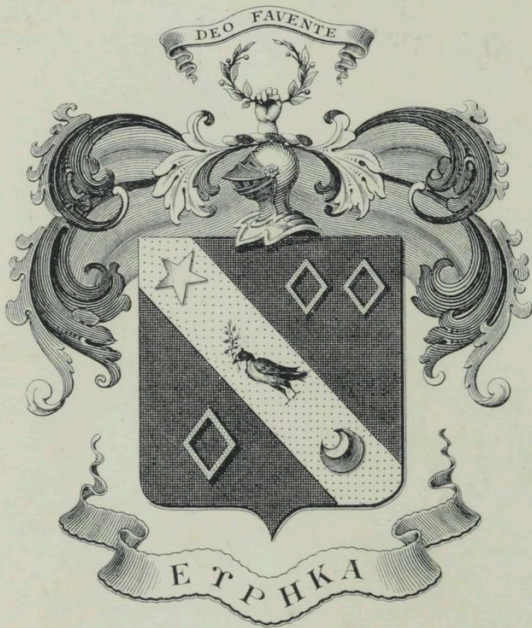


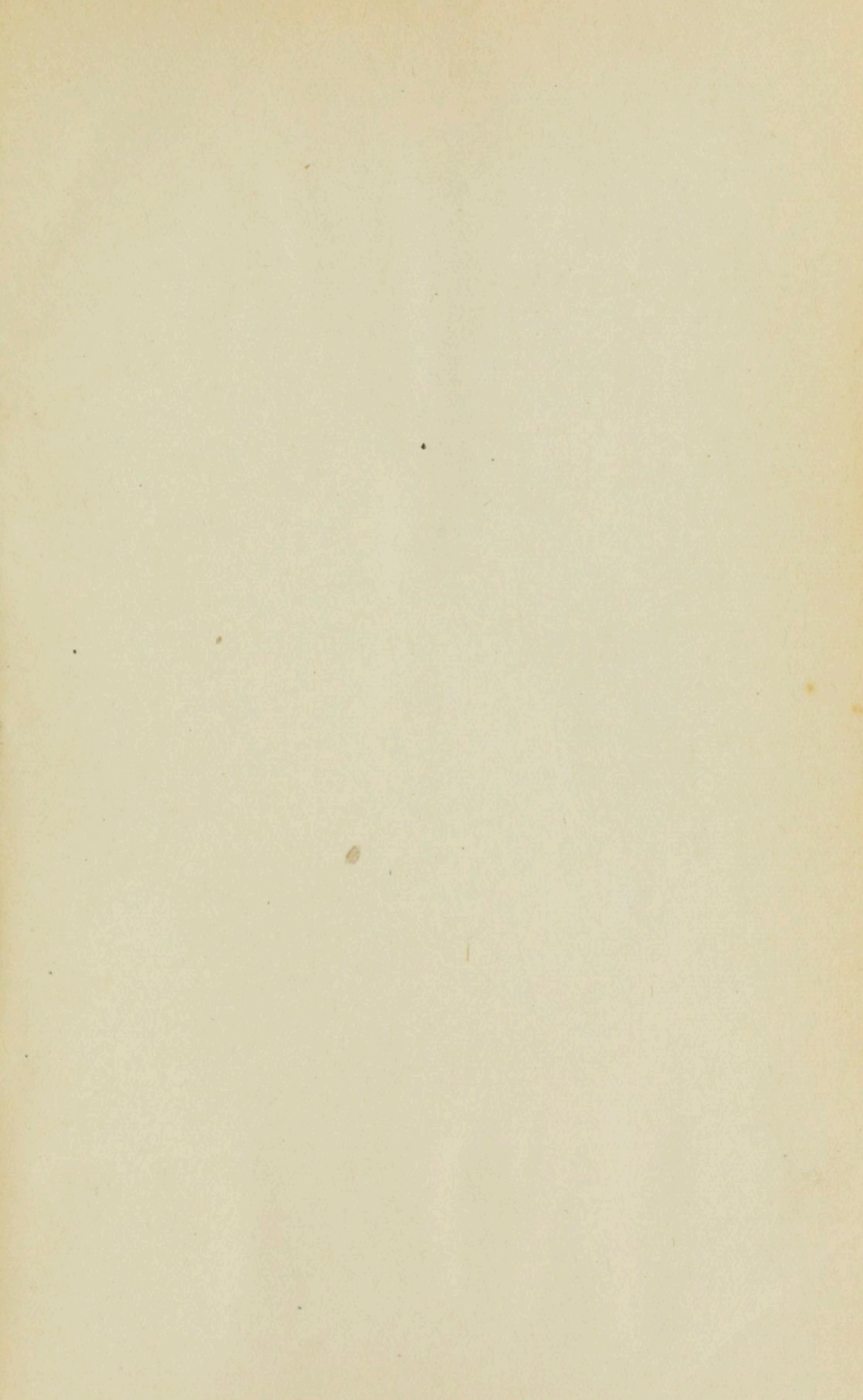
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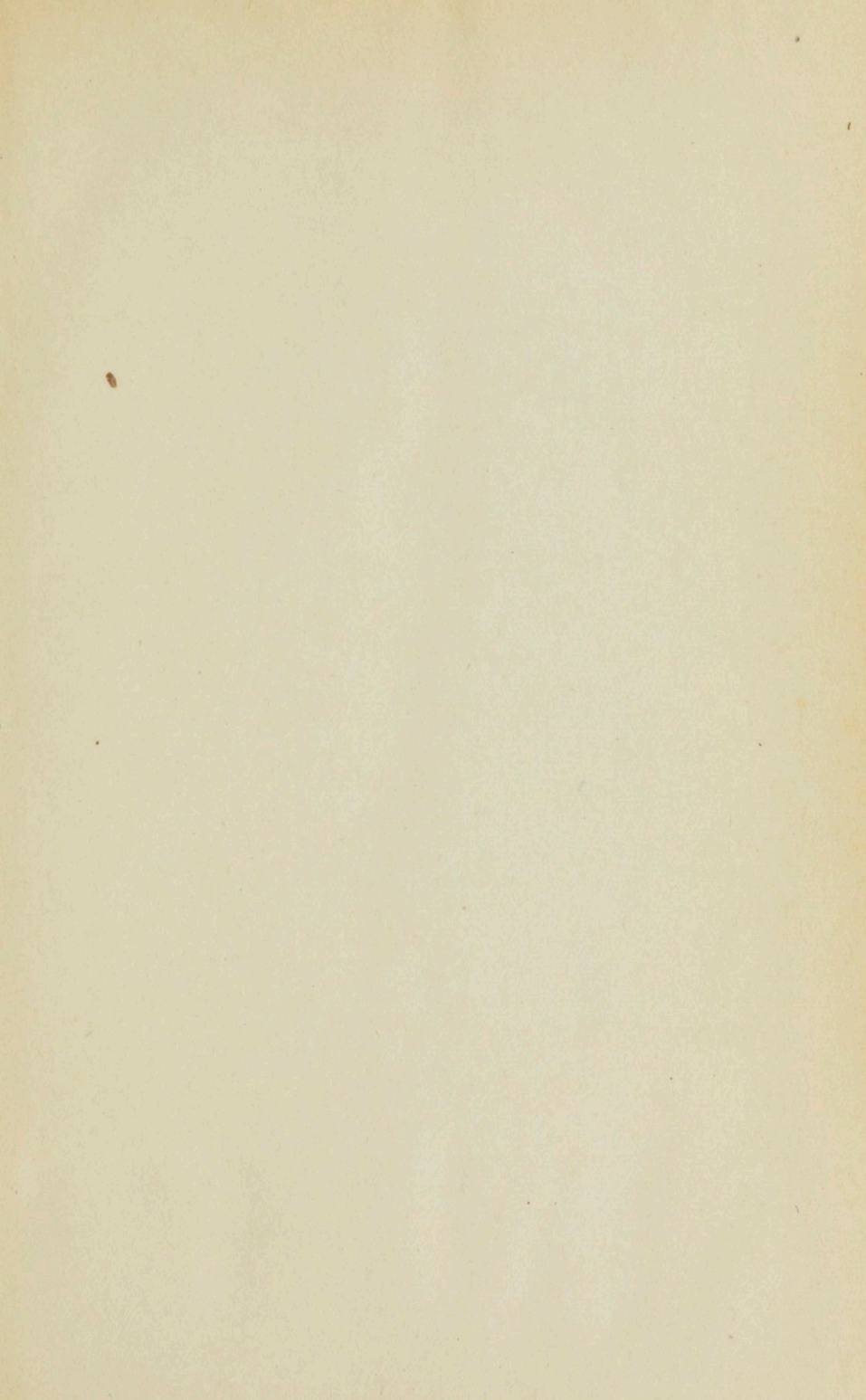
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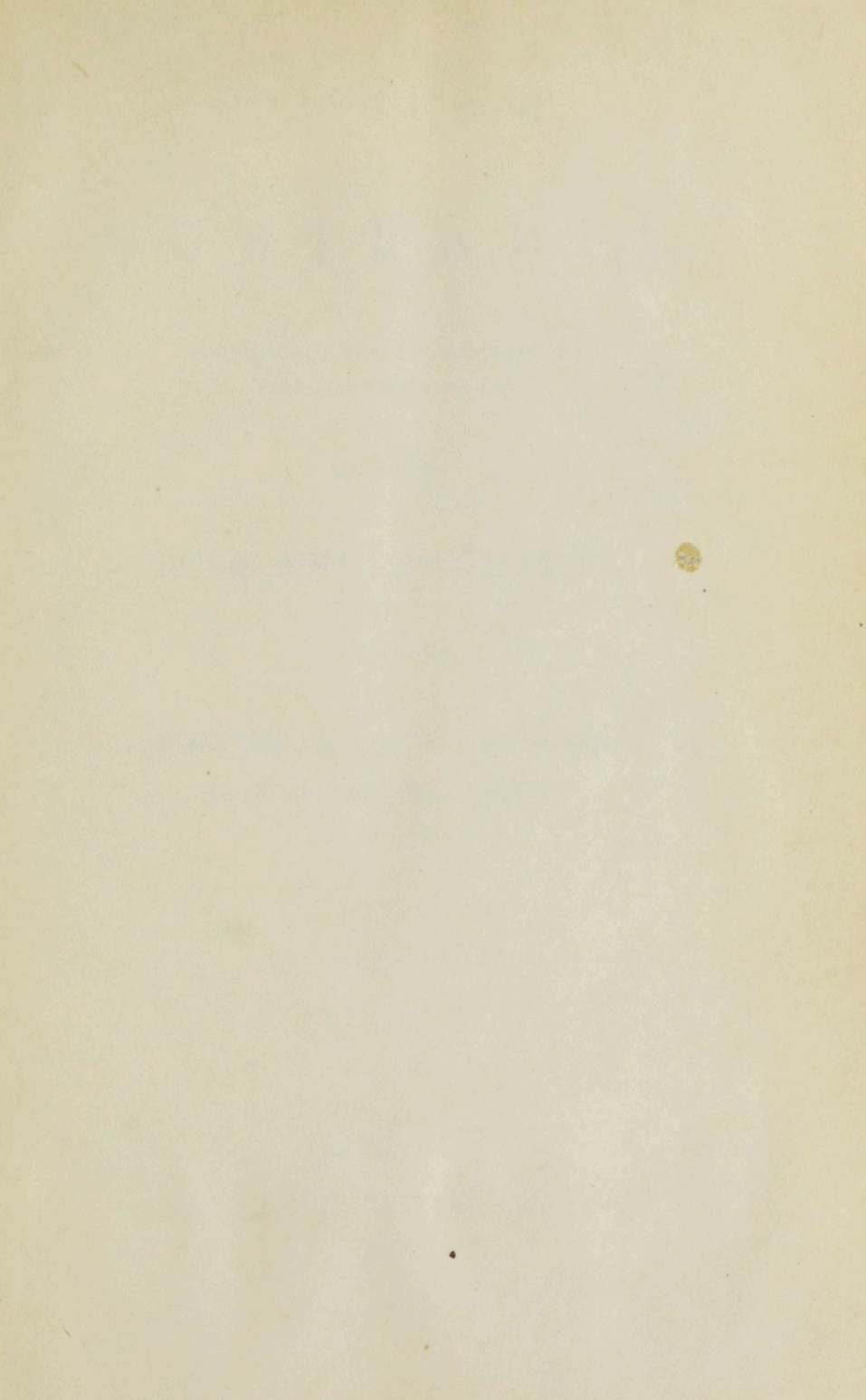
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David Scott Mitchell.



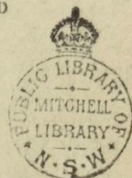




PORT PHILIP,
A U S T R A L I A.

COMPILED FROM OFFICIAL DOCUMENTS AND
OTHER AUTHENTIC SOURCES.

SHEWING THE



RISE AND PROGRESS,

AND FURNISHING

A COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF THE MERITS OF
THAT INTERESTING COLONY.

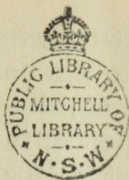
BY JOHN PYM.

LONDON:
SMITH, ELDER, AND CO., CORNHILL.

1839.

Price One Shilling.

LONDON:
HENRY BAYNES, PRINTER, 9, CLEMENTS LANE,
LOMBARD STREET.



PREFACE.

AN Association has been recently formed in London, for the purpose of promoting the emigration of industrious labourers and mechanics of both sexes from the United Kingdom to PORT PHILIP, and other settlements in AUSTRALIA. By means of this Association, such persons, and their children or other relatives, will be enabled to obtain a comfortable passage to AUSTRALIA *for a very small sum*; and the object of the following pages is to manifest to them, that by proceeding to PORT PHILIP, or any of the other Australian settlements, they may very materially improve their condition, and will be enabled, by moderate industry, to provide most comfortably for themselves and their families. The Author is desirous of imparting, in a plain manner, to all concerned, really useful and authentic information for the guidance of parties who may wish to emigrate, or other persons, and will make no statements that may not be fully relied upon for their accuracy.

