was till lately called, Parramatta Junction, 13 miles from Sydney, the Great Southern line branches to the left, and the Great Western and Richmond to the right, passing through Parramatta hereafter described. The country from this is, for the most part, scantily cultivated, but some glorious orange orchards gladden the eye on either side of the line.

### Parramatta

(14 miles from Sydney; 49 feet above sea-level).



THIS, next to Sydney, is the oldest town in Australia. Soon after the settlement at the head of Sydney Cove in 1788, Governor Phillip, attracted by the suitability of the soil for agricultural purposes, fixed upon the site and formed the township of Rose Hill, the name being afterwards changed to Parramatta, the native name of the district. It was here the first fruit garden was formed, and the first grain sown. Here also the first sheep were depastured, and the value of our indigenous grasses but faintly guessed at. Little was it dreamed in those days that within the nineteenth century the export of wool would exceed a value of *eight millions sterling per annum* from the port of Sydney alone; and that the total export of wool from the Australasian Colonies would, within eighty years, reach a total value of twenty millions of pounds sterling per annum.

By a happy chance the dried pips of an orange were sown at Parramatta in its early days, and thus was made known the exceptional suitability of the district for the growth of this valuable fruit. Perhaps many of the largest trees in the world are here, some more than fifty years old, in the most perfect health and luxuriance of

### PARRAMATTA.

#### PARK GATE HOTEL

THIS comfortable Family Hotel, newly Renovated, offers every comfort for Travellers and Families.

Overlooking the splendid old Park, and passed by Tram to Boat or Train.

Private Suites of Rooms for families. Sample Room for Travellers, fitted with two of Alcock's best Billiard Tables.

Hot and Cold Plunge and Shower Baths.

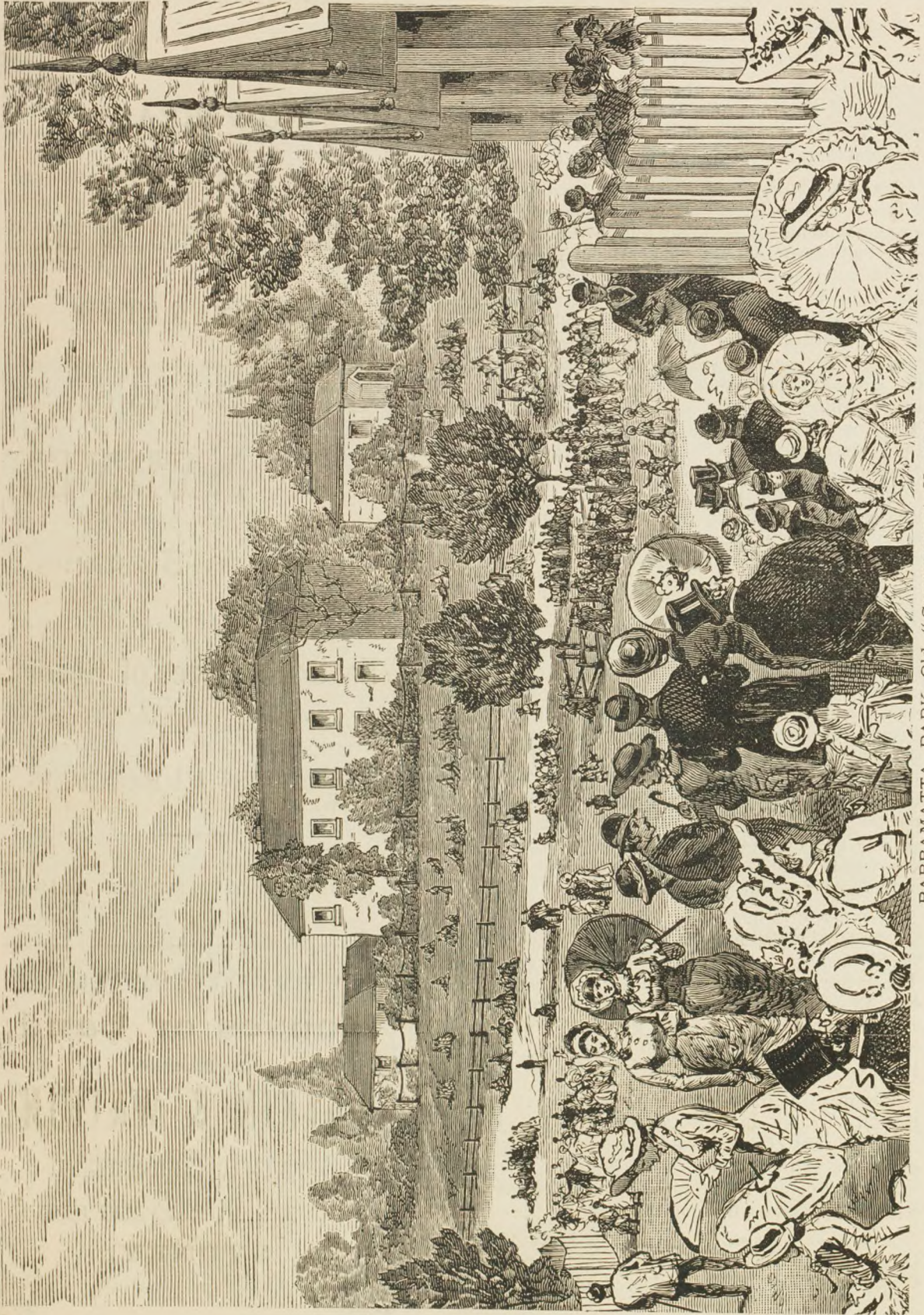
Luncheon provided for any number on notice by Letter or Telegram.

Good Paddock and Stabling.

Ordinary Daily, at 1 p.m.

J. FISHER CRIPPS, JUN.,

PROPRIETOR.



PARRAMATTA PARK—Old "Government House."

## PARRAMATTA—Continued.

growth. Some idea may be formed of their productiveness when it is mentioned that from several of these trees a crop of more than four hundred dozens of marketable fruit has been gathered in a single season.

A writer, alluding to this feature of the district, says:—  
 “To those who have not seen the orange growing in a congenial home, or who may but have seen it under the rude culture of some of the continental growers, a visit to the celebrated estate of Mr. Pye, of Rocky Hall, is not likely to be soon forgotten. Here may be seen growing every variety of the orange and lemon, and the other members of the citrus family, from the tiny cumquat to the gigantic shaddock; and, as illustrative of the capabilities of the climate, and the vast range of fruit-yielding trees that may be grown to advantage hereabouts, we may mention that, in close proximity to the orange, may be seen the apple, pear, and plum of Northern latitudes; the peach, apricot, and nectarine, of the East; the loquat, of Japan, and almost every fruit-yielding shrub or tree, growing in the wildest luxuriance. It is a great treat to catch Mr. Pye on some leisure day, and, in a pleasant stroll



“Through leagues of garden flushed with fruit,”

hear from him the life history of some of the special trees in his grove—how this one tree yielded several hundred dozens of fruit in a season; how that group of trees were planted fifty years ago, and still, like their proprietor, seem ruddy with health. It must be glorious to be the owner of an orchard which, as a lad, one has helped to plant, and grown old in tending! And then there is the supreme satisfaction of knowing that the industry has grown to be one of vast commercial importance; for one has only to look at the piles of cases of this fruit awaiting transit at the Sydney wharves, to realize how great an element of wealth this product has become.”

In addition to this industry, Parramatta has long been famed for the manufacture of woollen fabrics, “Sydney tweed” having, for many years, been deservedly popular. The factories of Messrs. John French and Son, and of Mr. Alfred French, turn out a large quantity of work and employ a considerable number of hands. The manufacture of leather, too, has long been a feature of Parramatta trade.

For many years the large but somewhat antiquated building to be seen in the picture, and known as “Government House,” was the country residence of the governors of the colony. It, however, no longer serves this purpose, and the reserve is devoted to the public as a park and recreation ground.

It was at Parramatta that Lady Mary Fitzroy, the sister of the then Governor, was killed by a carriage accident. This lady had endeared herself to all classes

NOW READY.

Gibbs, Shallard, & Co.'s

ILLUSTRATED

GUIDE TO  
 SYDNEY

AND ITS SUBURBS

AND TO ALL THE

Favorite Places of Resort.

TO BE HAD OF ALL BOOKSELLERS.

PRICE - - ONE SHILLING.

IF YOU WANT TO BUY OR SELL

**Houses or Land,**



—TRY—

**WATKIN & WATKIN,**

Property Auctioneers,

281 PITT STREET,

**SYDNEY.**

PARRAMATTA—*Continued.*

of people, poor and rich, and her death was in many ways deplorable, and was bewailed as a great loss to the colony. She may truly be said to have exhibited in her person all the best characteristics of an English gentlewoman. A good story is told of her in relation to her domestic qualities. A Sydney tradesman called at Government House early one morning for orders, and seeing a neatly dressed lady bustling about at such an early hour concerning herself with the domestic arrangements of the household, he fancied she must be the housekeeper, and, thinking to secure the lion's share of the business of Government House, he slipped into her hand a £5 note, evidently in that spirit of gratitude for the past which Dr. Johnson was apt to define as a "lively hope of favours to come." It is said Lady Mary accepted the gift, but presented it to a charitable institution.

Parramatta has an interest, too, of rather a painful nature, for here are situate the penitentiary and the asylum for the insane, both buildings of very large dimensions, and dating far back into the



ORANGERY—PARRAMATTA DISTRICT

earliest history of the colony. Both were erected by the enforced industry of a class which, as Barrington—himself one of their class—says,

“Left their country for their country's good.”

Parramatta is altogether a pleasantly situated town, and it has all the conveniences which mark modern progress. The various religious bodies have well-appointed churches and chapels, several of these being very tasteful in design and commodious in accommodation. There is a good Mechanics' Institute; the place is lighted with gas; and there are two creditable newspapers. First-class hotels are scattered over the town, those of exceptional note being “The Woolpack,” an old favourite place of resort, with a well-kept bowling green and garden. Creasey's “Tattersall's” and Hack's “White Horse” are other representative hotels. There are capital shops, and a good deal

PARRAMATTA—*Continued.*

of intelligent enterprise is displayed in catering to the varied requirements of a rapidly rising town and extensive community.

The town is situated about fifteen miles from Sydney, and may be reached by the old turnpike road, by rail, and by steamers, which ply regularly up the river. The scenery on the banks of the river is very charming, and no pleasanter day can be spent than in a trip by water to Parramatta, and a visit to the interesting gardens and orchards of the district.

The railway station is convenient to the town; it is a neat structure, presenting a rather busy aspect on the arrival and departure of the evening and morning trains, and during the orange harvest there is an air of commercial bustle about the place.

For some distance past Parramatta the district is dotted with orange groves and fruit orchards in various stages of growth and fruitfulness. It is a sight in the months of June, July, and August to witness the heavily laden orange trees bending under their wealth of golden fruit; and some estimate may be formed of the commercial importance of the industry by the tiers of cases awaiting transit at the various stations along the line.

---

## Toongabbie

**W**ITHIN a short distance of this station there are some fine orchards and orange groves, and the Toongabbie Creek is especially interesting from the dense vegetation and picturesque "bits" for the pencil of the artist. This creek flows through a rich soil, and the cultivation of various farming crops is largely entered upon by the settlers hereabouts. In the neighbourhood several vineyards, owned by Germans, have proved very successful—yielding fine crops of grapes, chiefly of dessert varieties, and for which the very highest rates are obtained in the Sydney markets.

---

## Seven Hills

(20 miles from Sydney; 113 feet above sea-level.)

**H**ERE is a fine view from here of the town and neighbourhood of Parramatta, and the district is very interesting and beautiful from the prevailing plantations of fruit and other trees. There are also some fine undulating stretches of lightly timbered and grass lands between Parramatta and Seven Hills. The next station is

## Blacktown

(22 miles from Sydney; 183 feet above sea-level.)

**F**ORMER rendezvous for the aborigines—hence its name—in the days of Governor Macquarie, who established here an institution having for its object the civilizing and caretaking of the rapidly declining race. The scenery for the next fifteen miles is very varied and interesting. Usually enormous mobs of cattle and sheep are slowly feeding on their way to the Sydney abattoirs. The farms and gardens with which the country is studded are illustrative of the varied care and attention of their owners, but here and there orchards of orange trees, brilliant with fruit and bloom, evince the specially careful hand of the husbandman. There are also some pretty peeps of

"Hills and valleys veined with streams,"

and here and there a glimpse of the old turnpike road which the rail has so far rendered obsolete.

The line for Richmond and Windsor branches off at Blacktown from the main trunk line, bearing away to the north-west.

## Rooty Hill

(25 miles from Sydney ; 131 feet above sea-level)

AS the next station. It is a busy place, supplying Sydney very largely with firewood. Near here, too, is Chatsworth, the interesting nursery of the Messrs. Shepherd and Co. Along the line from Blacktown a splendid distant view may be had of the Blue Mountains, and the country seat of Mr. Walter Lamb stands out well in the foreground with its park-like surroundings.

---



---

## St. Mary's (late South Creek Station)

AND PARKES PLATFORM, are the next points of halt. The country passed through hereabouts as a rule is not very interesting. A vineyard or two and dairy farming, with a rather extensive tannery, are the chief features of interest.

---



---

## Penrith

(34 miles from Sydney ; 88 feet above sea-level.)

MASSIVELY constructed iron tubular bridge over the Nepean River cannot but strike the observer, as it is a good specimen of modern bridge building. The columns supporting the iron way and tubes are four substantial piers of solid masonry, the two centre ones being 58 by 17½ feet at their foundations with a height of 59 feet and the span being 186 feet. The right-hand side is used by the railway, and the left by vehicular and foot traffic. The bridge forms the connecting link between the two counties of Cumberland and Cook.

Penrith is a quaint old place, telling of the very early colonial days. It is situated on the eastern bank of the river Nepean. Some of the hotels' signs and surroundings remind the visitor of an English provincial town; the "Wheelwrights' Arms," by T. Doyle; the "Old Wheelwrights' Arms," by Mr. Joyce, and the "Red Cow," by Mr. T. Smith; the "Commercial," by Mr. Dickson, and the "Australian Arms," by Mr. Hall, are all snug hostelrys, within hail of each other. The two banks—the Commercial and New South Wales—are good examples of business architecture; the Telegraph Office and Savings' Bank occupy the same, a substantial building. These, with good public schools, churches for various denominations, a temperance hall, seating 500, and accommodating the various lodges, societies, and for public concerts, &c., constitute the general features of Penrith.

Despite the salubrity of the climate, three doctors, Brady, Bond, and Ewington, find occasional duties on their hands.

There are several comfortable houses where Board and Residence may be obtained at from £1 per week.

Buggies, boats, and a steam yacht are always procurable.

Describing the River Nepean, a visitor breaks almost into poetry as he writes :

### THE NEPEAN RIVER.

This river is undoubtedly one of the noblest rivers in Australasia. Quietly sleeping within the bounds of its picturesque banks, its waters are seldom ruffled by even the rudest blast, and always showing a sublimely tranquil surface. But all nature's beauties are not exhausted in making it enchanting to the eye. It has lately been discovered by scientific men that its waters at Erskine Creek possess medicinal properties of great value, which should be a great inducement to excursionists and invalids to visit the locality, where can be obtained the same health-giving advantages as are obtainable by the continental tourist at Baden Baden or Munich, or at the Spas at Bath. The creek itself is a vast amphitheatre of mountain splendour, winding canons and elfin caves, rocky ledges, beautifully clothed with stately shrubs and ferns of the rarest species, over which the mountain torrent dances gleefully, and the timid deer and wallaby quietly feed—seldom disturbed by man's intrusion. Here the overheated palate can be refreshed, and as the enraptured tourist imbibes the crystal stream his spirits, imbued with new vigour, rebound to the heart laden with health-giving medicines. The beautiful spot is situated ten miles from Penrith, and is reached by steam yacht or boat, to be obtained on the river. Leaving Erskine "on the lee," and steaming away to the highest navigable point of the Nepean—namely, the "Basin" (15 miles from Penrith)—we leave our boat at the junction of the Warragamba with the



THE JUNCTION OF THE WARRAGAMBA WITH THE NEPEAN.

## PENRITH—Continued.

Nepean, and walking about 300 yards on foot we reach the gigantic natural basin, which is unfathomable in all parts, forming the largest and most magnificent natural bath in any part of the known world. The boat arriving here at about 11 a.m. leaves again at 3.30 p.m., giving tourists ample time for a good swim, and doubtless a good repast in true picnic style. This trip forms one of the most enjoyable day's amusements obtainable by tourists or lovers of mountain and river scenery in the colony, as the views of the Nepean can in every respect compete with those to be seen on its sister, the Hawkesbury. There are also many beautiful drives in the neighbourhood, from Penrith to South Creek forms a pleasant afternoon drive; passing over a well metalled road you reach the cross roads, where you attain a great elevation above Penrith, giving a grand view of the distant mountains, some of the principal of which are plainly visible—namely, Mount King George and Mount Wilson, two of the highest peaks in the Blue Mountain Range. Many other drives are also about here—Fernhill, Mulgoa, Castlereagh, Lapstone Hill, Emu, &c., &c.

The population is about sixteen hundred, and the rateable value of property about £150,000. Penrith is within easy distance of many interesting surroundings, and a man having leisure may spend a week very pleasantly, and enjoy many strolls in the neighbourhood. The charming scenery of the Emu Plains and the wonders of the first Zigzag may be explored and more fully appreciated than is possible in a mere trip by rail through the district. Indeed nothing is more tantalizing to the lover of the picturesque than when lost in admiration at the grandeur and sublimity of a scene to be whisked unceremoniously away from it to the casual and fleeting contemplation of other wonders. Indeed the whole journey from Sydney to the Blue Mountains by rail resembles very much the ever-changing beauties represented by a slowly revolving kaleidoscope; for, just as in the instrument, one pattern of beauty is formed only to be changed at the next turn, so the tourist catches glimpse after glimpse that he would gladly dwell upon did not the exigencies of rapid travel dissipate the view in a moment.

Two characteristic views of the "placid Nepean" are given on the preceding and opposite pages. The junction of the Warragamba Creek with the Nepean River is a very favourite resort of tourists, and as the trip may be taken on a Saturday afternoon from Sydney, returning the same evening, it is very accessible. A party contemplating such a trip should notify the day before as to their requirements.

---

## Emu Plains

(36 miles from Sydney; 87 feet above sea-level.)

ON approaching the horizon of mountains which, on leaving Sydney, looked like an irregular blue line dividing sky from earth, the walls, parapets, and gorges become traceable, and give form and definition to the mountain range. Passing over the Nepean Bridge before described, we enter upon a rich and fertile tract of country under various agricultural crops, and in the season largely occupied with waving luxuriant crops of Indian corn. Here and there, too, orchards are dotted over the plain with a group or two of homesteads, forming the characteristic type of an Australian township. We soon commence the ascent of the first great engineering work on the line, the Little Zigzag, by which the formidable buttresses and natural fortifications of Lapstone Hill were scaled, and reduced to an even highway for King Steam and his civilizing attendants.

A grand panorama soon spreads out before us as we ascend the giddy height, and look down on the valley of the Nepean. The scene is indescribably grand, and we cast a long, lingering glance over the river and valley, sorry in our hearts at the necessity for so quickly quitting. The sensation is a strange one, too, as we rise to the higher level, and breathe the more rarefied atmosphere of an elevation of nearly 600 feet from Emu Plains, to

## Lucasville

(39 miles from Sydney; 700 feet above sea-level.)

