

NORFOLK ISLAND.

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NORFOLK ISLAND:

OUTLINE OF ITS HISTORY

FROM 1788 TO 1884.

Compiled by J. J. SPRUSON,
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SYDNEY: THOMAS RICHARDS, GOVERNMENT PRINTER.

1885.



THIS COMPILATION,
FROM AUTHENTIC SOURCES, OF FACTS RELATING TO THE
SETTLEMENT AT NORFOLK ISLAND,
BROUGHT DOWN TO THE PERIOD OF THE VISIT OF
HIS EXCELLENCY LORD AUGUSTUS LOFTUS, P.C., G.C.B.,
GOVERNOR AND COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF
OF
NEW SOUTH WALES AND ITS DEPENDENCIES,
AND
GOVERNOR OF NORFOLK ISLAND,
IS, BY PERMISSION, RESPECTFULLY
DEDICATED TO HIS LORDSHIP,
BY HIS LORDSHIP'S MOST OBEDIENT SERVANT,
THE COMPILER.



NORFOLK
"The Town" (Kings Bay)



NORFOLK ISLAND.
(Gosson), from Congress Point.



NOTE.

Most of the official materials introduced into this Outline of the History of Norfolk Island have been derived from the Parliamentary and other public records of the Colony; but the following works, and some other standard authors, have also been freely consulted and quoted from, namely:—Mutiny of the Bounty, Barrow; Pitcairn, &c., and Norfolk Island, Murray; Mutineers of the Bounty, Lady Belcher; Life of Bishop Patteson (12th edition), Miss Yonge; Norfolk Island and its Inhabitants, Campbell; History of Australian Colonization and Discovery, Bennett; History of New South Wales, Dr. Lang; Voyage to Botany Bay, Phillip; Account of New South Wales, &c., Collins; Australian Dictionary of Dates and Men of the Time, Heaton; and the files of "The Sydney Morning Herald."



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NORFOLK ISLAND.

NORFOLK ISLAND was discovered by Captain James Cook, during his second voyage in search of the Southern Continent. The "Resolution" was his vessel, and the "Adventure," commanded by Captain Tobias Furneaux, accompanied him. The expedition was initiated on 28th November, 1771, and started from Plymouth on 13th July, 1772. After various adventures and discoveries, Captain Cook, on 9th October, 1774, sighted a beautiful island, which he named Norfolk Isle, in honor of the Duke of Norfolk, the head of the noble family of Howard. The island is situated in the South Pacific, about latitude $29^{\circ} 3' 45''$ S., and longitude $167^{\circ} 58' 6''$ E., that is to say, it lies about 950 miles N.E. by E. from Sydney, and 600 miles N.W. from New Zealand, the nearest land being Lord Howe Island, distant about 500 miles S.W. on the route to Sydney. Norfolk Island is about 5 miles in length, 3 in width, and 20 in circumference; and it affords about 9,000 acres of rich cultivation land. In its immediate vicinity are two picturesque rocky islets: Phillip Island, distant about $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles S.W.; and Nepean Island, distant $\frac{1}{2}$ mile S. Its grandest feature is Mount Pitt, which is nearly 1,050 feet high. Dr. Lang, in his History of New South Wales, thus describes Norfolk Island:—

“Except in a few places where the landing is exceedingly unsafe and precarious, the island is bounded by precipitous cliffs, on which the surf breaks frightfully when the wind blows with violence from any quarter. It appears to be of volcanic origin, and consists entirely of a series of hills and valleys alternating like the waves of the ocean,

each of these valleys being watered with a running stream from the hills. The soil, even to the tops of the highest hills, is the richest vegetable mould, and the vegetation partakes of that intermediate character which distinguishes the temperate regions adjoining the tropics. The *phormium tenax*, or New Zealand flax, is indigenous on the island, and the Norfolk Island pine, which attains a diameter of 9 feet, and a height of upwards of 180, throwing around it a series of branches at regular intervals, each like a Prince of Wales feather, is perhaps the most splendid botanical production in nature."

Originally, the island was densely covered with these magnificent pine trees and other forms of luxuriant and graceful vegetation, and was admitted to be one of the loveliest spots on earth by those who first saw it and dwelt upon it.

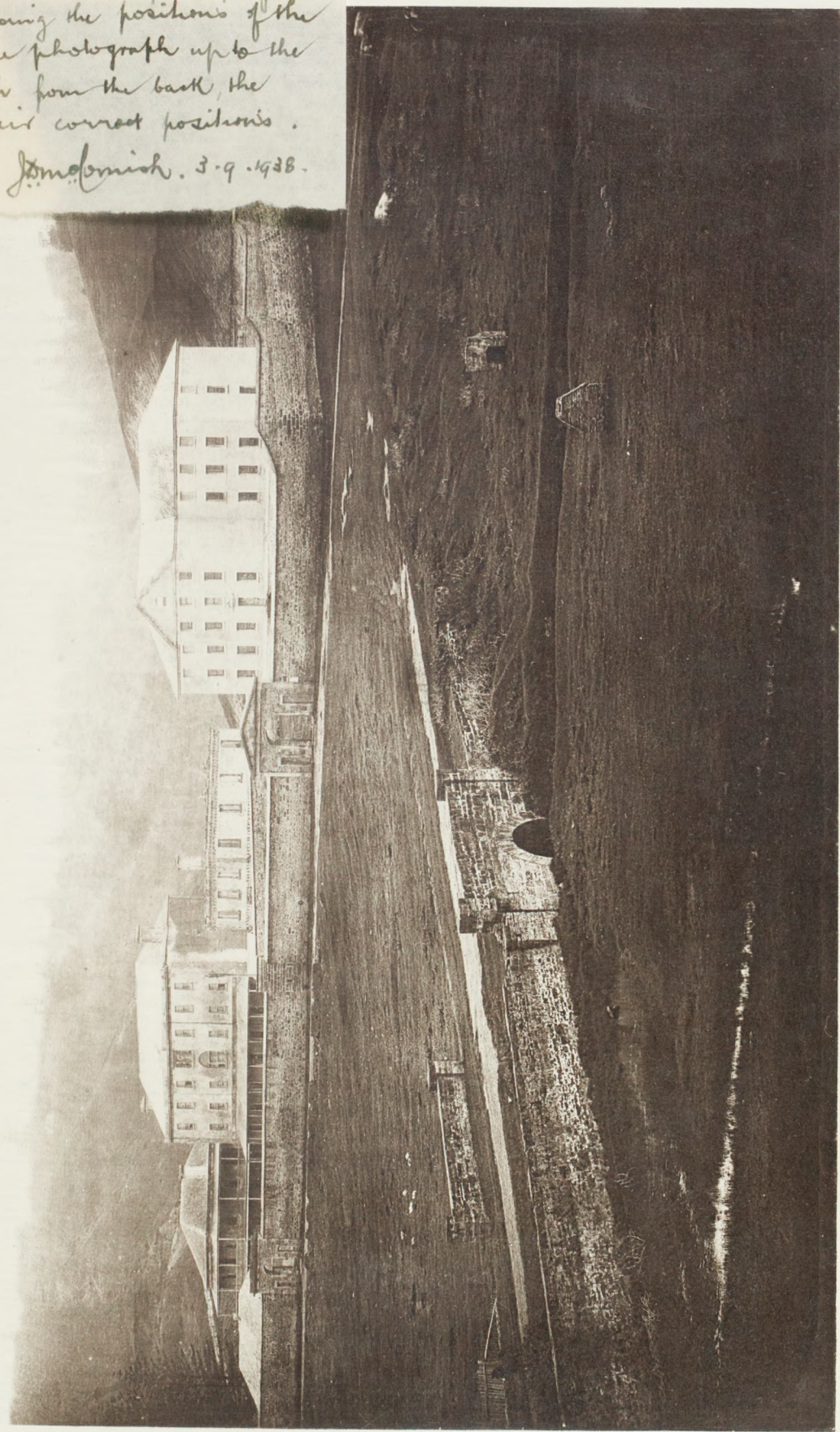
Cook noticed these attractive features, and perceived that the island abounded with many trees and plants common to New Zealand, and that the flax plant especially grew more luxuriantly there than in New Zealand. The magnificent pine trees of the island, which were considered likely to afford suitable timber for the masts of ships, particularly arrested his attention, and he observed that the flax would make excellent cordage. Representations on these points were submitted to the British Government, who instructed Captain Phillip, the first Governor of New South Wales, to take an early opportunity of colonizing the island. Accordingly, on 14th February, 1788, a week after the formal establishment of this Colony, the "Supply," under the command of Lieutenant Henry Lidgbird Ball, was dispatched from Sydney to form a settlement at Norfolk Island.

The new Colony consisted of twenty-four individuals, all told, fifteen of whom were convicts, namely, nine men and six women. The settlement was placed under the control of Lieutenant Philip Gidley King, of the "Stirling," as Superintendent and Commandant, and he was provided with a small staff of officers.

Photograph facing page 10.

mistake has been made in printing this photograph, thus reversing the positions of the things. By holding the photograph up to the light, + looking through from the back, the buildings appear in their correct positions.

James Tompkins. 3-9-1938.



NORFOLK ISLAND.
The Old Commissariat Buildings, now used as Court-house and School.

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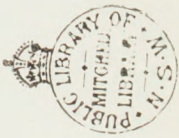
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NORFOLK ISLAND.

The Old Commissariat Buildings, now used as Court-house and School.



On 5th March, 1788, the party landed at a bay which Lieutenant King named Anson Bay; and the settlement was formally inaugurated at that place on the next day. Glowing accounts being received from the island, a larger party was sent there immediately afterwards. The "Sirius," one of the First Fleet, was wrecked at Norfolk Island in 1790.

It was not long before the title of Lieutenant-Governor was conferred upon Mr. King. On 24th March, 1790, he was relieved by Lieutenant-Governor Ross, and proceeded to England to give an account of the settlement to the British Ministry, returning by the "Gorgon" in December, 1791. Major Foveaux was appointed Lieutenant-Governor of Norfolk Island on 29th June, 1800. Mr. D'Arcy Wentworth was appointed Surgeon on 6th July, 1802, and ordered to proceed to his post on 8th February, 1803. He was the father of the great Australian patriot, William Charles Wentworth, who was born on the island. Lieutenant James Bowen, of H.M.S. "Glatton," was appointed to take charge of the island as Deputy Lieutenant-Governor, during the absence of Lieutenant-Governor Foveaux, on 19th March, 1803, and on 29th September of the same year Lieutenant-Governor Foveaux arrived in Sydney, leaving Captain Wilson in command.

The prolific soil of Norfolk Island—or, as it came to be familiarly called, Norfolk—proved a great boon to the parent Colony at different critical periods in the early history of Australian colonization, the quantity of wheat produced there being always very great. Governor King entertained the highest possible estimate of the suitability of the island for the purposes of a penal settlement, on account of the advantages afforded by its great fertility, and he prized it for its extraordinary beauty. But Governor Hunter, who ruled New South Wales between 1795 and 1800, never looked with a favourable eye upon Norfolk, for nothing could reconcile him to its small size, want of harbour accommodation, and remoteness from Sydney; and, moreover, he was captivated with Flinders' brilliant description of Van

Diemen's Land, which induced him to regard that island as better than Norfolk in every respect, and as a place peculiarly well adapted for the punitive and reformatory treatment of prisoners. Accordingly, on his return to England, at the end of the year 1800, he procured a decision in favour of abandoning Norfolk. The island had attained considerable prosperity at that time not only as a grain-producer but on account of the profitable use made of its valuable timber. As far back as 1793 the population was 1,008, and the produce 2,000 bushels of wheat and 50 tons of potatoes. It may be mentioned that the "Norfolk," in which Flinders and Bass circumnavigated Van Diemen's Land in October, 1798, was built of Norfolk pine.