The operations of the Association will, in the first instance, be restricted to the purchasing of tracts of land in the settlement of PORT PHILIP, and the conveyance of emigrants to that colony; the Members of the Association having fully satisfied themselves, by diligent enquiry, that persons emigrating to PORT PHILIP may obtain more important advantages than they could *now* secure by proceeding to any other settlement in Australia. The principles on which the Association is to be conducted, have had the approval of Her Majesty's Government, and of CHARLES JOSEPH LATROBE, Esq., who has recently been appointed to

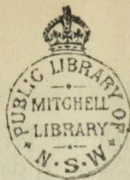
the office of Lieutenant-Governor of PORT PHILIP, and who is well known to the public as a gentleman of high character and standing, and to be eminently fitted, by his talents and experience, to administer the affairs of the Colony in the most satisfactory manner.

Mr. Latrobe and suite sailed from London in the ship *Ferguson*, on the 25th of March, 1839 ; and it is confidently anticipated that, under the administration of a gentleman of the highest moral character, and known to be a writer of great talent, the settlement of Port Philip will advance in prosperity, and become one of the most important of the Australian Colonies.

Hereafter the operations of the Association will certainly be extended to some, if not to each, of the other Australian Colonies ; and, in the meantime, persons who may desire to buy land in, or to emigrate to AUSTRALIA, through the medium of the Association, will be afforded opportunities of so doing, under circumstances which can hardly fail to prove eminently advantageous to them.

For the information of the public, a copy of the Plan of "THE AUSTRALIAN EMIGRATION ASSOCIATION," will be given in the Appendix, and further particulars may be obtained at the office of the Society, 55 Moor-gate-street, London.

Having thus called the attention of the reader to the plan under which the Australian Emigration Association propose to conduct their operations, some authentic information, showing the state and prospects of the settlement of Port Philip, will be furnished, leaving the reader to form his own conclusions from the evidence before him.



AUSTRALIA.

HISTORY.

AUSTRALIA is an island so vast as almost to deserve the title of continent. This island, the largest in the world, was discovered in 1609, by De Quiros, a Spaniard, who called it Australia. The island was subsequently visited by numerous voyagers, but chiefly by the Dutch, whence it acquired the name of New Holland. During more than a century the ambition for discoveries in the southern hemisphere remained in abeyance, and the eastern portion of this immense tract was entirely unknown to the civilised world till 1770, when it was discovered and explored by the celebrated Captain Cook. In 1788, the British Government took possession of this part of the island under the name of New South Wales, and founded a penal settlement upon it. Sydney is the principal town, and seat of Government; the population of the province is now about 90,000, including convicts, which amount to nearly 30,000.

Van Diemen's Land, which is a separate colony, is an island about the size of Scotland, with a population, by the last census, of 41,512; it is on the south-west of the main-land, distant about 100 miles, from which it is divided by Bass' Strait. Hobart Town is the capital. In 1828, another settlement was formed at Swan River, on the west side of the island, which, together with a small settlement at King George's Sound, is termed Western Australia: in 1836 they comprised 2150 settlers.

In 1837, the Colony called South Australia, of which Adelaide is the capital, was founded. It is situated between Swan River and New South Wales; and, up to the latest accounts, contained a population of about 10,000.

GEOGRAPHY.

The island of Australia or New Holland lies in the South Pacific Ocean, between 9° and 38° south latitude, and 112° and 53° east longitude, and is consequently at the antipodes of Great Britain, from which it is distant, by ships' course, 16,000 miles. Its length is nearly 2000 from east to west; and its breadth, 1700 miles from north to south.

CLIMATE.

Australia, being the antipodes of England, when it is summer with us, it is winter there, and *vice versa*. The months of December, January, and February, form its summer quarter, when the atmosphere, though hot during the day, is, nevertheless, not at all debilitating, a cool, bracing wind setting in towards evening. Our June, July, and August, form the Australian winter, which is then a season of rain rather than snow; for, though there are sometimes slight frosts, all traces of these disappear, except on the mountains, on the rising of the sun. During these months, however, a fire is certainly agreeable in the morning and evening; at noon the temperature is rather higher than in England in the corresponding seasons; but there is little difference in the mornings and evenings. The Australian sky is usually clear and brilliant, and the atmosphere pure and elastic.

It would be unjust to the colony of New South Wales, not to add a few explanatory remarks which might not occur to persons who have lived entirely in England.

In the first place, the climate is much finer, and less warm clothing is wanted, as well as much less fuel for mere purposes of heat. Moreover, the building trades and others requiring open weather, can be carried on all the year round; an advantage which working men will know how to appreciate. Neither is the husbandman or the gardener liable to be interrupted by frost. The climate of Van Diemen's land bears more resemblance to that of England. T. F. ELLIOT.

*Government Emigration Office, Middle Scotland Yard,
5th April, 1838.*

METEOROLOGICAL TABLE.

Variations of the Thermometer, &c. &c.. taken in the Morning, Noon, and at 6 in the Evening respectively.

	M.	N.	E.	Wind.	Weather.
Saturday, Sept. 15th, 1837	53	61	59	S.W.	Rainy.
Sunday 16th,	58	70	61	N.E.	Clear.
Monday 17th,	59	68	61	N.E.	Ditto.
Tuesday 18th,	54	66	61	N.E.	Ditto.
Wednesday 19th,	54	70	64	N.E.	Ditto.
Thursday 20th,	56	72	62	N.E.	Ditto.
Friday 21st,	54	67	60	N.E.	Ditto.

Having now given a brief outline of the history, geography, and climate of Australia, it is next my intention to give a short description of the settlement of Port Philip, together with some account of the usages, customs, and progress of New South Wales, of which Port Philip is at present a dependency; premising to the reader, that what is applicable to the older settlement is suitable to the infant province, and that what has been effected by the enterprise of the colonists in the former, with much greater certainty of success may be done in the latter. High as the rate of wages is in New South Wales, in Port Philip it is still higher.

Port Philip is an inlet of the sea in Bass' Straits, stretching about thirty-five miles into the Continent of New Holland; it is about midway between Sydney and Adelaide, or about 600 miles from each of those towns, and within 24 hours' sail of Launceston in Van Diemen's Land.

The following account of this inlet is extracted from a Nautical Directory for the coasts of New Holland. Port Philip is situated in Bass's Straits, on the southern coast of the continent of New Holland, in latitude 38°18' south, and in longitude 144° 38' east, nearly opposite the entrance of the Tamar river in Van Diemen's Land, from which it is distant only twenty-four hours' sail. "It is capable," says Captain Flanders, "of receiving and sheltering a larger fleet of ships than ever yet went to sea; but the entrance, in its whole width, is

scarcely two miles, and nearly half of it is occupied by rocks lying off Point Nepean on its eastern side." It extends about thirty miles into the land, in a northerly direction, and is from fifteen to eighteen miles wide; throwing off a branch in a west south-westerly direction, which extends into the land about fifteen miles, having an entrance of six or seven miles wide, and a small inner basin at its upper end communicating with the larger one by a narrow navigable channel. Port Philip is separated from western Port by a narrow promontory forming the eastern side of the lake.

It was taken possession of, and occupied for some time as a dependency of New South Wales, in the year 1803 or 1804; and the history of its settlement and abandonment, at that early period in our colonial history, forms one of the most instructive episodes in the history of British colonisation.

One would have supposed that in forming a settlement in such a locality as Port Philip, the shores of the extensive inlet would have been examined, and the nature and capabilities of the adjacent country ascertained in some measure, before a spot was fixed on as a site for the settlement; it does not, however, appear that such a necessary precaution was taken; as the royal standard was hoisted, and the settlement formed on the only piece of sterile land within the head of the Port. It followed as a matter of course, that a settlement which had been so injudiciously formed, should be as hastily abandoned; and it was not until the neighbouring island, Van Diemen's Land, was converted into sheep walks and cattle runs, and thickly populated, that some of its inhabitants accidentally discovered the very superior eligibility of the station which had been so unwisely abandoned thirty years before.

Port Philip was taken possession of about the commencement of 1834, by a whole company of squatters from Van Diemen's Land; some of whom, it appears, purchased a large extent of land for a mere trifle, from the black natives; under the absurd notion that such a proceeding would be tolerated by the British government.

Since that period, the colonial boundary of New South Wales has been extended in the direction of Port Philip to Bass' Straits. A commandant and police magistrate, an officer of customs, and three surveyors, were appointed by his Excellency the Governor to take possession of the country in that vicinity, and to form a regular settlement on the part of the government. "That settlement" says Dr. Lang* (in 1837) "will very soon become one of the most important in the colony." At that period, Dr. Lang states, that the European population already exceeded two hundred souls, and that upwards of thirty thousand sheep were then cropping the luxuriant vegetation of its natural pastures; and as a proof of the correctness of Dr. Lang's prediction, I need only state that the population of the settlement has since increased to several thousand, and the number of sheep to above TWO HUNDRED THOUSAND; and this in the short space of three years. This latter fact is a remarkable feature in favour of the new settlement, and such as was never possessed by any other infant colony. By lying so contiguous to the older settlements of Van Diemen's Land and Sydney, Port Philip has been, as it were, at a comparatively low cost, at once supplied with immense flocks of sheep and cattle. And wool being the staple commodity of those colonies, a large revenue has been produced in the first few years of its formation; whereas, at Swan River, or even South Australia, with all the money that has been expended upon them, both by the mother country and by the settlers themselves, and with all the aid of an influential Board of Commissioners, and a number of agents working in this country in their behalf, neither of those colonies have yet been able to export a single ship-load of agricultural produce; and it must yet take many

* Dr. Lang is one of the most intelligent and able writers on the affairs of the Australian colonies, to whom we are indebted for much of the information contained in this narrative. Dr. Lang is a clergyman of the Scotch kirk, and principal of Sydney College, and he has been upwards of fourteen years a resident at Sydney. His brother, Mr. Andrew Lang, is an extensive and successful farmer in the district of Hunter's River.

years before either Swan River or South Australia can produce a revenue from their exports, equal in value to what is already enjoyed by the inhabitants of Port Philip. Political economists know that a country which does not produce within itself all the commodities which it consumes, becomes rich only in proportion as its exports keep pace with its imports; and becomes poor in proportion as its imports exceed its exports; as the excess of imports must be paid for in specie. In this respect, therefore, no one of the colonies of Australia can be compared to Port Philip, which, from its infancy, has been exporting cargoes of wool of the most valuable description.

From the commencement of the settlement of South Australia, it has annually been supplied with large amounts of specie, and from £10,000 to £40,000 annually has been expended in the colony, on its government, on emigration, or on its public works.

For many years after New South Wales was first settled, from £200,000 to £300,000 annually was expended there by the mother country, to support it as a penal settlement; but without any of these important aids, Port Philip has already sent valuable cargoes of wool and oil from her shores, and must, if she be erected into a separate colony, soon go far to rival in importance either of the older settlements of Van Diemen's Land, or New South Wales.

The following comparative statement of the date of settlement, the amount of population, and number of sheep in the three important colonies will speak for itself.

	When first settled.	Present Population.	Number of sheep.
Swan River	1828	2,500	30,000
South Australia	1836	10,000	22,500
Port Philip	1834	3,000	200,000

The amount of the land sold at Port Philip in the two days' sale of the 12th and 13th of September, 1838,

amounted to £35,359. 3s. 0d; being £3896. 12s. 3d. more than the whole land-revenue of New South Wales for the first six months of the year, and nearly equal to the whole amount of land-sales in South Australia for the preceding year.

In South Australia, land is sold at a fixed price of £1 per acre, in Port Philip it is sold by auction, the upset price being 12s. per acre. At the sales above alluded to, "an entire parish was purchased by Messrs. Hughes and Hosking at 8s. 6d. per acre, consisting chiefly of magnificent downs, well watered and abounding with the most luxuriant pasturage situated within fifteen to twenty miles of a noble harbour." The upset price at that time was 5s. per acre; since that date it has been raised by her Majesty's Government to 12s. per acre, at which price large tracts of the finest description of land have been sold. Some land in the immediate neighbourhood of Melbourne, was sold at a higher price.

The Editor of the *Colonist* Sydney Paper, of October, 1838, when writing of Port Phillip, makes the following remarks:—"To think, therefore, of waste land in a part of this colonial territory, situated upwards of 500 miles from the capital, and taken possession of by the Government only within the last two years bringing 2l. 8s. an acre, when sold by the public auction in the town of Sydney, and of town allotments in Melbourne selling at 250l. per acre, what an amazing prospect of rapid advancement for this infant empire does not this simple fact hold out to the whole world."

"It is a general complaint among the landholders of the colony," writes Dr. Lang, "that agriculture, or the cultivation of land, does not pay; or, in other words, that it is not profitable for a colonial landholder, who perhaps has received two thousand acres of land as a free grant from the Crown, to keep from twenty to forty convict-labourers, to cultivate a part of that land to raise corn for the colonial market.

"I have had sufficient opportunity, however, to know that it *does* pay a poor man, who has perhaps a wife, and perhaps three or four children besides himself to

maintain by his own industry, to occupy ten or twenty acres of that very land on lease, at a rental of perhaps twenty shillings an acre. It is not because the cultivation of land is not profitable in New South Wales, that more land is not brought under the plough. It is because grazing, and the employment of capital and labour in other ways, are more profitable. A settler with one or two labourers, or two or three sons, may look after a large flock of sheep; whereas they could not do the work of an extensive farm. The scarcity of labour has, therefore, induced the settlers to become flock-masters, whilst they have neglected the cultivation of the soil.

“Such a state of things, however, is rather a subject of congratulation than of regret; for it shows, that if many thousand families, and individuals of the labouring agricultural population of Great Britain and Ireland, were by any means to be introduced into the colony, they could obtain a comfortable subsistence by the cultivation of land held on lease at a moderate rental; while it shews, on the other hand, that it would be more profitable for the landholders to let their arable land to such tenants, than to cultivate it themselves by convict labour.