THIS is a platform only, where the train stops by arrangement with the guards or on being signalled. As we pass upward the ever-changing views are wondrously grand, and one may fairly say that Nature has done her best with mountain, valley, and river, to perfect her masterpiece. At an elevation of 245 feet above Emu Plains we cross the celebrated Knapsack Gully, so called from the circumstance of the early explorers leaving their shoulder burdens here as they



THE NEPEAN RIVER, NEAR EUROKA CREEK.

LUCASVILLE—*Continued.*

attempted still further to climb the rocky heights. Over this is thrown the famous viaduct of which such good views may be had from various parts of the line lower down. This was a colossal work to accomplish, and formed one of the chief difficulties in the construction of the line. But thanks to the energy of the Engineer-in-Chief, Mr. John Whitton, it was effected without serious mishap, and now stands a durable monument to his genius. The viaduct is composed of seven successive arches—five of fifty feet span and two of twenty, and the total length is 388 feet; the greatest height from the gully bed being 126 feet. Some idea may thus be formed of the enormous mass of solid masonry forming the structure. The mode of progression up the seemingly inaccessible heights is precisely that which a man naturally adopts as the easiest in ascending a steep bank—taking a few steps to the right and then to the left, and thus gradually scaling the height. The engine takes the train a few hundred yards to the right—the gradient being 1 foot in 30—and then the “points” are moved, the engine is reversed, and the train *pushed* up the second incline at a similar gradient, to its termination, when the engine again pulls the train up the third incline, and so on till the summit is reached at an elevation of 700 feet from the foot of the first incline.

---



---

## Glenbrook

(41 miles from Sydney ; 766 feet above sea-level.)

THE district hereabouts is very interesting and picturesque, but at the date we write no hotel or other accommodation for visitors is to be obtained. Unless, therefore, the tourist has his tent and other essentials for his use, a prolonged stay will scarcely be possible. The indigenous timber is chiefly gum trees, and the flora is sparse and uninteresting as compared with districts hereafter to be described.

---



---

## Blaxland

(42 miles from Sydney ; 766 feet above sea-level.)

THIS station was once called Wascoe's Siding, but the many claims of the intrepid Lieutenant Blaxland, who first explored the mountain, have justly been recognized by the place being named after him. There is here good accommodation at Wascoe House. The house and grounds, which are situated 500 yards from the platform, have for many years been noted as the favourite retreat of newly married couples, who here take the rambles so delightfully romantic under such conditions. There are some very pretty walks and drives to be taken hereabout—notably along the old Bathurst road, once thronged with bullock drays laden with wool on their way to Sydney, but now as quiet as an English country lane. On the road towards Glenbrook, a walk of about a mile, will reveal a bold projecting rock, from which we obtain a capital view of Richmond, Windsor, South Creek, Penrith, and Emu Plains, the Nepean Valley, and the watershed of the Hawkesbury. The district is clothed in places with ferns, mosses, and flowering plants—platyceriums (“stag's-horn”), aspleniums (“bird's-nest”) being most abundant on the trees and rocks. The district well merits a prolonged stay by the visitor, the gullies, glens, and valleys being full of interesting, natural objects.

---



---

## Karabar

IS situated midway between Blaxland and the Valley stations. The district is very pretty, but not much frequented by tourists, who are attracted by the greater marvels of the higher mountain regions.



CHARACTERISTIC ALPINE VEGETATION—FERN GULLY.



## Springwood

(47 miles from Sydney ; 1,216 feet above sea-level.)

**I**S about a mile from "The Valley" station before referred to. Springwood has two hotels, a public school, police station, and a general store ; and the residences of several influential gentlemen are adjacent. Divine service of the Church of England is conducted twice a month at one of the resident's houses ; and that of the Roman Catholic Church once every eight weeks.

The public school is attended by children from the districts of Glenbrook and Woodford, as well as by those in the neighbourhood.

The police officer of Springwood is Mr. J. Illingworth, and the station master is Mr. Tanner ; both are always courteous, and ready to give information to visitors.

The principal private residences in the district are those of Mrs. John Frazer, the Hon. J. Norton, T. B. Hoare, C. Moore, and a cottage owned by Sir Henry Parkes. A post office and telegraph office are other conveniences of the place ; letters are despatched and arrive daily, and telegrams may be sent between the hours of 9 a.m. and 8 p.m.

The climate is milder in winter than that of Sydney ; and, of course, never has the great heat of the Metropolis during summer. It is considered well suited to those having lung or chest diseases. Snow is never seen within six miles of Springwood.

A magnificent view may be enjoyed from a spot about a mile from the station, along the Hawkesbury road ; after crossing the railway bridge and passing the residence of Mrs. John Frazer, on the left a succession of charming scenes open out to the view at every bend of the road, till the top of the hill is reached. The view from here is unsurpassed in the district, and for startling grandure can scarcely be excelled anywhere. On a clear day Windsor, Richmond, the Nepean River, and the intervening country can be plainly seen, and with an ordinary field-glass, the prominent public buildings of Sydney, the South Head Light-house, the Heads of Port Jackson, and the steamers at sea off Coogee and Bondi may be clearly traced. On the left, the outlines of successive mountain chains meet the eye, with Mounts Tomah and Wilson standing out in bold relief against the grey background of sky. On the right lie green luxuriant valleys and gulleys and creeks, with here and there quaintly constructed cottages, peeping out with their white walls ; and "The Valley" Station stands sharply defined against the dark green leafage behind. One of the most luxuriant of the characteristic gullies is that known by the name of

### SASSAFRAS, OR FLYING FOX GULLY.

In a walk of ten minutes along a well defined track, at the back of the residence of Mr. T. B. Hoare, with marked trees to guide him, the tourist will arrive at the head of a deep and rocky gully, shaded on all sides by huge honey-combed, overhanging rocks, covered with large Sassafras, Myrtle, Turpentine, and other trees, interlaced and bound together with supplejacks and other robust climbing and twining plants. A stream of clear water runs into and overflows a chain of ponds about a mile down this gully ; and the sides of the creek are clothed with a dense covering of ferns, mosses, and lycopods. The stems of trees are green with this most luxuriant growth, and botanists declare that for beauty, and number, and rarity of varieties of ferns and allied vegetation, this district equals any known. *Alsophila Australis*, *Dicksonia antarctica*, many of them with stems over thirty feet high, here display their canopy of graceful fronds, and very finely developed specimens of many choice ferns are met with on every side.

In the fruit season flying foxes make the rocks and trees of this gully their resting place by day, and thousands of these may be seen hanging by their talons, awaiting the approach of dusk, when they sally out on their nightly raids on the neighbouring orchards. The native pheasant, lyre bird, bronze-winged pigeon, king and other parrots, abound in the neighbourhood, and add to the romantic beauty of the place.






### MADELINE GLEN

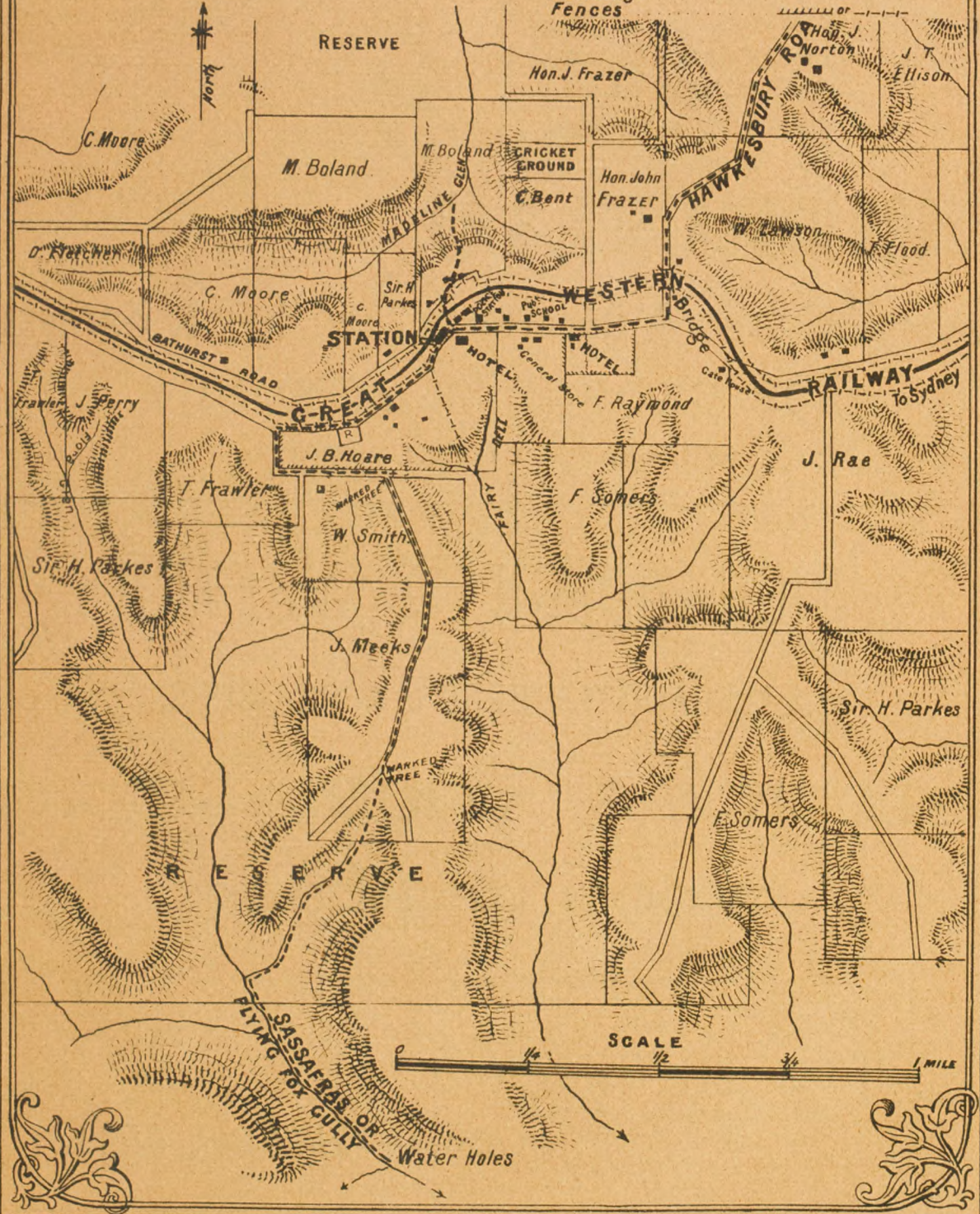
Is the title of a pretty fern gully of easy descent. Going through the gate on the left of the station, a path leads to the right, and a walk of less than ten minutes brings the visitor to a bright stream running over rocks, tree stems, and ferns. The proximity of this gully to the station makes it a favourite haunt of the ladies and children of the party.

These are the chief features of Springwood, but the whole district is rich in the picturesque, and luxuriant with a vegetation almost tropical in character.

# MAP of SPRINGWOOD

## NOTE

Tracks or Paths to principal places  
shewn thus   
Water Courses or Creeks   
Roads   
Buildings   
Fences 



## Springwood

(47 miles from Sydney ; 1,216 feet above sea-level.)

IS about a mile from "The Valley" station before referred to. Springwood has two hotels, a public school, police station, and a general store ; and the residences of several influential gentlemen are adjacent. Divine service of the Church of England is conducted twice a month at one of the resident's houses ; and that of the Roman Catholic Church once every eight weeks. The public school is attended by children from the districts of Glenbrook and Woodford, as well as by those in the neighbourhood.

The police officer of Springwood is Mr. J. Illingworth, and the station master is Mr. Tanner ; both are always courteous, and ready to give information to visitors.

The principal private residences in the district are those of Mrs. John Frazer, the Hon. J. Norton, T. B. Hoare, C. Moore, and a cottage owned by Sir Henry Parkes. A post office and telegraph office are other conveniences of the place ; letters are despatched and arrive daily, and telegrams may be sent between the hours of 9 a.m. and 8 p.m.

The climate is milder in winter than that of Sydney ; and, of course, never has the great heat of the Metropolis during summer. It is considered well suited to those having lung or chest diseases. Snow is never seen within six miles of Springwood.

A magnificent view may be enjoyed from a spot about a mile from the station, along the Hawkesbury road ; after crossing the railway bridge and passing the residence of Mrs. John Frazer, on the left a succession of charming scenes open out to the view at every bend of the road, till the top of the hill is reached. The view from here is unsurpassed in the district, and for startling grandure can scarcely be excelled anywhere. On a clear day Windsor, Richmond, the Nepean River, and the intervening country can be plainly seen, and with an ordinary field-glass, the prominent public buildings of Sydney, the South Head Light-house, the Heads of Port Jackson, and the steamers at sea off Coogee and Bondi may be clearly traced. On the left, the outlines of successive mountain chains meet the eye, with Mounts Tomah and Wilson standing out in bold relief against the grey background of sky. On the right lie green luxuriant valleys and gulleys and creeks, with here and there quaintly constructed cottages, peeping out with their white walls ; and "The Valley" Station stands sharply defined against the dark green leafage behind. One of the most luxuriant of the characteristic gullies is that known by the name of

### SASSAFRAS, OR FLYING FOX GULLY.

In a walk of ten minutes along a well defined track, at the back of the residence of Mr. T. B. Hoare, with marked trees to guide him, the tourist will arrive at the head of a deep and rocky gully, shaded on all sides by huge honey-combed, overhanging rocks, covered with large Sassafras, Myrtle, Turpentine, and other trees, interlaced and bound together with supplejacks and other robust climbing and twining plants. A stream of clear water runs into and overflows a chain of ponds about a mile down this gully ; and the sides of the creek are clothed with a dense covering of ferns, mosses, and lycopods. The stems of trees are green with this most luxuriant growth, and botanists declare that for beauty, and number, and rarity of varieties of ferns and allied vegetation, this district equals any known. *Alsophila Australis*, *Dicksonia antarctica*, many of them with stems over thirty feet high, here display their canopy of graceful fronds, and very finely developed specimens of many choice ferns are met with on every side.

In the fruit season flying foxes make the rocks and trees of this gully their resting place by day, and thousands of these may be seen hanging by their talons, awaiting the approach of dusk, when they sally out on their nightly raids on the neighbouring orchards. The native pheasant, lyre bird, bronze-winged pigeon, king and other parrots, abound in the neighbourhood, and add to the romantic beauty of the place.




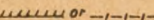

### MADLINE GLEN

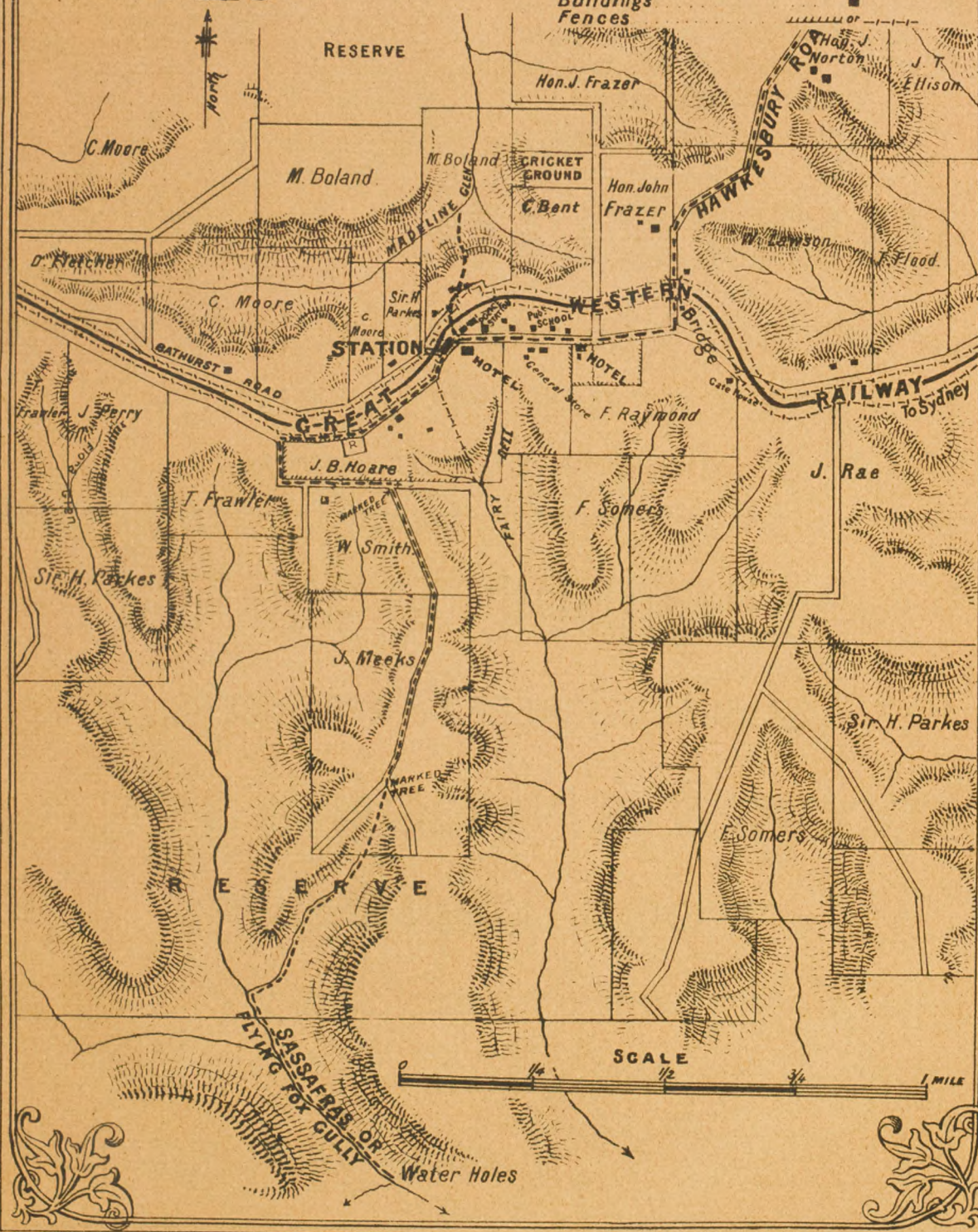
Is the title of a pretty fern gully of easy descent. Going through the gate on the left of the station, a path leads to the right, and a walk of less than ten minutes brings the visitor to a bright stream running over rocks, tree stems, and ferns. The proximity of this gully to the station makes it a favourite haunt of the ladies and children of the party.

These are the chief features of Springwood, but the whole district is rich in the picturesque, and luxuriant with a vegetation almost tropical in character.

# MAP of SPRINGWOOD

## NOTE

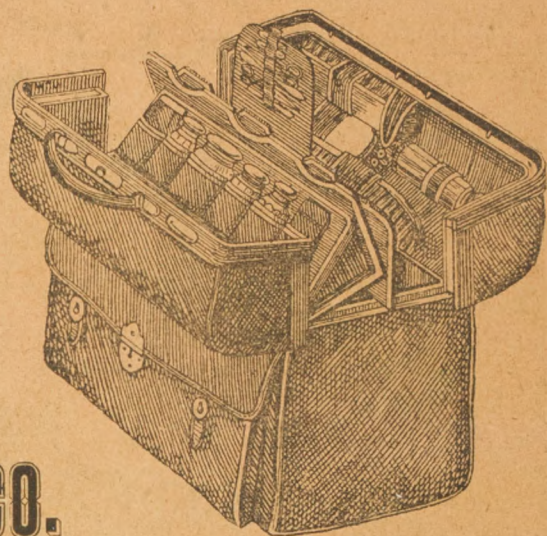
Tracks or Paths to principal places  
shewn thus   
Water Courses or Creeks   
Roads   
Buildings   
Fences 



# TRAVELLERS BY SEA AND LAND.

Portmanteaus, Trunks, Bags, Writing  
Folios, Post-bags, Tourist-bags,  
Ladies' and Gentlemen's Fitted-bags,  
Dressing Cases, &c.