The old Commissariat Buildings, now used as a Court-house and School, are shown in the illustration at page 10.

Although the abandonment of Norfolk had been decided upon in 1800, it was 1803 before the order to evacuate the island was received in this Colony, and even then, owing to the partiality which was entertained for the settlement, as already mentioned, by its founder, Governor King, who would probably have relinquished New South Wales itself in preference to giving up Norfolk, if he could have done so, the order was not promptly executed. Moreover, the inhabitants of the island were extremely averse to leaving their homes, and five years were occupied in completely removing them.

Most of the settlers, who were emancipists, owned freeholds of from 33 to 40 acres, in exchange for which they had freeholds allotted to them in Van Diemen's Land or New South Wales, and they were removed at the public expense. On the whole they were dealt with liberally. The place where most of them located themselves in Van Diemen's Land they called New Norfolk and Norfolk Plains, in commemoration of their late much-loved home.

It was 1805 before Captain King had completely carried out the Royal instructions for quitting the island. The least reflection

will show that he was right in disapproving of such instructions ; for while it might not have been wise or profitable to plant a settlement at Norfolk in the first instance, looking to the circumstances of the more important Colony of New South Wales at the time, still it could not have been judicious, after incurring the expense and going to the trouble of founding the Colony, erecting many substantial public buildings and some hundreds of comfortable private residences, and covering the island with luxuriant and profitable crops and beautiful gardens, to abandon it to utter ruin, and to tear its occupants away from their homes. If this had not been done, Norfolk Island would long ago have become a populous and prosperous little Colony. The despatch ordering the evacuation of the island to be completed, which was addressed by William Windham, Esq., Secretary of State for the Colonies, to Governor Bligh, was dated December, 1806 ; but it was some time in 1807 before the last person left the island.

From 1806 to 1826 the island presented an appearance of great desolation, being deserted as it was by its proper inhabitants, and used chiefly as a place of call for war-vessels and whalers. In the latter year, however, Captain Turton was dispatched to Norfolk Island with fifty soldiers and about as many prisoners, to form a penal settlement there. This was done in opposition to the recommendation of Mr. Commissioner Bigge, who had proposed to form an outlying establishment, either at Port Bowen or Port Curtis, in addition to the one at Moreton Bay. On 15th August, 1826, the island was constituted a place for the reception of offenders convicted in New South Wales while under sentence of transportation, and it was soon populated once more. Many daring and bloody adventures are recorded of its new inhabitants. The scene of one of these thrilling incidents is depicted in the view of "Bloody Bridge," page 24. In 1827 the convicts seized a brig belonging to a Mr. Harwood, whilst on the trip from Sydney to Norfolk ; and in the same year a serious outbreak occurred on the island, and about fifty prisoners escaped to Phillip Island, where they were defeated, with some loss of life.

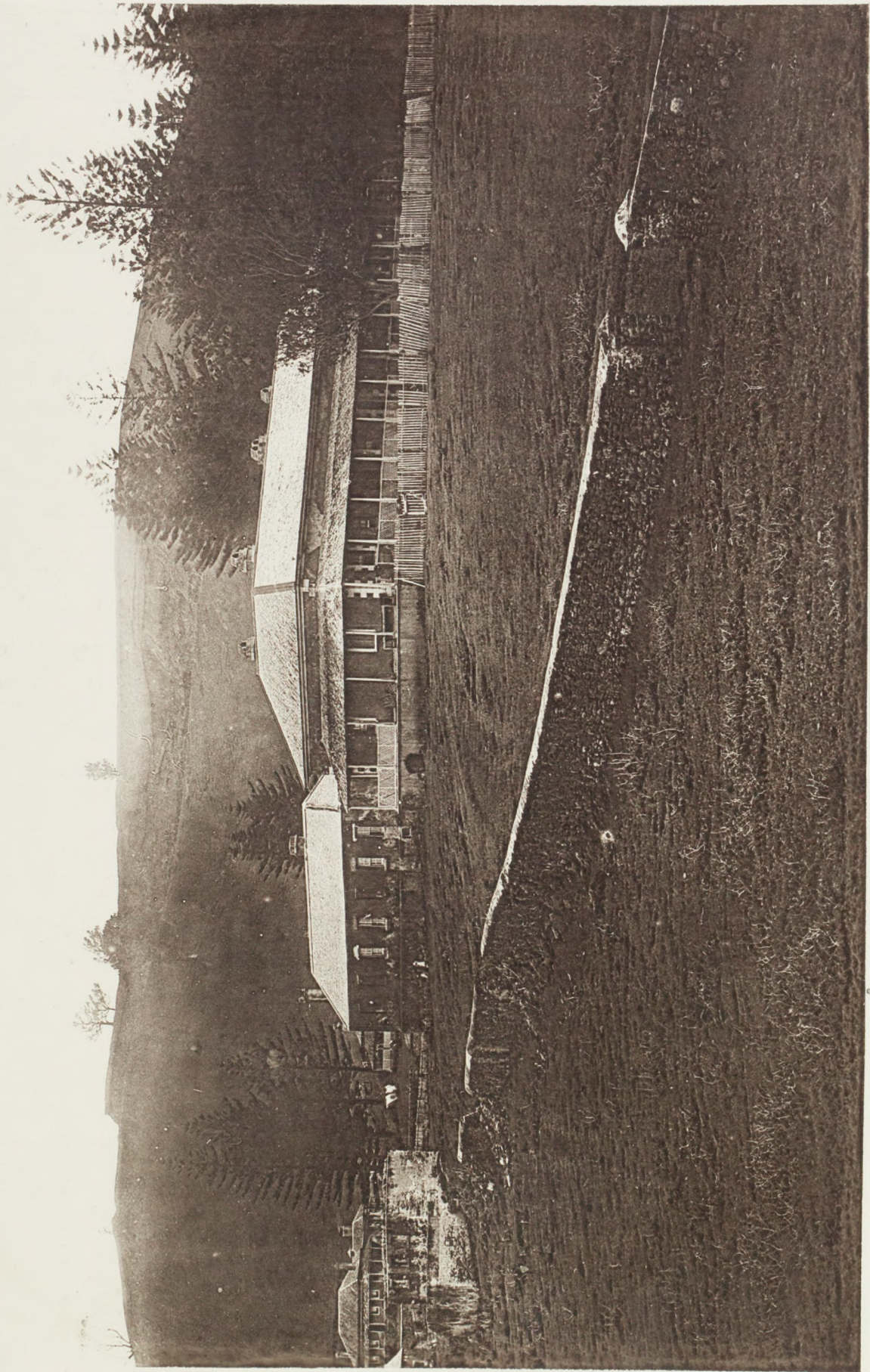
Captain Robert Hunt, 57th Regiment, became Commandant in November, 1828; Mr. James Thomas Morrissett was appointed Commissioner on 31st January, 1829; Mr. John Webb became Superintendent of Council on 6th March, 1832.

The Parliament of New South Wales passed only two Acts dealing specially with the affairs of Norfolk Island, namely:—

1. The Act 5 Will. IV. No. 23 (10 June, 1835), which was passed in pursuance of the Imperial Act 4 & 5 Will. IV. c. 65, entitled "An Act for the more effectual Administration of Justice at Norfolk Island," and under which Act a Court was constituted, consisting of one Judge and five Commissioned Officers of the Navy or Army, with the necessary administrative staff, whose function it should be to try all cases arising on Norfolk Island, at Phillip Island which is adjacent thereto, or on the passage to either of these places.

2. The Act 2 Vic. No. 1 (26 June, 1838), "Transports' Sentence Remission Act," which was passed to authorize the Governor to order the removal of convicts from Norfolk Island or from Moreton Bay to the located parts of New South Wales, there to be kept to hard labour in irons on the roads or public works of the Colony.

Captain Wakefield, the Commandant of Norfolk, resigned on 29th June, 1839, and was succeeded by Lieutenant-Colonel Morrissett, late Superintendent of Police, Sydney. As an evidence of the prosperous condition of the settlement in 1839, a large sale by auction of the produce of the island took place at the Commissariat Stores, Sydney, on the 18th September of that year. On 8th October, 1839, a notification was issued to the effect that all convicts arriving in New South Wales from the United Kingdom should be transferred to Norfolk Island in due course, and not be assigned as servants during any part of their term. Major Anderson, of the 50th Regiment, was the next Commandant, and he was succeeded on 4th November, 1839, by Captain Alexander Maconochie, who took charge of the island under the title of Superintendent. This gentleman, who arrived at Norfolk on 17th



NORFOLK ISLAND.
Government House.



March, 1840, was selected by the Home Government to try the effects of a system of mild prison discipline, entitled the "humane system," which he had been advocating in the newspapers of England. This system proved a complete failure, and Captain Maconochie was soon glad to be relieved from office.

A sale by auction, on account of the Commissariat, of the following articles, received from Norfolk Island, took place at Sydney on 27th April, 1841:—38 bales of wool, 3 casks of arrowroot.

Norfolk Island played an important part in the Australasian group as a penal settlement, and its history as such is considerably mixed up with the history of Tasmania. The latter Colony was first converted into a prison in 1803, and for ten years was merely a receptacle for prisoners from Great Britain and New South Wales. Transportation to New South Wales ceased in 1841.

The Third Earl of Limerick, Viscount Limerick, Baron Glentworth (Ireland), Baron Foxford (United Kingdom), by which last title he holds his seat in the House of Lords, was born at Norfolk Island in 1842. A view of the Earl's house is given at page 18.

In 1842 the prisoners piratically seized the Government supply vessel "Governor Phillip," but were defeated with the loss of several lives on both sides, and four of the prisoners were subsequently executed for participating in the affair.

Governor Sir George Gipps visited Norfolk on a tour of inspection, under instructions from the Secretary of State, on 28th February, 1843.

Major Joseph Childs arrived from England to replace Captain Maconochie on 8th February, 1844.

During the administration of Major Childs the prisoners on the island became very troublesome and incorrigible. On one occasion a great number of them broke into open mutiny and, before they

were subdued, murdered five persons. Thirteen of the mutineers were executed for the offence, after being tried by a Judge sent from Hobart Town and a Jury of the military officers of the island. This was the second and last occasion on which so imposing a form of trial was carried out at Norfolk Island.

On 2nd April, 1844, Norfolk was declared to be no longer a dependency of New South Wales.

This change was made in pursuance of the Imperial Act passed for the purpose (6 and 7 Vic. c. 35), and was promulgated by Letters Patent, dated 24th October, 1843. Under these Letters Patent, which took effect on 29th September, 1844, the island was severed from the Government of New South Wales and the Diocese of Australia, and annexed to the Government and Colony of Van Diemen's Land and to the Diocese of Tasmania.

A Court of Petty Sessions was established at Norfolk on 22nd January, 1844, and Mr. Barrow, of Hobart Town, was the first Police Magistrate. Some years afterwards this gentleman was drowned in Victoria.

The last Commandant of Norfolk was Mr. J. Price, who was appointed to the office by Sir W. T. Denison, then Governor of Van Diemen's Land, in 1846. This Mr. Price was afterwards murdered at Pentridge Stockade, Victoria, of which establishment he had become Superintendent.