“The cost of clearing heavily timbered alluvial land, is about £5 an acre; but a single crop of maize (Cobbett's corn) generally covers that expense. Thinly timbered forest land (by this term in Australia, is meant a sort of pasture land, thinly wooded) is of course cleared at a much smaller cost. Maize is rarely planted on land of the latter description; and wheat is seldom sown on alluvial land, till after it has produced one or two crops of maize. Wheat is sown in March, April, and May; sometimes, however, not till June: it is reaped in November, the first month of summer in the southern hemisphere; but in the high lands of the colony the seasons are somewhat later. In ordinary seasons, the return of wheat per acre varies according to the nature of the soil from fifteen to forty bushels. I have heard of as much as forty-five, and even fifty bushels an acre, being reaped in the districts of Argyle; and my brother's crop at Hunter's River, averaged one year thirty-four

bushels per acre. In the year 1835, in which there was a general failure of the crop from drought over a considerable part of the territory, my brother reaped 3,500 bushels of wheat from 150 acres of land, or at the rate of $23\frac{1}{2}$ bushels an acre.

“I should think, however, that the average of the colony is not higher than twenty bushels; but then the system of husbandry prevalent in many parts of the territory, is wretched in the extreme.

“In some few parts of the colony, wheat is liable to be attacked by the weevil, and can never form an article of export from those parts of the colony, except in a state of flour, but in other parts it is quite free from the attacks of that or any other insect, and is equal in quality to that of any part of the world.

“The maize of New South Wales, however, has been acknowledged, by gentlemen well acquainted with the cultivation of that species of grain in the United States, superior to any they had ever seen elsewhere: it forms the food of horses, and is used for the fattening of pigs and poultry; but it seldom constitutes an article for any class of free persons on the colony.

“Extravagance, indeed, has ever been one of the besetting sins of the Australian colonies; and the lowest class of free people in New South Wales are content only with the finest of the wheat; inasmuch, that coarse bread can scarcely be procured in Sydney, except when previously ordered, or from those bakers who supply the troops and the other government establishments with bread of that quality by tender.

“In planting maize or Indian corn, shallow holes are made in the cleared land with a hoe, at a distance of about three feet from each other, in rows about five feet asunder: into each of these holes four or five grains of maize are dropped, and then covered up; and if the season is moist, vegetation immediately commences, and proceeds with such amazing rapidity, that in a very few weeks the burnt stumps of the large trees, which are usually left standing all over the field, are entirely covered with the green corn, which in due time attains the height of six or eight feet, and produces in rich

alluvial land, at the rate of forty to fifty, or eighty bushels an acre.

“ From one hundred and sixty-four acres of maize on my brother’s farm at Hunter’s River, in the year 1836 ; the quantity of grain gathered was eight thousand bushels, or $48\frac{3}{4}$ bushels per acre. In the higher parts of the district, further from the Pacific Ocean, the maize crop in that year proved a failure.

“ Barley is not much cultivated in New South Wales. Off twenty-five acres on my brother’s farm in the year 1835, the quantity reaped was six hundred bushels, or twenty-four bushels per acre. Five acres of lagoon land produced forty bushels an acre.

“ Fences are uniformly constructed in New South Wales, as in British America, of wooden posts and rails, the posts being about nine feet asunder, and the fence being either of three, four, or five rails, according to the purpose for which they are required.

“ Potatoes are cultivated in all parts of the colony, but by no means extensively. They are little used as an article of food by the lower classes ; and are only to be met with at the tables of the more respectable settlers. The convict labourers, or farm-servants, are in general allowed small gardens to grow potatoes and vegetables for themselves ; but they scarcely ever avail themselves of the privilege, as their ration of flour, beef, or pork, sugar and tea, is abundantly sufficient for their subsistence. The quality of the potatoe of the colony, depends much on the season : in general, it is inferior to those of Scotland and Ireland ; but I have occasionally seen as good potatoes, of the growth of a kitchen garden in Sydney, as ever I have seen in the mother country.

“ The mildness of the Australian climate precludes the necessity for cultivating any thing in the shape of winter food for sheep or cattle ; and the great abundance and unbounded extent of the native pasture of the colony render the use of artificial means quite unnecessary, except for the numerous horses, and other beasts of burden, that are kept in towns.

“ Large quantities of cheese and butter are now made

on the farms of many respectable settlers, throughout the colony: and they form a considerable article of export, chiefly to Van Diemen's Land.

“Cattle, of good breed, might be purchased in New South Wales at from 40*s.* to 60*s.* a-head; sheep, of improved breeds, at 15*s.* to 25*s.*, and horses from 20*l.* to 40*l.*, and there is no probability of a diminution of their present value for years to come. A large tract of land may be stocked with a comparatively moderate amount of capital; and when the settler's own land begins to be overstocked, which will soon be the case if his sheep and cattle are well managed, he has only to send a portion of his flocks and herds under the charge of an overseer and a few shepherds, or stockmen, into the interior, where he will obtain a lease of as much pasture land as he requires from government, at a mere nominal rental. Cattle and horses require very little attendance, a very few individuals being sufficient to manage a herd of cattle of from five hundred to two thousand.

“Sheep-farming constitutes the principal dependence of the Australian land-owner; and the peculiar adaptation of the soil and climate, to the growth of wool on the one hand, and the unlimited demand for that important article of colonial produce on the other, not only in Great Britain, but in France and America, will doubtless make it expedient that he should make it the first object of his attention. A sheep station in Australia is managed in pretty much the same manner as a cattle station.

“If the country consists of open plains, destitute of timber, as many as a thousand sheep are sometimes entrusted to a single shepherd; if it is moderately wooded, as is much more frequently the case, there is a shepherd for every flock of three hundred and fifty. The sheep are folded every night in a pen, or fold, constructed of moveable hurdles; and the shepherd, attended by his dogs, sleeps in a moveable covered berth, constructed on a frame, somewhat like a handbarrow, outside the fold, the sheep being sometimes attacked, during the night, by the native dog of the

colony. The lambing season is, in some instances, at the commencement of winter, in others in the beginning of summer. The sheep-shearing uniformly takes place at the latter season; each fleece, of animals of improved breed, averaging from two to two and a-half pounds. The wool is packed in bales, wrapped in canvas, and forwarded for exportation to the sea port, on large drays, generally drawn by oxen. Some of the more extensive sheep farmers send home their wool direct to their agents in London, where it is sold according to its quality, at from 1s. to 3s. per lb.—the freight to London being only $1\frac{1}{2}d.$ per lb. It is generally, however, either bought or received for consignment, by merchants in Sydney, some of whom employ wool-sorters of their own to assort and re-pack it for the London market. The number of sheep in New South Wales, on the 1st of January, 1837, would probably be not less than two millions. The number of pounds of wool imported into Great Britain, from New South Wales and Van Diemen's Land, from 1820 to 1837, distinguishing each year, is as follows:—

	New South Wales.	Van Diemen's Land.	Both Colonies.
1820 . . .	. . .	. . .	99,415
1821 . . .	. . .	. . .	175,433
1822 . . .	. . .	. . .	138,498
1823 . . .	. . .	. . .	477,261
1824 . . .	. . .	. . .	332,907
1825 . . .	. . .	. . .	323,995
1826 . . .	. . .	. . .	1,106,302
1827 . . .	320,683	192,075	512,758
1828 . . .	967,814	666,372	1,574,186
1829 . . .	913,322	925,520	1,838,842
1830 . . .	973,330	993,979	1,967,309
1831 . . .	1,134,134	1,359,203	2,493,337
1832 . . .	1,425,657	951,131	2,376,788
1833 . . .	1,969,668	1,547,201	3,516,869
1834 . . .	2,225,823	1,331,715	3,557,538
1835 . . .	2,688,440	1,521,861	4,210,301
1836 . . .	3,008,022	1,983,786	4,991,808
1837 . . .	4,606,915	2,453,610	7,060,525

The increase in the number of sheep is about eighty per cent. per annum on the flock. The wool, on the average, pays the expense of shepherds and rent of pasture.

“Settlers deriving incomes of from 400*l.* to 500*l.*, to 4000*l.* or 5000*l.* a-year, principally from this source, are now to be met with all over the colony. Indeed, I am confident (says Dr. Lang), there is no other country on the face of the globe in which there is a larger number of individuals, in comparison with the amount of population, enjoying incomes of 500*l.* a-year, than there is at this moment in New South Wales.”

Copies or Extracts of Correspondence between the Secretary of State for the Colonies and the Governors of the Australian Colonies, respecting Emigration. Ordered by the House of Commons to be printed, 14th May 1838.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON EMIGRATION INTO NEW SOUTH WALES. SYDNEY, 25th AUGUST, 1837.

The Committee of the Legislative Council, appointed to suggest any alteration or amendment in the system at present adopted to encourage Emigration from the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, have to state to your Excellency, and your honourable Council, that, by the testimony of the most intelligent and respectable gentlemen resident in the Colony, the want of shepherds, stock-men, agricultural labourers in general, and of mechanics in a small proportion, has become so alarming and necessitous, and has already been attended with such serious loss to many, and almost ruinous consequence to others, that unless Emigration be immediately encouraged, to the full extent of the present demand for labour, out of the funds set apart for that purpose, the consequence will be most fatal to the best interests of the Colony.

WILLIAM CHARLES WENTWORTH, *an extensive Land-owner, called in and examined.* 24th June, 1837.

“I think 10,000 emigrants, including mechanics, farm servants, shepherds, cow-herds, labourers and household servants, would not be too great a number to import as soon as they can be procured; and afterwards about 5000 to 6000 yearly. I have no doubt that 10,000 well selected persons would immediately find employment.

“The number of sheep in this colony is estimated at about 2,000,000 of which the proportion of breeding ewes may be about 600,000 which, on an average, yield an equal number of lambs. Allowing two shepherds and one hut-keeper to each 1000 sheep, and 200 sur

plementary hands to the whole number, the next year's increase of sheep will require 2000 additional persons to attend them. Taking the number of cattle in the colony at 500,000 the increase next year may be estimated at 200,000. Allowing the herdsmen or stock-keepers, and one hut-keeper to each 1000 head of cattle, and 200 supplementary hands as overseers, bullock-drivers, &c., 800 additional persons will be required to attend to the next year's increase of cattle, or in round numbers, the additional persons necessary to attend to the next year's increase of sheep and cattle may be taken at 3000; and suppose an equal number to be necessary for the increasing cultivation on tillage farms, and for mechanics, labourers, household servants, and all other purposes, and that 3000 or 4000 persons would be required to make up the present numerous deficiencies in all parts of the colony, I do not think my estimate at all too large in recommending the introduction of 10,000 emigrants as speedily as possible."

JOHN BOWMAN, Esq., *a very extensive Land-owner, called in, and examined.*

"Have lately made an extensive tour in the upper districts of the Hunter; and at all the places where I have been, there appeared to be a great want of labourers, and I am much in want of servants at my own establishment. I am quite certain that a very large number of emigrants would obtain immediate employment. I do not think 10,000 would be too many to import during the next year, to meet the present wants, and to keep pace with the probable increase of live stock."

JOSEPH HICKEY GROSE, *late one of the Directors of the Commercial Bank, and a considerable Land-owner, called in, and examined.*

"The want of mechanics is most seriously felt, and unless a very considerable importation of them is made within twelve months from the present time, the commercial interest of Sydney must retrograde. For weeks and months past, shipwrights, employed by me, working by piece-work, have earned from 20s. to 30s. per day each, and, as a natural consequence, they do not work more than three days in a week. The present shipping interest of Sydney, which has more than doubled itself within the last two years, requires an immediate importation of at least 100 shipwrights, 500 able seamen, and 50 coopers. The English engineers, from London or Liverpool, would find immediate employment, at from 10*l.* to 20*l.* per month. At present, to persons of this description, I give 15*l.* a month, and their provisions. Fifty blacksmiths would likewise obtain immediate employment—country smiths would be preferable, 50 house carpenters, 50 stone masons, 60 bricklayers, and 50 brickmakers, would also be readily engaged. I think these numbers would be required for the service of private individuals, independent of those wanted by government."

COLONEL JOHN THOMAS LEAHY, *of Illawarra, a considerable land owner, called in and examined.*

"I am perfectly convinced, that there is a great want of mechanics

and labourers in the colony, and I feel it press peculiarly hard upon myself, inasmuch as it costs me at present upwards of £500 a year for free labour, notwithstanding which, from the difficulty of procuring labourers at any price, I have at this moment, upwards of fourteen acres of maize (*Indian corn*) not harvested, which, if the rains set in may be totally destroyed. Had I attempted to harvest it with the few men I could hire, I could not have put my wheat in the ground this year. I beg to add, that I possess in the district of Illawarra, nearly five thousand acres of land, of which upwards of five hundred have been in cultivation, and the timber on six hundred acres more has been cut down, and is ready to be burnt off, when I can get hands to do it. In regard to my dwelling-house it is in a state of great dilapidation, as I cannot *at any rate of wages* procure mechanics to repair it. In regard to my sheep, of which I have a considerable number; I beg to observe, that I have been obliged to dispose of five hundred lately, in consequence of my being unable to procure shepherds to attend them."

SIR JOHN JAMISON, *Member of the Legislative Council, examined.*

"The circumstances of the colony of late years have materially changed; and the increase of flocks and herds, and the enterprise of our settlers developing new profitable resources, require a very increased number of labourers to enable them to carry into successful effect their industrious pursuits.