LARGE VARIETY TO SELECT FROM.



## JOHN BRUSH, SON, & CO.

Manufacturers & Importers of Saddlery & Harness  
403 GEORGE ST., SYDNEY,  
OPPOSITE ROYAL HOTEL.

---

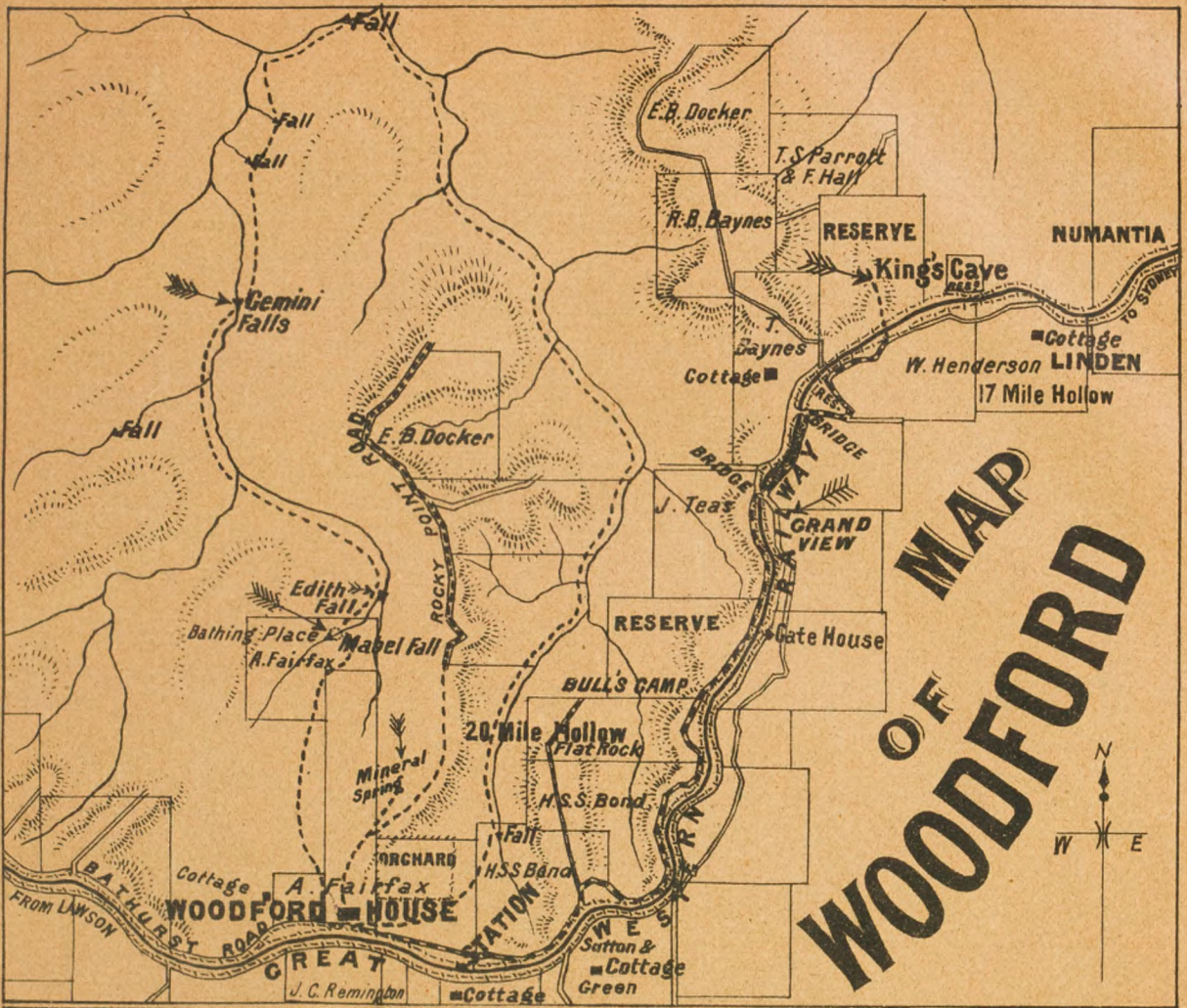
## RICHARDSON & WRENCH

LAND AUCTIONEERS & APPRAISERS,  
STOCK & STATION AGENTS,  
WOOL BROKERS.

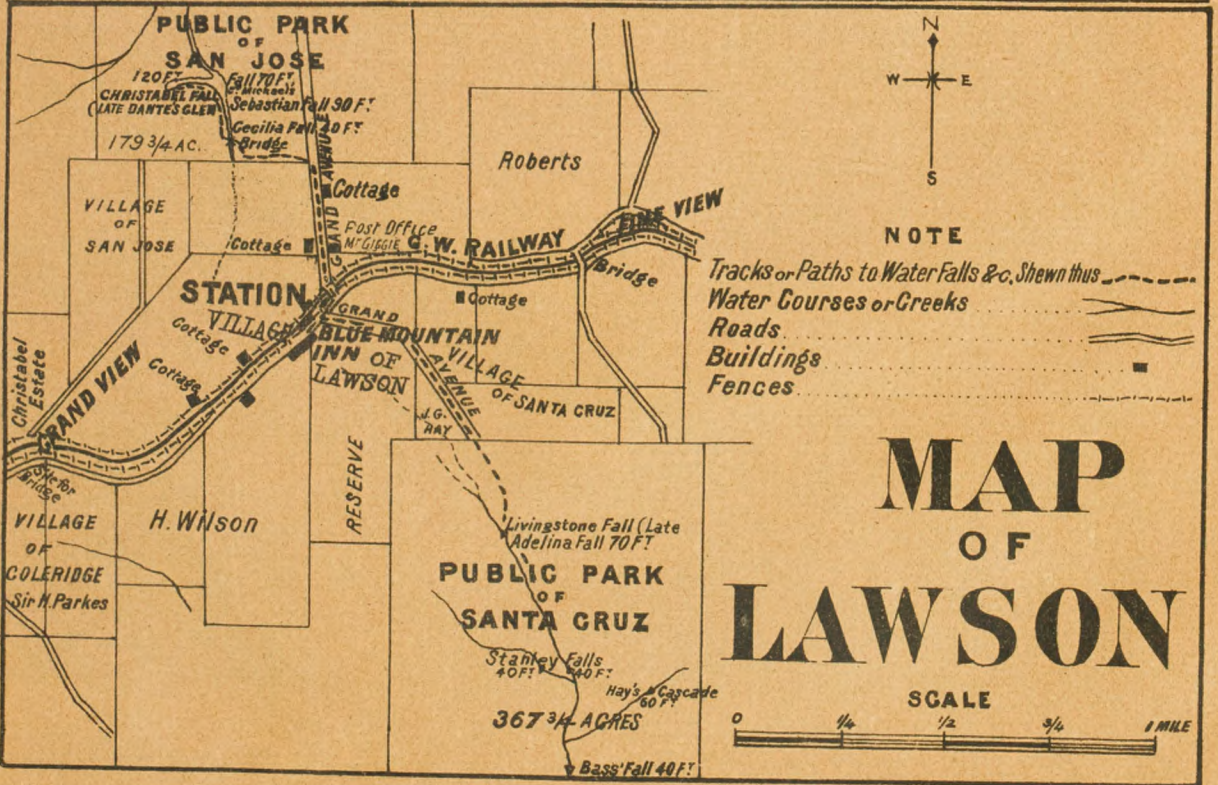
---

*Offices—98 PITT STREET.*

*Stores—CIRCULAR QUAY.*



# MAP OF WOODFORD



# MAP OF LAWSON





SASSAFRAS OR FLYING FOX GULLY, SPRINGWOOD.

## Faulconbridge

(49 miles from Sydney ; 1,463 feet above sea level.)

**T**WO miles from Springwood, and at a greater elevation, is the mountain home of Sir Henry Parkes, the name of which gives the title to the locality. The district is exceedingly pretty, and the view from here a most extensive one, embracing the rugged watershed of the Nepean River and the peaks of several mountains, notably Mounts Hay, Tomah, and Wilson. A cave and a favourite glen, called the Rock-lily Glen, from the abundance of *Dendrobium gracilis* found there, are points of special interest.

---

## Numantia

(52 miles from Sydney ; 1,672 feet above sea level)

**T**HIS the classic name given to this district. Sir Alfred Stephen's residence, "Alphington," is near here. Close to the platform also will be noticed the spacious mansion of Sir James Martin, from which a most magnificent prospect is obtained. There are no hotels or other accommodation at these places, but as Springwood and Woodford are within easy walking distance, they may be easily visited in an afternoon's walk.

---

## Woodford (late Buss's)

(55 miles from Sydney ; 2,191 feet above sea level.)

**A**BOUT a third of a mile from the railway station, along the Bathurst Road towards Lawson, is situated Woodford House, the only place where the visitor can get accommodation in the neighbourhood.

The place used, in olden times, to be known as Buss's, and was the halting place of the gold escort, the remains of the old police station being still recognizable.

In December, 1874, the Government Astronomer selected the spot for the observation of the transit of Venus, and with a highly successful result, some very conclusive and useful data being obtained of that interesting astronomical event. If leisure permitted, a whole week may be very profitably and pleasantly spent in the neighbourhood. There are eight very striking water-falls within easy walking distance, the principal being the "Mabel" Fall—a very pretty cascade of about 30 feet leap, with a clear sandy basin serving as a bath ; the "Edith" Fall, not far below, and somewhat larger ; and the "Gemini" or "Twin" Fall, the largest of them all. This last is a very picturesque water-fall. The course of the creek—and particularly in the vicinity of the cascades—is clothed with ferns of very varied character. Here the pretty *Adiantum hispidum*, *Cheilanthes tenuifolia*, *Lindsæa trichomanoides*, *Lomaria procera*, *Doodea aspera*, *Asplenium flaccidum*, *Gleichenia dicarpa*, and a host of other gems of fern life may be found in the rocky crevices or along the moist banks, or clothing the stems of their giant neighbours—the tree-ferns, and fallen timber. Lycopods, mosses, and lichens, of various hues of green, grow in wild luxuriance to the water's edge, reminding one of Kendall's line—

"Valley of the moss and myrtle and the glimmering waterpool."

### KING'S CAVE.

Passing along the Bathurst Road towards Sydney, and twenty yards past the gate house, close to the bridge, near Linden, the visitor comes across a mass of rocks on the right. These he should ascend, as from the summit the finest view of the district is to be obtained. Windsor, Richmond, and Brisbane Water to the left ; in front, South Creek, and the vast plateau stretching away to Sydney and Port Jackson ; and on the right, the sands of historic Botany, and the Camden district, which has been called the cradle of the vine in Australia. Proceeding onwards past the second bridge,

## WOODFORD—Continued.

and leaving the beautiful house and grounds of Major Baines on our left, we cross the line through a gate, when a well-made path brings us to a beautiful cave, where the thoughtful Trustees of the reserve have placed a table, a seat, and a fireplace, with stack of fire-wood, for the use of visitors. Close by is a never-failing spring of water, and nothing is wanted to make the place one of the most delightful retreats for the lovers of the picturesque and beautiful in nature.

Tradition gives the name of King to the cave, a more than usually cunning bushranger, who, with his gang, evaded justice here for some time ; and numerous stories are related of their raids and exploits in olden times, when the Blue Mountains were nearly a *terra incognita* to the general public.

---



---

## Hazelbrook

(56 miles from Sydney ; about 2,250 feet above sea level.)

SEVERAL water-falls within easy walking distance. Good accommodation to be obtained at Hazelbrook House, thirty yards from the platform.

---



---

## Lawson (late Blue Mountain)

(58 miles from Sydney ; 2,399 feet above sea level.)

THIS station, known for many years as "Blue Mountain Station," has had the name of Lieutenant Lawson conferred upon it, as has also the township, to commemorate the enterprise and perseverance of that officer, who, with Blaxland and Wentworth, opened up a highway to the Blue Mountains. It was to the intrepidity of these three that the public owe the discovery of the practicability of reaching the interior, which has done so much towards developing the capabilities of the colony. It is no part of the object of this Guide to enter at great length on matters of history, and the feats of these men have long been recorded. But it may be doubted if the mass of the public properly appreciate the arduous exertions and the importance of the work of Messrs. Blaxland, Lawson, and Wentworth ; and we refer specially to them here as worthy the enduring honour and remembrance of posterity. It was a happy thought to have recently associated their names with three of the most important districts of the Blue Mountains, for in all years to come children will be told of the exploits of these explorers, which are typified by the districts bearing their names. The recollection of their feats, too, gives a spice of romance and intellectual enjoyment to the traveller as he passes over regions rendered historic in this way.

It is a very convenient place to rendezvous, as, apart from the attractive natural wonders of the place, it is intermediate or adjacent to other places of note. It has also a post and telegraph office, letters being delivered and forwarded daily. All trains stop ten minutes, thus affording opportunity for obtaining refreshment at the hotel facing the station, on the Bathurst road. There are comfortable establishments and cottages, where visitors and families may take up their quarters for a few days, or arrange for a prolonged stay, to recruit health. Indeed, the district is becoming famed as a sanatorium, and enterprising individuals are surrounding their establishments with all the adjuncts necessary for fitting them for the reception of spring and summer tourists in search of recreation and change from the busy whirl of city life.

The Blue Mountain Inn, kept by Mrs. Wilson, is a homely, comfortable place, with reasonable charges ; and about one hundred and fifty yards from the station, on the right hand, there is a cottage where visitors may get taken care of. These, with the more private establishment of Mr. Geggie, give plenty of choice to visitors ; but the respective announcements of the proprietors of these will be found in the margin, and fully set out their claims to public patronage.

---

### "LYTTLETON,"

#### LAWSON, BLUE MOUNTAINS,

CLOSE TO LAWSON STATION.

J. GEGGIE respectfully intimates to the public that the above Cottage is built expressly for the reception of visitors to the Blue Mountains, and has first-class accommodation on most reasonable terms.

Letters and Telegrams will have prompt attention.

Post Office on the Premises.

LAWSON- *Continued.*

Wisely, the Government has set apart plenty of land for reserves, and has vested the management of these in trustees fully competent to do justice to the natural beauties of the place. The soil, in parts, is very rich and Messrs. Moore and Hay have taken advantage of the varying character of the soil to plant largely of conifers and other forest trees, which will, in a few years, add greatly to the attractiveness of the locality. All the hardy annual flowering plants which thrive so well in English gardens, find here the conditions suiting them. The pansy, auricula, primrose, daisy, stock, wall-flower, and other favourites, give variety to the garden, and afford a pleasing contrast with the indigenous bush flowers abounding so profusely in the district.

In the immediate vicinity of the station are two grand parks permanently dedicated to the public, and the whole neighbourhood abounds in waterfalls, cascades, gullies, ravines, and rivulets.

Getting out of the train and crossing the line a clearing will be noticed on an elevated plateau, which gives an uninterrupted view of the grandest nature. At a direct distance of six or eight miles the mountains of the Grose Valley rise up in solitary magnificence. Mount Hay, the only one on the southern side of the valley, is directly opposite,

with Mounts Tomah and Bell to the right and in rear, while to the left is Mount King George, looking from here, remarkably like the British Lion. Leaving the plateau, a newly planted avenue leads to the public park of San José, where fine views may be obtained.

In noticing the falls and other natural features of the district, it is right to mention that some confusion exists in the nomenclature of several. This has arisen from the old residents having given one name to a place and the Government quite a different one. However, to make matters clear, and in order that no feature may be escaped, we give where possible, both the names under which the special spots are known. There are four falls on the north side of the line; the first of 40 feet, the second of 90 feet, third of 70 feet, and the fourth Dante's Glen, called the Christabel Fall, 120 feet.

To get to this the tourist should cross the line at the station and proceed along a well-made road for



THE LIVINGSTONE (Late ADELINA) FALL, LAWSON.

## LAWSON.

## BLUE MOUNTAIN INN.

Best Accommodation on the Mountains.

SARAH WILSON.

The beautiful Falls are within easy walking distance, with good paths.

## LAWSON—Continued

about four hundred yards, running due north; then take the road to the left, which leads to a small bridge crossing the creek near the top of the first fall. Going over this the path descends rapidly until reaching the head of a beautiful fern-clothed gully, with the water falling fully 120 feet sheer into a rocky basin, whose edges it overflows and forms the creek, which soon loses itself in the mossy and tangled undergrowth of shrubs and trees. Hemmed in on all sides huge black rocks covered with lichens, mosses, ferns, and other moisture-loving vegetation; a fall in front with rustic seats adjacent. A writer, in describing the district of Dante's Glen, says: "The lonely devious path and the steep declivities of this cavernous glen are difficult and wild enough to remind the student of the *selva oscura* mentioned in the opening of the grand and gloomy poem of the 'Immortal Florentine,' there being a weird character about the whole place, calculated to inspire the soul with admiration and awe."

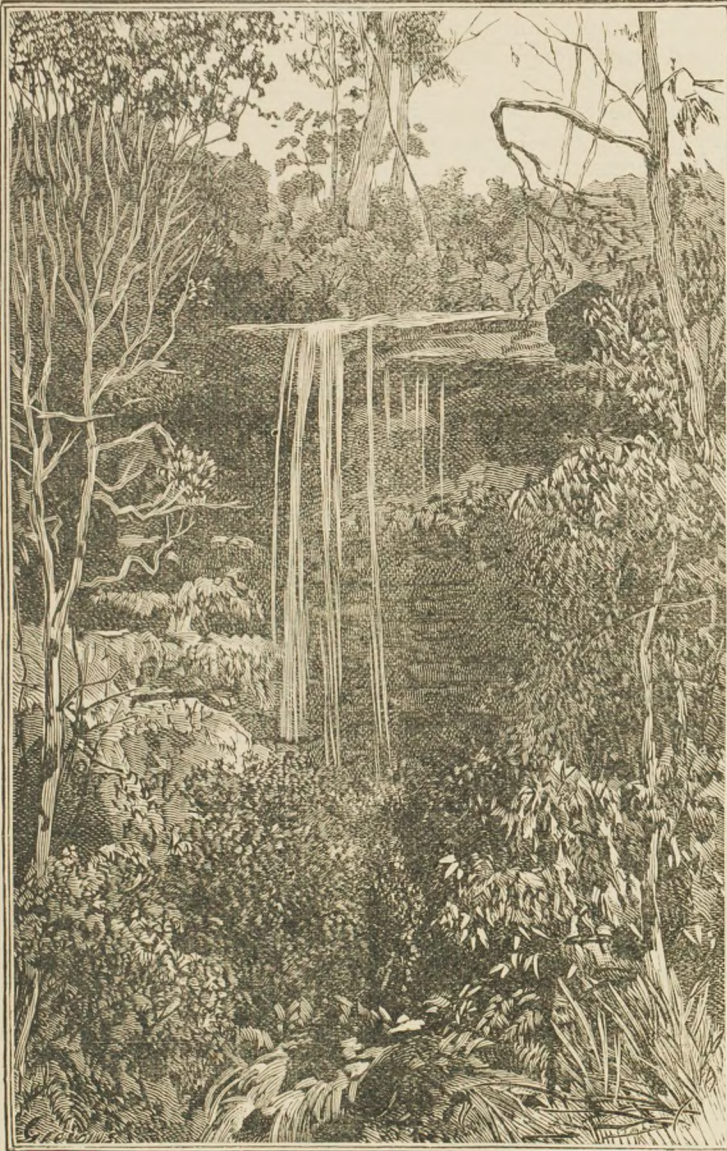
If time be limited, parties should take the road to the left, sharp round Mr. Hay's grounds, and descending the ridge, cross a little wooden bridge at a distance of half a mile from the station. Immediately below this Cecilia Fall is snugly embosomed in a border of greenery,

and in a beautiful series of glens, two other, Sebastian and St. Michael's, Falls occur at short distances apart. Continuing the still declining path to the left, the visitor will arrive at the Christabel Fall, descending in the glen of that

name, much of the beauty of which has been marred by the destruction of the ferns and the mutilation of the trees by Goths anxious to perpetuate their mischief by cutting their initials on the sassafras and other trees around. Stringent regulations have been framed by the Trustees to prevent further raids, and to secure the restoration of the original beauties of the place. It is to the patriotic exertions and intelligent perception of the requirements of the district by the Hon. John Macintosh, M.L.C., that the public is indebted for these public parks being reserved to its use and their attractions conserved, and the resident Trustees, Messrs. Hay and Moore, are with too limited means faithfully carrying out their duties. Avenues are being

planted, seats constructed, paths made, and exposed spots protected in many directions in the interest of the public.