When Norfolk Island became subject to Tasmania, the Right Rev. Robert Willson, then Roman Catholic Bishop of that Colony, who is perhaps more widely known as a reformer of prisons and lunatic asylums in Australia and elsewhere, than as an ecclesiastic, commenced to agitate against the mismanagement of Norfolk Island. He says in one communication—"Norfolk Island is 1,400 miles distant from this Colony (Tasmania). Three times I sailed in the Government prison-ship to that ultimate penal settlement, with seventy unhappy men

each voyage. * * * The major who commanded the troops the first time I visited the island, May, 1846, was so appalled at the state of things at that fair but polluted spot, that, throwing up his hands, he exclaimed to me with great earnestness, 'For God's sake, go home and let them know the truth!' Early in September I sailed for England to carry out his advice. It is with great gratification that I reflect on the manner my representations were received by Her Majesty's Government. I have reason to believe that the convict department generally received considerable benefit from my voyage." The evidence given by the Bishop before a Committee of the House of Lords is contained in a Blue Book dated 21st June, 1847. The description of the barbarities practised on the prisoners, and of the depravity indulged in by them, as given by the Bishop, is truly horrifying, and created a profound sensation in England. In another Blue Book, dated 18th July, 1853, the Secretary of State for the Colonies, the Duke of Newcastle, communicates the thanks of the British Government to Dr. Willson; and the Bishop in one of his letters says—"As soon as our excellent Governor, Sir William Denison, became fully acquainted with the true state of things on Norfolk Island, early in 1852, he at once resolved upon advising the Imperial Government to relinquish Norfolk Island as a penal settlement altogether." This advice was accepted at once (*Vide* Blue Books of 15th August, 1850, and 14th May, 1851). The Bishop first brought about an amelioration in the condition of the prisoners at Van Diemen's Land, and then at Norfolk Island, and finally he succeeded in having Norfolk Island abandoned altogether as a prison.

Dr. Ullathorne, the Roman Catholic Vicar-General of the Colony, aided the Bishop very materially in these efforts. He also gave evidence before the Committee of the House of Lords, and carried his views before the British public by issuing several pamphlets, the most telling of which was one entitled "Horrors of Transportation."

A view of the entrance to the old Penal Establishment is given in the illustration, page 20.

The history of Norfolk Island is very much intermixed with that of Lord Howe Island, especially between the years 1850-53. It is therefore necessary to glance briefly at the history of Lord Howe Island.

Lord Howe Island is specially mentioned in the Constitution Acts, and in various proclamations and Governors' Instructions, as a dependency of New South Wales—the reason of its being thus distinguished from other islands that are dependencies of the Colony being, that it lies east of the 154th degree of latitude, which is the limit of the jurisdiction of the Governor of this Colony in that direction. Its exact position is $31^{\circ} 30'$ S. latitude, and $159^{\circ} 5'$ E. longitude, about 400 miles E.N.E. from Port Jackson, and 300 miles E. from Port Macquarie, the nearest point on the Australian continent.

The island is 7 statute miles in length, by $\frac{1}{3}$ to $1\frac{3}{4}$ mile in width, and contains, independent of its mountain slopes, 2,500 acres of land capable of culture. It was first occupied in 1833.

As far back as January, 1835, the Government began to direct their attention to Lord Howe Island, and sent a surveyor to report upon it, with what object does not appear. The gentleman entrusted with this duty was Mr. H. J. White, jun., an assistant surveyor. His report to Sir Thomas L. Mitchell, the Surveyor-General, is dated 7th January, 1835.

Dawson and party, who had bought out the first settlers, abandoned the Howe Island enterprise in 1846 or 1847, partly because they did not succeed in making it pay, and partly because Captain Poole, a member of the firm, failed to obtain from the Government the tenure of the island for which he had applied. The inhabitants were thenceforth left to their own resources.

About the year 1850 Lord Howe Island began to engage the attention of Government once more. This was one of the results of the anti-transportation movement. To understand how it became



NORFOLK ISLAND.
"The Earl of Limerick's House."



affected by this movement, it is necessary to explain the course of events at Van Diemen's Land. That island had become a penal settlement in 1803, and was used till 1813 as a place for the reception of British and New South Wales convicts. It remained a dependency of New South Wales till General Darling proclaimed its separation, on 3rd December, 1825. Transportation to New South Wales ceased in 1841, but Van Diemen's Land (to which had been annexed Norfolk Island) continued to receive convicts from Great Britain till 1853, being the only Colony of the group that did so.

An effort to revive transportation to the Australasian Colonies was encountered by an agitation carried on with intense ardour in New South Wales, Victoria, South Australia, and Van Diemen's Land, in the years 1849, '50, and '51, under the auspices at first of powerful associations in the different Colonies, and afterwards of one united organization started in Tasmania, and established in New South Wales on the 1st January, 1851, under the title of the Australasian League. The efforts of the League were not only successful in putting a final stop to the deportation of British criminals to Australasian shores, but, in the popular enthusiasm that prevailed, a new Constitution was demanded and granted, conceding self-government to the free Colonies. This occurred in 1851.

On 22nd July, 1851, Lieutenant-Governor La Trobe, of Victoria, recommended the Colonial Secretary of this Colony to bring under the notice of his Government the desirability of establishing a place beyond seas for the detention of criminals of the worst class transported from New South Wales and Victoria, and suggested that "Kent's Group," off the coast of Tasmania, should be used as a prison.

The difficulty of finding a place sufficiently isolated for the purpose naturally directed attention also to Norfolk Island and to Lord Howe Island. The latter island had acquired a small population by that time.

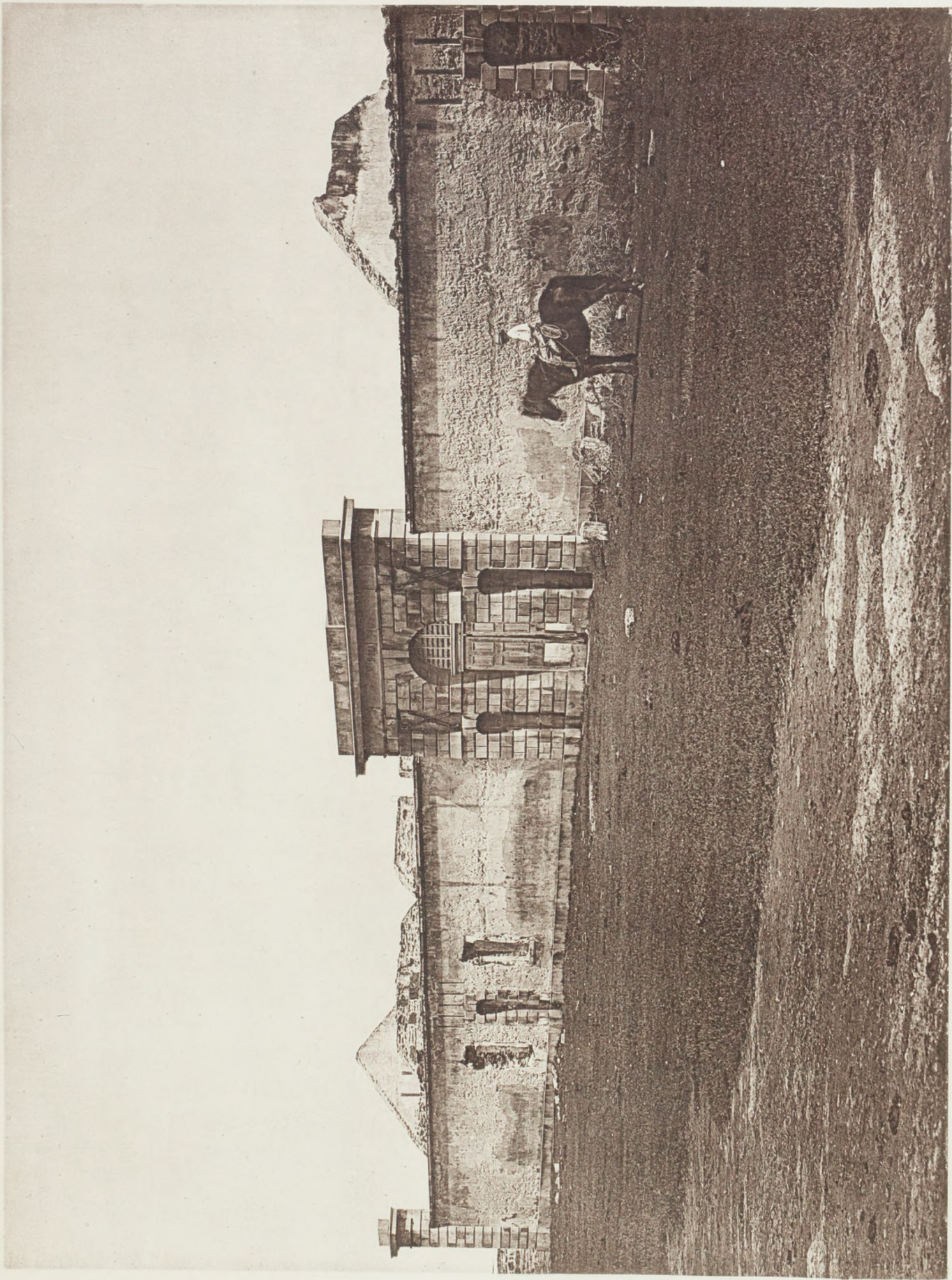
On 1st September, 1851, Dr. Foulis furnished the Government, apparently at their request, with a full description of Lord Howe Island and its resources, being a narrative of his experience during a residence there of three years. To this report is appended a map or diagram of the island and the islets in its vicinity, showing the improvements thereon.

Dr. Foulis speaks very highly of the island and its capabilities ; mentions that there are about sixteen persons resident on it, and adds that from sixty to eighty whalers call there during the year for wood, water, and provisions.

In reply to a request made by the Colonial Secretary, the Convict Classification Board, on 2nd February, 1852, supplied a return of the average number of convicts more than twice convicted who were serving sentences in this Colony in 1849, 1850, and 1851, viz., 178, 173, and 175, respectively.

The Government of this Colony having had under consideration the communications last mentioned, considered it advisable to establish a penal settlement at Lord Howe Island, or some other suitable place, for the common use of this Colony and Victoria ; but at a meeting of the Executive Council, held on 17th February, 1852, it having been ascertained that the number of persons who would have to be dealt with would be very small in comparison with the cost of the establishment to be maintained, the idea was abandoned, and it was recommended that this Colony should enter into an arrangement, if possible, with Tasmania, for the maintenance and supervision of the worst criminals at Norfolk Island at a price to be fixed.

The Colonial Secretary of this Colony accordingly addressed the Colonial Secretary of Van Diemen's Land on the subject, on 20th March, 1852, requesting him to bring the correspondence under the notice of Sir William Denison, who was then Governor of Van Diemen's Land.



NORFOLK ISLAND.
Entrance to Old Penal Establishment.



A reply was received from the Comptroller-General of Van Diemen's Land, on the 25th May, 1852, intimating that Governor Denison was just then maturing a plan for reducing the number of convicts at Norfolk Island; and that this would probably militate against the adoption of the suggestion, but that it would nevertheless be submitted to the Home Government.

The subject again came before the Executive Council of this Colony on 5th July, 1852; and it was resolved that if the Imperial Government, after perusing the papers, should be averse to sanctioning the use of Norfolk Island for the purpose suggested, they might be asked to authorize the use of Lord Howe Island or some other suitable place instead of it.

The Duke of Newcastle, replying to this application, on 19th January, 1853, says, that in consequence of the injury which prison discipline was suffering from the remote and isolated position of Norfolk Island, and in deference to the opinions of the most experienced officers in the Convict Service against establishing prisons in situations removed from frequent opportunities of inspection and guidance, it had been decided to break up the penal establishment at Norfolk; and that it was in contemplation to permit the island to be occupied by the descendants of the mutineers of the "Bounty" living on Pitcairn's Island. The Council were asked to consider again, in this view of the situation, their proposal to occupy Lord Howe Island as a penal settlement.