"It is only a very few years ago, that the arrival of emigrants, the number of prisoners becoming free by servitude, together with those receiving the indulgence of tickets of leave, and the annual supply of prisoners of the crown, furnished the settlers, generally, with useful mechanics, shepherds, herdsmen, and labourers, at the moderate wages for free persons, of £10 to £15 per year. At present trustworthy shepherds, herdsmen, and labourers, cannot be obtained in sufficient numbers, even at £20 to £30 together with the usual rations; and the want of labour appears to be increasing daily, and is so much felt, that many sheep proprietors have been compelled to increase the numbers in the flocks entrusted to the charge of their several shepherds, from one third, to double the numbers that used formerly to be in a flock; from which cause, great injury and losses may be apprehended; their over-crowded, and consequently neglected state, will generate scab and other diseases; and their increased numbers extending over so much ground, will render them more liable to the attacks of native dogs, and considerably increase the risk of their being lost in the bush. The necessity of settlers attending to flocks and herds, as being more profitable than most other pursuits, has compelled many to send their most useful agriculturists to take charge of their flocks and herds, thereby materially abridging the extent of agriculture; which must soon operate in considerable diminution of the culture of the common necessaries of life, and increase their prices in our markets, which will bring unjust reflections upon our fertile soil and climate; so that, in my opinion, unless prompt and immediate measures be taken to provide the colony with a present supply

of at least ten thousand labourers, to furnish shepherds and herdsmen necessary for our increasing flocks and herds, including a proportionate number of mechanics, and a subsequent annual importation to supply the places of those who will acquire independent establishments of their own, and will themselves become employers, the advancement and prosperity of the colony must be materially retarded and curtailed."

By the foregoing evidence, the reader will be satisfied of the productive qualities of the land of New South Wales, and of its increasing prosperity, notwithstanding the great scarcity of labourers in the colony. We now venture to repeat, that all which has been said in favour of New South Wales, and much more, may be safely said of Port Philip. Port Philip has tenfold the advantages that New South Wales had twenty-five years since. The adaptation of the climate of Australia to the growth of fine wools was then not known, the colony had no article of export, and was at that period a mere penal settlement. Port Philip is preserved from such an infliction, as the Home Government have declared their intention not to send any convicts to that settlement. They have millions of acres of land equal in quality to that of any portion of the globe; and the flocks of sheep and cattle, now in the fifth year of their existence, are spreading over thousands of acres of their well-watered valleys and natural pastures. Another strong reason why the intending Emigrant should give the preference to Port Philip rather than to the older settlements of New South Wales, or Van Diemen's Land, is that in these two Colonies, nearly all the land within 2 or 300 miles of the coast, suited to grazing or agriculture, is occupied, or has been disposed of by Government; whereas, in the immediate vicinity of Melbourne, and close upon the sea board large tracts of the finest description of soil are yet unsurveyed, unoccupied. The district of Port Philip, too, is watered by numerous rivers and lakes, whose sources are among the lofty mountains of the interior, and are never-failing; whilst in almost every part of Australia, there are but few rivers, and those frequently dried to their beds, when the flocks and herds most require their cooling waters for their sus-

tenance. But I will not detain the reader by descriptions of my own, but will at once quote the opinions of men of eminence who have visited the country, and who have written upon the subject.

Major Mitchell, her Majesty's Surveyor General for that province, in his account of an exploring expedition in the interior, thus describes the country. His route, through the district of Port Philip (now denominated Australia Felix), was from Portland Bay, about 180 miles to the north of Port Philip, through the interior, about 70 miles at the back of the harbour, thence to Sydney, which is about 600 miles to the south-east.

“*Aug.* 2, 1836.—There was a noble reach, a quarter of a mile below the point, to which we had brought the boats, and it was terminated by a rocky fall, which we had heard during the night. Beyond that point, the river (named the Glenelg), turned southward, and this being the direction of our intended journey, I perceived that we could more conveniently, and in less time, pursue its course by land. The country on its banks was, as far as I could see, the finest imaginable, either for sheep or cattle, or for cultivation. A little rill then murmured through each ravine,

‘Where scattered streams from granite basins burst,
Leap into life, and sparkling woo your thirst.’

“But it was returning along a winding ridge towards the camp, that I was most struck with the beauty and substantial value of the country on the banks of this river. It seemed that the land was everywhere good, alike beautiful. All parts were verdant, whether on the finely varied hills, or in the equally romantic vales, which seemed to open in endless succession on both banks of the river.

* * * * *

“A more beautiful distribution of the waters for the supply of a numerous population could not be imagined, nor a soil better adapted for cultivation.

* * * * *

“*Aug.* 4.—It was no easy matter now to ascertain

in what direction the waters of the valley ran, but by the tendency of the hollows on each side, they appeared to decline in general to the left, or northward. In proceeding on our route, the heads of other similar ravines rendered our course very intricate. To have been shut in between any such ravine and the river must have been rather embarrassing, and seemed then almost inevitable. We had the good fortune, however, to avoid this; and at length, keeping along dry ground, a beautiful scene appeared on the left in an open valley, about two miles in width, where the hills sloped gradually to the confluence of two streams brimful of water, which shone through some highly ornamented wood. Both streams came from valleys of a similar character; and beyond them I saw hills of the finest forms, all clothed with grass to the summits, and many entirely clear of timber. A bronze winged pigeon flew up just as I discovered the stream; and as this bird had not been before seen by us on that side of the mountains, I named the waters the 'Pigeon' ponds. We descended to that part of the valley which lay in our proposed course, and found that some of these ponds rather deserved to be styled lakes. The soil was everywhere black and rich.

"*Aug. 10.*—At a mile and a half from our camp, a scene was displayed to our view, which gladdened every heart. An open grassy country, extending as far as we could see—hills round and smooth as a carpet—meadows broad, and either green as an emerald, or of a rich gold colour, from the abundance, as we soon afterwards found, of a little ranunculus-like flower. Down into that delightful vale, our vehicles trundle over a gentle slope, the earth being covered with a thick matted turf, apparently superior to any thing of the kind previously seen. That extensive valley was enlivened by a winding stream, the waters of which glittered through trees fringing each bank.

"*Sept. 21.*—We now travelled over a country quite open, slightly undulating, and well covered with grass. To the westward the noble outline of the

Grampians terminated a view extending over vast plains fringed with forests, and embellished with lakes. To the northward appeared other more accessible looking hills, some being slightly wooded, some green, and quite clear to their summits, long grassy vales and ridges intervening; while, to the eastward, the open plain extended as far as the eye could reach. Our way lay between distant ranges, which, in that direction, mingled with the clouds. Thus I had both the low country, which was without timber, and the well wooded hills, within reach, and might choose either for my route, according to the state of the ground, weather, &c. Certainly a land more favourable for colonization could not be found. Flocks might be turned out upon its hills, or the plough at once set to work in the plains. No primeval forest required to be first rooted out, although there was enough of wood for all purposes of utility.

“*Sept.* 30.—Compelled us to await the repair of the boat carriage. I determined to make an excursion to the lofty mountain mass, which appeared about thirty miles to the southward, in order that I might connect my survey with Port Philip, which I hoped to see thence. We crossed some hollows during the first few miles, and then arrived on the banks of a small and deep river. It was full, and flowed, but not rapidly, towards the north-east, and it was not until we had continued along the bank for a considerable way upwards, that we found a rapid, where we could cross without swimming.

“The left bank was of bold acclivity, and clear of timber on the summit. Beyond the river (which I then named the Barnard), we first encountered a hilly country, from which we merged rather unexpectedly; for after crossing a small rivulet flowing into a deep and grassy dell, we found that the summit consisted of an open level country of the finest description. It was covered with the best kind of grass, and the immediate object of our ride, the mountain, was now visible beyond these rich plains. Some fine forest-hills arose in various directions to the right and left;

and, indeed, I never saw a more pleasing or promising portion of country. I ascended the hill without being obliged to alight from my horse, and I found that the summit was very spacious. I had two important objects in view in ascending this hill; one being to determine its position trigonometrically, as a point likely to be seen from the country to which I was going, where it might be useful to me in fixing other points; the other being to obtain a view of Port Philip, and thus to connect my survey with that harbour. As the sun went down, the distant horizon became clearer, and I intersected at length the two capes; also one at the head of the bay, and several detached hills. I perceived distinctly the course of the Exe and Arundell rivers, and a line of mangrove trees along the low shore. In short, I at length recognised Port Philip, and the intervening country around it, at a distance afterwards ascertained to be upwards of fifty miles from the indented head on the east side of the entrance to the bay. Thus the mountain on which I stood became an important point in my survey, and I gave it the name of Mount Macedon, with reference to that of Port Philip."

CONVICTS.

In a former page I have made some slight allusion to the fact of Port Philip not being a penal settlement. This may be considered one of the most fortunate circumstances in its history, for who can look upon the older colonies of New South Wales and Van Diemen's Land, and witness the demoralizing effect which the shoals of convicts poured into those countries have had, and must for ages continue to have upon their society, without rejoicing that this new colony has escaped its baneful influence?

Her Majesty's Government have decided that no convicts are to be sent to Port Philip. This colony will therefore have an opportunity of proving how high in the scale of morality, a people surrounded with earth's choicest blessings, fed with nature's bountiful hand, and removed from the corrupting

influence of crowded societies, can raise themselves. They have commenced their career in a fortunate era, when the light of the Holy Gospel is spreading to the most distant regions of the earth. If they seek it, it will not fail to reach them; and if they omit not to follow the golden precepts which it reveals, prosperity and greatness can scarcely fail to attend them.

THE ABORIGINES.

The natives of Australia are a very harmless and inoffensive race of people compared to the wild inhabitants of other regions. In some instances serious disturbances have taken place between the settlers and those pitiable objects of human nature, but when the circumstances of those disturbances are inquired into, it is generally found that the whites have given as much provocation as their coloured brethren. In many parts of New South Wales, they are intrusted with the care of flocks and herds, and are frequently found to be trustworthy, and strictly to observe their engagements; a fair estimate of their disposition may be formed by the manner in which they allow a few persons to drive large herds of cattle and sheep through the interior of the country. Mr. Joseph Hawdon, who took the first drove of cattle from Port Philip to South Australia, thus describes his journey. "In passing through the tribes of natives, we were extremely fortunate in keeping up a friendly intercourse with them, by means of ambassadors sent from one tribe to another. The tribes are very numerous, and we have frequently counted as many as two hundred in one tribe. On one occasion, when near the Darling, we passed three tribes in one day."

MELBOURNE.

The town of Melbourne, the capital of Port Philip, or Australia Felix, is now half a mile in length, the houses at intervals extending over the whole of that space: the town contains three hundred and fifty houses, the population one thousand, exclusive of the children under twelve years of age; the population of the province is supposed to be about three thousand. Mel-

bourne is situated on the river Yarra Yarra, which empties itself into the noble harbour of Port Philip, at Hobson's Bay. The river is navigable for vessels of 100 tons: larger vessels discharge their cargoes at Williams Town, which is situated near the mouth of the river.

In the first number of the Port Philip Gazette published at Melbourne, October 27th 1839, the editor remarks,

“That we have chosen a highly flourishing district for the scene of our literary exertions, we are well assured, not only from personal observation, but from the unanimous consent of all experienced settlers in the elder colonies, from the opinion of those whose knowledge of the subject, and strength of mind enable them at one view to comprehend and systematize the great questions of colonial and emigration statistics, and from the strong and general testimony of the press both of Van Diemen's Land and Sydney.

* * * * *

“Indeed we have only to look round at our favoured territory to see what nature has done for us—our beautiful country, our rich soil, our admirable port, our central position, and above all the enterprising character of our population—to be at once satisfied of its present and future prosperity. This is a country owing its success chiefly to the last cause. The first arrivals on its shores were men of old colonial experience from Van Diemen's Land: they were met by persons of decision, activity, and energy of character from Sydney; flocks and herds rapidly increased, the land was on every side fast and thickly located, the soil was made subservient to the production of their wants, and, favoured by a genial climate with sufficient moisture, their crops will be abundant. The sheep have increased in health, strength, and growth; the pasturage is most luxuriant, and the land around Melbourne no art can improve. Two years have scarcely elapsed since the site of Melbourne was a wilderness, the echo of its woods answering only to the shrill *cooee* of the savages, or the long wild howl of its native dogs. Now the sounds of a

busy population, the noise of the hammer and the saw knows scarce a moment's cessation. The ground has been cleared, and houses, like mushrooms, spring up every day. We have noticed buildings run up during the night, where the day previous was a void: this speaks for the industry of its labouring classes, we mean those usually classed under the denomination of artizans, who borrow from the hours of rest to effect that which others look to in the day. That the district is every day increasing in the estimation of the richer and elder colonies, is evident from the constant and rapid influx of emigrants of all classes both from Van Diemen's Land and Sydney; and the value of the country where their enterprize has suddenly called up around them the fruits of society and civilization, may be learnt from the trivial and almost laughable fact, of the extreme jealousy with which rival parties watch each other: but we are glad to see this petty rivalry sinking into cordial co-operation, whenever required for the public benefit of the country they have settled, or the town they have built. We look upon this mixture of agriculturists and stock-breeders, the former from Van Diemen's Land, the latter from New South Wales, as one of the most fortunate circumstances which could have taken place with regard to the population of this district.

“We have on every side a most luxuriant pasturage, though we believe, from the opinion of good judges, in general better adapted to cattle than sheep; and we have undoubtedly a greater proportion of good land, and that naturally cleared and drained ready for the plough on the first occupation, than has ever yet occurred in the sale of crown lands in any part of the colony. This advantage might probably have been disregarded by the settlers from the “Sydney side,” who are men accustomed to the possession of large herds “running on a thousand hills,” the number of which they seldom or ever accurately know; and these dispersed through stations in the interior, where only a bare sufficiency of wheat is grown to supply their own immediate necessities: but in the sister colony (Van Diemen's Land) where want of space obliges the land-

holders to turn their attention to farming, a triumph, we may say a noble one, has been gained over the soil, in opposition to the blighting winds, whose devastating powers are instantaneous and distressing, beyond comparison with any evil of the kind in England. We trust therefore to see this an agricultural country. Every thing ought to be done, every inducement held out, every facility afforded, to the class of small farmers who can and will turn every foot of land to account, every acre to the production of "CORN."

"The plan of frequent villages which has been adopted in the survey is a favourable feature. It forms at once a central depôt to a number of the contiguous farmers. It prevents the waste of time which they would occupy in journies to the Port, distracting the attention from the chief end of their labour, and holds a bond of union between them, which is highly necessary in a country where the form of society is so broken, cold, and unnatural—so different to that of their native land, and so unfavourable to the increase and growth of the better and more kindly feelings of their nature.