On the south side of the line of railway are five falls, two of 40 feet, one of 60 feet, one of 30 feet, and one of 70 feet. The last has been



THE CHRISTABEL FALL, DANTE'S GLEN.

## LAWSON—Continued.

called the Adelina Fall, after a young lady in the district, but the official appellation is the "Livingstone" Fall. It is situated in the public park of Santa Cruz, and to reach it the road on the lefthand side of the line must be taken for a little over a mile. From this a ready descent may be made to the base of the fall, but the trouble and labour will be well rewarded.

There are several other cascades, falls, and glens within easy distance, with well defined though somewhat rough tracks leading thereto.

As indicated on the map, several charming views may be obtained from many points; one from a rock a little beyond the bridge, about three-quarters of a mile from the station on the Bathurst Road, and another at Godfrey's Hill, at the site reserved by the Government for a bridge, both commanding an extensive radius of country, embracing the Hawkesbury, Nepean, Botany Bay, and Sydney. From here, too, on a clear dark night, the lines of light defining the streets of Sydney can be clearly made out.

---

## Wentworth Falls

(Late "The Weatherboard").

(62 miles from Sydney; 2,856 feet above sea-level.)

**H**IS magnificent cataract, which, from its physical aspect, for many years had the title of "The Weatherboard Falls," has lately very properly had the name of the foremost Australian statesman and early explorer of these regions associated with it, and will in the future be known only as the "Wentworth" Falls. There have been many attempts to do justice to the grandeur and picturesqueness of the whole scene, and the descriptive powers of many able men have failed in their efforts. To Dr. Lang may be attributed the most eloquent tribute to the natural beauties of the scene. He says, in one of those passionate bursts of enthusiasm for which he was famed,—“Where the rivulet from the Weatherboard hut discharges itself, there is a break or bay in the line of cliffs on that side, as if a vast portion of the wall of rock had been quarried out for the purpose, the two points appearing from behind like two lofty headlands jutting out into the valley, and bearing a remarkable resemblance to the Heads of Port Jackson. The rivulet, which, in its course of two miles and a half, has been swelled by one or two smaller streams issuing from lateral valleys to the size of a common mill-stream, precipitates itself all at once over the rocks at the head of the bay, and is lost in the abyss, the fall being at least 1,000 feet. On gaining the edge of the precipice, the waters seem to shrink instinctively from the frightful leap to which they have been conducted in their course down the valley, each individual drop appearing endowed with separate volition, and seeming determined to shift for



## WENTWORTH HOTEL,

### WENTWORTH FALLS

(Opposite the Station).

First-class Accommodation for  
Tourists and Visitors.

SADDLE HORSE AND BUGGY KEPT.

Terms Strictly moderate.

C. A. WILSON.

Within easy distance of all Picturesque Views on  
the Mountains.

---

## → BILES' HOTEL, ←

### KATOOMBA.

SUPERIOR ACCOMMODATION

FOR

Tourists and Private Families.

NONE BUT THE BEST BRANDS

OF

**Wines and Spirits, &c., kept.**

*TERMS MODERATE.*

GEORGE BILES,

PROPRIETOR.

This Hotel is greatly patronised by Newly  
Married Couples.

All Views can be visited without vehicles.

---

## Mount Allen Cottage,

### WENTWORTH FALLS.

PRIVATE BOARD RESIDENCE.

*Refreshments for Visitors always ready.*

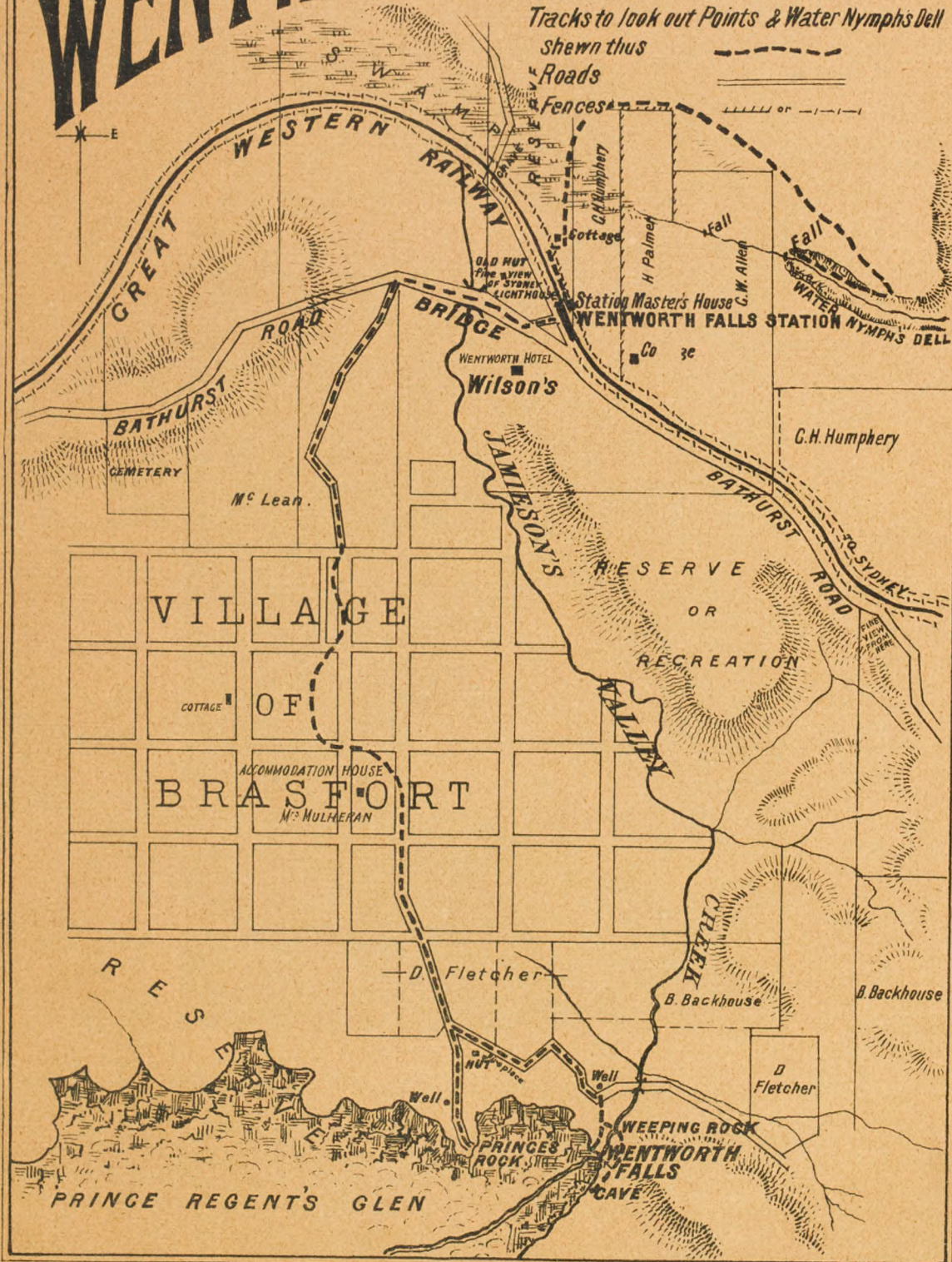
MRS. MULHERAN.



# MAP OF WENTWORTH FALLS

## NOTE

Tracks to look out Points & Water Nymphs Dell  
Shewn thus   
Roads   
Fences 





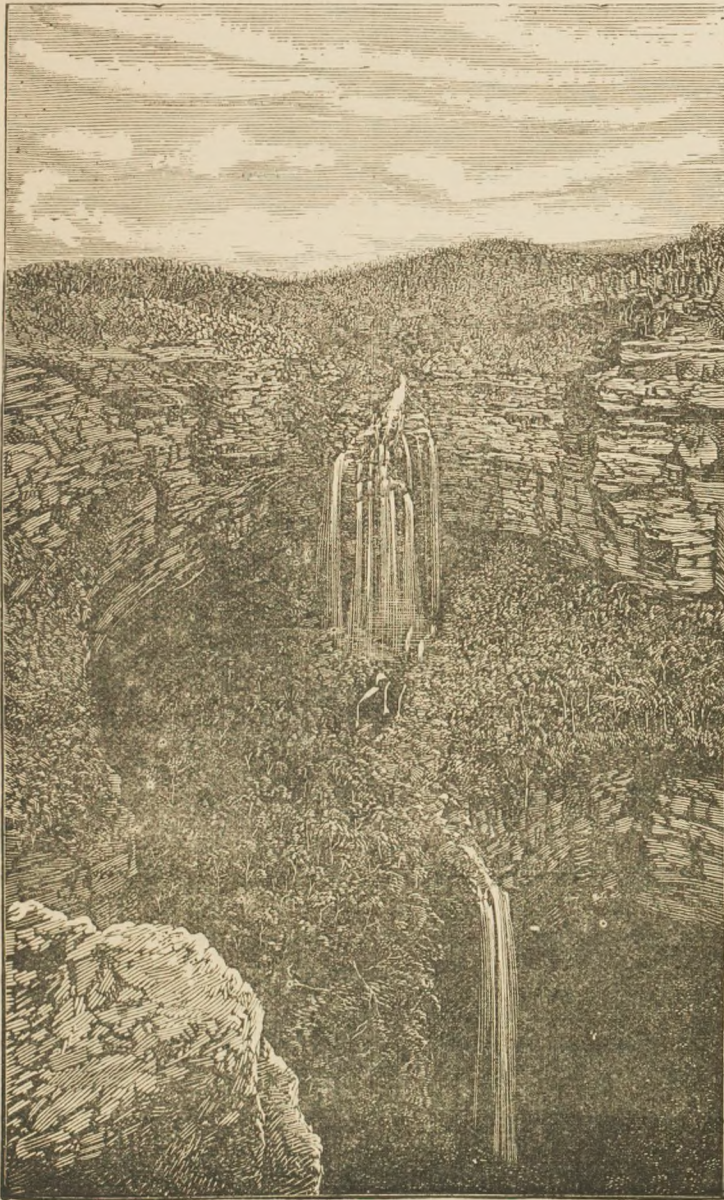
## WENTWORTH FALLS—Continued.

itself; and the whole mass of fluid resolving itself into what appears like innumerable particles of snow."

Darwin, in his "Naturalist's Voyage," says of this part of the country, "About a mile and a half from the little inn called the Weatherboard, the country is elevated 2,800 feet above the sea-level. Following down a little valley and its tiny rill of water, an immense gulf unexpectedly opens through the trees which border the pathway at the depth perhaps of 1,500 feet. Walking on a few yards one stands at the brink of a vast precipice, and below one sees a grand bay or gulf—for I know not what other name to give it—thickly covered with forest. The point of view is situated as if at the head of a bay, the line of cliff diverging on each side, and showing headland behind headland, as on a low sea-coast. These cliffs are so absolutely vertical that, in many places, a person standing on the edge and throwing down a stone can see it

strike the trees in the abyss below. About five miles distant in the front another cliff extends, which then appears completely to encircle the valley; hence the name of bay is justified as applied to this grand amphitheatrical depression. If we imagine a winding harbour with its deep

waters, surrounded by bold, cliff-like shores, to be laid dry and a forest to spring up upon its sandy bottom, we should then have the appearance and structure here exhibited."



WEATHERBOARD FALLS.

To the natural beauties of the district the trustees of the place, which has been declared a public reserve, have planted out in fitting positions all the trees deemed suitable for adding to the attractiveness of the scene. These embrace the ash, the rowan or mountain ash, the horse chestnut, Spanish chestnut, larches, elms, oaks, pines, walnuts, plums, birches, schinus molle, willow, ficus macrophylla, ficus columnaris, acacias, hawthorn, araucarius, limes, &c. There can be no doubt that many of these will find here a congenial home; but some doubt may be entertained as to the success of the ficus macrophylla of subtropical Queensland, and of the ficus columnaris, the typical fig of Lord Howe Island. But in any case the experience will be useful, as nothing but actual experi-

ment can determine the suitability of a district for a given plant or tree.

The strawberry, apple, raspberry, currant, and many other fruit yielding plants of cold regions are found to thrive well in districts and under conditions which might be argued were quite

WENTWORTH FALLS—*Continued.*

unsuitable for their healthy development. The Oriental Plane, which is a tree of warm latitudes, is found to grow luxuriantly in the frigid climates of North Germany and Russia, and it is the most valuable of shade tree in the almost torrid climate of Riverina. This experiment of planting these mountain districts with exotic timber trees will be watched by many with great interest. It has often been observed by writers on the Australian flora that, unlike the forests of America and Europe, which are mostly deciduous—the trees shedding their foliage annually—nearly the whole vegetation of Australia is evergreen, the deciduous trees having been introduced from Northern Europe. It is a great point gained to have a public reserve of this nature placed under the conservancy of a Board composed of gentlemen having the requisite knowledge and taste for doing justice to a district so rich in the picturesque.

It has often been asserted that to plant trees exotic to the scene is not in good taste, but this is now voted as hypercriticism, for nothing can lend colour, variety, incident, and life to a scene so much as the everchanging tints of the foliage of deciduous trees and the contrasts they afford at the various seasons of the year.

The Trustees of the Wentworth Falls Reserve are Sir H. Parkes, D. Fletcher, B. Backhouse, W. Pritchard, with E. H. Biden, as Secretary, all gentlemen spending a good deal of time in improving the region.

The features calling for special remark as not to be missed by the visitor are the grand views from King's Table Land, the Weeping Rock in the Reserve, near the Falls, and Prince Regent Glen.

As to the accommodation to be procured in the locality, there will be little difficulty. At Wilson's Wentworth Hotel, a few yards from the station, the best attention is given to all who may place themselves under the hospitality of the kindly hosts to be found there. But though they are ever ready to adapt themselves to emergencies, it will be well and but courteous for the intending visitor to notify a little beforehand his visit, and the extent of requirement as to accommodation.

Half way on the road to the falls, on the right will be seen a comfortable cottage, where excellent accommodation can be had, and visitors to the falls can obtain refreshment at any hour.

About a quarter of a mile from Wilson's Hotel is the village of Brasfort, a very good rendering of the old Saxon name "Strongitharm." Here a short time ago—December, 1881—the Government held a land sale, when about seventy acres were sold, the lowest price being £20 and the highest £70 per acre. These rates, considering the upset price set by the Government was but £10 per acre, may be said to indicate the public appreciation of the district. Recently, in March, 1882, another sale of land was equally satisfactory, and everything seems to point to the rapid advance of the district.

The best route to take in visiting these Falls is to cross the bridge on the Bathurst Road, which can be seen from the station; then turn to the left over the green, where a sign-board points to a well-defined path, along which the Trustees have placed seats and planted a number of English trees. A walk of about a mile and a half will bring the stroller to a white gate, the entrance to the recognized reserve. Here will be found a hut, with tables, seats, fire-place, and a stack of fire-wood for the use of the visitor, and within easy distance a perennial source of pure water, as shown on the plan.

Tracing the track a little further on will be discovered a small cave worthy of inspection. At the time of our visit two prospectors for coal informed us that they had been able, by means of ropes, to descend a distance of a thousand feet, but they lacked the additional necessary five hundred feet of rope to enable them to get to the bottom.

Returning to the Station, a very charming walk may be taken by way of the Jamieson Valley Creek, crossing it by the little bridge. Here, on the rising ground to the right, will be found waratahs and other grand flowering plants and ferns in the wildest profusion.






## WATER NYMPHS' DELL.

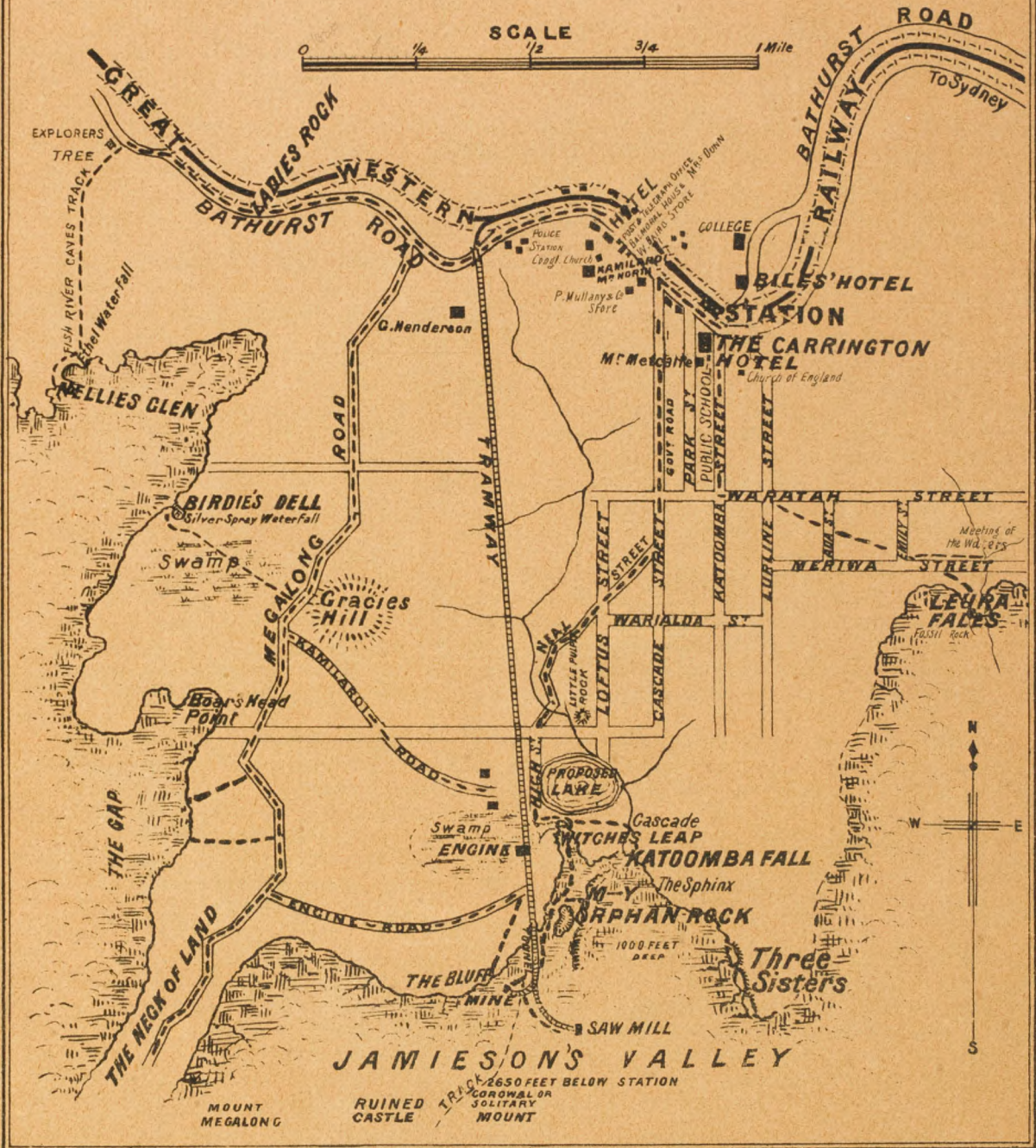
To reach this the visitor must proceed some forty yards along the rail, descend the bank to the right of cottage, cross the swamp, and follow the path at the foot of the hill, bearing to the right till the end of the fence enclosing the grounds of Mr. H. Palmer is reached, then go down the rocky track for about a quarter of a mile, when the top of the gully will be arrived at. In the descent great care will be necessary, the path being very broken and rugged. If the visitor has done justice to his opportunities he will return in the evening quite ready for the ample repast he will find awaiting him, and will enjoy a quiet evening's amusement and thorough rest for the night.