Thereupon the Colonial Secretary, on 30th July, 1853, addressed Captain Denham, of H.M.S. "Herald," who had been recently surveying Lord Howe Island, and was then in harbour, requesting him to supply a plan of the island and to report with reference to its suitability for a Colonial Penal Settlement. Captain Denham, on 20th August, 1853, replied to the Colonial Secretary, enclosing his report, which he states was furnished at the request of Sir Charles A. Fitz Roy, the Governor-General of the Australian Colonies; also his

remarks on the natural history and capabilities of Lord Howe Island. These lengthy documents give a most favourable account of the island, supplying many minute and interesting details with reference to it, and strongly recommending its utilization as a penal settlement. They are to be found in Parliamentary Papers, Session 1853, vol. 2, p. 715.

Having these various papers before them, the Executive Council, on 24th October, 1853, decided that the documents should be laid before Parliament, with a recommendation that a Select Committee be appointed to report upon the expediency of forming at Lord Howe Island a penal settlement for the Colonies of New South Wales, Victoria, and South Australia. The matter does not, however, seem to have been carried before Parliament in accordance with this suggestion, nor did anything of importance affecting Lord Howe Island occur for several years afterwards.

In 1869 the Water Police Magistrate of Sydney visited the island officially in the "Thetis," and brought with him a party of observation, who furnished some highly interesting reports, which form the subject of a Parliamentary Paper (57 of 1870).

The island was visited again officially on the 4th of April, 1882, by the Hon. J. B. Wilson and a party of observation, in the "Thetis." A series of valuable reports furnished by these gentlemen are collected in a work embellished with phototype prints, published by the Government in 1882. The result of this visit was the discontinuance of the office of Resident Magistrate, which had been in existence for several years, and the placing of the island under the supervision of Henry Wilkinson, Esq., of the Department of Mines, as Visiting Magistrate, &c.

The whole island is now a reserve for a Sanatorium, for which purpose it is eminently fitted by its climatic and agricultural qualities, and the picturesque scenery with which it abounds. One of the reports on it says:—"There are probably few islands of similar size

possessing so rich and varied a flora as Howe Island, handsome banyan and other trees, shrubs, palms, pandanus, and dwarf ferns and tree ferns growing everywhere in great abundance and luxuriance." The island is now occupied by some twenty or thirty individuals. It may be added that it was one of the points selected for observing the transit of Venus in December, 1882.

Having traced the history of Lord Howe Island thus far, with the view of illustrating the history of Norfolk Island, it may be well to repeat at this point, that after the cessation of transportation to New South Wales, Van Diemen's Land became the only Colony of the group to which criminals were sent from Great Britain; and that this continued till 1853, when, in deference to strong and repeated remonstrances from these Colonies, the transportation system finally ceased to be applied to the Australasian group. Norfolk Island, when no longer used for prison purposes, became once more almost deserted.

The name of Van Diemen's Land was changed to Tasmania, on Address of the Legislative Council of that Colony, in 1854, and the Act under which Tasmania obtained its complete independence was passed on 1st November, 1854, assented to in 1855, and brought into force in 1856.

The religious history of Norfolk Island is easily told. At first all without exception were compelled to observe the tenets of the Church of England, and it continued to be the State Church up to the time of the Pitcairn settlement. Bishop Broughton, of Sydney, visited the island in 1839, and the Bishop of New Zealand did so in 1859. The Wesleyan body had a resident minister at a comparatively early date. In 1799, the Rev. Mr. Fulton, a Church of England clergyman, and Father Harold, a Roman Catholic priest, were amongst those transported to New South Wales for participating in the Irish Rebellion of 1798; and during the next two years Messrs. O'Neil and Dixon, two other Roman Catholic clergymen, arrived here

under the same circumstances. They all performed ecclesiastical functions, so far as their opportunities would permit. Father Dixon received a quasi-official authority to do so. Father O'Neil, having established his innocence, soon returned to Ireland; and Father Harold, who had proceeded to Norfolk Island, officiated there for about two years, and then returned to Sydney to replace Father O'Neil. A substantial building was erected for the Church of England, on the first settlement of Norfolk Island, and in course of time the Roman Catholics also had their stone church. These buildings have long since fallen into decay. The Rev. Dr. Ullathorne (now Bishop of Birmingham), the Roman Catholic Vicar-General of this Colony from 1833 to 1840, visited Norfolk Island several times. The late Archdeacon M'Encroe was sent to take charge of the Mission in 1840, and remained about two years at Norfolk Island, during which time he produced a theological work, much in demand in English-speaking countries, entitled "The Wanderings of the Human Mind." This is probably the only literary production of which Norfolk Island can boast before the Pitcairn settlement. Dr. Willson, the Roman Catholic Bishop of Tasmania, as well as visiting Norfolk Island himself, always kept two missionaries there.

It has been already explained that Bishop Willson induced the Government to abandon the island; but once they had decided upon taking that step, the question naturally arose—what was to be done with the place and all its improvements.

A solution of the query soon presented itself. The condition of the Pitcairn islanders had been for some time engaging public attention; and about 1854 the British Press became unanimous in requiring something to be done for the interesting community. Their deportation to Norfolk Island was the idea that found most favour; and, as the island was now available for the reception of them, the suggestion that it should be placed at their disposal soon took practical shape, and their establishment there became only a matter of time.



NORFOLK ISLAND.
"Bloody Bridge," with Phillip Island in Distance



These Pitcairn islanders were chiefly the descendants of the mutineers of H.M.S. "Bounty," and were an English-speaking and religious community. Their history is very peculiar and interesting. It is briefly as follows:—

The "Bounty," Captain William Bligh (afterwards Governor of New South Wales, 1806–1808), quitted Tahiti (otherwise O'Tahiti of Tahiti, or Otaheite) for the West Indies, with plants of the bread-fruit tree, on 7th April, 1789. A mutiny arose on board, and the captain and eighteen of his crew, who were put into an open boat, with a small stock of provisions, near one of the Friendly Islands, on 28th April, 1789, succeeded in reaching Timor, a distance of 3,500 miles.

The leader of the mutiny was one Fletcher Christian. He brought back the "Bounty" to Tahiti, and after obtaining supplies, sailed for *Toubouai*, having with him as well as his own hands nine Tahitian men, twelve women, and eight boys. The natives of that island proving hostile, and those of the crew who had not taken part in the mutiny being anxious to get back to Tahiti, Christian returned thither. Sixteen of the party determined to land and remain there, while eight preferred to follow the fortunes of Christian, and establish a home on some remote island. Everything aboard was fairly divided between the two parties. The "Pandora" frigate, Captain Edwards, was sent out shortly afterwards to search for the "Bounty." On arriving at Tahiti, the mutineers who had remained at that place surrendered or were captured, except two who had been murdered; and in September, 1792, ten of them were tried by Court-martial, of whom six were found guilty and four acquitted. But three of the condemned men were subsequently pardoned, and only three executed. One of the individuals reprieved, Lieutenant Peter Heywood, a most estimable character—quite innocent of the charge preferred against him—afterwards rose to eminence in the Royal Navy.

Christian steered the "Bounty" to the lonely and remote spot which had been called Pitcairn Island by Captain Philip Carteret,

being induced to select that place by reading Carteret's "Voyage round the World," published in 1767, a copy of which happened to be on board. Along with his eight followers, Christian took with him six men and twelve women—Tahitians. He ran the "Bounty" ashore on Pitcairn Island, and dismantled her. In the course of a few years all the men had met with a violent death at each others hands, except two—Young and Adams,—and the former had died of asthma, leaving Adams the sole survivor of the mutiny. Before Young's death, he and Adams began to take a serious view of the tragical events in which they had participated: their minds took a religious bent. Fortunately, a Bible and prayer-book had been saved from the ship; upon these two books the religious edification of the little community was industriously founded. Some twenty years subsequently, Adams and the descendants of himself and the others, numbering thirty-five souls, were discovered living at Pitcairn. The "Bounty" was burnt by the Pitcairners on 23rd January, 1790. John Adams (whose proper name was Alexander Smith) became the pastor and patriarch of his people, and taught them to be religious and industrious. He died on 5th March, 1829, aged 65. Before breathing his last he bequeathed the pastoral office to John Hunn Nobbs, a settler on the island. Messrs. Evans and Buffett, two other individuals who, like Mr. Nobbs, had been attracted to the infantile community by the goodness and simplicity of the people, did much to improve the moral tone of the place. Each of these three men had had a most eventful career before selecting this quiet and obscure mode of life. Susannah Christian, an Otahitian woman, who was the last survivor of the "Bounty," died in 1850.

In 1831 the Pitcairn community, then eighty-seven in number, had to fly for a season to Tahiti, in order to escape an impending water famine. The British Government helped them to remove, sending the barque "Lucy Anne," from Sydney, for a transport. Queen Pomaré received them most cordially. Their new abode did not, however, suit their health; several of them died, and the remainder made their



NORFOLK ISLAND.
View at St. Barnabas' College—Melanesian Mission Station.



way back to their old home during the following two years. Ever afterwards, as long as the community remained at Pitcairn Island, a vague apprehension of the recurrence of a like misfortune haunted them.

From 1832 to 1838 there resided on Pitcairn a Mr. Joshua Hill, who arrived from Otaheite. In nearly all the books written on the subject of Pitcairn, Mr. Hill is described as a person who imposed on the people with extravagant accounts of himself his importance and his influence, and who exercised a tyranny over them. But this view of the case should be regarded with great caution till more is known about it, for subsequent investigation favours the belief that Mr. Hill was a good man, who arrived at the island just in time to save the inhabitants from the curse of drink, into which they had fallen, and who, after gaining the confidence of most of the better disposed of the people, caused them to adopt such firm measures as were necessary for the removal of this curse. In doing this he made enemies of those who preferred a loose licentious life, and these men afterwards contrived, by false representations, to effect his removal. If this be the correct view, Mr. Hill's case supplies a remarkable instance of persecution for righteousness' sake.

Nothing further worth noting occurred at Pitcairn Island till 1853, when the population had risen to nearly 200, and a succession of bad seasons threatened the inhabitants with famine. Then the idea of removing to Norfolk Island, which had been suggested to them some time before by Baron de Thierry, began to find favour. This gentleman, with a Mr. Hugh Carleton, and some others, had been accidentally left on the island for a few weeks in 1852, and they taught the inhabitants music during the short time they were obliged to remain there. It may be mentioned incidentally that this Baron de Thierry cuts a peculiar figure in the history of New Zealand. "He claimed to have purchased for thirty-six axes all territory north of Auckland, and stated to the British resident (Mr. Busby) his intention of establishing there in his own person an independent sovereignty ;

he accordingly, in 1835, issued a proclamation worded, 'Charles de Thierry, Sovereign-Chief of New Zealand, and King of Muhuheva, &c., &c.'; in 1837 he addressed a second and more moderate address to the white inhabitants, dated from Sydney; in 1838 he landed in his dominions with ninety-three street loafers from Sydney, unfurled a silken banner, ordered his subjects to back out of his presence, and offered to create the captain of the ship which conveyed him to his kingdom an admiral; funds running short, however, his subjects deserted him, and he subsequently lived in Auckland in a humble way, cleaning flax fibre."