"A press of other matter obliges us to break off in this, so interesting a subject; but we trust, on our next day of publication, to be able to carry out the fast increasing chain of events that thicken round us, as we contemplate the rise and establishment of this 'City of the Settlers.'"

The editor, in noticing the arrivals in the colony, announces that the "barque, Denmark Hill, besides bringing a steamer to ply up and down the Yarra Yarra, has conveyed to the shore the Rev. J. C. Grylls, formerly of Trinity College, Dublin, and of Jesus College, Cambridge, who has been licensed by the Lord Bishop of Australia, Episcopalian minister, and Surrogate of Melbourne, which latter appointment gives him the power of granting marriage licences. There seems to us (continues the worthy editor), to be a desperate want of marriageable ladies; and, lastly, the said vessel has had the extreme honour of bringing hither the proprietors and materials of this establishment."

	£.	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Beef, per tierce	6	0	0	..	..	..
fresh, lb.	0	0	3½	..	..	..
joint	0	0	4½	..	..	..
Beer, hhd. (Capel's)	5	0	0	..	..	..
gallon, do.	0	2	0	..	..	..
hhd. (Mills')	5	0	0	..	..	..
gallon, do.	0	2	0	..	..	..
Butter, fresh, lb.	0	2	0	0	2	6
salt, do.	0	2	0	..	..	..
Coffee, lb.	0	1	1	0	1	4
Candles, moulds, lb.	0	0	10	0	1	0
dips, do.	0	0	8	0	0	10
wax, do.	0	3	0	0	3	6
Cedar, foot	0	0	4½	0	0	5
Cheese, English, lb. ....	..	..	..	..	..	..
Colonial, do.	0	1	0	0	1	4
Coals, N wcastle, ton .....	..	..	..	..	..	..
Cows	10	0	0	12	0	0
Ducks, couple	0	15	0	0	16	0
Eggs, dozen	0	2	6	0	3	6
Flour, first, 100lbs.	1	3	0	1	6	0
seconds, do.	1	1	0	1	4	0
third, do.	1	0	0	1	4	0
Fowls, couple	0	15	0	0	16	0
Fat, rendered	0	0	5	0	0	5¼
Hams, lb.	0	1	0	0	1	4
Hay, V. D. L., ton	13	0	0	15	0	0
Sydney, do. ....	..	..	..	..	..	..
Bush, do.	4	0	0	..	..	..
Hides, green, each	0	10	0	..	..	..
dry, do. ....	..	..	..	..	..	..
Horns, 100 .....	..	..	..	..	..	..
Horses	40	0	0	70	0	0
Iron, ton	18	0	0	24	0	0
Leather, lb. ....	..	..	..	..	..	..
Maize, bushel	0	6	6	0	7	6
Mutton, quarter, lb.	0	0	3½	..	..	..
joint, do.	0	0	4	..	..	..
Oats, bushel	0	7	7	0	8	6
Porter, dozen	0	17	0	0	18	0
Pork, barrel .....	..	..	..	..	..	..
Pine boards, foot	0	0	6½	0	0	8
Potatoes, Derwent, ton	8	8	0	10	0	0
Melbourne, do.	12	0	0	13	0	0
Rice, bag	2	0	0	2	5	0
lb.	0	0	3	0	0	3¼
Skins, Kangaroo, dozen	0	18	0	1	0	0
Soap, English, lb.	0	0	6	0	0	7
Salt, cwt.	1	5	0	1	10	0

	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
Spirits in Bond—							
Brandy, gallon	0	6	6	„	0	7	0
Rum, do.	0	5	0	„	0	6	0
Hollands, case	1	10	0	„	1	12	0
Sugar, bag	0	0	4	„	0	0	4½
lb.	0	0	4½	„	0	0	6
refined	0	1	1	„	0	1	3
Tea, hyson-skin, chest.....	5	10	0	„	6	10	0
Tobacco, American, in bond, lb.	0	2	6	„	0	2	9
Ditto Brazil, do.	0	2	6	„	0	2	9
Sheepwash, lb.	0	1	4	„	0	1	6
Timber—							
Hardwood boards, 100	1	0	0	„	1	5	0
Joists	1	0	0	„	1	1	0
Shingles, 1000	1	0	0	„	1	3	0
Vinegar, gallon	0	5	0	„	0	5	6
Wool, lb.	0	1	0	„	0	1	3
Wethers, each	0	10	0	„	0	15	0

“ *To his Excellency Sir George Gipps, Knight, Captain General and Governor in Chief of New South Wales.*

“ *The Humble Memorial of the undersigned land-holders, proprietors of stock, and settlers in the District of Port Philip.*

“ Sheweth,

“ That your Humble Memorialists have experienced great difficulty in obtaining a sufficient quantity of labour, for the purpose of attending and waiting upon the large amount of stock and sheep in this fast improving district, and that which has hitherto been at their command, has not only generally been of the very worst description, but demanding and obtaining most exorbitant wages, such wages as must prove detrimental to the interests of settlers in general, and ultimately to that of the servants themselves, by the immense increase of drunkenness and crime it engenders.

“ Your Memorialists with confidence refer your Excellency to the recent very large addition to the revenue from the sale of land in this neighbourhood.

“ The great distance of this place from Sydney, almost precludes this possibility of emigrant labourers or mechanics, finding their way

here upon their own resources ; all the available labour having hitherto been brought by your Memorialists from Sydney, or exported from Van Diemen's Land at the expense of the employers, from which it may be observed, that although your Memorialists have contributed very largely to the revenue by the sales of land, yet that they have not received their share, or indeed any portion of emigrant labour imported therewith.

“ That your Memorialists have every confidence in your Excellency's superior judgment, in devising means for the removal of so great a drawback upon their prosperity, but would humbly suggest, that some of the earliest arrivals of government emigrant vessels should be dispatched to Port Philip. Your Memorialists binding themselves to employ the number of emigrants set opposite to their respective names, at fair and reasonable wages.

“ And your Memorialists will ever pray.”

Melbourne, 1838.

The classes most in request at Port Philip, may be described as follows :—Shepherds and Agricultural Labourers. The Trades employed in building, such as Carpenters, Joiners, Plasterers, Bricklayers, and Stonemasons ; Quarrymen and Brickmakers ; Country Blacksmiths, and a moderate number of Tailors and Shoemakers. The wages of a Labourer is 5s. to 6s. a day, a Mechanic or Handicraftsman, from 7s. 6d. to 12s. a day. Females, for all kinds of work that they are capable of doing, are paid in the same proportion. Young women as Household Servants, or capable of taking charge of a dairy, are in great demand.

A P P E N D I X.

THE AUSTRALIAN EMIGRATION ASSOCIATION.

OFFICES, 55, MOORGATE STREET, LONDON.

Trustees.

WILLIAM ALLEN, ESQ., Oxford Terrace.

FREDERIC BOUCHER, ESQ., 55. Moorgate Street.

J. W. LIDDIARD, ESQ., Friday Street.

WILLIAM SWAINSON, ESQ., F.R.S. and F.L.S., Colney, Herts.

JOHN WOOLLEY, ESQ., Denmark Hill, Surrey.

Auditors.

WILLIAM GIBBS, ESQ.

|

GEORGE WHITCOMB, ESQ.

Bankers.

THE BRITISH AND AUSTRALASIAN BANK.

Solicitor.

WILLIAM NELSON BEECHEY, ESQ.

The population of Great Britain has, of late years, increased so rapidly, that the Legislature has been unable to devise means by which the energies of the labouring classes at home can be fully developed, or their industry rewarded; and whilst thousands of able-bodied men in many parts of the kingdom are unable to procure employment, it is known, that, in the British Provinces of Australia, labour obtains a high remuneration, and is in such demand, that the Colonists are apprehensive lest the parent Government should withhold from them the present supply of Convict Labour.

It is also well known by every person acquainted with the state of those healthy Colonies, that in New South Wales, Port Philip, and South Australia, an agricultural Labourer, or artisan, can, by moderate industry, secure for himself and family an abundance of the comforts of life.

It is therefore assumed, that any plan, having for its object the conveyance of a portion of our industrious labourers from the agricultural and manufacturing districts, to the noble Provinces of Australia, will have the support of the public.

By the following extract from the Sydney Paper, on the arrival of the ship "Bengal Merchant," with 267 male convicts, it will be seen that the existing facilities for the furtherance of emigration, are not only greatly deficient, but that the supply of labour is quite inadequate to the demand.

“ Now when labour is so scarce, that in many cases the plough is left idle, two flocks placed in one, lambings neglected, and our shearing season and harvesting at hand, the arrival of Labourers, both emigrant and convict, are like genial showers ‘ long away, long wished for.’ In no better way can His Excellency the Governor evince his desire to benefit the Colonists, than by a fair and honest distribution of convict labour, particularly as emigrants *meet not a shadow of the demand* throughout this vastly extended country.”—*Sydney Herald*, 27th July, 1838.

The system of sending out agricultural labourers and mechanics in proportion to the fund raised by the sale of land in these Colonies, is a great improvement in colonization. But the fund now raised by the sale of land, limits the power of Government and Her Majesty's Colonization Commissioners to the sending out of a few thousands annually, whilst numerous applications to emigrate are, from necessity, not complied with.

The object of this Association is to enlarge the facilities for emigration by raising funds for the purchase of Colonial Land, and thereby creating the means of conveying to Australia a greater number of emigrants than can be sent out under the existing regulations.

This object is proposed to be effected in the following manner.

First, by the funds of Capitalists, who desire to invest money in the purchase of Colonial Land, being paid to Government through the Association.

Secondly, by securing to the emigrant a passage within a specified time, to Port Philip or elsewhere, for the sum of Five Pounds for each person.

The benefit secured to the Capitalist who may purchase land through the medium of the Association is, that he will have the agents of the Association in the Colonies to select his Land free of charge, and may have the privilege of nominating as Emigrants a proportionate number of those persons in whom he may feel an interest, subject to the regulations of the Association,—an advantage only to be obtained through other channels under particular circumstances. The Land so purchased will obviously be improved in value in proportion to the number of Labourers conveyed to the Colony.

THE FOLLOWING IS AN OUTLINE OF THE PLAN.

This Plan is intended to embrace every part of England, Ireland, Scotland and Wales; but for the present the operations of the Association will be confined to the conveyance of passengers to Australia from the counties of Sussex, Kent, Surrey, Hants, and Herts.

- 1.—Persons wishing to emigrate will receive Passage Notes signed by three of the Trustees upon payment, to the Post Master* of his or her district, of the sum of £1 for each note; five of which will

* The Postmaster General has permitted Postmasters to become Agents to the Association.

entitle the holder to a passage and provisions to the settlement of Port Philip in Australia.

- 2.—The description or qualification of Emigrants required by the Association is printed at the back of each Passage Note.
- 3.—As soon as a sufficient number of Passage Notes shall have been appropriated, arrangements will be made for the dispatch of a Vessel or Vessels with 100 or more Passengers.
- 4.—As soon as any depositor (being of the description required by the Association—*see note*),* shall become the holder of 5 Notes, his or her name will be registered for embarkation, and a berth secured to them in a Vessel to sail within three months from the date of such registration, or shall be competent to nominate for the same a male or female, provided the persons nominated be of the description required by the Association.
- 5.—The Passage Notes will be transferable or redeemable at any time within six months from the date of issue at the office of the Association in London, at a deduction of two shillings from each Note to meet expenses that may be incurred.

Adequate funds have already been raised to carry out the objects of the Association.

Arrangements will be made for the reception of passengers on board the vessels at London or Portsmouth. Notice of the sailing of vessels will be duly given to the emigrants, *who will be assisted by the Agents of the Association in obtaining employment on their arrival in the Colony.*

The present charge for a Steerage passage for a single adult, is £20 : by the plan of the Association, persons desirous of emigrating may procure a passage, and be provisioned for the time, at the cost of £5 only. Many will thus be enabled to procure a passage, who would otherwise be without the means of obtaining one. Benevolent individuals, Clubs, Societies, and charitable Institutions, may be induced to purchase Notes for deserving persons desirous of Emigrating.

JOHN PYM, *Manager.*

* *Parties eligible for a Passage to Australia under the Regulations of the Association, must be—*

1. Under 40 years of Age.
2. Of good character and in good bodily health.
3. Agricultural labourers or useful mechanics.
4. No Family is eligible with more than two children under seven years of age.
5. Single Women not with their Parents can only be taken if they are relatives or friends of the married people going by the same vessel.
6. All persons above twelve years of age will be taken as adults ; two children under that age will be considered as one adult person.
7. Individuals under WRITTEN engagements to work for any persons in the Colonies are not eligible for a passage.

A copy of the Regulations of the Association will be delivered to every purchaser of Passage Notes : a blank certificate will also be delivered, which must be properly filled up and sent up, to the office of the Association in London, before the holders of notecan be registered for embarkation.

The operations of the Association being for the present confined to the counties of Kent, Surrey, Sussex, Hants, and Herts, Passage Notes can only be had of the Agents in the principal towns of the above counties.

A LIST OF CLOTHING, with which every Emigrant must be provided in proceeding by Vessels from England to Port Philip, under the regulations of the Australian Emigration Association.

FOR MALES.

- 1 Winter Suit complete and in good repair, consisting of Coat, Waistcoat, and Trousers.
- 1 Jacket.
- 2 pair of Duck or other Summer Trousers.
- 1 Smock Frock,—dark colour preferable.
- 10 Shirts.
- 2 Flannel Waistcoats or Guernsey Frocks.
- 2 pair of Drawers,—Flannel to be preferred,
- 6 pair of Woollen Stockings,—dark colour preferable.
- 2 Neck-kerchiefs.
- 2 pair of Shoes, in good repair
- 1 Hat.
- 1 Cap.
- 2 pair of Sheets.

FOR FEMALES.