# KATOOMBA

## NOTE

- Tracks to look-out Points shewn thus 
- Water Courses 
- Roads 
- Fences 
- Buildings 



## Katoomba

(66 miles from Sydney ; 3,349 feet above sea-level.)

LEAVING Wentworth, and still ascending, we pass through splendid rugged scenery on the right and left for about four miles, when Katoomba is reached, a name suggesting its aboriginal origin, and making us regret that the native names had not been conferred on other picturesque localities which have been modernized without adequate cause.

There is no lack of excellent accommodation.

"The Carington," (late Great Western Hotel), is always ready, and as conducted by its enterprising owner, whose experience was gained in the "Victoria" Hotel, Melbourne, of which he was proprietor, will be able to satisfy the most epicurean patron. This hotel, of which we give an engraving, adds a new feature to the district. It is splendidly situated, commanding some of the finest views in the world; from the balcony the valley of Kanimbla, and on clear days the chief buildings of Sydney, with the intervening valley and river of Nepean, can be clearly traced with the naked eye—a common field-glass bringing out in clear definition the shipping of the harbour and other features of the city and its environs.

The hotel occupies two-and-a-half acres of land, the garden being quite famed for the splendidly developed fruit it yields. Many of the fruits

are those thriving so well in cool latitudes—notably the pear, apple, peach, plum, apricot, cherry; and the smaller fruits, such as currants, gooseberries, raspberries, filberts, which all grow with great luxuriance, and remind one of the wealth of a Kentish orchard. On the other side of the way is the garden for vegetables, a very useful and necessary adjunct to a high class hotel. In fact the hotel has been built on the most modern principles to ensure to visitors the comforts and even the luxurious ease to be got in first-class establishments of the kind in Europe and America. Baths of all kinds, electric bells, gas, water, and every provision for health and convenience have been studied and wrought out in the general design.

The rooms are spacious, well ventilated, and warmed; and from roof to cellar have satisfied the aims of architect and proprietor. Speaking of the cellar reminds us that this is a special feature of the house, and Mr. Goyder is not likely to jeopardize its fame in that respect.



THE ORPHAN ROCK, KATOOMBA.

## KATOOMBA—Continued.

"The Carington" has been named in honor of the new Governor, Lord Carington. The establishment which has always held such a high reputation in the estimation of visitors and tourists, has been recently purchased by Mr. F. C. Goyder, long and favorably known throughout the Australian colonies as the pleasant host and attentive proprietor of the famous "Victoria" Hotel in Bourke Street, Melbourne. Mr. Goyder purposes giving to his new establishment the benefit of his personal attention, which is a guarantee of excellent and liberal management.

The hotel commands a view of the beautiful valleys, fern gullies, water-falls, and mountain peaks around, and the spot has been selected from the best special standpoint in this particular. Many of the chief points and objects of interest are within easy distance of "The Carington." Katoomba Falls are reached in a mile's walk, from whence a good view of the great Valley of the Jamison is obtainable. A little further on is the favourite "Orphan Rock," an immense solitary obelisk, hundreds of feet high. From here we soon come to the new coal mine opened out by Mr. North, whose tramway down the declivity is considered one of the wonders of the Blue Mountains.

A good path has just been completed, so that visitors may walk under the fall, thus—in a mimic way perhaps—realizing somewhat of the weirdness, if not the grandeur of Niagara. It is contemplated, too, by some of the adjacent proprietors to construct a dam across the valley above the falls, so as to form a lake of good size, with a depth of from 20 to 30 feet, wherein tourists in hot weather may disport themselves, after or before the wearying yet delightful work of exploring the scenes in the neighbourhood.

About a mile away are the Leura Falls, another good view of the valley, an interesting "echo," and a glen rich in ferns and wild flowers. A charming spot to which has been given the name of "The Meeting of the Waters," is close here, and quite a group of minor cascades and runnels.

From this spot the tourist will be within easy distance of several famed resorts on the Blue Mountains. A good road of four miles leads to the celebrated Wentworth Falls; and Govett's Leap, with the Valley of the Grose, are the same distance from Katoomba as they are from Mount Victoria, and as a fairly good road connects the two places they are quite as accessible from here as from Mount Victoria. The place is destined to be largely frequented by those seeking rest, and change of air, and scene; and especially during the spring, summer, and autumn, when the bracing climate is a delightful contrast from the humid, enervating atmosphere of the city.

Among other excellent houses here are Biles' Hotel, in front of the Railway Station, a comfortable retreat,



"THE  
CARINGTON"

(LATE "GREAT WESTERN" HOTEL)

**KATOOMBA.**

—THE—

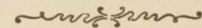
MOST FASHIONABLE RESORT

—ON THE—

BLUE MOUNTAINS.

*First Class Accommodation  
for Visitors.*

BILLIARDS, LAWN TENNIS.



**F. C. GOYDER,**  
PROPRIETOR.



## KATOOMBA—Continued.

greatly favoured by newly married couples and others preferring quiet, with roomy apartments, good attendance, pleasant society, and great variety for patrons.

Balmoral House, kept by Mrs. Dunn, contains 16 rooms, specially built to afford comfort to visitors. Families and ladies a speciality.

The private boarding house of Mrs. Baird is highly spoken of as affording comfortable quarters.

There are also several stores, where all necessaries of life may be had at reasonable prices, rendering all anxiety on the score of commissariat details quite unnecessary.

The visitor to Katoomba, after settling down to his quarters, may take a glance at our map of the district when he will see clearly indicated the points of interest in the district.

## THE WITCH'S LEAP

Is easily found by the winding path which leads to the foot of the fall, with perpendicular cliffs on each side towering up to a height of 150 feet; and here will be seen one of the prettiest dells or



“THE CARRINGTON,” Late “GREAT WESTERN” HOTEL.

gullies of the mountains. The fragrant sassafras, native musk, aster, and other odour-yielding shrubs and flowers, with fine timber trees, line the descent till the valley and coal-mine is reached a thousand feet below. At the foot of the fall a crystal stream flows for some distance, through ferns and other vegetation, past a rock known as “Maud’s Wonder,” which commands a fine view; and farther on the “Orphan Rock” before referred to. Turning sharply to the left and going through the ferns at the foot of the “Orphan Rock” we arrive at M-Y, a suggestive title for what is also called the “Lovers’ Picnic Ground.” The scenery hereabouts is wild and romantic, and the thrice repeated echoings of a spot close by is a source of amusement and surprise to most visitors.

Returning to the “Orphan Rock” and passing it, as the descent of the gully is pursued the scene changes at every step. On the right may be seen the coal trams coming through a split in the

## KATOOMBA—Continued.

rock, and passing on their way at an apparently impossible angle until they reach the valley below when turning to the right they enter the face of the cliff. Great care is necessary here; the trams should be followed closely till the valley is gained.

There are now about 70 people in this part of the Valley, a number of small cottages, general store, a butcher's shop, and a school for the children. A good track is now made to the ruined castle, and is well worth a visit.

## KATOOMBA FALLS.

The rock on the right affords the best view of the Fall, as also a fine view of the "Orphan Rock," which from this point looks like a small pillar separated from the main cliff; it is however over two hundred yards long, and falls on its eastern slope more than a thousand feet to a perfect forest of grandly developed tree-ferns, many 40 feet high, with heads extending 25 feet, and other characteristic vegetation.

## THE BLUFF AT ENGINE POINT.

From here may be seen the "Three Sisters." The whole mountain takes the form of a cathedral with three spires, and a rocky formation resembles an old woman entering at the porch. Other features are the "Ruined Castle," the Corawal or "Solitary Mount," the "Megalong," "Mount Clear," and the Picton and Nattai Ranges, some fifty miles away.

A little to the east from this point is the wonderful freak of nature known as "The Split," which suggested and greatly facilitated the formation of the incline, tunnel, &c., now used for raising the coal.

## GRACIE'S HILL.

From the junction of the Engine Road the view embraces on the south-east side the Jamieson Valley, "The Sisters," portion of Kanimbla Valley, to the Cox River, Mount Victoria, Blackheath, &c., and a curiously-shaped rock, called the Boar's Head.

## BIRDIE'S DELL.

A track to the right, a little before Engine and Megalong Roads are reached (see map), leads to a large area of swampy land, at the north-western end of which is situate the charming dell known as "Birdie's." The cascade here when the wind is westerly is beaten back and the water seems to return in finely divided spray over the head of the rock, and forms a perfect cloud of vapour. The waters from the falls seen in the distance meet at "Nellie's Glen."

## LADIES' ROCK.

This is a favourite roadside seat, from which splendid views of the mountain ranges, rising tier over tier, can be closely studied. This is called "Mountain Chain View."

## NELLIE'S GLEN.

A well-defined old quarry track to the left of the Bathurst Road, a little beyond the "Ladies Rock," leads in about 200 yards to a line of marked trees running south towards "Nellie's Glen," in which is a cascade formed by the meeting of two water-courses. From this spot a striking echo is heard—the word shouted being exactly repeated three times. This glen is a remarkable gorge or break from the top of the mountain to the Kanimbla Valley, varying from 60 to 20 feet, and sloping rapidly for a distance of 500 feet. The walls of the declivity appear to have been washed out and tunnelled into caves of all sizes, which are full of luxuriant ferns and mosses. The proprietor offers every facility for visitors enjoying their trip, only stipulating that they do not lay ruthless hands on the ferns and other natural adornments of the place.

## P. MULLANY &amp; CO.,

GROCCERS, DRAPERS, IRONMONGERS, STATIONERS, BOOT AND SHOE  
MERCHANTS, AND NEWS AGENTS, &c, &c.,

—KATOOMBA—

FANCY GOODS.

—BALMORAL HOUSE, 2—

KATOOMBA.

PRIVATE ACCOMMODATION for Families,  
Tourists, and Visitors seeking change of  
air and scenery on the mountains, and requiring  
home comforts. Apply by letter or telegram.

Mrs. DUNN.

BLUE MOUNTAINS,

KATOOMBA. KATOOMBA.

GLENAMPLE HOUSE.





All the comforts of a home will be found at the above  
establishment. Terms to suit visitors.

PROPRIETOR—WM. BAIRD.

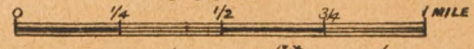


# MAP OF BLACKHEATH

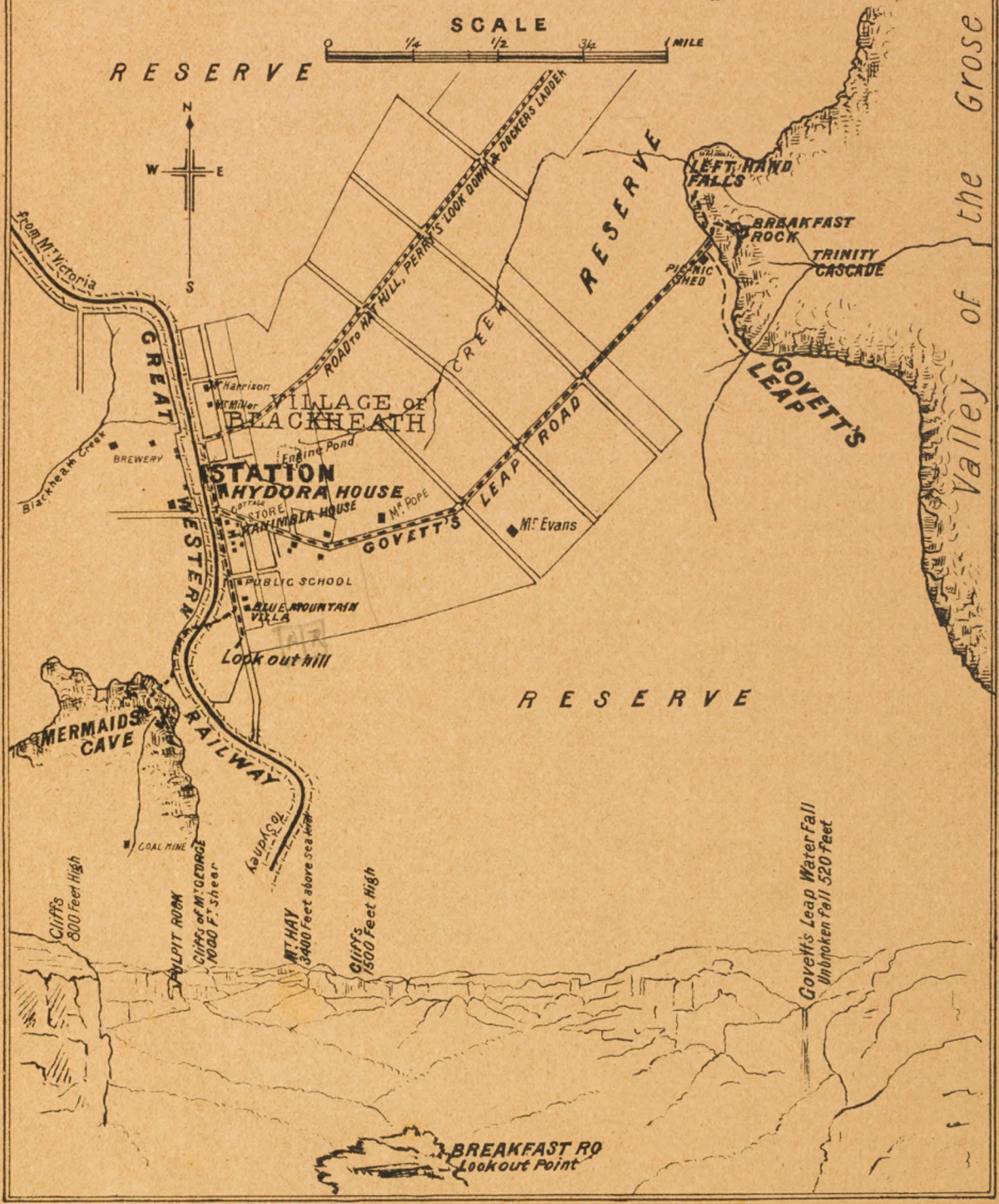
## NOTE

Tracks to look out Points, shewn thus   
 Roads  Fences  Buildings 

## SCALE



RESERVE



RESERVE

BREAKFAST RO  
Lookout Point

Valley of the Grose

## KATOOMBA—Continued.

## LEURA AND LURLINE FALLS.

To visit these follow, from the Station, Katoomba Street till it intersects Waratah Street; go along this for 150 yards, and pick up the track bearing S.S.E. At the end of this track is the gorge into which the falls discharge. These, with the valley intervening, are a splendid sight. Following the track a little further, and bearing to the left, the "Leura" Falls break upon the view. A track leading N.W. from here leads to the famed "Meeting of the Waters" at "Lurline" Falls—a sight scarcely to be surpassed in any part of the world. This is a favourite neighbourhood for picnics, and the basin of the Falls forms an admirable bathing place.

## THE GAP,

As indicated on the map, is another marvel of beauty not to be missed by the visitor, who, if he is artistically inclined, may find many weeks' work for his pencil.

## THE COAL MINE.

Last, but not least, in an economical point of view, is this mine and its accessories. The tramway is a mile and a quarter long from the railway siding, and the cars are propelled by a single steel cable  $2\frac{1}{2}$  miles long, weighing  $5\frac{1}{2}$  tons. One is left wondering how such a mass of steel was got to its destination from the maker's works in Scotland. The Gladstone Coal Mine is about 3 miles from Katoomba and about 2 miles from Wentworth Falls.

There is a post, money order, and telegraph office on the Bathurst Road, and a capital school, with a daily average at date of 42.5, the children coming from the district within nine or ten miles. Divine Service is held every Sunday, and at other times as announced.

The land sales held recently show the district to be rapidly growing in appreciation, as large prices were realized.

## Blackheath.

(73 Miles from Sydney; 3,494 feet above sea-level.)

THE whole region reached within a half hour's walk from the Station is weirdly wild and picturesque; and though much can be done in a summer day's ramble, the district would afford full occupation for a whole week or more.

The visitor will have plenty of choice offering him for accommodation, and he will be very hard to please if he find no place to fully suit his taste and requirements.

Hydora House, by Mr. R. J. S. Nicolle, is a fine hotel, with a good garden and capacious grounds. "Blue Mountain Villa," kept by Mrs. Butts; and "Kanimbla

## BLACKHEATH.

## HYDORA HOUSE FAMILY HOTEL.

THIS Hotel, replete with every home comfort, and convenience for Tourists, offers exceptional advantages to Travellers and Families.

In close proximity to the renowned Govett's Leap, Mermaids' Cave, Perry's Look Down, &c., &c.

Private Suites of Rooms for Families, Croquet Lawn, Paddocks, &c.

Buggies, Baths, Saddle Horses, Wines and Spirits of the Best Brands.

Communications will meet with prompt attention.

**R. J. S. NICOLLE,**  
PROPRIETOR.

Mrs. Nicolle personally supervises the household arrangements.

ORDINARY DAILY, 1.30.

Terms—8s. to 12s. 6d. per diem Families by arrangement.

**KANIMBLA HOUSE,**  
BLACKHEATH.  
*Private Board and Residence.*

Terms—7s. 6d. per Day, or £2 2s. per Week.

MRS. A. A. WILSON.

EXCHANGE STORES, BLACKHEATH

**JAMES CALE, Junr.**  
General Storekeeper & Importer.

Freight Paid to all parts of the Mountains.

**BLUE MOUNTAIN VILLA,**  
BLACKHEATH.

Five Minutes Walk from Station. 3,494 feet above sea-level, on the Western Line of Railway.

→Mrs. BUTTS←

IS PREPARED TO

Receive Visitors Requiring Change of Air.

TERMS MODERATE.

To prevent disappointment, intending Visitors should intimate the Accommodation they require.

BLACKHEATH—*Continued*

House," by Mrs. A. A. Wilson, are all deserving of a share of public patronage, as their proprietors seem to vie with each other in studying the comfort and convenience of visitors. The general store of Mr. J. Cale is a great boon to temporary occupiers of cottages.

## GOVETT'S LEAP.

To reach this, turn to the left at the end of the fence of Hydora House, following the course of the road for about a mile-and-a-half. Here will open out to the view the Great Gorge, with its surrounding battlements of stupendous rocks.