The Pitcairn community having, as already mentioned, resolved to leave their island, addressed a petition to Rear-Admiral Moresby, of H.M.S. "Portland," begging that they might be removed to Norfolk Island or some other suitable place. A despatch from the Secretary of State to Governor Denison, dated 15th December, 1852, mentions Norfolk Island as a fit place for them to be sent to, and asks for a report on the subject. Accordingly, Mr. Pritchard, the British Consul at Raiatea, Society Islands, was directed to visit Pitcairn and Norfolk, and report on the project. In a letter to the Secretary of State, dated 3rd April, 1853, that gentleman recommended that the prayer of the Pitcairners should be granted. The Pitcairn Fund Committee were advised of the petition being granted, by communications from the Under Secretary for the Colonies, dated 14th December, 1853, and 6th April, 1854, and the Lieutenant-Governor of Norfolk Island was at the same time instructed not to allow any other class of persons to occupy that island.

In May, 1855, Captain Denham, of H.M.S. "Herald," visited Norfolk Island, to wind up the affairs of the prison Colony. While there he improved Bradley's Chart, and also surveyed the island, and supplied some valuable papers on its capabilities, &c. On 6th August, 1855, Governor Denison dispatched H.M.S. "Juno," Captain Fremantle, to communicate the offer of the British Government to the Pitcairners. The vessel arrived at Pitcairn Island on the 12th, and the proposal was

adopted in public meeting, 153 voting for it and 34 against it. On 9th April, 1856, H.M.S. "Dido," Captain Morshead, called and arranged the date of departure; and on 2nd May, 1856, the "Morayshire," 850 tons, chartered in Sydney, left Pitcairn with all the inhabitants and their goods and chattels—the accumulation of seventy years—and arrived at Norfolk on Sunday, 8th June, 1856.

The operations at both ends were supervised by officers of H.M.S. Navy, and a large quantity of supplies were put ashore to start the new Colony. The Pitcairn family at that time numbered 40 men, 47 women, 54 boys, 52 girls; total, 193.

It is interesting to note, that when removing to Norfolk Island, Mr. Nobbs was obliged to go forward a day with his diary, in order to make his hebdomadal calendar coincide with that of New South Wales.

When inducing the Pitcairners to remove to Norfolk Island, Lieutenant Gregorie and Mr. Robinson, a gentleman who happened to be travelling for his health in the "Morayshire," were obliged to use all the persuasion they could to induce the inhabitants to leave their homes. The strength of their affection for the place was wonderful, and their inclination to remain there almost prevailed against their better judgment in a few cases. The great incentive put before them was the offer of a better island in exchange for their own. It would seem that they interpreted this offer in too literal a sense—that the removal was merely designed as a tentative measure—that in any case the land, live stock, and other valuables were not intended to be vested in them in their individual capacity—and that even their communal rights were to be circumscribed. If they had conceived the least notion of how they would be situated at Norfolk Island they would never have left Pitcairn. Hence, they soon became dissatisfied. The granting of 1,000 acres of land to the Missionary establishment took them by surprise; and they looked upon the transaction as little better than a robbery, although the land had been sold at £2 per acre, and the proceeds placed to the credit of their common fund. The

Last line, page 28.

*The "Juno" arrived at Pitcairn Island on
September 15th, 1855*

*Johnston
5.9.1938*

administration of this fund by the Governor and his officials was repugnant to their sense of independence ; the presence of the tradesmen and their families who were put there to teach them was disliked ; the climate did not suit some of their constitutions ; and scarcely any of them cared for doing the additional work that devolved upon them in their new condition. Consequently, in November, 1858, as many as sixty of them made up their minds to return to Pitcairn Island. Only two families of the Youngs, consisting of two men and their wives, with ten girls and three boys, however, actually started, the plan having been frustrated by the Government.

H.M.S. "Calypso," Captain Montresor, visited Pitcairn Island in October, 1860, and furnished a number of interesting particulars of the place. The population had not increased at that date.

As the communal fund of Norfolk had been drawn upon to an unreasonable extent for the purpose of carrying out the scheme of migration therefrom above-mentioned, the Governor withdrew the control of the live stock, &c., from the islanders, which still further irritated them. The departure of the tradespeople one by one, however, somewhat mollified their feelings ; but the sense of dissatisfaction and disappointment that pervaded the whole community was very strong. The loss of their native independence especially seemed intolerable to them. Lady Belcher, in her "Mutineers of the Bounty," reproduces most of the correspondence relating to the alleged cession of Norfolk Island to the Pitcairn community, and it would be difficult to form a proper opinion on the subject of the claims of the Pitcairners without reading these documents. The conclusion is irresistible, in view of the facts therein narrated, that however much the Pitcairners may have misapprehended the nature of the bargain made with them by the British Government, the authorities had no intention whatever of taking the slightest advantage of them, or of misleading them in any one particular, or of treating them in any other way, in fact, than that in which they have been treated. There was certainly a diplomatic secrecy maintained about the sale of the land to the Bishop, and some



NORFOLK ISLAND.

Residence of the late Bishop Patteson—Melanesian Mission Station.



indiscreet promises were indulged in by the different individuals who persuaded the Pitcairners to leave their own island. The document upon which the Pitcairners chiefly ground their claim to the exclusive possession of Norfolk Island, and for the existence of which so many of them vouch, cannot be traced.

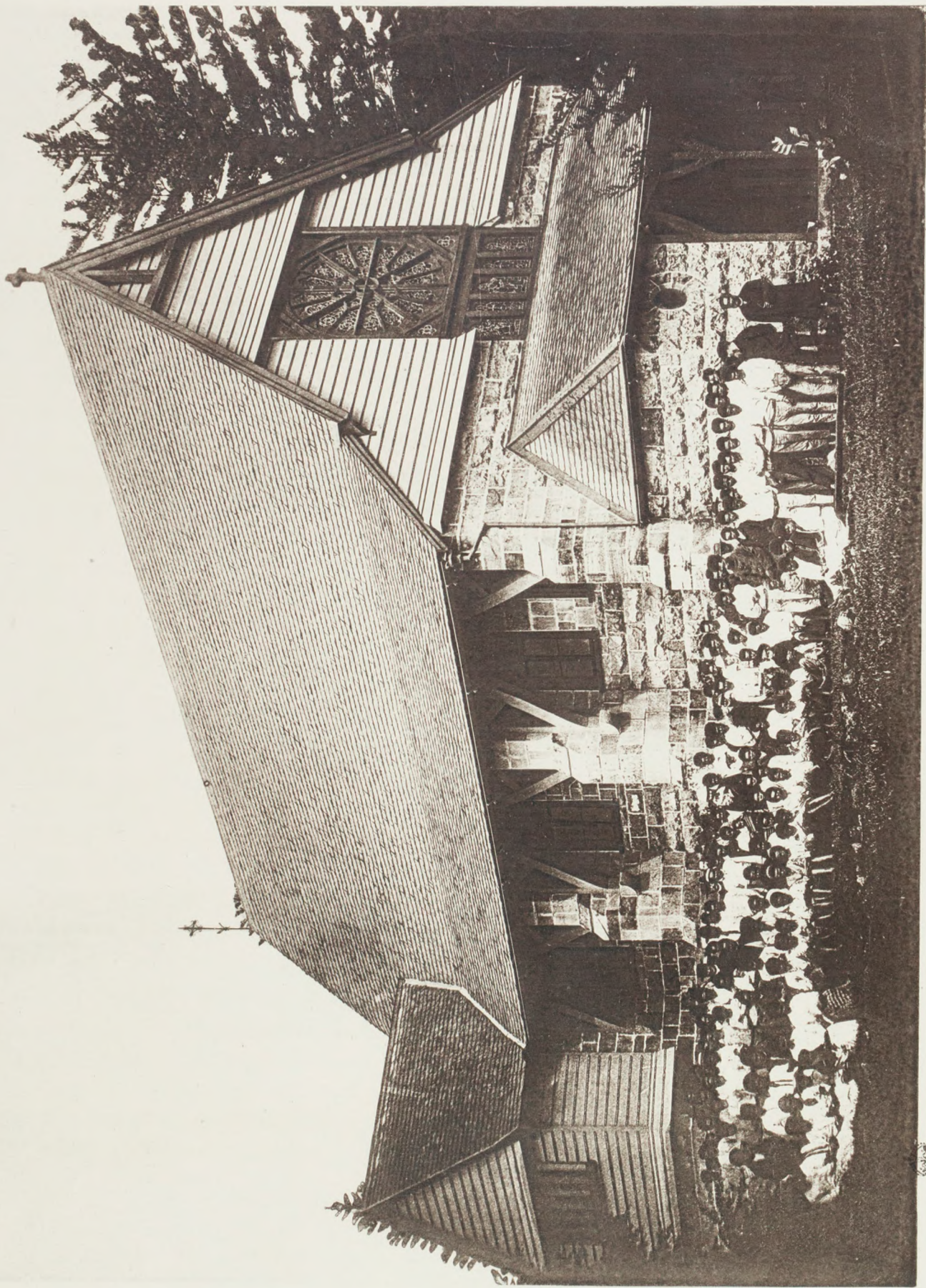
The Missionary enterprise of Dr. G. A. Selwyn, the first Episcopal Bishop of New Zealand, was destined to have even a greater influence upon the future of Norfolk Island than the removal to it of the Pitcairn Islanders. This good bishop, not content with cultivating the spiritual field entrusted to him on the mainland of New Zealand, extended his labours to the Melanesian Islands, navigating his own vessel when making his visitations. He first used for this purpose the "Undine" schooner, 22 tons, and afterwards the "Southern Cross," which is still employed in the same service. He established his missionary head-quarters at Kohimarama, near Auckland, New Zealand. To this school natives were brought from many islands, educated, and then sent back to their own countries, in the hope that after such training they would themselves become centres of religion and education.

Dr. Selwyn, when in England in 1854, proposed to remove the head-quarters and college of the Melanesian Mission from New Zealand to Norfolk Island; and he represented that the buildings which could be spared for the purpose were of a capacity equal to that of all the colleges in the University of Cambridge. The application was referred to the Pitcairn Fund Committee, which met in London, and consisted chiefly of the naval officers who had been in the Pacific, with a few relatives and friends, Admiral Sir Fairfax Moresby, K.C.B., being the Chairman. The Committee concurred in the proposal, on condition that the Pitcairners should be permitted to remain isolated and to retain their own polity, and that no other settlers should be allowed to intrude upon them at Norfolk Island. This was communicated to the Government in July, 1854. The question of removing the missionary establishment to Norfolk Island was then dropped for about ten years, when it was

revived again by Bishop Patteson, on the suggestion of the Rev. G. H. Nobbs, who had recommended the Bishop to secure 200 acres on the island for a missionary station. The Pitcairners renewed their petition to be removed to Norfolk Island, when visited by H.M.S. "Juno" in 1855, particularly urging that after being settled at that place, they might be left by themselves, and free to manage their own affairs. The balance of the fund raised by the Pitcairn Fund Committee (£400) was expended by Governor Denison for the benefit of the community after their removal to Norfolk Island.

In 1855 Bishop Selwyn received a valuable coadjutor in island missionary work, namely, the Rev. John Coleridge Patteson. This enterprising man wrought well amongst the Solomon and other islands, and established his claim to the Bishopric of these regions. Bishop Selwyn obtained the division of the diocese of New Zealand in 1857. In 1860 he again made representations to the Government concerning its unmanageable size, and recommended the separation from it of the Melanesian Islands, to form a new Bishopric; and he procured the consecration of the Rev. John Coleridge Patteson as first "Bishop of the Western Isles." Bishop Selwyn was appointed Bishop of Lichfield in England in 1867.

When the Rev. Mr. Patteson first visited Norfolk Island, which he did with Bishop Selwyn and Mrs. Selwyn, on the 27th May, 1856, in the "Undine," he found that the whole convict establishment had been removed, and that only some dozen servants, under the management of Mr. and Mrs. Stewart, had been left to receive the future inhabitants, and instruct them in the methods they would have to pursue in utilizing the facilities placed at their disposal. This last remnant of the Norfolk Island prison Colony left in the "Morayshire." At this time there were only eight surnames amongst the Pitcairn community, five of the original "Bounty" stock—Adams, M'Coy, Christian, Quintal, and Young, and three new comers—Nobbs, Buffett, and Evans. "The houses were substantial buildings, covered with creepers, honeysuckles, and roses, and surrounded with large gardens.