- 2 Gowns } dark colour preferable.
- 1 Stuff Petticoat } ferable.
- 2 Flannel Petticoats.
- 8 Shifts.
- 6 pair of Stockings—some of them Woollen and dark colour.
- 4 Neck-kerchiefs—coloured preferable.
- 2 Bonnets.
- 6 Caps.
- 2 pair of Shoes, in good repair.
- 2 pair of Sheets.

It should be observed, that in the Voyage to Australia, at whatever season of the year it may be, the Emigrants have to pass through very hot, and cold weather, and they should be prepared for each.

FOR CHILDREN.

Six Shirts or Shifts will suffice for Boys and Girls; in other respects they will require the same quantities as Men and Women. For the Boys a couple of Smock Frocks would be particularly useful.

The above is the smallest quantity of Clothing which will suffice, agreeably to the orders of the Emigrant Agent General. But Emigrants are recommended to bring with them as much more as is consistent with their means, and the necessary limitations of Baggage. An ample supply of Clothing is necessary to health on so long a Voyage, and also to provide against the losses which are liable to occur at Sea.

The Emigrants must find their own way to the place named for Embarkation; but after reaching it, they will be put on board under the care of the Government Officer, who will superintend the Embarkation of Passengers.

Provisions, Bedding and Blankets, and Cooking Utensils, will be found for them. They must bring their own Knives and Forks and Spoons. Sheets are not provided by the Vessel, and Emigrants must bring their own.

Neither Furniture nor bulky Tools or Implements can be received on board. Bedding also, with the exception of the article of Sheets, is prohibited. The luggage should be confined within about half a ton measurement (half a ton being Twenty cubic feet) for every Married Couple with one or two Children, divided as far as possible into two or three boxes of not more than Two and a Half or Three feet long, by about Twenty inches wide and Eighteen Inches high. For every

additional two Children, one more box of moderate size would be allowed. But people cannot be permitted to crowd the Ship with boxes only half filled, and must pack their effects close.

PASSAGE.

During the Voyage the Emigrants will be under the care of a Surgeon, who will have the general Charge and Superintendance of them until they reach their destination.

During the Voyage they will be Victualled on a liberal Scale, of which the following is the dietary:—

Scheme of Victualling for a Voyage to Port Philip issued by Mr. Elliot, Emigration Agent General.

FEMALE RATIONS.		MALE RATIONS.	
2lb. of Biscuit.	} per Day,	1lb. of Biscuit.	} per Day.
½lb. of Beef or } 1lb. of Pork. }		¾lb. of Beef or Pork.	
1oz. of Sugar.		1½oz. of Sugar.	
¼oz. of Tea.		¼oz. of Tea.	
¼ pint of Oatmeal.		½lb. of Flour.	
½lb. of Flour on beef days.		½ pint of Oatmeal.	
½lb. of Flour, and } ¾ of a pint of Peas } on pork days.		½ pint of Peas every alternate day.	
¾ of a pint of Vinegar weekly.		½ pint of Vinegar weekly.	

Children under Ten Years of Age to have Two Thirds of the rations allowed for Females, on three days of the week, and four ounces of Rice, and an ounce of Sugar, as a substitute for animal food, the other four days.

In addition to the above, Two Gallons of Wine are to be shipped, for each Emigrant, whether adult or child; and the following supply of Medical Comforts is to be shipped for every 100 persons on Board, viz.—

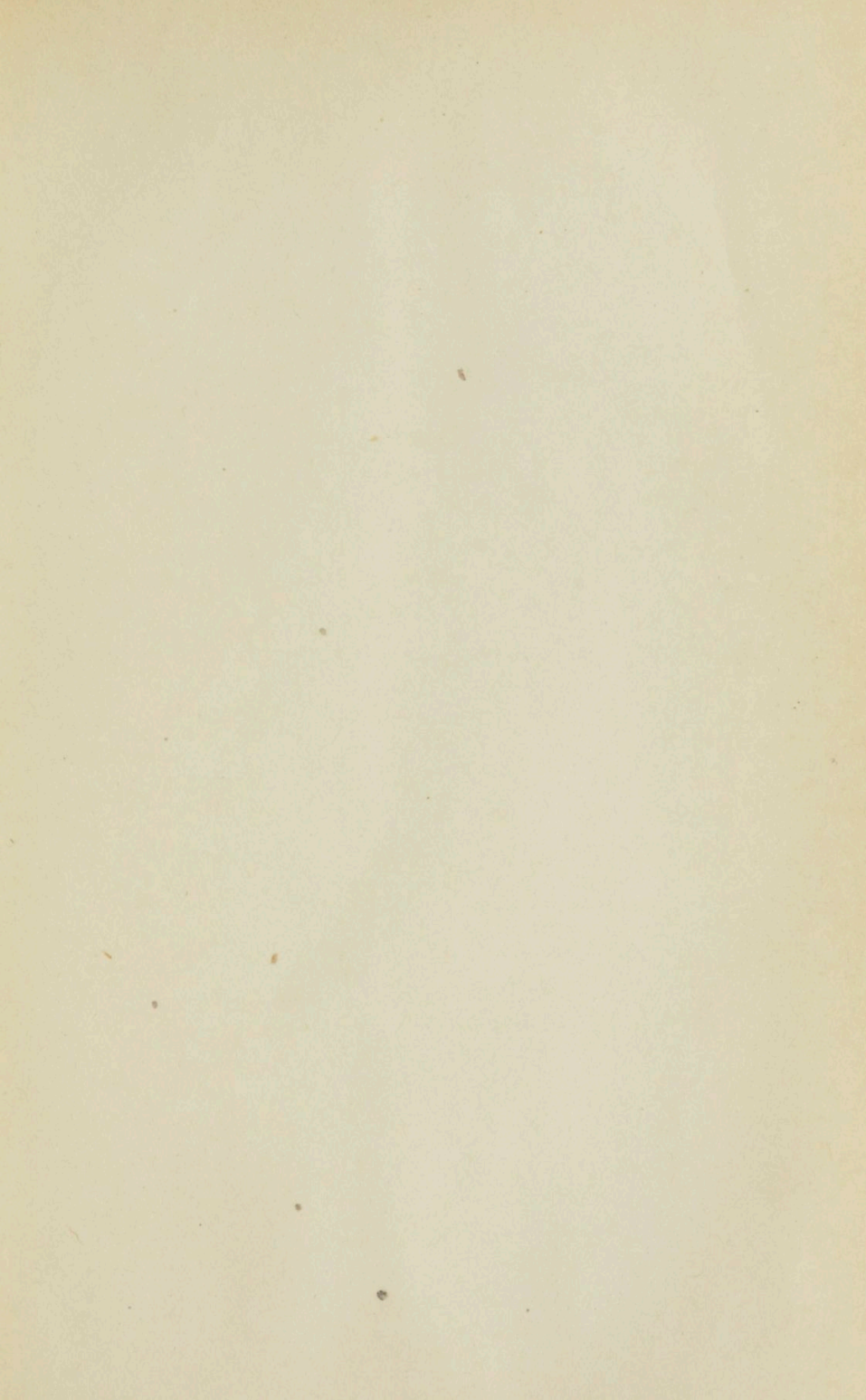
131lb. of Preserved Meat.	} To be distributed by the Surgeon.
648lb. of Lemon Juice.	
648lb. of Sugar to mix with the former.	
60lb. of Scotch Barley.	
18 Bottles of Port Wine.	
18 Gallons of Vinegar.	
6½lb. of Tea.	
48lb. of Sugar.	
50lb. of Soap for every 100 Men.	
500lb. Ditto for every 100 Women.	
300lb. of Rice.	} for every child } under 10 yrs.
4lb. of Sago.	
4lb. of Arrowroot	

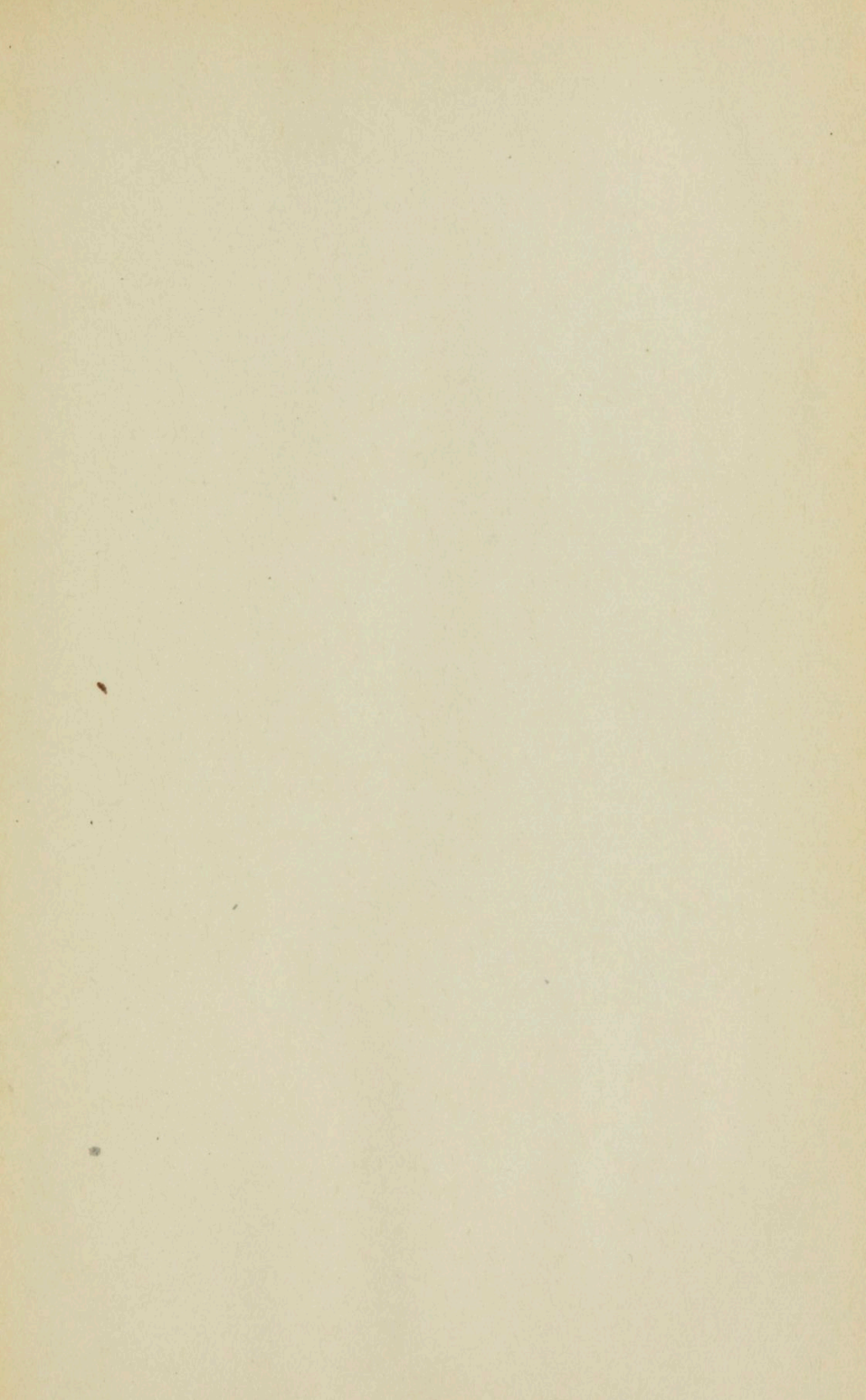
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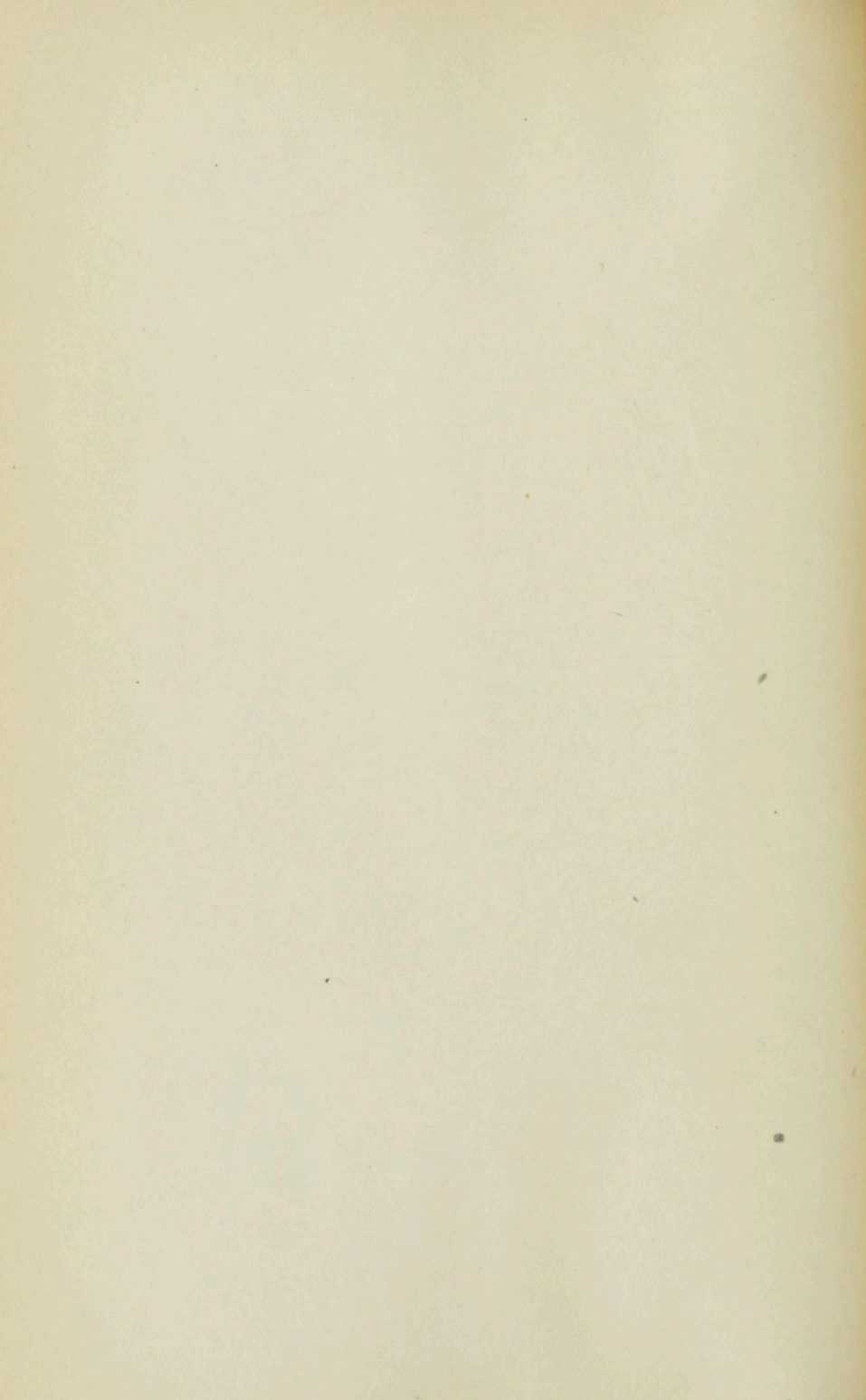
On their arrival at Port Philip, the Agents of the Association will inform the Emigrants who are in want of labourers, and how to proceed to their destination. They will be entirely free after arrival to engage themselves to any one they please, and at the best wages they can obtain, and will in no respect be bound to Government, nor be liable to be called upon for repayment of any Expense incurred in their passage.