The Trustees of the Government Reserve have placed near here a shelter shed, with seats and table. Looking from this hut down into the Gorge, "Breakfast Rock" stands a little to the right, projecting over the edge of the cliffs. By following the path one may descend to the shelf-like ridge, whence the finest views of the Gorge and Falls are to be obtained. Many writers have attempted to adequately describe the awful majesty of the scene as taken in by the eye from the edge of these cliffs, but even the most skilful word-painter must fail utterly. Pen or pencil can but mimic the vast panorama stretching to the right and left, with the hidden winding creek and the forest valley extending from the foot of the cliff for miles in front. Tall timber trees, and majestic tree-ferns, with luxuriant, rank vegetation, are all dwarfed by the distance, and present a dull, dead level of scrub—lighted up here and there by bright tints of the fern fronds—to the beholder's eye. On the right is seen "Govett's Falls," the waters of which pour over the face of the cliffs 160 feet below the level of the hut, and have a clear drop of 520 feet. Below this is the fine cataract known as "Trinity Cascade," and still further below and to the left is what is known as the "Left Hand Fall." Indeed there are several falls forming pretty subjects for the artist, but which are quite eclipsed by the larger proportions of the tumbling mass of waters at Govett's Leap.

The centre of the Gorge is about 1,800 feet below the stand-point, near the hut, whence it gradually descends to a depth of 2,027 feet—being then about 1,050 feet above sea-level—where the silver thread of the creek draining the valley mingles its waters with those of the Grose River, under the cliffs of Mount King George. The width of the valley, as defined by the surrounding cliffs, ranges from three-quarters of a mile to a mile-and-a-half. The descent to the foot of the falls is at present impracticable, except by some elaborate engineering efforts or feats of daring, the cliffs being 800 feet high at the most accessible point.

The following further details relative to Govett's Leap are gathered from various sources, and are given in the Railway Guide published under the auspices of the Government. Mr. E. Barton says:—"Once on the track the visitor has nothing to do but to follow it up until he reaches the tremendous rent or depression in the earth, which is said to be the deepest chasm with perpendicular cliffs in the known world. It is almost surrounded with these cliffs, which are believed to be nowhere less than 3,000 feet above sea-level. The full sublimity and grandeur of the scene is not realized at the first glance. After contemplating it for some time the mind becomes filled with awe and wonder as it vainly strives to comprehend

'————— the vast immeasurable abyss,  
Outrageous as a sea, dark, wasteful, wild !'

The trees in the valley below, although one or two hundred feet high, or perhaps more, are indistinguishable in their individuality. The scenery is full of grandeur, and to add to its beauty there are two streams which are precipitated into the mighty chasm, and although meeting with no impediment but the atmosphere in their descent they are dissipated into mist before their waters can reach the bottom; and often, when the wind is favourable, they are wafted upwards and along for a considerable distance."

Another writer says:—"To the right, at the distance of about half-a-mile, the Govett's Leap or Fall pours itself headlong over a perpendicular wall of dark-tinted rock, 520 feet in sheer descent, into a mass of black fragments of stone, which has in the course of ages accumulated at the base of the cataract. This descending mass of water, 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."

## BLACKHEATH—Continued.

The top of Govett's Leap can be reached by a path running to the right of the pic-nic shed; close by this lovely spot is the Blackheath Coal Mine, which can be easily reached by a well made road. Visitors to Blackheath should not leave without paying a visit to the Brewery of W. A. Allen & Co. (see map); it embraces all the most modern improvements, and is capable of turning out 120 barrels a week; the proprietors will always welcome a visitor, and allow them to draw a glass of ale from any cask in the cellar.

The following features of the district should not be missed by the visitor :

PERRY'S  
LOOK-DOWN.

This, with "Docker's Ladder," as shown on the map, may be reached by a fair path, running for about seven miles. Junction Camp, situate in the Gorge of the Grose, is reached by a perilous track, the depth being 2,150 feet below the general level of the railway station.

## LOOK-OUT HILL.

About three hundred yards from Blue Mountain Villa, along the Bathurst Road, a good view may be got from the hill; and on clear days, with an ordinary field glass, the city of Sydney may be plainly seen.

## THE MERMAIDS' CAVE.

Lost in amazement at the grand scenery of the Gorge and Govett's Leap the visitor too frequently misses the minor beauties of the district. The "Mermaids' Cave" is exquisitely

pretty, and it may be readily reached by crossing the railway, keeping along the fence, towards Sydney, as far as the second telegraph post past the semaphore. Ten yards further on the word "Cave" will be found painted in red on the fence; then the track to the right must be followed inclining to the left for about half a mile. This leads to a beautiful cave-like formation, clothed with ferns, mosses, and lichens; the trickle of small water falls giving moisture and coolness to the rocky wall and surface soil. Arriving at the end of the path, descent must be made between the rocks on the left, when the glorious beauty of the place bursts on the vision. Masses of rock of fantastic shapes, with trees and shrubs in all stages of growth, towering high



GOVETT'S LEAP FALL.

overhead; under unwilling feet are trodden maiden hair and other ferns, with mountain moss and liverwort of many species. A clear runnel of water plays laughingly over the stones along its course to the valley, and the air is

## BLACKHEATH—Continued.

redolent with perfume of acacias and musk trees. The whole scene needs but the elfs and fairies to realize some of the scenes depicted in the "Midsummer Night's Dream." Kendall exactly describes this place when in one of his poems he writes—

"Through beautiful bountiful forests that screen  
A marvel of blossoms from heat,  
Whose lights are the mellow and golden and green,  
He walks with irreverent feet."

---



---


## Mount Victoria.

(77 miles from Sydney ; 3,422 feet above sea-level.)

IT would require a small volume to describe the places and objects which have been named after her Majesty the Queen of England ; but it may be questioned whether any place will more deservedly perpetuate her honoured name than the highest peak of the Blue Mountains of New South Wales, and the district adjacent.

Quite a township has sprung up within the last half dozen years, and what was, a single decade ago, but an almost unused halting-place is now a busy thriving country resort. High-class hotels, stores, boarding-houses, and villa residences, with their surroundings, are rapidly giving form and definition to the streets which a few years ago had but an ideal existence on the surveyor's plans. Little did the early explorers of the district think that within a "stone's-throw of years" thriving hotels, churches, schools, and other features of settlement would so soon mark their footprints. Well laid-out gardens and grounds, facilities for cricket, lawn tennis, quoits, croquet, and other out-door sports ; well-appointed billiard-rooms, skittle alleys, and other surroundings of highly civilized life are available here, where fifty years ago the early explorers were unable to bring even their knapsacks. A good public school, with a roll of 96, and an average attendance of 75, the scholars coming from the neighbourhood for some miles around, either by train or on horseback. The services of the Church of England are administered by the resident clergyman, Rev. J. A. Newth, twice on Sundays ; and other bodies are occasionally represented by some visiting minister. The population, which numbers 350, is chiefly engaged in the usual country pursuits or in catering to the visiting world who make the mountains their temporary home. There is abundance of accommodation of all kinds at Mount Victoria.

Immediately upon leaving the Station, directly in front, will be seen "Manor House Hotel" and adjoining villa, the late residence of the Messrs. Fairfax, with their tastefully laid-out grounds and English fruit trees of all descriptions. Here may be seen in perfection the



# MANOR HOUSE,

## MOUNT VICTORIA

(Late residence of J. R. Fairfax, Esq.)

—❖❖❖—  
MRS. J. M. ENNIS, Manageress.  
—❖❖❖—

THIS convenient, comfortable, and commodious Hotel is situated directly opposite the Railway Station. It is replete with everything tending to the convenience and comfort of

Ladies, Tourists, Families,  
Travellers, or Invalids.

Large and lofty Rooms and well-  
aired Beds. In and out-door  
amusements.

Well laid out grounds. All the  
English Fruits in season.

—  
Buggies and Saddle Horses.

PIANOS AND BATHS,



And all the comforts of a home.

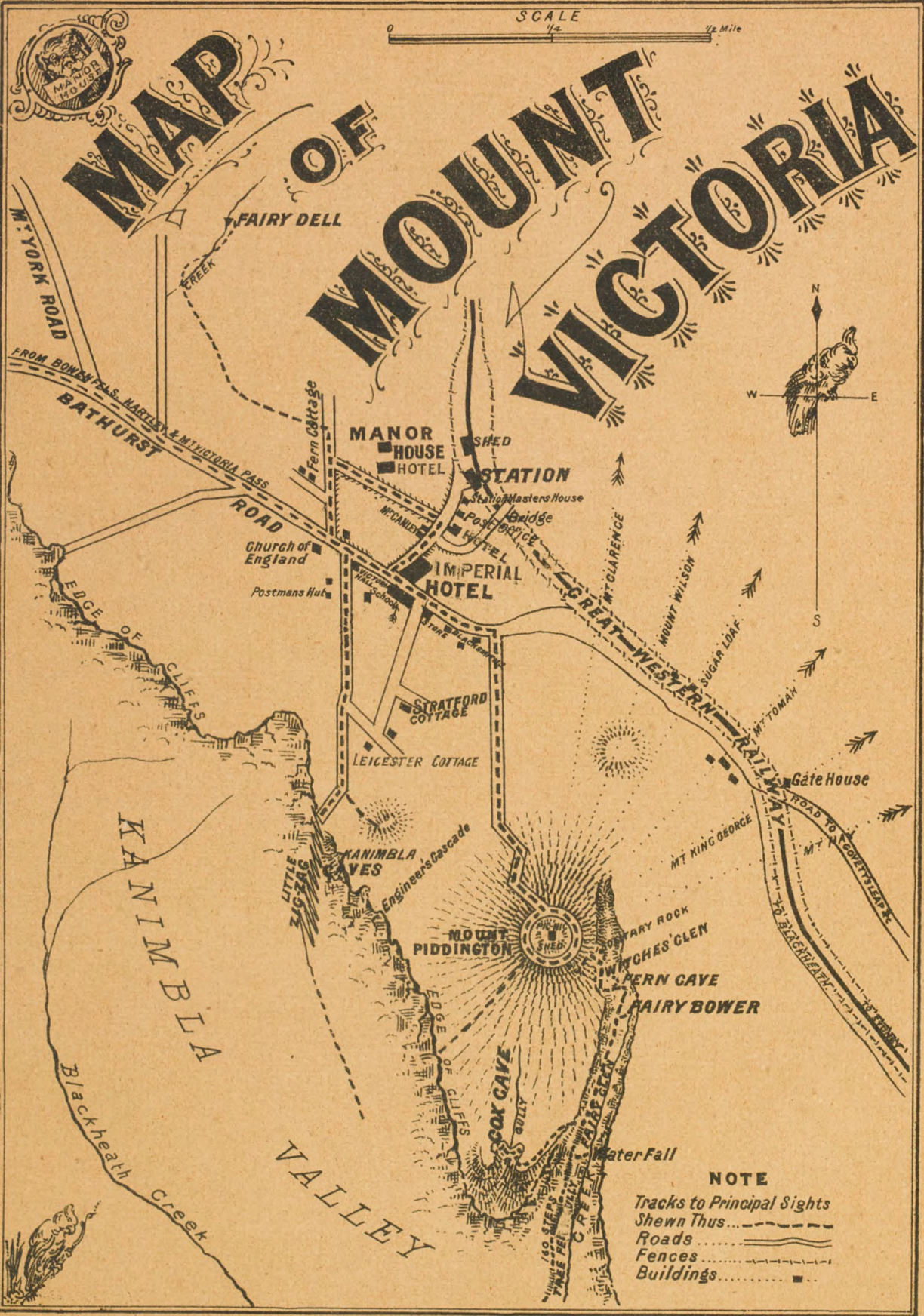
—  
PRIVATE SUITES OF APARTMENTS

For those who require privacy.

—  
TERMS: FROM 3 GUINEAS A WEEK.  
—

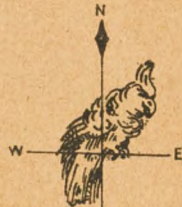
Letters and Telegrams receive prompt attention.



SCALE  
1/4 Mile

# MAP OF MOUNT VICTORIA



MANOR HOUSE  
YORK ROAD

FAIRY DELL

FROM BONNIE HILLS, HARTLEY & VICTORIA PASS  
BATHURST ROAD

MANOR HOUSE HOTEL

STATION

IMPERIAL HOTEL

GREAT WESTERN RAILWAY

KANIMBLA VALLEY

MOUNT PIDDINGTON

WITCHES' GLEN  
FERN CAVE  
FAIRY BOWER

**NOTE**  
Tracks to Principal Sights  
Shewn Thus...  
Roads  
Fences  
Buildings

Backheath Creek





MOUNT VICTORIA—*Continued.*

English hawthorn, chestnut, oak, elm, and poplar, growing side by side with the Australian pine, the Bunya Bunya, and other indigenous timber. The fond remembrances of old England and Christmastide grow strong upon us as we note the prickly, red-berried holly thriving as if in its natural home. The grounds are seven acres in extent, and the houses are second to none in the colony as houses of public accommodation for visitors, being elegant-looking villas with large, lofty, well ventilated rooms, and wide verandahs on three sides. The enterprising manageress, Mrs. Ennis, has, at great expense, constructed additional rooms, and the establishment could now accommodate seventy visitors. Neither have sports and pastimes been forgotten, and even the children have been thought of in the way of swings, see-saws, &c. ; while for those of larger growth there are croquet, lawn-tennis, quoits, bowls, bagatelle, &c., &c. For those who visit the district with their families, and require privacy and retirement, there is the establishment of Stratford Cottage, conducted by Miss Marshall, situate at the rear of Perry's and the Imperial Hotels, and overlooking the whole township. Here the visitor will appreciate the kindly attention of Miss Marshall, with her special aptitude for making everybody at home. Lovers of music may gratify their taste here, there being a piano, harmonium, and always pleasant visitors as society at Stratford.

"Fern Cottage" also offers quiet accommodation for tourists and visitors, who always appreciate the kind attention of Mrs. Howell.

The "Imperial," a first-class hotel, is one of the largest on the mountains; Annie C. Perry, proprietress. At "Leicester Cottage," conducted by Miss Plummer, the visitor will find all the comforts of home.

To the larger establishments it is not so much a matter of moment, but to the smaller ones notice should always be sent a day or two before as to the extent of the party and its requirements in the way of accommodation.

The chief points of interest at Mount Victoria are Mount Piddington, whence a very comprehensive view of the district may be had; the zig-zag descent to the Kanimbla valley, with the caves on the way; the Engineer's Cascade; the "Fairy Dell," not nearly as pretty as of old; and fine views of the chief mountain peaks, conspicuous amongst which are mounts Tomah, Wilson, York, Clarence, and some minor eminences. The township is conveniently situated as a centre from which many places previously named and yet to be mentioned, may be visited. Govett's Leap, Katoomba, the Valley of the Grose, Lithgow, and Hartley are all, by an early start, to be reached from here in short drives, giving plenty of time to return in the afternoon in time for dinner. Mount Victoria has been called the paradise of tourists. Nature here has finished her work with the grandeur of omnipotent might. The Cyclopean masonry of the frowning walls which mark the boundary of vast chasms as large as an English county, lying prone down thousands of feet below; gullies and ravines clothed with luxuriant vegetation; tumbling masses of water, forming picturesque falls and cascades; caves, passes, and intricate winding, rocky, and mossy paths make the place most attractive to all in search of health and pleasure.

## MOUNT PIDDINGTON.

This is close to the township, and is of easy access. It was named after the Hon. W. R. Piddington, who had tracks cleared and the place rendered more accessible to visitors. The Trustees of the reserve deserve great credit for the care taken of the place, and the skill exer-

**MRS. HOWELL**  
FERN COTTAGE,  
MOUNT VICTORIA.

Comfortable Board and Residence  
WITH ALL THE  
COMFORTS OF A HOME,  
FIVE MINUTES' FROM THE RAILWAY STATION.

Terms—6s. per day, or 35s. per week.

GOOD BATH.

*Telegrams requiring Replies must be Pre-paid.*

**LEICESTER COTTAGE.**

ACCOMMODATION FOR VISITORS.  
**E. PLUMMER.**  
LEICESTER COTTAGE,  
MOUNT VICTORIA.

**STRATFORD COTTAGE,**

MOUNT VICTORIA,  
PRIVATE BOARDING ESTABLISHMENT.

*MISS MARSHALL, Proprietress.*

Terms, £2 2s. per week.

Letters and Telegrams promptly attended to.

MOUNT VICTORIA—*Continued.*

cised to conserving the natural features, while at the same time studying the convenience of visitors in every way. A good path has been made all round the mountain; a fine picnic shed has been erected wherein to take shelter from the rain or fierce rays of the sun. Good views may be had from the summit, as indicated on the subjoined plan of the place—Mounts Hay, Clarence, Wilson, "The Sugar Loaf," Tomah, King George, the Hunter Range, and the distant Camden uplands; while close at our feet lie Hartley and the Kanimbla valleys. On the west side of Mount Piddington a winding path leads down into the valley. A little way down is the Solitary Rock. Here the path turns due south, and near the corner of the next turn running due west, as shown on our plan, is

## THE WITCHES' GLEN,

a charming spot, having a wealth of ferns and flowering plants scattered all around. A little further on, by taking the path to the left, "Fern Cave" is reached. Then, following down the path tending south, the "Fairy Bower" is seen on the left; here a fine stream of clear water rushes through a cleft in the rock, falling into the basin below, where a shower or plunge bath may be enjoyed. Continuing down the glen for some distance the "steps" are reached, but at present they must not be descended. Take the path on the right along the edge of the cliff till a large wooden ladder is seen; ascend this to "Cox's Cave," named after its discoverer. The entrance to this is about 30 by 40 feet, and the cave opens out as you enter. The ferns and other vegetation is something to be remembered, and the trustees are doing everything in their power to preserve the natural features of the place for the public enjoyment. Returning to the top of the steps previously mentioned, and, making the descent, a very pretty waterfall will be seen on the left. Still going down the path—with here and there steps cut in the rock for the convenience of visitors—some fine fern trees are visible, and after passing the water-fall "Fern-tree Gully" is arrived at, the sides being densely clothed with tree-ferns in every stage of growth and with the moss, maiden-hair, and numerous other of the smaller ferns. The scene is bewilderingly beautiful; a stream from Fairy Bower here flows into the Blackheath Creek. At the bottom of the steps, which are 160 in number, those who are not afraid of some rough work, may continue their stroll, bearing to the right, and return to the hotel by ascending the Kanimbla Pass or "Little Zigzag," hereafter described, or return by the path just followed.

## THE LITTLE ZIGZAG, OR KANIMBLA PASS.

About half-a-mile from the township, along the Bathurst Road, and passing the school-house on the left, a track turns off to the left, which leads to the head of the gulch-like formation, leading down to the Valley of Kanimbla, which is in its way, as remarkable as the chasm known as Govett's Leap. A series of well-constructed zig-zag paths, or terraced ways, seventeen in all, will severely test the endurance of the visitor, but by taking occasional rests by the way, the descent is not difficult. It is the return that tries the physique of the climber and puts to the test his muscular power. The great point to be observed in mountain climbing is to take matters coolly and quietly. To attempt to rush a difficulty of this kind is to court distress, for wind and muscle cannot endure the strain. It should, then, be borne in mind that in making the descent of Kanimbla Pass one should not be "tied to time," so as to necessitate hurry; half a day at least will be necessary to carefully explore the neighbourhood. By starting after an early breakfast, the place may be visited and a return made in time for dinner, but the visitor will not be in any mood for a very long ramble in the evening.