NORFOLK ISLAND.

Teaching Staff and Pupils, and The Patten Memorial Chapel, St. Barnabas' College—Melanesian Mission Station.



These had already been appropriated by lot to the different families. Supplies had also been given them for a specified period, together with some seeds and implements of husbandry. The Secretary of State, consulting for their comfort and welfare, had issued instructions that they should be interfered with as little as possible, and that their existing social system should be maintained. A Magistrate and a Chaplain were at once appointed for their service. The habits of the Pitcairners when they landed at Norfolk Island may be thus described: The men occupied themselves in whaling and herding their cattle, and working in their gardens and plantations; the women were chiefly occupied in attending to their dairies and in sewing; reading was a favourite occupation with all; both sexes were very industrious and religious; they usually rose at dawn. Juveniles, both boys and girls, became experts at swimming at a very early age. With the aid of a surf-board, a canoe-shaped piece of board upon which to sit or rest, they were able to ride over the highest billows, and were quite at home sporting on the waves of the ocean." The contingent of missionaries from the Pitcairn stock was large. In an attack which was made on Bishop Patteson by the islanders of Santa Cruz in 1864, two of them (Edwin Nobbs and Fisher Young) lost their lives. Near this same place, Commodore Goodenough and Bishop Patteson himself were afterwards destined to lose their lives.

By proclamation of Sir William Denison, as Governor-General of New South Wales, dated 31st October, 1856, reciting an Imperial Order in Council, dated 24th June, 1856 (*Gazette* No. 166), issued in pursuance of the Act 18 and 19 Vic. c. 56 (part of the new Constitution of this Colony), it was declared amongst other things that Norfolk Island should, from the date of the proclamation, be separated from Van Diemen's Land (then called Tasmania), and be created a distinct and separate settlement, to be ruled by a Governor exercising plenary powers; and that, until further ordered, the new Colony should be under the jurisdiction of the Governor for the time being of New South Wales; and that it should have a great seal of its own; and

that for the better management of the island the Governor should have power to exercise the following functions particularly in respect of it, namely, to make all appointments of whatever kind—to make laws, subject to Imperial Orders and Regulations—and to make grants of land ; and that all existing laws, ordinances, and regulations, civil and ecclesiastical, applicable to the island, should continue in force, subject to any alterations that might be rendered necessary by changes of Government. Adverting to this Order in Council, Governor Denison remarks, in his “Varieties of Vice-Regal Life,” under the heading “I become an Autocrat,”—“I received a copy of the Orders in Council vesting the government of Norfolk Island in the Governor of New South Wales for the time being, and with this, instructions, giving to the Governor not merely the usual power as head of the Executive, but also those of the two Houses of Parliament in addition, power to make the laws, as well as to see to their execution.”

Governor Denison visited Norfolk in his capacity of Governor of the island in 1857, leaving Sydney in H.M.S. “Iris” on the 17th and arriving on the 23rd of September, and returning on the 27th of October. He immediately assembled the inhabitants, read his Commission and Instructions, and caused these documents to be copied into the book containing the laws of the Colony. He then proceeded to New Zealand, appointed Messrs. Graham & Co., of Auckland, Commercial Agents for the Colony—returned on 8th October—met the adult inhabitants, and addressed them on the advantages and obligations incidental to their new mode of life—and he promised to plant amongst them a few tradesmen of callings that were indispensable for their convenience and progress ; this promise he redeemed soon afterwards. Each family had assigned to it a house and grounds, 50 acres of land, tools and implements, furniture, and in fact everything that was necessary to equip an Industrial Colony.

While Governor Denison was on the island he framed a political Constitution for its government. This Constitution he entitled “Laws and Regulations for Norfolk Island.” The document is dated

“Norfolk Island, 14th October, 1857,” and was published as a Supplement to the Government Gazette (No. 160), on the 30th October, 1857. It is a singular production in some respects; but it may be observed that the laws of Pitcairn Island were very simple, and that Governor Denison followed them in letter and spirit as far as was practicable when drafting his code for Norfolk Island. The following are the principal features of the code:—It repeals all existing laws, ordinances, and regulations, and places the island during the absence of the Governor in charge of an Executive Government, consisting of a Chief Magistrate and two Assistants or Councillors, to be elected annually on 26th December and take office on 1st January. The Chief Magistrate must reside on the island, be possessed of a landed estate therein, and be at least twenty-eight years of age. The Councillors must also reside on the island, and be at least twenty-five years of age. Six months’ residence, being twenty years of age, and ability to read and write, are the electoral qualifications. The Chaplain is to preside at elections, and open the proceedings with prayer; he has a casting vote, and is ineligible for office. Election confers the powers of the Magistracy pending formal appointment, and the Chaplain administers the oath of office. Changes of the Constitution are to be ratified at a public meeting within fourteen days, and not to be valid until confirmed by the Governor. In serious matters a Jury of seven elders is to be designated, and the Jury and witnesses are to be paid. The Governor constitutes special tribunals. The elders must be at least twenty-five years of age, and be selected by lot, the tickets being drawn by the Chief Magistrate. The Governor only can remit fines. Education is compulsory, under a penalty of 6d. per diem for default, and the Chaplain’s certificate is alone accepted as an exemption. An educational poll-tax of 10s. per annum, which is paid without deduction to the schoolmaster, is exacted for each child, and the schoolmaster is subordinate to the Chaplain. Spirituous and fermented liquors are only to be used medicinally, and to be issued by the Chaplain, and the issues are to be noted in a register. Should any forbidden beverage be landed on the island, the vessel containing it is to be

broken, and the liquor run to waste. Parents and guardians are to pay fines in the case of juveniles under fifteen years of age. There are in all thirty-nine articles in the code. The popular Assembly now meets once a quarter or oftener.

Sir William Denison delivered a most interesting lecture on Norfolk Island in the Sydney School of Arts, on 24th November, 1857.

Governor Denison once more visited Norfolk Island, starting from Sydney in H.M.S. "Cordelia," on 16th June, and returning on 8th July, 1859, on which occasion he sent in advance of him a schooner with a number of tradesmen, to act as instructors in the different callings that he conceived would be beneficial to the community, as he had promised to do. He also sent Mr. Rossiter and family to act as tutors, storekeepers, &c. A supply of necessary articles of all kinds was forwarded to the island by Sir William in the following October, to be disposed of by Mr. Rossiter, on a 10 per cent. commission.

On the 12th of October, 1860, Governor Denison, by notification in the Gazette (No. 188), made several verbal alterations in the constitution of Norfolk Island—(1st), qualifying his power to repeal the laws, &c., as they existed before the independence of the island; (2nd), withdrawing from adjudication by the "Courts of Justice in Sydney," and taking over for *final* decision by the Governor, all cases affecting life or limb, or being of an otherwise serious character; (3rd), declaring that all cases which may not be determined at Norfolk Island are to be dealt with, till other provision is made, in accordance with the laws "now in force in New South Wales, so far as the same may be applicable"; and that persons committing such offences are to be tried at Norfolk Island by a Court and Jury constituted as the Governor shall appoint, and with such forms and procedure as he shall establish.

In the same Gazette appears another notification from Governor Denison, promulgating laws for regulating the transfer of and dealings in land at Norfolk Island. Under these laws an officer, designated "The Registrar," is to be appointed, and all transactions in land (except



NORFOLK ISLAND.
"Long Ridge."



leases for less than twelve months) are to be entered in books entitled "Land Registers," to be kept by the Registrar at the island. Transactions in land are to be effected by the Registrar filling up the prescribed form in duplicate, filing and numbering one copy, and giving the counterpart to the person beneficially interested. Without this formality no such instrument is legal. A description and plan must be embodied in the documents. Forms of indorsement, rules of succession in case of intestacy, powers of sale by the Registrar, the keeping of indexes by him, and other matters affecting real estate are also dealt with. The Registrar is to furnish copies of any of the records upon payment of the fee of 2s. for each copy, and to give information concerning all documents issued from his office, dealing with the estate of any person specified, on requisition and payment of the fee of 1s. The last Article (No. 15) prescribes, that "it shall not be lawful for any inhabitant of Norfolk Island to sell or alienate in any way the land of which he may become possessed to a person or persons who have not received permission from the Governor to reside in the said island."

Governor Denison formed a high opinion of the future of Norfolk Island. In one of his letters he remarks :—"I look forward to the time when Norfolk Island will become the St. Michael's of New Zealand, Tasmania, and Melbourne."

Lieut.-Colonel Kempt visited Norfolk Island while he was Administrator of the Government of this Colony, in the beginning of 1861.

On the 6th of February, 1862, Sir John Young (afterwards Lord Lisgar), the Governor who succeeded Sir W. Denison, paid a visit to Norfolk Island. About this time Bishop Patteson revived his scheme of residing on Norfolk Island, and Governor Young lent a willing ear to the proposal, stating that the policy of Sir William Denison in regard to the island "was no longer advantageous, and had always been in its nature transitory."

The view given at page 14 represents Government House, a very comfortable though not pretentious looking building.

Four families of the Pitcairners, numbering some twenty individuals, went back to Pitcairn Island in 1863 or 1864, following the example of those who had left Norfolk Island and returned to their old home in 1859.

In October, 1865, Bishop Patteson thought of realizing the idea that had been so long under consideration, and which he had been actively mooting for some time back, of moving the headquarters of the Mission closer to the islands. New Zealand lay altogether to windward, and the return voyage had always to be made against the prevalent S.E. trade-wind. It had therefore been proposed to accept an offer of a small island—Curtis Island—which was thought to be conveniently situated, and well adapted for the purpose, to give it a year's trial, and, if it proved satisfactory, to transfer the Mission thither.

This plan, however, was soon superseded by a far more satisfactory one, an offer having been officially made in May, 1866, to permit the Mission to be located at Norfolk Island. Accordingly, on his way back to New Zealand, Bishop Patteson visited Norfolk Island, and chose a suitable site for the Mission buildings. On 28th May, 1866, some fifty scholars were withdrawn from Kohimarama College and embarked for Norfolk Island. On Easter Tuesday the last of the Kohimarama establishment removed from Auckland to the island. The following is the description given of the island at that time:—

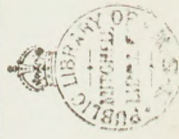
“The estate made over to the Bishop, being about 1,000 acres in extent, forms nearly one-ninth of the whole island. It is situated on the opposite side to that occupied by the Pitcairners, faces north, and slopes gently down to a low cliff and a rocky shore.

“The land—a low table flat, broken by gentle gullies—is sprinkled, after a beautiful park-like fashion, with Norfolk Island pines and white oak; while the gullies and the flanks of Mount Pitt are full of



NORFOLK ISLAND.

His Excellency Lord Augustus Loftus and Suite, with Mr. Francis Nobbs
(Chief Magistrate) and Family.



a thick growth of wild lemon, scrub tree-ferns, wild cotton, and wild tobacco.

“The Mission buildings, called St. Barnabas’ College, are situated on a slight ridge, half a mile from the sea. A pretty view of a scene at the college is supplied in the illustration at page 26.

“The island is traversed with three main roads—made, of course, in former years, by convict labour; smaller roads also branch off to the various outlying farms and hamlets. The scenery is much like that of a large and well-wooded English park. The long native grass, which proves famous pasturage for cattle, is very abundant; whilst a great variety of fruits, the orange, lemon, banana, guava, and peach, are to be had for the picking.”