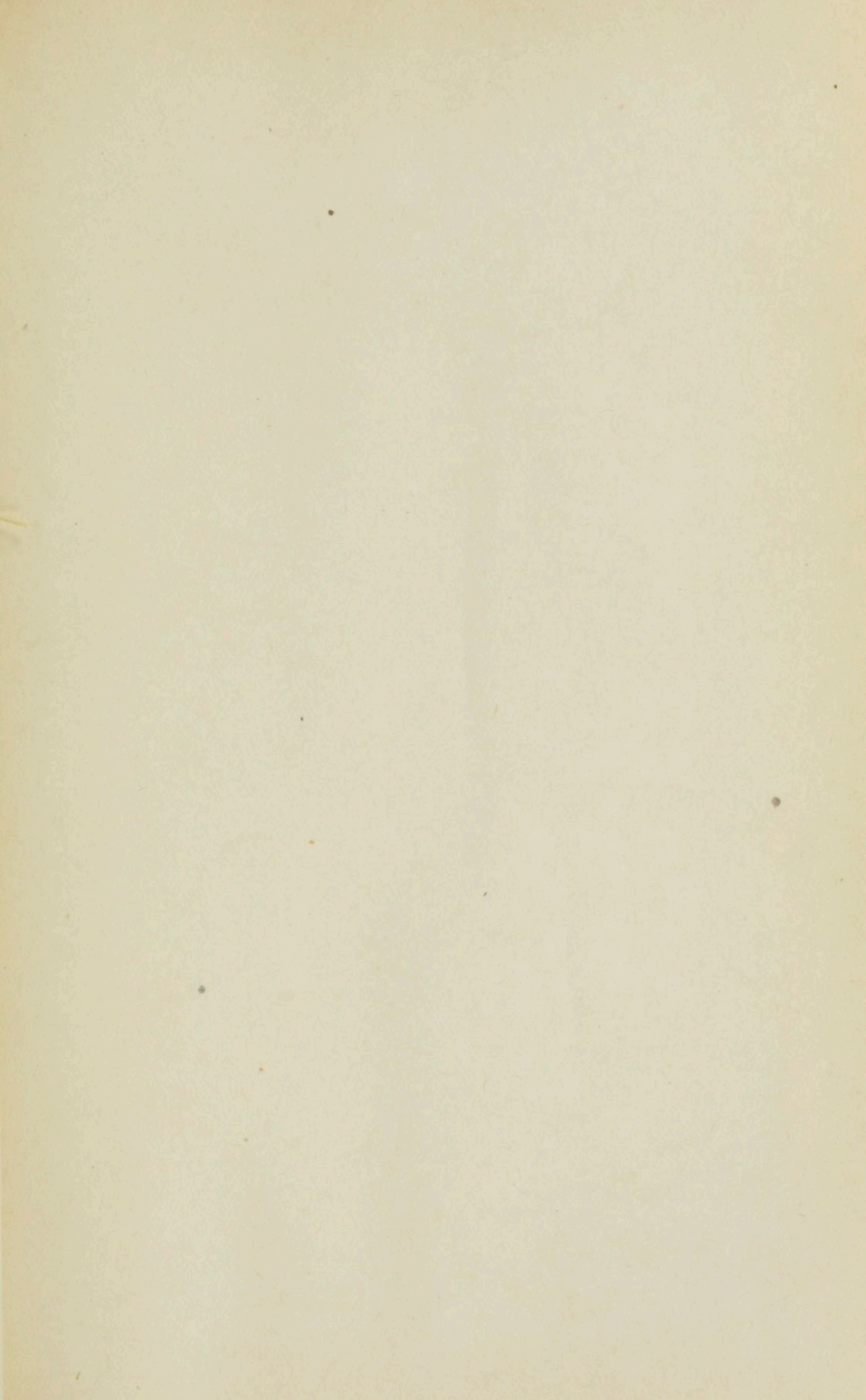
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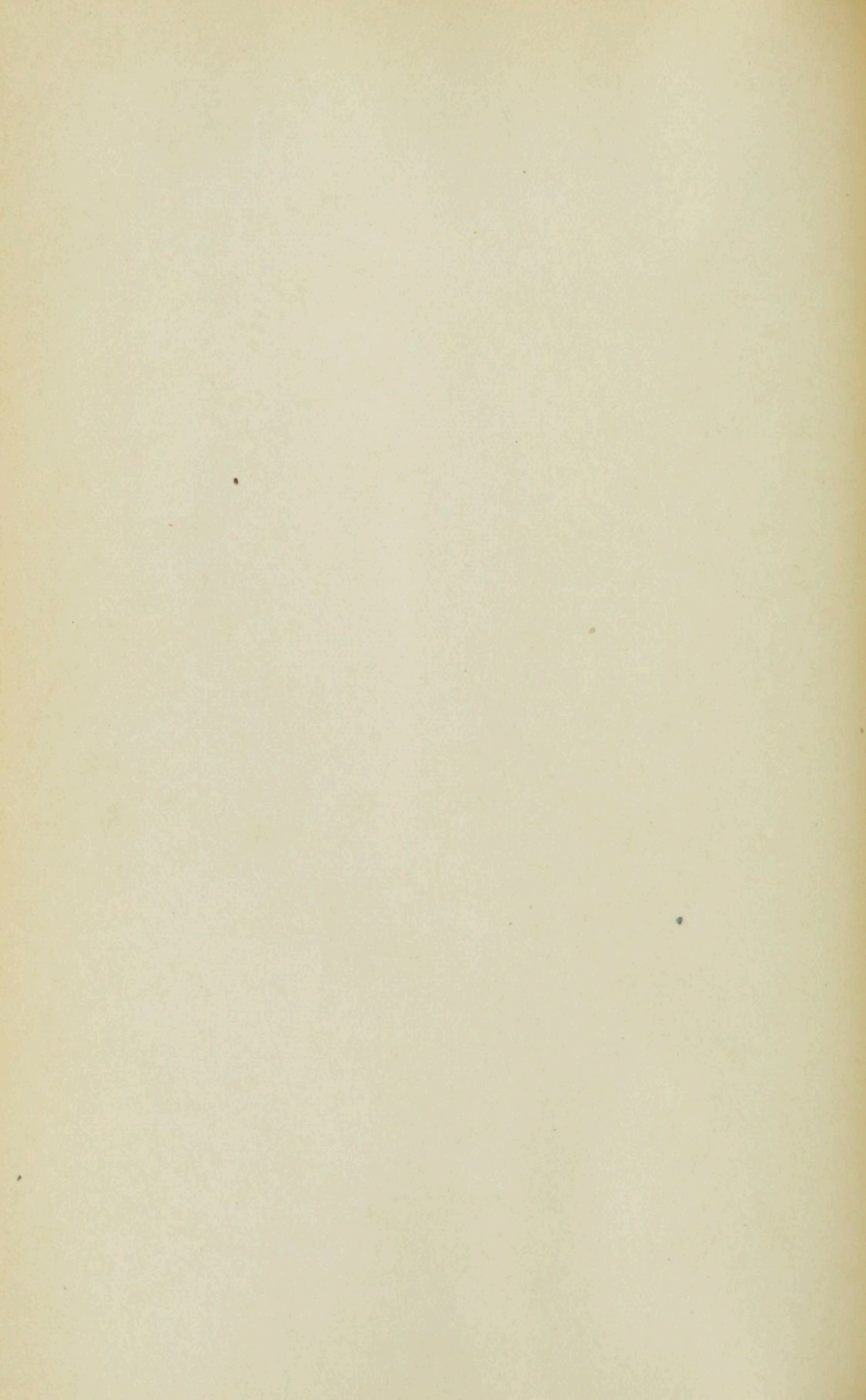
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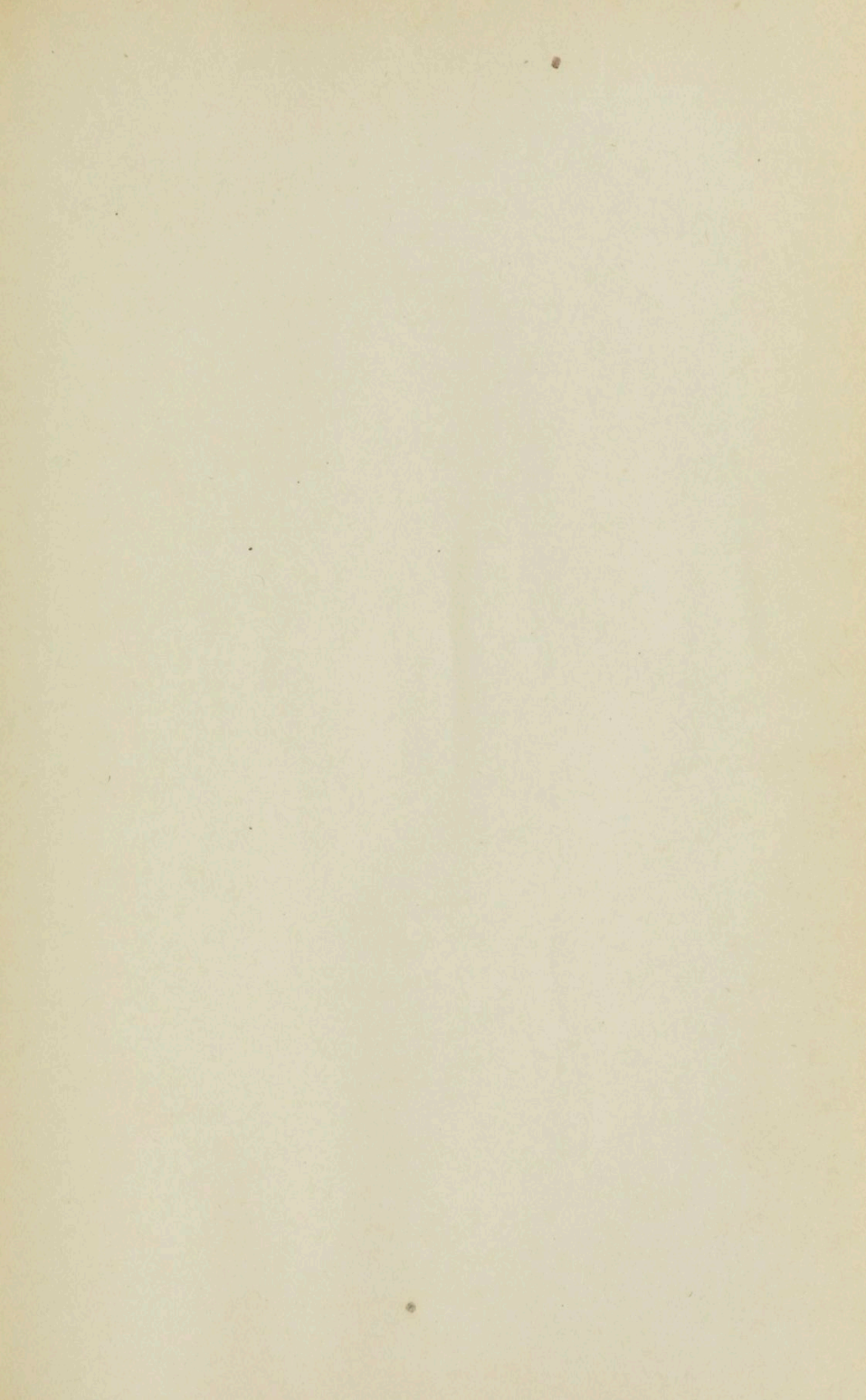