At the foot of seventh point, nearly half way down the Zigzag, are to be seen the Kanimbla Caves, and these are very interesting. The entrance to these is sharply round to the left on the face of the cliff. Great care should, however, be exercised in exploring them, as there are some points of danger. Lights are necessary, and no one should attempt to grope their way about in the dark unless well acquainted with the intricacies of the place. A large chasm in the rock exists at the end of the upper Cave, and the place is black as night, so that without a light it is impossible to realise the dangers and the interesting features of the place. The lower cave is 80 feet; the upper one about 60.

## THE ENGINEER'S CASCADE

and Ross's Cave may be reached from near the top of the Zigzag by taking the track to the left, which traverses very interesting and beautiful scenery.

MOUNT VICTORIA—*Continued.*

## THE FAIRY DELL.

This, the property of the Hon. Mr. Piddington, has been converted, by damming up the waters at the fall, into a large bathing place for visitors; and to reach it the road past the Manor House to the north east must be taken.

## MOUNT VICTORIA PASS.

This is about two miles from the station, and may be reached in an easy drive along the old Hartley Road. Fine views are commanded all along the road, the grand peaks of the principal mountains standing out sharply against the clear grey sky.

These are the chief sights at Mount Victoria, but the whole district is so full of interest and so rich in the picturesque that a month may be very pleasantly spent in exploring its varied attractions.

Visitors will find at Mount Victoria all the conveniences of a rising township—butcher, baker, general store, blacksmith, &c., &c., and those desirous of possessing some record of their trip may procure splendid photographic views from the establishment of Mr. Caney, who here pursues with marked success his profession as a photographic artist.

---



---

## Hartley Vale

(81 miles from Sydney; 3,318 feet above sea-level.)

LEAVING Mount Victoria and proceeding towards Lithgow, the train takes a course north and north-east, passing some extremely rugged cuttings through the rock, and picturesque “peeps.” About a mile and a half from Mount Victoria, on our right we leave Mount King George, and in another mile can be seen in the distance the entry to the Valley of the Grose River. About another half mile on the track the branch line of rails turns off, leading to the Hartley Vale Kerosene Shale Works. A pretty sight of the town of Hartley opens out on the view from this point. “The shale mines in Hartley Vale,” says Barton, “are well worth seeing, not only on account of the scenery, but also from the fact that an important and successful industry is in full operation.”

---



---

## Mount Wilson

(83 miles from Sydney; 3,478 feet above sea-level.)

THIS is about  $4\frac{1}{2}$  miles from the mountain bearing that name. Mr. Du Faur, in his notice of Mount Wilson, says, “A ride of about five miles from the platform, along the northern watershed of the Grose, and of about three miles further along a spur bearing to the northward from Bell’s line of road, and leading down to some of the heads of Wollangambe Creek and the Colo River (affluents of the Hawkesbury) brings the tourist to the foot of a ridge, which on his right hand appears to be bounded by the usual perpendicular escarpment of horizontal sandstone characteristic of the Hawkesbury formation; but the dense undergrowth, the increased size and improved symmetry of the trees, and the rich black soil under his feet, tell of a sudden change.” The tourist should not return without visiting Mount Wilson, for there he will see some of the most magnificent scenery and splendid tree-ferns which this colony can boast of.

---



---

## Clarence Siding

(88 miles from Sydney; 3,658 feet above sea-level.)

THIS is the greatest altitude reached by the line of railway. Such is the rugged nature of the country that the surveyors had to be let down the cliffs by ropes to do their work, and the contractors had to commence their work in the same way. Passing through the Clarence Tunnel, 539 yards long, and a further distance of two miles the descent of the mountain is

CLARENCE SIDING—*Continued.*

commenced by the "Great Zigzag," a series of inclines similar to those by which we scaled the mountain range at Emu Plains, but of a more colossal character. This work of engineering skill is justly regarded as one of the most stupendous ever yet accomplished in railway construction. The gradient nearly the whole distance is 1 in 42, the line in parts traversing the brink of the mountain range. It is estimated that these five miles of railway cost the country half a million.

---



---

## Lithgow

(96 miles from Sydney ; 3,006 feet above sea-level.)

**L**HIS is a busy place, with its mining and metal industries represented by the Lithgow Valley, Bowenfels, Eskbank, and Vale of Clywdd Companies. These are engaged in the production of coal and other minerals and metals, smelting of iron and copper, the manufacture of iron in all its branches, of terra-cotta and coarser pottery, of a very superior character of fire-brick and ordinary building bricks. The pursuit of these industries has necessarily given rise to a township of growing importance ; and the richness of the whole district around seems to point to Lithgow as the future Wolverhampton of New South Wales.

The visitor to Lithgow will meet with excellent accommodation in every way at the hotels, several of which are fine, carefully managed establishments. The large hotel just on the right of the Eskbank station, is the "Imperial," kept by Mr. Corbett, where every attention is shown to visitors ; another is Connell's hotel, on the main road, near Lithgow station, and there are six others—the "Cosmopolitan," the "Club House," the "Court House," the "Zigzag," the "Royal," the "Commercial ;" and there are convenient and respectable boarding houses and two billiard saloons. Stores abound where all the requirements of the inhabitants can be readily obtained ; there is a chemist, a doctor, a School of Arts and library, churches of five denominations, a Public school, with good attendance, conducted with great credit by Mr. McPhee, the girls being under the able direction of Miss Williams, and the infants under that of Miss Caldwell. The average attendance of children in all divisions of the school exceeds 300.

The fine brewery of Mr. Inch, about a quarter of a mile from Eskbank, is worth a visit. The brewery is constructed of brick and wood, and is capable of turning out eight hogsheads in one, or sixteen hogsheads in two, shifts, every twenty-four hours. The mountain ale is of an amber colour and very transparent. Its wholesomeness is widely known, and as a stimulant it has often been recommended to invalids by the faculty. The English visitor is struck by the similarity of its flavour and colour to the very best light, sparkling ales of the "Old Country." Nor is this to be wondered at, seeing the climate on the Blue Mountains so closely resembles that of England. Mr. Inch, the proprietor, is always willing to show the brewery and its contents to visitors.

Lithgow is also rich in the social institutions characteristic of civilized life. There are several Masonic, Druids', Oddfellows', Foresters', Orange, Sons of Temperance and Good Templar Lodges and Courts held, and members of these bodies are ever willing to hold out the right hand of fellowship to visiting brothers.

Finally, there is a good local representative of the press—the *Mercury*—which has a fair circulation, and a fine field for the well-directed enterprise of its proprietors.

## IMPERIAL HOTEL,

Opp. ESKBANK STATION, LITHGOW.

**H. P. CORBETT, Proprietor.**

The above Hotel is fitted up in every detail for the reception and comfort of Visitors.

**SUITES OF ROOMS FOR FAMILIES.**

TOURISTS are particularly reminded that the Eskbank Station is in the very centre of Lithgow, the nearest point to all the principal industries and objects of interest.

All Letters and Telegrams will receive prompt attention.

## TATTERSALL'S HOTEL,

LITHGOW.

By JOHN CONNELL.

Good Accommodation for Travellers.





## The Jenolan or Fish River Caves.

### THE THREE ROUTES FROM SYDNEY.

#### ROUTE NO. 1.—SYDNEY *viâ* TARANA AND OBERON.

(Tarana, 120 miles from Sydney by rail, and 2,561 feet above sea-level.)

IT is necessary to send a telegram or letter a few days before starting, addressed to the guide, "J. Wilson, Keeper of Caves, Glyndon, Oberon," informing him by what train you intend to leave Sydney, and the number of the party, so that he can meet you at Tarana with the buggy or horses. As "Jerry" is an important personage in this trip—in fact, without "Jerry" the Caves would almost lose their identity—a few words may be said about him. He is the guide appointed by the Government to take charge of the Caves; and as a coachman and guide it would be hard to find his equal; in fact he is the right man. And too much cannot be said of Fred. Wilson (Jerry's brother), assistant-guide; he is one of the most genial fellows under the sun. Tarana to Oberon is about 18 miles. Shortly after leaving Tarana can be seen a ridge of granite rocks, called Evans' Crown, on the top of which large boulders stand, some of them an immense size and nearly circular in form. On a clear day a fine view of Bathurst plains can be obtained from this mountain; it is well worthy a visit, if time will permit. Going on our journey, and still ascending, and after passing through some very picturesque country, a small village is seen in the distance, and soon we are informed that we are at Oberon, which consists of two hotels, a store, a police office, and a few houses. Here we generally stop for the night. It may be mentioned that those fond of shooting can get plenty of sport all the way from Tarana to the Caves, and a few days shooting would be time well spent at Oberon. After an early breakfast a start is made for the Caves, distant about 18 miles; after passing some farms the remainder of the road is like most Australian roads, the views on either side being gum trees. On nearing the Caves some of the trees are very large and the country very wild; where the road crosses the ridge it has an elevation of 4,200 feet, the entrance to the Caves being only 2,400 feet above sea-level, and the descent is very abrupt. When turning a point in the road a truly magnificent sight will meet your view. You stand on the top of a mountain, while some 500 feet below is a narrow valley, which stretches a long distance, and is then lost in the winding of a mountain chain. This valley runs between high, rugged mountains, whose sides slope almost perpendicularly to the valley below, in some places clothed with trees, in others the hard outlines of the rocks only presents themselves. In the valley a brawling silvery stream is running its course, marked by a band of greener verdure. The entrance to the Caves is situated beneath you; and if you were possessed of wings, or could walk down a place as steep as a wall, you could reach them in a very short time, but you have to take the zig-zag track made by the Government down the mountain, which lengthens the journey to two miles and a half, and you are at "Jerry's" house, a few yards from the Caves.

#### ROUTE NO. 2.—SYDNEY TO THE JENOLAN CAVES *viâ* MOUNT VICTORIA.

The distance from Mount Victoria to the Caves is about 31 miles, a good road nearly all the way. Soon after leaving the mount you pass over the well-known Victoria Pass—a large cutting made in the early days by convicts; the pass is a long one, and leads to the Hartley Valley. The views here are very grand. On the left you get an occasional view of the Kanimbla Valley, lying hundreds of feet below; and on the right, some very fine views of Hasson's Walls and the town of Hartley. A little beyond Hartley the roads from Lithgow and Mount Victoria join; the River Cox is crossed by a good timber bridge. Continuing our journey the scenery is varied and picturesque; now a valley is seen, green with the thriving wheat fields of the settler; now the rugged outlines of the lofty mountains, and occasionally some fine specimens of forest timber well stocked with birds, and here and there a native bear, kangaroo, wallaby, or hare. About 1 o'clock a halt is made for lunch, by the side of a silvery mountain stream, with a few farm houses close at hand. About 7 miles from the Caves the track leads through the bush, and could be easily made into a good road to the hill overlooking the Caves, and here a practicable road for vehicles could be made by adopting the zig-zag method. Three miles from the descent the track from Katoomba joins. Arriving at the top of the

## THE JENOLAN, &amp;c.—Continued.

mountain, overlooking the Caves, the buggies are left; the tourist shoulders his swag and commences to wend his way down a track about two miles long, cut in the side of the mountain for the convenience of visitors. Near the bottom of this track, and on the top of the Devil's Coach-house, is a hole a few feet square, which the traveller should keep clear of. Arriving at the accommodation house, you receive a hearty welcome from Mr. Wilson, the guide.

ROUTE No. 3.—SYDNEY TO THE JENOLAN CAVES  
*viâ* KATOOMBA.

Leaving Katoomba station the Bathurst road is followed for one and a half miles. On reaching the Explorers' Tree (a tree walled and fenced in, having a stone bearing the following inscription: "This wall and fence has been erected by the Hon J. S. Farnell, Esq., Minister for Lands, to preserve this tree, marked by Blaxland, Lawson, Wentworth, being the farthest distance reached in their first attempt to cross the Blue Mountains in the month of May, A.D. 1813."), by following a track leading to the left, you will soon reach the top of the glen down which a zig-zag path is made. This glen or chasm is very like the one leading to the Orphan Rock. When about half way down a very pretty fall of water of about 30 feet is seen on the left, and all the way, on either side, large tree ferns. On emerging from this gorge of gloom, profound even at mid-day, and from many points further on, striking views are obtained of the long line of sandstone cliffs behind and on each side, the outlines and the great masses of light and shade being very bold and varied, and the colouring of yellow, red, purple, and green superb. In many places the cliff overhangs, and one craggy mass to the west of the cleft bears a strong resemblance to a huge castle, with its great square towers, battlements, buttresses, and turrets, even the lines and joints of the masonry being distinctly visible; and another to the east, on which has been conferred the name of the Boar's Head, is curiously like the head of an heraldic dragon, with pointed ears and open jaws. When flushed with the morning or evening glow, this mighty natural rampart is a sight worth going far to see.

Proceeding onwards, a mile or so of rough ground is passed over, a slope strewn with angular rocks of different shapes and sizes, the accumulated wreck of ages from the cliff above, and covered with rather thick bush and scrub. After this the track passes through capital walking country, with sandy or gravelly soil, open bush, and no scrub. It is almost level for the next 3 or 4 miles to Megalong Station, where some huts are seen on the right. After striking the S.E. corner of the paddock fence the track runs alongside the fence for about a mile, and at the S.W. corner ( $6\frac{3}{4}$  miles from Katoomba, and 1,870 feet above the sea) leaves the course of Megalong Creek, which we have followed from the cleft



## ARTISTIC PHOTOGRAPHY.

CHARACTERISTIC PICTURES OF  
AUSTRALIAN SCENERY,

COMPRISING

Views of the Blue Mountains,  
AND THEIR PRECIPITOUS GORGES.Also of the GRAND HARBOUR OF  
PORT JACKSON

AND ITS PICTURESQUE SURROUNDINGS.

## King's Celebrated Pictures

Are triumphs of modern Photography. This unrivalled series includes the following, amongst many other, objects of interest:

## THE METROPOLIS.

## SYDNEY AND ITS PARKS,

## BOTANIC GARDENS,

## PUBLIC BUILDINGS,

## WHARVES &amp; SHIPPING,

## SEASIDE RESORTS &amp; SUBURBS, &amp;c., &amp;c.

## BLUE MOUNTAIN SCENERY

INCLUDES—

## FISH RIVER CAVES,

## THE ZIG-ZAG.

## MOUNT VICTORIA &amp; BLACKHEATH,

## KATOOMBA &amp; WENTWORTH FALLS, &amp;c.

A large collection of the above and many other subjects, too numerous to catalogue, always in stock, mounted or unmounted, or can be obtained, tastefully finished and mounted, in suitable Album form.

We invite inspection of our

## ALBUMS:

## AUSTRALIAN SCENERY.

## ABORIGINALS OF THE COLONY.

## HENRY KING,

Portraitist and Landscape Photographer,

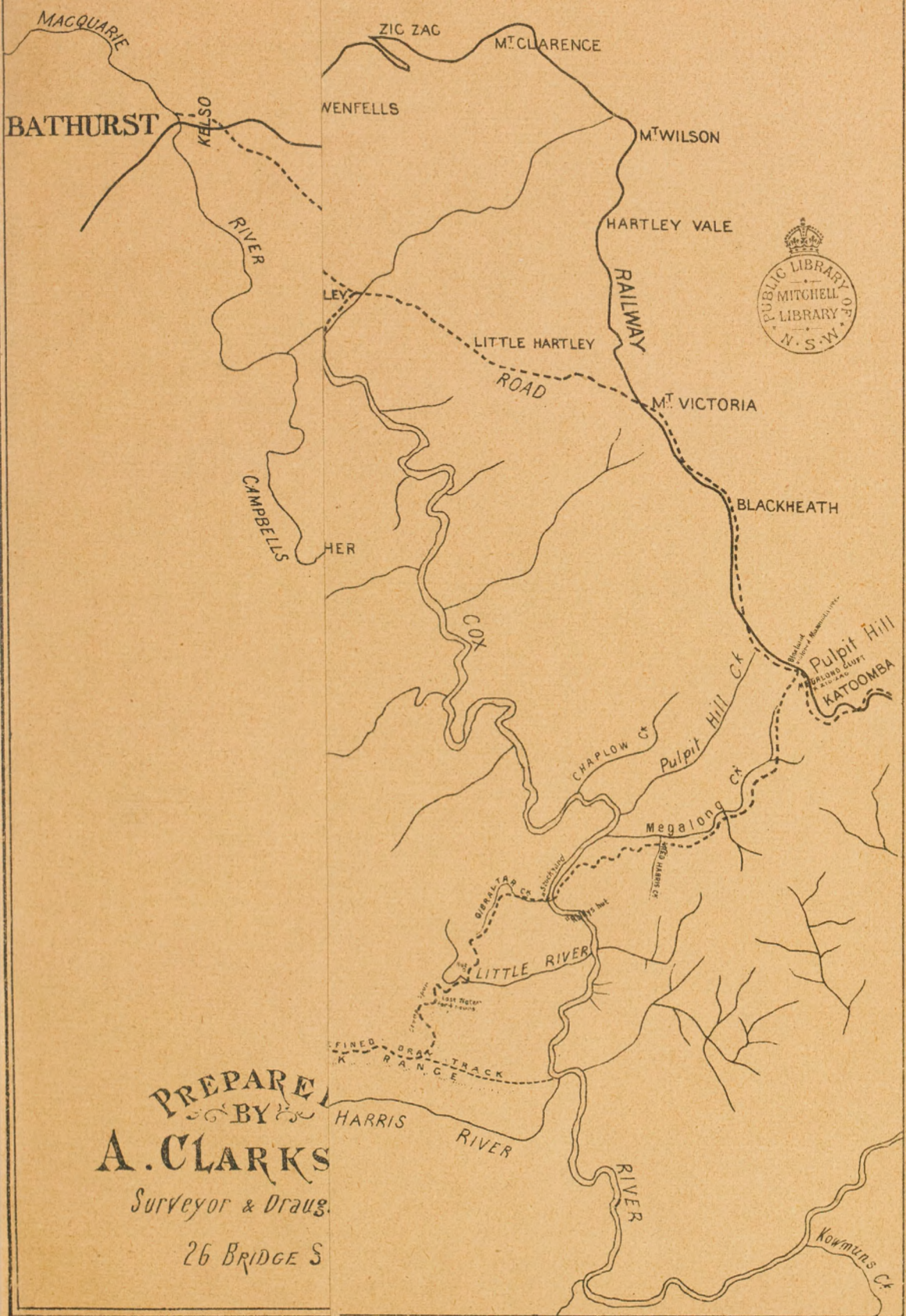
316 GEORGE ST., SYDNEY

(BETWEEN GENERAL POST OFFICE &amp; HUNTER ST.)

The Work at the Studio includes all the latest styles of Portraiture, the artistic excellence of which has given the establishment a world-wide reputation.

SPECIALTIES — ENLARGEMENTS. Old and Fading Pictures Copied and Enlarged.





PREPARED  
 BY  
**A. CLARK'S**  
 Surveyor & Draughtsman  
 26 BRIDGE ST.