In February, 1868, typhoid fever broke out amongst the Pitcairners, and extended thence to the Mission establishment. Mr. Nobbs, physician and pastor, had as many as seventy cases to attend to at once, and though nearly seventy years of age, devoted himself night and day to the work.

During July, 1869, Mr. Nobbs supplied the following statistics: Births, since the exodus from Pitcairn in 1856, 204; deaths, 72, of which 30 took place in 1868; number of inhabitants, January, 1868, 300, viz., 150 of each sex. All the live-stock had been purchased from the Government as communal property, the proceeds going to the island fund kept by the Governor.

In the same year some of the Pitcairn Islanders and their friends from Norfolk Island visited Sydney in the schooner “Pacific,” and unfortunately contracted the disease of measles, which made its appearance amongst them when they were returning home, and obliged them to call in at Lord Howe Island, where they remained aboard their own ship till they recovered; but the disease broke out on that island after their departure, leaving an unpleasant reminiscence of the visit.

The Mission-house at Norfolk is conducted as an ecclesiastical and secular college, as many as forty pupils at a time being brought to it by the Mission-vessel, the "Southern Cross." These are gathered from the hundreds of islands scattered over the Pacific, and returned to their respective homes as missionaries or otherwise after being educated and trained.

A great variety of languages and dialects are spoken in the college. The "Mota" tongue is adopted as a common language, but some English is used in the Church services. Mota is a sugar-loaf island in one of the Banks' Group, and lies to the southward of the Santa Cruz Group, in the South Pacific.

Under Bishop Patteson the work of evangelizing and educating progressed with great rapidity and success; but it was checked by the catastrophe of 16th September, 1871, in which the good Bishop, the Reverend Joseph Atkin, and their native *confrère* Stephen Taroaniara, met with their death at the hands of the treacherous inhabitants of Nupaka Island, a small place adjacent to Santa Cruz, where Fisher Young and Edwin Nobbs had received their death wounds seven years before.

A view of the residence of the late Bishop Patteson is given at page 30.

The noble work of the martyred Bishop Patteson has been taken up with ardour by his successor, Bishop Selwyn, the son of the first Bishop of New Zealand, who was the early patron and friend of Bishop Patteson—a circumstance which is not only peculiar but seems to augur success for the Mission. The deceased Bishop is commemorated by a Memorial Chapel, which is depicted in the illustration at page 32.

Sir Wentworth Dilke visited Pitcairn Island in 1868, and says of it, in his "Greater Britain," published in 1869, that the inhabitants were prosperous, but had disagreed a little about the division of the land, and he gives a pleasing description of the people and the place.

Lord Belmore, Governor of this Colony, visited Norfolk Island in H.M.S. "Virago," in October, 1870.

The township of Kingston, which is illustrated in the frontispiece, is situated at Emily Bay, on the south-west side of the island, the only place at which the precipitous cliffs are broken and the land slopes down gradually to sea-level. This spot can only be approached by passing across a dangerous reef. The inhabitants employ whale-boats for this perilous service, and are well skilled in their use. In ordinary weather the water is calm inside the reef. There is a landing-pier conveniently situated in the bay. A little south of the pier an artificial opening in the reef has been partially completed. Relative to the formation of this harbour for small craft, the Gazette of 28th June, 1878, contains the copy of a report by Captain R. R. Armstrong, R.N., then Resident Magistrate of Lord Howe Island. The work inspected by him consisted of a passage being opened by Messrs. Quintales and party into Emily Bay. The passage was intended to be at least 6 feet deep at low-water, with a width of 65 feet, the rise and fall spring tides being 6 feet. The harbour or lagoon possesses a sandy bottom, and is completely sheltered from all winds save S.W., in which direction, however, it is barriered by a double reef. Vessels of from 150 to 200 tons could probably be navigated through the passage and harbour when completed.

When the weather is not very calm it is impossible to land at Emily Bay, but a landing may sometimes be effected at a place called The Cascades, on the opposite side of the island. There is no "cascade" at this spot, but there is a flat rock over which the water washes, and upon which the skilful mariners of the island can manage to land a whale-boat and its living freight with comparative safety. Vessels are obliged to stand on and off during bad weather, as there is no good anchorage and no haven at the island.

An avenue of stately pine trees crosses the island from the Melanesian Mission Station to the Town. The effect is superb, and is well illustrated in the view at page 36.

Returning for a moment to the history of Pitcairn Island : In 1879 the number of inhabitants at Pitcairn was ninety, consisting of forty-one males and forty-nine females ; and Elizabeth George, eighty-eight years of age, a daughter of one of the nine mutineers, was still living there. In January, 1884, the ship "Mercury," of Boston, called at Pitcairn Island and took away the mail (twenty-five letters for all parts of the world). The inhabitants were getting on well, and numbered 105 persons—of whom fifty-two were males.

With reference to the Melanesian Mission, in an address delivered at Sydney in June, 1883, Bishop Selwyn said there were missionary stations established at sixteen islands under his jurisdiction ; that the staff consisted of himself as bishop, seven English clergymen, and one layman, seven native clergy, and between seventy and eighty teachers ; that the school at Norfolk Island averaged about 150 boys and forty girls ; and that there were thirty-six schools and stations in the islands altogether. Norfolk Island is the centre of all the religious enterprises carried on by the Church of England amongst the islands of the Pacific. The influence exercised by H.M. war-ships in their frequent visits to the islands, and the protection afforded by the High Commissioner and Consul-General for the Western Pacific, who has been exercising his functions since June, 1878, somewhat facilitate peaceable intercourse with the natives. The annexations made at New Guinea in 1884, will further serve the same useful purpose.

The local Horticultural Society recently held a show at Norfolk Island—the Autumn Show of 1884—which indicates that the inhabitants of this charming miniature colony have at least some of the progressive characteristics of other British communities.

His Excellency Lord Augustus Loftus, Governor of New South Wales and of Norfolk Island, visited the island in H.M.S. "Miranda" in April, 1884. The event was looked forward to with great interest by the islanders, as they had not been honored with a Vice-Regal visit for fourteen years. The Vice-Regal party consisted of His Excellency,



NORFOLK ISLAND.

Landing Place, Sydney Bay—Departure of His Excellency Lord A. Loftus.



his son and Aid-de-Camp, Lieutenant A. B. B. Loftus, and his Private Secretary, H. A. Unwin, Esq. ; accompanied by Mr. A. Dyer, Photo-mechanical Operator of the Government Printing Office, who photographed and printed the views with which this work is embellished.

The Governor arrived on Monday, the 21st, and took his departure on Thursday, the 24th April. He had some difficulty in landing, as the weather was boisterous. The "Miranda" had to stand off till he was ready to embark again. The Bishop and the Chief Magistrate, Mr. Francis Nobbs, received the Governor, and His Excellency accepted the hospitalities of Mr. Francis Nobbs's house while he remained. The first official act of the Governor was to meet the Chief Magistrate and Councillors, and then he visited the Melanesian establishment. A meeting of the Island Parliament next took place, at which the attendance was large, as every adult male is entitled to a seat in it. After some complimentary remarks by the Governor, he proceeded to explain his views as to the condition and prospects of the islanders, and dwelt on their duty to themselves, to their families and children, and to the nation at large. He strongly objected to their social exclusiveness, which he thought was prejudicial to their interests, and he particularly objected to cousins being allowed to intermarry freely. He endeavoured to disabuse their minds of the idea that they have any absolute claim to the proprietorship of the island, and read for them the order by which the Governor for the time being is empowered to grant or sell land to whomsoever he pleases. He deprecated the way in which the land is allowed to go to ruin, and intimated that he would issue no more grants till he had communicated with the Imperial Government on the subject. He argued that the presence of the Melanesian establishment was advantageous in every respect ; that the Mission purchase represented an area equal to the collective purchases of at least fifty families ; and that therefore the Mission party were entitled to a degree of representation proportionate to their numbers, whereas they scarcely exercised any political voice. The cutting of timber on Crown Land he absolutely prohibited. In the

Photo. opp. p. 44 - has been reversed
in printing.

evening he dealt with minor matters and individual claims. Next morning (Thursday) he resumed business. He finally embarked in the afternoon, and the Bishop and his staff left for the islands, in the "Southern Cross," on the next day.

The departure of His Excellency the Governor and suite from Sydney Bay, Norfolk Island, is shown in the view given at page 42.

The following communication, dated Norfolk Island, 30th May, 1884, which has been extracted from the *Sydney Morning Herald*, reviews the grounds traversed by His Excellency, and gives a fair idea of the present condition of the island:—

"The excitement consequent on the late visit of the Governor, Lord Augustus Loftus, to the island has subsided somewhat, and we have cooled down into the usual humdrum business. His Excellency will long be remembered for the matter-of-fact truths he enunciated. Since his departure we have been asking ourselves a few questions, and the situation has been freely discussed, the one all-absorbing topic being the probable stoppage of the issue of free grants. The people whom this measure most affects, the rising generation, have, however, taken matters very calmly, and although quiet threats not to do public work were uttered here and there, nothing came of it. A word or two may be offered in explanation of this said land business. It has been the custom here when a young couple marries to give them, without conditions, a free grant of half an allotment (25 acres) of land; a girl marrying a stranger getting a quarter allotment, about $12\frac{1}{2}$ acres. During the first few years of the occupancy the portion was a whole allotment of about 50 acres. All the immigrants from Pitcairn Island received that quantity, but during the reign of Sir John Young it was cut down to half, and has so remained since. Now, His Excellency, taking into consideration the large quantity of land granted, and the small portion under cultivation, thinks, with good grounds doubtless, that we have too much land to little purpose, and that the free-grant system ought to cease; or rather that he can hold out no hope for its



NORFOLK ISLAND.
Residence of Mr. C. Nobbs.



continuation. The total area of the island is 8,600 acres. Of this, in round numbers, about 5,000 acres have been alienated (including 1,000 to the Melanesian Mission), and of this large area less than 180 acres are under cultivation by the community—a small quantity no doubt, but when the means of communication are considered, one which should be judged rather by opportunities than by figures. Another grave factor in this state of things is that a large portion of the people love boating and whaling better than farming, and are away from their farms pursuing the more genial occupation during the most critical time of the year. It cannot be denied, however, that they are not good boatmen or good whalers, or that they do not pursue the business they love with great assiduity.

“ In the matter of moorings (we had petitioned for them some time ago), the Governor in his refusal was not so happy as on the land question. His Excellency said we must help ourselves, and advised the construction of a breakwater at Ball’s Bay, the only indentation worth notice. The bay faces east, and is open to the prevailing wind, which at times is most boisterous. The cliffs are rugged and precipitous; the only stone consisting of black granite boulders, and it is not plentiful. There is no skilled labour and no plant. It is thought that an anchor and chain from one of the navy yards, which any man-of-war bound to the station could bring out and lay down without much trouble, would be sufficient. With regard to the cutting of timber on Crown Land, His Excellency has made no radical change, although at one time he did put his foot down and prohibited it without his special permission. There ought, however, to be more restrictions, the extent and the supply being very limited. Much wood has been cut to waste.

“ A public meeting was held on the Wednesday following the departure of the Governor to reconsider the ‘points’ which were brought forward at the meeting at which he presided. All the recommendations were agreed to without comment. Some discussion took place about the Ball’s Bay breakwater, the project being abandoned as altogether beyond our means. In order, however, to carry out in a

measure the Vice-regal advice, it was agreed to enlarge the opening into Emily Bay—a work of no great magnitude, and within our scope of ability if assisted with a few necessary materials. The bay, I may mention, when finished, will never accommodate vessels of any size, and could only be utilized by craft of small dimensions. The meeting was unusually quiet and separated early.