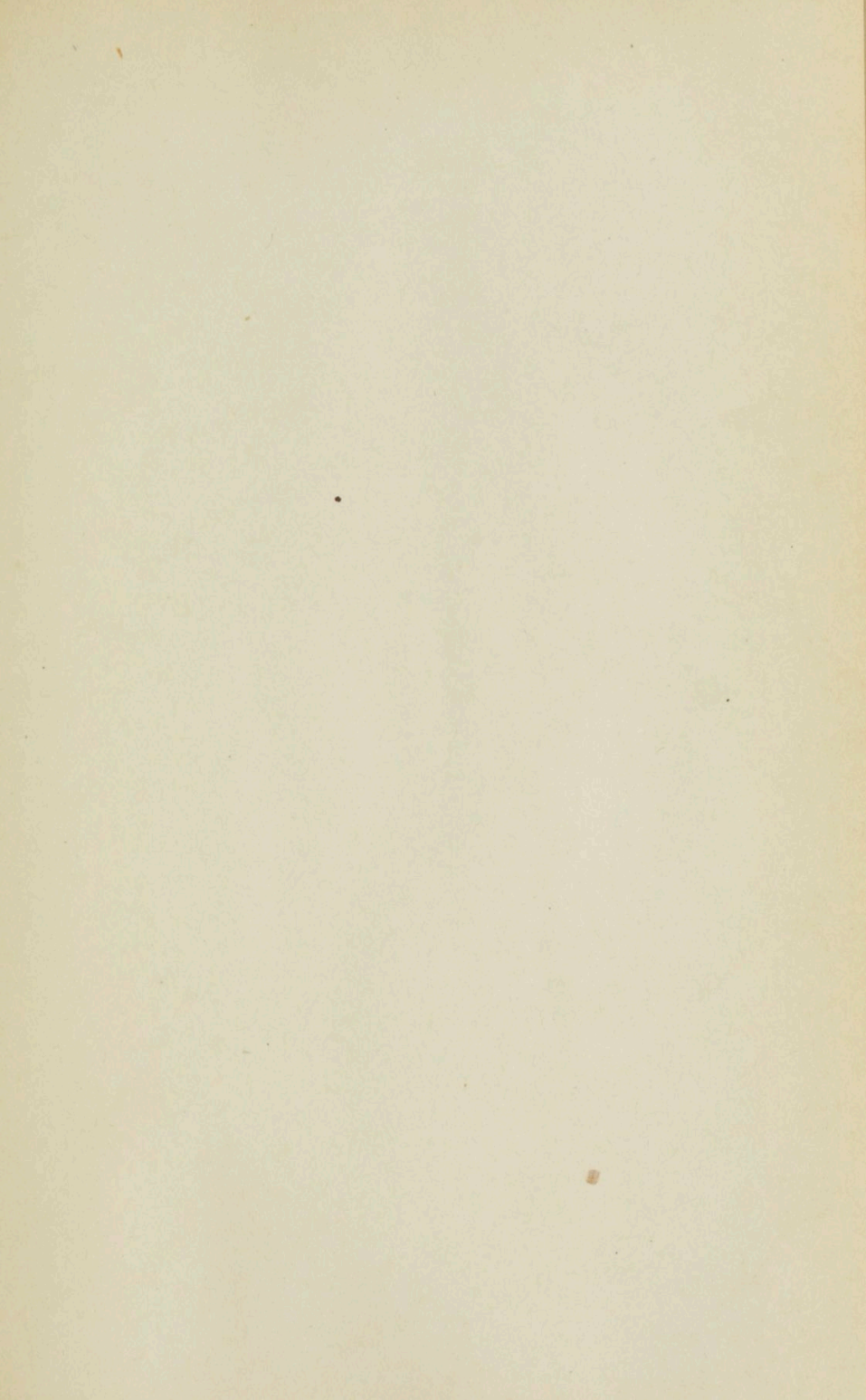


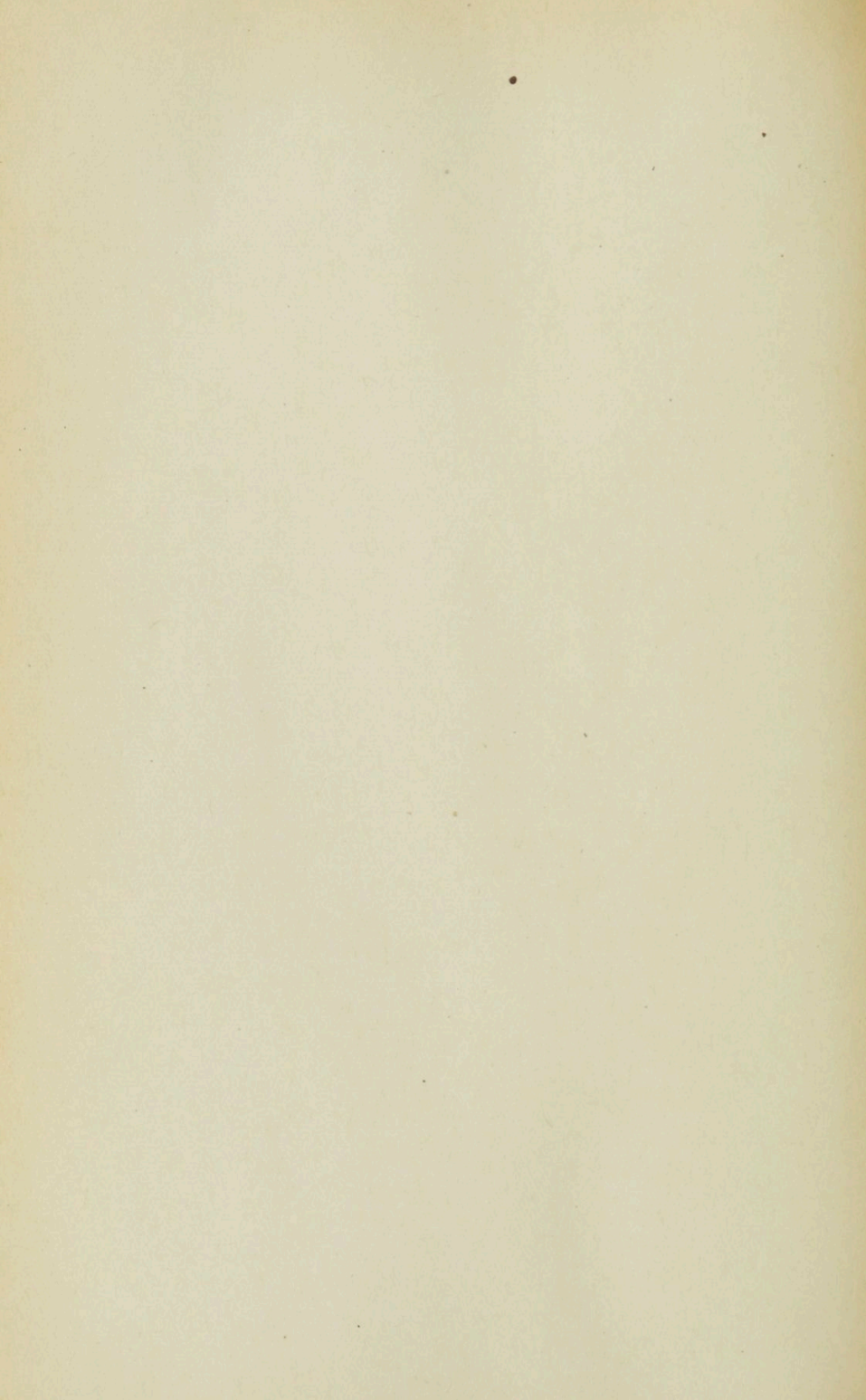


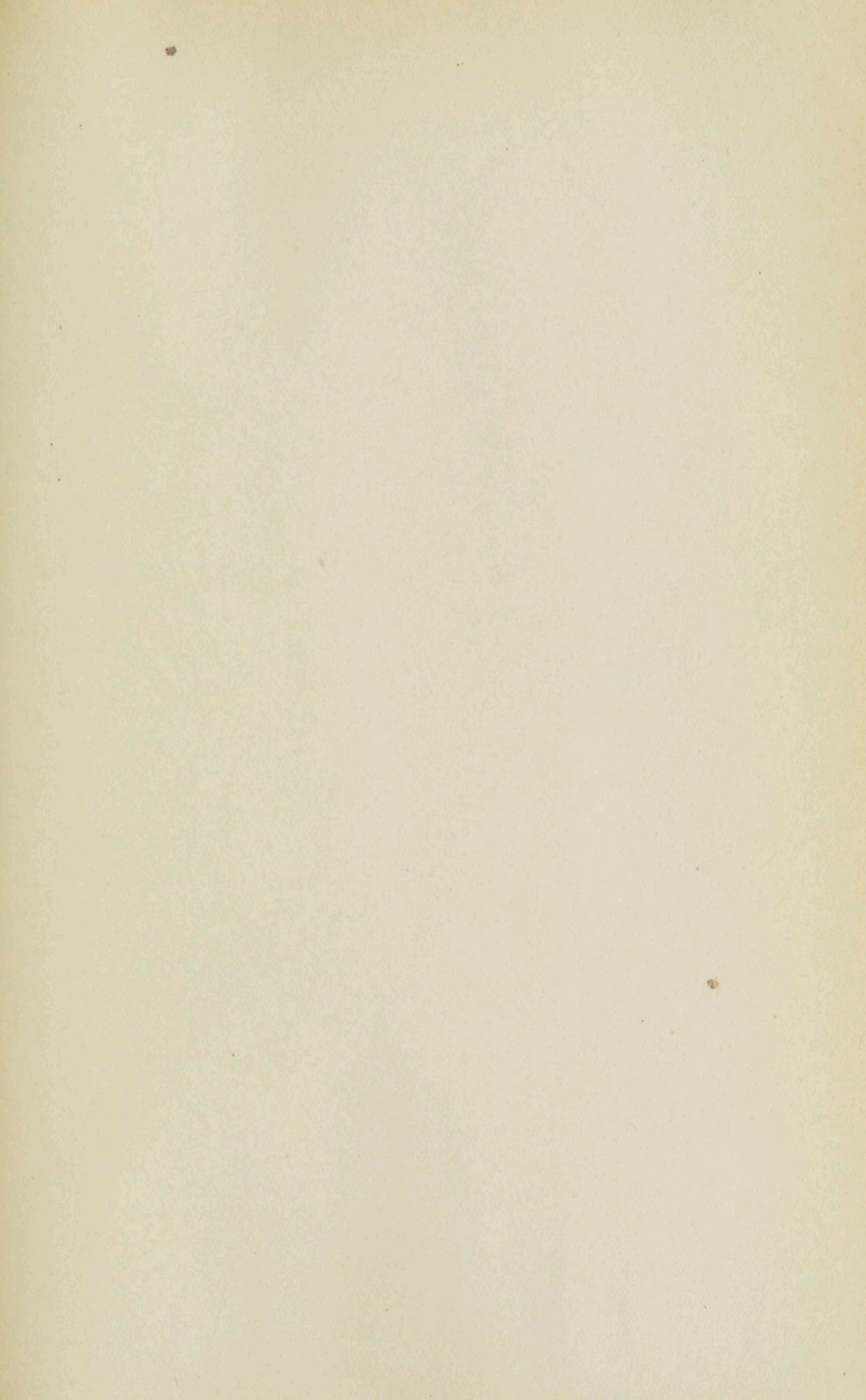


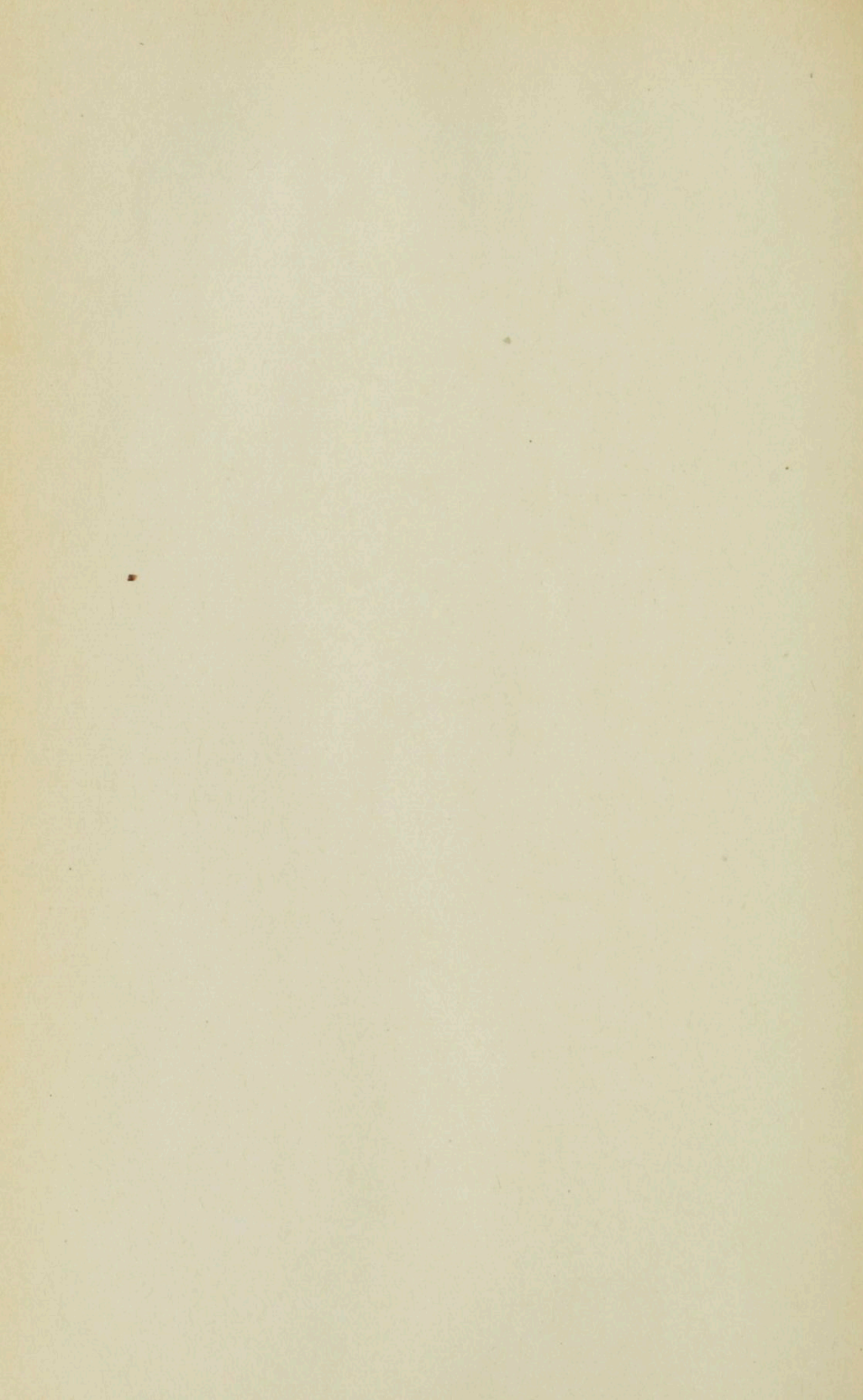












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