# PLAN

Shewing Routes From

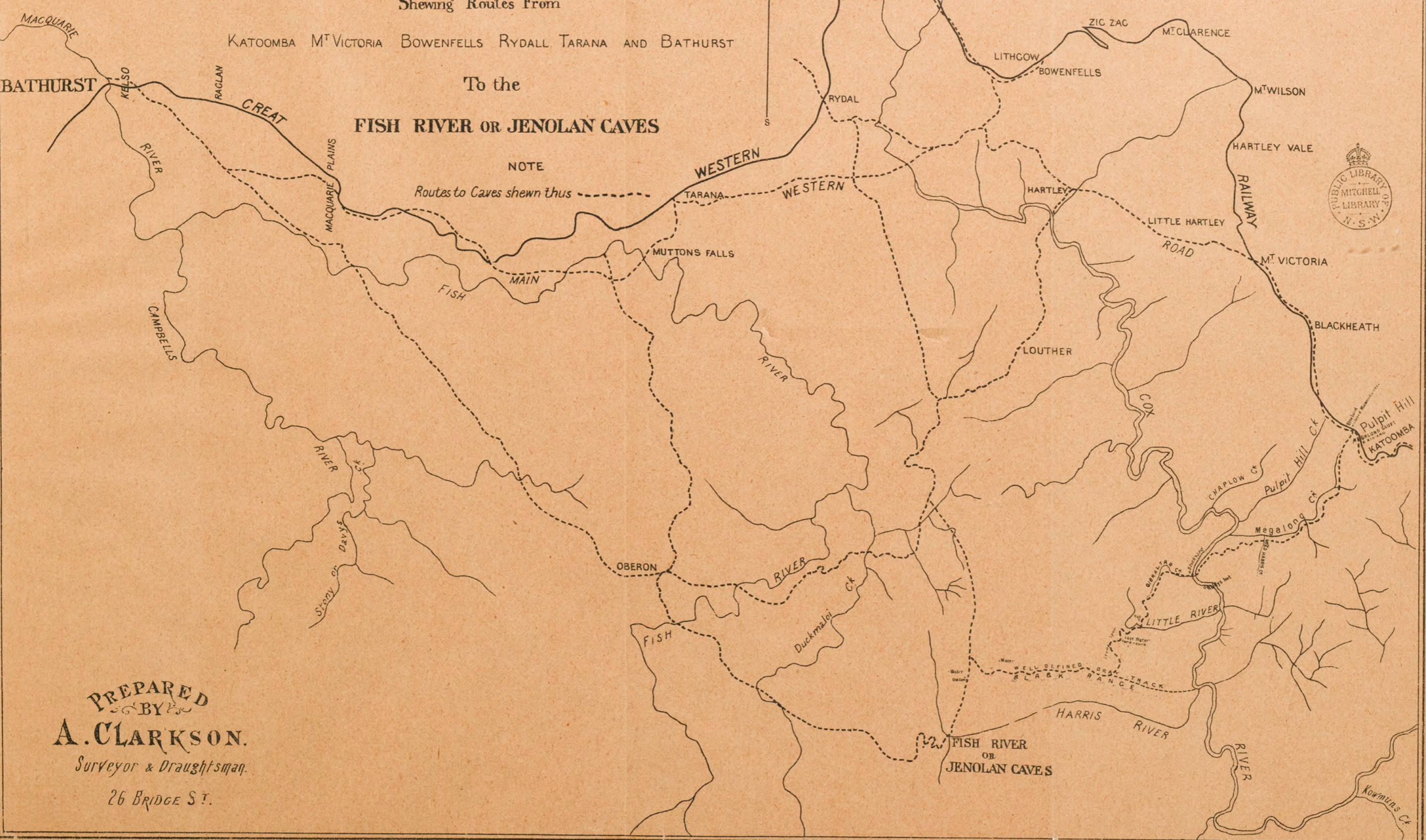
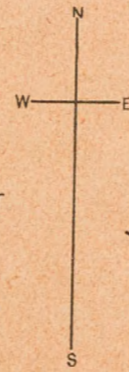
KATOOMBA M<sup>T</sup> VICTORIA BOWENFELLS RYDALL TARANA AND BATHURST

To the

## FISH RIVER OR JENOLAN CAVES

NOTE

*Routes to Caves shewn thus* - - - - -



PREPARED BY  
**A. CLARKSON.**  
Surveyor & Draughtsman.  
26 BRIDGE ST.

## THE JENOLAN, &amp;c.—Continued.

thus far, and bearing to the left, sidles the sloping ground on the left bank of the Cox, which foams along its rocky bed far below. An easy gradual descent for  $3\frac{1}{2}$  miles takes us to the crossing, passing on the way, between marks 47 and 48, some picturesque granite rocks, which have in past ages come tumbling down from the hill above (called the Pinnacle) like colossal nine-pins; one group, to which, from its shape, the name of the Toad has been given, being curiously perched one upon another, whilst across the river a ridge, with three prominent knobby peaks, attracts attention on the right. At  $10\frac{1}{4}$  miles we arrive at the crossing of the Cox, at its confluence with the Gibraltar Creek, the level of which is only 940 feet above the sea, so that we have descended no less than 2,500 feet since we left the Western Road. The river bed is well worth noticing: it is composed almost entirely of grey granite, mostly solid, but with loose rocks and boulders strewn about, some of them of huge dimensions, whilst the clear green water forms deep mirror-like pools among them, or tumbles over in brawling cascades. A mile or so further up the stream the valley is crossed by a dyke of red granite, of a lovely rose colour, well worth turning aside to see, if time allows, or it could be taken on the return journey, and a cut across made afterwards to rejoin the track above. In its ordinary state the river can be crossed dryshod, and if the water should be unusually high a log which spans the stream a few chains below is available, but in the case of a flood it would not be wise for an inexperienced person to attempt the passage, whilst it is needless to say that during a high flood nothing can cross without swimming. Half a mile below the crossing is the comfortable hut of Peter Reilly, a free selector, who acts as stockrider on the adjacent hills, which are well grassed. He and his wife are the only residents on the route, and is now erecting new rooms for accommodation of travellers, for Megalong Station is only occasionally inhabited. Any traveller who spends an evening with Peter will be entertained with a number of racy anecdotes concerning the wild bush life which he and so many others have led in the days gone by. The track follows up the Gibraltar Creek, and after crossing it three times, sidles up the steep slopes of its right bank. It is easy going, with the exception of two sharp pinches, which can be avoided by side cutting when the track is made, and brings us at  $12\frac{1}{2}$  miles to a low saddle (2,310 feet) across the Mini Mini Range, an off-shoot of the Main Divide, forming the northern boundary of the Little River Valley, into which we descend by an easy spur, and at  $13\frac{1}{4}$  miles we reach the bank of the river, 1,830 feet above the sea. Here, bordered by low hills, is a small flat, which will be a capital position for a half-way house hereafter. Following the left bank of the clear, pebbly, musical stream for half a mile, we cross it and commence the ascent of the Black Range, another off-shoot of the Main Divide, running easterly from it, and separating the waters of the Little and Jenolan Rivers. By a long easy spur we rise 1,400 feet in the next mile and a half; this gives an average grade of 1 in 6, so that it is a task of no difficulty, except for one stiff pull, where the grade of the natural surface is about 1 in 4 for 60 chains, and where the going condition of the traveller is put to the proof. On reaching the top ( $15\frac{1}{4}$ , height 3,200 feet) the broad and apparently flat range extends westward for 4 miles, then turns north for a mile, so as to head a gully of great depth, in which rises one of the heads of the Jenolan River; and, bending to the west again for half a mile, joins the Main Dividing Range of the Colony at  $20\frac{3}{4}$  miles, and at a height of 3,980 feet above the sea. All along the Black Range an old cart track is followed, used in former years for the transport of bark to Bindo and Hartley. Although, as might be expected, pursuing a very serpentine course, it makes a capital walking track, quite equal if not superior to the average Sydney foot pavement, and much better than the Sydney macadam. Here and there, where the track approaches the edge of the ridge, extensive views are obtained to the north, north-east and south—deep gullies plunging steeply down into the great valleys, seas of dull green foliage, out of which rise the blue-green hills, with light yellow scars on their distant flanks, plainly denoting the sandstone formation. About a mile further, at a point 4,040 feet high, the Main Range, which in this part of its course forms a remarkable  $\Omega$  curve, turns to west and north-west, and our track leaves it and follows a spur trending almost due south, right away to the caves. Along this spur runs the buggy track from Mount Victoria, before alluded to, which, being cleared 10 or 12 feet wide, and the ridge being nowhere steep, affords another  $3\frac{1}{2}$  miles of excellent walking. Some extensive views to the eastward are to be had from several points on this part of the route, embracing, to the left, Katoomba, with "The Carrington" (late Great Western Hotel) standing out against the sky; to the front Cox Range, Mellow Gap, and the striking two-peaked hill of the Brothers visible through it, reminding the travelled Australian of the Mythen on Lake Luzern; and to the right the profound recesses of the great Jenolan Gorge, terminating in the mount of that ilk, one of the hills which has the honour of being

## THE JENOLAN, &amp;c.—Continued.

named on Sir Thos. Mitchell's excellent map, still by far the best in existence of the mountain district within 100 miles of Sydney. On the west is the deep gorge of the Jenolan Creek, clothed in luxuriant timber, and on its further side the long wall of the Main Range stands up high against the sky. The descent of the spur we are on is so easy that at 25 miles we are still 3,770 feet above the sea; and then commences the descent to the caves, which are 1,200 feet below. The spur plunges irregularly down to its termination at the caves, so that it is inexpedient to follow its ridge, and hence a narrow track has been trenched in its side, up or down which it is easy for man or horse to walk, except after dark. This brings us to the Eastern Arch of the caves—a natural bridge of limestone striding over the Jenolan (M'Keown's, or M'Ewan's) Creek, from the spur we have come down, to another which is followed by the road from Oberon. The top of this archway is strewn with slippery limestone rocks, and sundry holes descend to the regions below, so that wary walking is necessary in this neighbourhood. A track is, however, marked out which there is no difficulty in finding by daylight; and following this down we come at last, after a journey of 26½ miles, to our destination. In harmony with the philosophy of the American, who said that there was no prospect, however fine, which was not improved by a good hotel in the foreground, the traveller who has come thus far will probably deem the sight of the accommodation house stretching across the narrow valley in front of him one of the pleasantest on the journey, the more so as for the last 13 miles since leaving Little River there is only one place where, excepting just after rain, water is conveniently to be had. He will be sure to receive every comfort and attention from Mr. and Mrs. Wilson, and under the experienced guidance of the former, or his brother, can proceed next morning to explore the caves, which may be aptly termed the Australian fairy land, and to the examination of whose charms several days should be devoted. For extent, variety, and wonderful beauty combined, this series of caves has few equals in the world. The present writer is aware of only one, the grotto of Adelsberg, in Carniola, 12 miles S.E. of Trieste, where the features are very similar, and command the unbounded admiration of travellers from every part of Europe. Considering their attractions, it seems surprising that our caves have not been visited by every intelligent person in the colony who possesses the time and means necessary to enable him to make the expedition. No doubt a large number have been deterred by the tedious and roundabout route at present employed, and the limited number which the house at the caves has hitherto been able to accommodate. Both these difficulties are in course of being remedied to some extent: the one by the horse track, which is in course of construction along the line marked out by Mr. Cooper, and the other by an enlargement of Mr. Wilson's house, which has been recently completed, though it appears to be still inadequate to public requirements on special occasions.

It is understood that arrangements are in contemplation to exhibit their marvellous beauties in the only way by which anything like justice can be done to them,—by lighting up the caves by electricity. This, if carried out, will add tenfold to their charms, and cannot fail to induce a much larger number of persons to visit what will then certainly be one of the sights of the world.

The following extract from a paper furnished to the "Railway Guide of New South Wales," by Mr. Wilkinson, Government Geologist, conveys to the uninitiated an idea of the scientific theory of the causes to which first the limestone rock, and afterwards the extraordinary series of caverns by which it appears to be honeycombed, owe their formation, and forms a fitting close to this article:—

It is not uninteresting to reflect that this limestone, now a compact grey marble, was once a mass of living corals, "stone lilies," and molluscs, revealing the former existence, in the Siluro-Devonian epoch, of conditions of marine life somewhat resembling those which support the beautiful living forms which build up the reefs in the coral seas of the present day; and it is significant of the vast changes that this part of the surface of the earth has undergone, when we see fresh-water streams, at an elevation of several thousand feet above the sea, now flowing through rocks that were originally formed beneath the waves of the ocean, at a very remote period of the earth's history. First, the decaying vegetation of some ancient forest is invisibly distilling the gas known as carbonic acid; then a storm of rain falls, clearing the air of the noxious gas, and distributing a thousand streamlets of acid water over the surrounding country, which as it drains off not only wears the rocks it passes over but dissolves them in minute quantities, especially such as contain much lime; and then, laden with its various compounds, flows off to the distant sea, where reef corals, lying in fringing banks round the coast, are slowly absorbing the lime from the water around them and building the fragile coatings that protect them during life. Slowly as the land sinks the coral bank increases in height, for reef corals can only live near the surface of the water, and soon a considerable thickness has been obtained; while below the upper zone of live corals lies a vast charnel-house of dead coral coverings. Then comes a change; suitable temperature, or some other essential condition, fails, killing out all the corals, and through long ages other deposits accumulate over them, gradually crushing and consolidating the coral bank into a firm rock. At last a convulsion of the earth's crust brings it up from the buried depth in which it lies, leaving it tilting on its edge, but still, perhaps, below the surface of the

THE JENOLAN, &c.—*Continued.*

ground. Rain, frost and snow slowly remove what covers it, until it lies exposed again to the sunlight, but so changed that only for the silent but irresistible testimony of the fossil forms of which it is composed, it were hard to believe that this narrow band of hard grey rock was once the huge but fragile coral bank glistening in the bright waters with a thousand hues. And now the process is repeated; the decaying vegetation of the surrounding forest produces the carbonic acid, the rains spread it over the ground, which is now the most favourable for being dissolved, and the consequence is that the acid water saturates itself with the limestone rock; and whenever the least evaporation takes place, has to deposit some of its dissolved carbonate of lime in one of the many stalactitic forms before it can flow off to the sea and distribute its remaining contents to fresh coral banks. Thus the old coral reef melts away far inland, and the lime that formed the coatings of its corals is again utilised for the same purpose. What a simple succession of causes and effects! and yet, before the circle is completed, long ages of time have come and gone. And what a fine example of the balance between the waste and reproduction that takes place in nature!

The following is a short description of some of the principal caves. The "Imperial Cave"—the entrance is in the "Grand Arch"—is a very rough looking place, from 70 to 90 feet high. After climbing to the top of the ladder and entering the mouth of the cave, each one lights his candle, and Jerry takes command. The "Wool Shed" resembles the wool on the sheep's back in a variety of designs. The "Architect's Studio" is a remarkable cave, with long stalactites. The "Margaretta Cave" is a very large cave. The "Helena Cave" contains the figure of the Madonna. The "Lucinda or Diamond Cave": the floor resembles a bed of diamonds, and the walls a shawl-like formation. "Kattie's Bower": the stalactites resemble the pipes of an organ. The "Bone Cave" contains a quantity of wallaby bones. The "Crystal Rock": a large rock with the appearance of water running over it. The "Imperial" also contains the "Shawl Cave," "Lady's Finger and Lolly Caves." The "Show Rooms": "Lot's Wife," "Crystal City," "Mystery," and "Nelly's Grotto." "Selina Cave": "Diamond Wall," "Crystal Palace," "Garden Palace," "Jewel Casket," "Gem of the West," "Fairy's Retreat," "The Queen's Jewels," and the underground River.

## THE LUCAS CAVE

contains a large variety of caves, among which are the "Music Hall," the "Cathedral Cave," "Shawl Cave," "Exhibition Cave," "Lurline Cave," "Snowball Cave," and the "Fossil Cave."

## THE ELDER CAVE.

To explore these caves you have some rather rough work to do; what with climbing and crawling through long narrow passages, feet first, you are glad when it's over. In one place a stalactite has met his friend, the corresponding stalagmite, and the two have been sealed by Nature in an eternal bond. In this wondrous place, cave, passage, and hall, floor, ceiling, and sides are jewelled and bespangled, until the eye almost wearies of what the spirit would fain look on for ever.

It is necessary for all visitors to the caves to provide themselves with sand shoes, and a suit of old clothes.





## ADDENDA.

---

SATURDAY TILL MONDAY.—Leave Sydney by 7 a.m., arriving at the great Zig Zag platform, at 12.40 p.m., here the trains cross; change trains, return to Mount Victoria, have dinner, visit Mount Piddington, &c. After tea, if a moon-light night, walk to Blackheath, 4 miles; Sunday morning, visit Govett's Leap, have early dinner, drive to Katoomba, see Katoomba Falls, Orphan Rock, &c., leave early on Monday morning by Luggage train for Wentworth Falls; see Falls, leave by 2.34 p.m. train arriving in Sydney at 6.4 p.m. For this trip take Excursion Ticket.

### THE JENOLAN CAVES.

SATURDAY TO SATURDAY.—Leave Sydney by 7 a.m. or 9 a.m. train for Bathurst, arriving at 3.20 p.m., and 5.27 p.m. Leave Bathurst on Monday morning at 10.9 a.m., for Tarana, arriving 10.15 a.m.; leave by coach for Oberon, have dinner, stroll through the village. Leave Oberon Tuesday morning for Caves; arriving about 10 o'clock. Leave Caves on Friday about noon for Oberon. Leave Oberon early Saturday morning, arriving at Tarana in time for train, 11.15 a.m.; arriving in Sydney 6.4 p.m. Take Excursion Ticket.

SATURDAY TILL WEDNESDAY MORNING.—Leave Sydney by 1.48 p.m. train, arriving at Mount Victoria, 6.30 p.m.; leave Mount Victoria by coach Tuesday morning, 7.30 a.m.; arriving at the Caves about 5.30 p.m. Leave Caves 10 o'clock Tuesday morning, arrive Mount Victoria 6 p.m.; leave Mount Victoria Wednesday morning, 3.10 a.m., 5.15 a.m., or 7.56 a.m., arriving in Sydney, 6.45 a.m., 9.20 a.m., and 11.35 a.m.

S.L.  
ci

# CADBURY'S

The reason why so many are unable to take Cocoa is that the varieties commonly sold are mixed with Starch, under the plea of rendering them soluble, which really makes them thick, heavy, and indigestible. This may be easily detected; for if Cocoa thickens in the cup it proves the addition of starch. CADBURY'S Cocoa Essence is genuine, it is therefore of three times the strength of these Cocoas, and a refreshing beverage like Tea and Coffee.

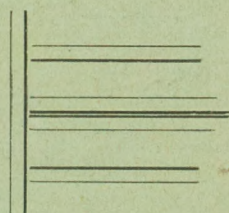
## COCOA ESSENCE.

**PURE!!!**  
**SOLUBLE!!**  
**REFRESHING!**

One teaspoonful makes a breakfast cup of stronger and better Cocoa than two teaspoonfuls of any Homœopathic or "prepared" Cocoas, which thicken in the Cup.



# CADBURY'S



## *Mexican*

Be sure to observe that "CADBURY" is stamped on each cake, as inferior descriptions of Foreign and British manufacture are sometimes substituted.

Guaranteed to consist solely of the finest Cocoa and sugar, slightly flavoured with Vanilla. Great care is taken in its preparation, so that it may be depended upon as the best Chocolate, used either as a Confection or as a Beverage.

## *Chocolate.*

DSM  
Q981.5  
R

# ANDERSON'S SEEDS

For THE FARM & STATION.  
For THE VEGETABLE & FLOWER GARDEN.

Genuine Quality.      Reliable Growth.

---

Write for our "CATALOGUE & CULTURAL GUIDE."

THE LARGE REVISED EDITION.

Beautifully Illustrated.      Post Free.

---

Ask Storekeepers for

## ANDERSON'S SEEDS,

In coloured pockets, with full directions for sowing.

---

## ANDERSON & CO.,

SEEDSMEN AND PLANT MERCHANTS,

216 & 218 PITT STREET,

SYDNEY.











DSM  
Q981.5  
R

STATE LIBRARY  
OF N.S.W.



N2147630

DSM/ Q981.5/ R  
The pictorial guide to the  
Blue Mountains of New South  
Wales and to the districts  
between Parramatta and  
Bathurst including