“The outcrop of the late visit has been prodigious. Three farming companies have started, the members of which have given up whaling, and are going into the business with avidity; great things are predicted. Then we have the young men’s mutual improvement and debating club, which has taken fire; and, last but not least, the ladies also are equal to the emergency. A mother’s meeting has been established; and a young women’s mutual cultivation class, wherein Bible reading, letter writing, grammar, and embroidery are mixed up for two hours once a week. The mothers, less pretentious, aim only at reading the Sacred Scriptures, hat-making, and, I need hardly say, gossip. The upshot is that our poor reading-room is left out in the cold. However, if with all this Vice-regal fever a lasting good accrues, and permanent habits of industry are established, then indeed His Excellency ought to be canonized.

“The whaling season is approaching. The two companies have had their meetings and mean business. Seven boats will be lowered, and if there are any whales they will be heard of later on.

“The weather continues cold and inclement, but fine, with one or two exceptional downpours. The gauge cannot be given, nor the usual weather statistics, as the record has ceased to be kept here.

“The total population of the island, exclusive of the Melanesian Mission, is 470, made up as follows:—Sixty-eight married couples, six widows, five widowers, five strangers; above the age of fourteen years, forty-seven males and fifty-one females; under that age, 104 males and 116 females. This does not include eighteen young men and three

young women who are at present away from the island. The total stock, from a return compiled a month or two ago, is—Cattle, 1,346; horses, 269; sheep, 2,000; and pigs, 365.

“Former visitors to Norfolk Island will hear with regret of the death on the 13th of poor old Aunt Peggy (Mrs. Peggy Christian), who at one time occupied the house nearest the pier, and was famed for her generous hospitality and genial ways. Born at Pitcairn Island, she was grand-daughter to the ‘Bounty’ mutineer of that name, and daughter of Thursday October Christian, the first man born on that island after the mutiny and settlement. The old lady was early left a widow, and by her indomitable perseverance and industry managed to bring up a large young family in comfort and affluence, ‘Philip’ and ‘Stephen,’ of whaling renown, being of the number. Her age was upwards of sixty-nine.

“We occasionally—not often, surely—have visitors who, while making a brief sojourn, are treated hospitably, and departing say things the reverse of complimentary. Such a person is the author of a little book, ‘The Western Pacific,’ just come under notice. In it he says we are incorrigibly lazy. The fact is ‘as it may be,’ but one thing is very certain, he personally could know nothing of our habits, and it is a poor return anyway for good treatment. The same author made a flying visit of less than three months in a missionary vessel to a few islands, and of course saw everything from the glamour of his surroundings. What was, perhaps, to be expected under the circumstances, he sets himself up as an authority on the labour and island traffic.

“The whaling barque ‘Robert Morrison’ has called in to land the captain, who is sick, and the ship has gone off for three weeks. No oil has been taken since leaving Sydney. Another whaling barque, the ‘Alaska,’ Captain Fisher, of New Bedford, also called in on the 23rd instant, and has been exceedingly lucky, having taken 1,101 barrels of oil since leaving here twelve months ago. The vessel goes direct to the bay and takes a mail.

“H.M.S. ‘Espiègle,’ Captain Bridge, arrived from Sydney, *viâ* Newcastle, on the afternoon of the 27th. She was bound to Fiji and Samoa. The vessel remained over night, and proceeded on her way the next day at noon. A distinguished passenger, the Austrian statesman, Baron Hübner, who was on board, landed and had a look round.”

The illustration opposite, of the officers and crew of H.M.S. “Miranda,” was taken on board after the trip to Norfolk Island.

The following additional particulars respecting the Norfolk Islanders and their present circumstances have been gleaned since the foregoing article was written:—

Of the Pitcairn immigrants there are only thirteen of the original names extant, the oldest individuals being Mr. Buffett, aged 87, and Pastor Nobbs, aged 85. The Pitcairn family are said to be declining in physique as well as morally—to be losing their energy, which was never very great—and to be in want of guiding spirits to regulate their affairs in the immediate future. They are without doubt too closely allied by intermarriage to thrive well. Therefore, nothing can save the stock from utter deterioration but the free admixture of new blood. Vested interests, strong prejudices, and the peculiar circumstances of the island, however, stand in the way of applying the needful reform, so that the prospects of this once promising little community are really sad to contemplate.

As to the present condition of the people, they have no regular communication with any of the Colonies, though Auckland and Noumea are each within four or five days’ sail, and Sydney within a little more than seven days’ sail of the island. Supplies are therefore received at irregular intervals and in deficient quantities. Nearly every week or so, it is true, some passing vessel calls for provisions or water, and this affords an opportunity for obtaining the most urgent requisites by barter. Whalers are the most frequent visitors. The whaling industry, which was once flourishing, but has been almost



NORFOLK ISLAND.
On board H. M. S. "Miranda."



dead for years, is beginning to revive again. It may be remarked here that the community captured eighteen "black" whales in the season of 1882, and this gave them about 70 tuns of oil, worth (say) £25 per tun.

The latest quotations of prices at which the island produce may be obtained by passing vessels are:—Wool, in the grease, 1s. 7d. per lb.; beef, 4d. per lb.; sheep, 14s.; poultry, per pair—turkeys 8s., ducks 3s., fowls 3s.

A few horses are exported to New Caledonia. The animals, like the people generally, are becoming scarce and poor, for they are deteriorating through close breeding. The products of the soil that can usually be had at the proper seasons are:—Yams, potatoes, and kumeras, maize, vegetables, oranges, bananas, apples, rose apples, and Chinese date plums. The fruit is losing its flavour through defective cultivation. Fruit, instead of being scarce, as it sometimes is, could easily be produced in large quantities for exportation.

There is no taxation on the island; but a few fines are exacted, such as 5s. for shooting pheasants in the close season. A contribution of 15s. per family is made towards the support of the surgeon, which gives him about £60 in addition to his fixed salary of £150. The public works are maintained (though in a very imperfect manner) by *corvées*, each male of eighteen years of age or upwards being obliged to devote to the public service three and a half days' labour per month for six months in the year.

Norfolkers receive 25 acres of land when marrying, but strangers only get their wife's share— $12\frac{1}{2}$ acres. Strangers are not permitted to settle on the island without obtaining two-thirds of the votes of all adults of twenty years of age and upwards, as well as the sanction of the Chief Magistrate, Councillors, and Governor, and they must be able to read and write.

A view of the residence of Mr. C. Nobbs, the younger son of Pastor Nobbs, is given at page 44.

The death of the venerable pastor of Norfolk Island, who was the Nestor of the community, took place on 6th November, 1884, and is thus recorded by the correspondent of the *Sydney Morning Herald*:—

“ It is my sad duty to chronicle the death of the aged chaplain of the Pitcairn community, the Rev. George Hunn Nobbs, who died peacefully, surrounded by his numerous family, on the evening of the 6th November, the 56th anniversary of his landing on Pitcairn Island, and in the 86th year of his age. The story of his early career was eventful. As a sailor he visited most parts of the world, and in his wanderings, hearing of the Pitcairn community, he set his mind on getting there and settling. After several abortive attempts he eventually left Callao in a small vessel, attended by but one companion, and after a perilous voyage of some weeks arrived off the island in October, 1828. The voyagers were well received by old John Adams and the inhabitants, and, his companion dying soon after, the vessel was broken up, and helped to build him a house. From the beginning he kept school, and on old Adams' death in March, 1829, he was appointed teacher of the community. When Admiral Moresby, a good friend of the people, visited the island in H.M.S. “Portland” in 1852, the inhabitants made known to him their wish of having their pastor ordained, and under his auspices he was sent to England, and the rite conferred by the Bishop of London, the Admiral kindly leaving his chaplain to do duty during his absence. He returned with the Admiral the following year, and has since faithfully and uninterruptedly performed the duties of his office, never since his arrival here with his flock, three years later (1856), being away from his work. The infirmities of old age had prevented him of late taking an active part in the services of the church, but almost to the last he was able to superintend the church affairs. We shall not soon forget his genial, kindly presence, beloved and respected by all. In weal or woe he was ever a faithful pastor and staunch friend. He leaves ten children, sixty-five grandchildren, and nineteen great grandchildren. The funeral was a grand affair, and was attended by nearly everybody, the Revs. A. Penny and R. B. Comins performing the final ceremony.”



NORFOLK ISLAND.

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At page 38 is given a view of His Excellency Lord Augustus Loftus and Suite, with Mr. Francis Nobbs (the Chief Magistrate) and family, grouped in front of Mr. Nobb's house.

In conclusion, it may be predicted that the course of events will accomplish for Norfolk Island what time has effected for other chosen regions of the earth. Nowhere is there a land of greater promise. Archdeacon McEncroe calls it a "Terrestrial Paradise." Bonwick says it possesses "marvellous fertility." Governor Denison declares that while Nature has been bountiful of her gifts to it, Art has done much towards rendering it a most inviting residence; and he adds that it once possessed a population of more than 2,000 souls. The recent official visit of Lord Augustus Loftus has infused new life into its affairs.

CORRIGENDA ET ADDENDA.

1. *Page 9.* The places nearest to Norfolk Island are—Noumea, the capital of the French Colony of New Caledonia, 420 miles northerly; and Lord Howe Island, on the route to Sydney, 500 miles south-westerly. Auckland is 600 miles distant.

2. *Pages 10 and 12.* Picture and paragraph. The Commissariat buildings are now used as a Church, and the Military Barracks as a Court-house and School.

3. *Page 16.* Mr. Price was murdered by a gang of convicts at Williamstown Pier. He was at the time Inspector-General of Penal Establishments in Victoria.

4. *Page 23.* Lord Howe Island has now about 50 inhabitants.

5. *Page 26.* George Hunn Nobbs assumed the pastoral office on the death of John Adams. Messrs. Evans and Buffett, two other Englishmen who, like Mr. Nobbs, had been attracted to the island, are still alive and residing there.

6. *Page 30.* The following persons returned to Pitcairn Island:—Two families of the Youngs, consisting of two men and their wives, with ten girls and three boys; Thursday October Christian, Robert Buffett, John Buffett, and a few others. John Buffett soon returned to Norfolk Island, and still lives there.

7. *Page 38.* The Melanesian Mission establishment is at the south-west corner of Norfolk Island.

8. *Page 41.* The pier and landing-place are some distance from Emily Bay in Sydney Bay, and the artificial opening in the reef is a little east of the pier. In bad weather it is impossible to get ashore at Sydney Bay, and the only place at which a landing can be effected is on the opposite side of the island, at a spot which is called the "Cascades," in allusion to some small waterfalls that exist in the neighbourhood. Kingston is built at Sydney Bay.

9. *Idem.* The avenue of pines does not extend right into the town, but only to Longridge.

10. *Pages 44 and 49.* Picture and paragraph. The view represents the residence of Mr. Fletcher Christian Nobbs.

11. *Page 51.* Conclude thus:—After the return of His Excellency Lord Augustus Loftus from Norfolk Island, he appointed Mr. Henry T. Wilkinson, J.P., Special Commissioner, to reside there for six months, and to report to the Governor on all matters relating to the island and its inhabitants. Mr. Wilkinson returned to Sydney in October, 1885, after having executed this commission. His report to the Governor is necessarily of a confidential nature. Mr. Wilkinson is silent as to its purport; but he states that the inhabitants are exceedingly kind and obliging—that they are the most hospitable and courteous people he has ever had any relations with—and that he already reckons amongst them some of his most valued friends.

These corrections are made at Mr. Wilkinson's suggestion.

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