

# District of Port Phillip and Victoria today

Victoria Day Council, 2019 La Trobe Lecture

Presented July 20, 2019 by

Gary Morgan, Chairman, Roy Morgan Research Ltd

My **Victoria Day Council, 2008 La Trobe Lecture** at Queen's Hall, Parliament of Victoria on Saturday, July 5, 2008 concentrated on Victoria from July 1, 1851 (Victoria Day) to July 2008. Even before I presented my lecture Stewart McArthur suggested I should cover the period from 1835 when Port Phillip Bay was resettled by **John Batman's Port Phillip Association** and **John Pascoe Fawkner's** party of settlers – both groups from Van Diemen's Land. There is no doubt **Bateman's Port Phillip Association** settled in Port Phillip first (Indented Head) however **John Pascoe Fawkner's party were first to settle on the Yarra near Yarra Yarra falls where the Custom's House/Immigration Museum is today.**

In general, my **Victoria Day Council, 2008 La Trobe Lecture** covered:

1. the role of **women** in education, the workplace and politics **as covered in the media** by **William Williams, Sir Keith Murdoch** and **Roy Morgan**,
2. the role people **from other countries** had in the **separation of Victoria** starting with **Charles La Trobe** and **Redmond Barry**, and
3. how **media publishers** such as **John Pascoe Fawkner, George Cavenagh, Ebenezer Syme** and **Alfred Massina** helped make Victoria a much better place.

Since July 8, 2008, when I presented to **The Victoria Day Council "Women, the Media, and People from Other Countries who have made Victoria"**, I have been thinking about different issues regarding the foundation of Victoria, and have written Appendixes 1-4, and 6 papers (Forward, Appendixes 5-8 and Introduction). (See page 18)

While my initial **2008 La Trobe Lecture** covered Victoria from July 1, 1851 my additional 6 papers only briefly covered from Jan. 26, 1788, when Australia was first settled at Port Jackson and soon after at Norfolk Island (the *Supply* left for Norfolk Island on Feb. 15. 1788). I did cover in more detail from May 29, 1835 when Port Phillip Bay was resettled by **John Batman's Port Phillip Association** and **John Pasco Fawkner's** party of settlers – both groups were from Van Diemen's Land.

The free settlers and convicts who arrived in Port Jackson from 1788 to 1791 (Third Fleet arrived June to October 1791) had difficulty in producing sufficient food. About half of those who arrived were sent onto Norfolk Island where they also experienced similar problems producing sufficient food. Evacuation of Norfolk Island took place from 1807-08 finishing in 1814. Most Norfolk Island residents received compensation to resettle in New Norfolk (near Hobart) in Tasmania. Australia's early settlers did a remarkable job in establishing both Sydney and Hobart under such difficult conditions.

Victoria Day was more than 50 years later on July 1, 1851. It is important for all Victorians to understand when and how the District of Port Phillip was discovered. The coastline of the future District of Port Phillip was first surveyed in 1798 by **Dr George Bass** and **Lt. Matthew Flinders**, then in 1800 by **Lt. Commander James Grant**. Port Phillip was discovered on Jan. 5, 1802, first entered on Jan. 31, 1802 and 'taken possession of' by **Lt. John Murray** on Mar. 8, 1802. (See page xi, Gary Morgan, Victoria Day Council, 2008 La Trobe Lecture.)

On April 26, 1802 **Capt. Flinders** entered Port Phillip, he then ascended both Arthur's Seat, eastern shore, and the You Yangs 'mountains' on the west. **Mr Charles Grimes**, NSW Surveyor-General, discovered the Yarra River on Feb. 2, 1803 and it is believed 'Dights Falls' on Feb. 7, 1803.

Port Phillip was first settled by **Col. David Collins** at Sullivan Bay on Oct. 9, 1803. The *Ocean* which had accompanied **David Collins** on the *Calcutta* had arrived in Port Phillip on Oct. 7, 1803. **David Collins** and all convicts and settlers, except convict **William Buckley**, had departed Sullivan Bay by May 20, 1804.

**Why did Collins abandon Sullivan Bay so quickly – lack of food and water, a compensation payment to him of 500 pounds if he decided to move, or his fear of the Aborigines? After reading numerous books on ‘life at Sullivan Bay’ there is little doubt there was significant fear of the Aborigines – there were numerous ‘encounters’ and each night ‘fires’ could be seen around the bay!**

The District of Port Phillip was first resettled by **Edward Henty** at Portland Bay on Nov. 19, 1834.

On May 29, 1835 the *Rebecca* with **John Batman’s** members of his Port Phillip Association anchored in Port Phillip Bay, by Indented Head. **John Batman’s** ‘diary’ claims members of his Port Phillip Association on June 8 came across the Yarra Yarra falls and fresh water. (Where Customs House/Immigration Museum is today.)

It was not until Aug. 21, 1835 that **John Pascoe Fawkner’s** party in the *Enterprise* ‘found’ the same Yarra location departing Sept. 5, 1835 except **George Evans** and his Fawkner servants stayed.

**John Pascoe Fawkner, son of John (convict) & Hannah Fawkner (née Pascoe)**, arrived at Sullivan Bay aged 10 years on Oct. 9, 1803.

On Oct. 10, 1835 **John Pascoe Fawkner** revisited Sullivan Bay in the *Enterprise* before the *Enterprise* on Oct. 11 anchored in Hobson’s Bay; just clear of the channel to the Yarra Yarra falls where **Fawkner & his party arrived on Oct. 16, 1835.**

**Fawkner’s diary was first published on June 7, 1862 – in this document Fawkner outlines his history as he saw it; he also covers his experiences and problems dealing with Aborigines when he arrived at the Yarra Yarra falls in 1835. There are numerous documents covering Fawkner’s life. Fawkner was ‘self-educated’; he began work as a sawyer in Hobart Town. Over a number of years he acquired sufficient property to settle in Launceston and on February 9, 1829 published his first edition off the *Launceston Advertiser*. As a newspaper publisher Fawkner made sure he was presented in a ‘positive light’. There is little doubt Fawkner contributed to *The Illustrated Journal of Australasia, Our Portrait Gallery, April 1857*. “He remained there (Hobart Town) until 1814, when, having come into collision with the authorities for what appears to have been an act of charity on his part, but was, nevertheless, illegal as a breach of discipline under the then existing regulations, he removed to New South Wales. (As a ‘guest’ of Her Majesty!)” (Attachment 1)**

By 1839 when **Charles La Trobe** arrived in Melbourne the Port Phillip District’s population was 5,822 with about 3,000 in Melbourne. In 1846 Melbourne’s population was 10,954; in 1851 about 23,000, in 1855 about 100,000 and by 1890 about 500,000. (See above - Discovery of Port Phillip, Jan. 5, 1802)

**Charles La Trobe** was a descendant of a French Huguenot family who fled from France in 1685 after the Revocation of the Edict of Nantes. His protestant, nonconformist, French ancestors originally moved from Europe to Ireland, and finally to the Moravian village of Fairfield near Manchester, England. The family became highly cultured Moravian missionaries – a family aligned with Wilberforce and anti-slavery. The family of La Trobe’s wife **Sophie (née de Montmollin)** had close ties with Napoleon’s ‘household’ and as such I believe **La Trobe was at least a sympathetic Napoleonite** (most would consider Napoleonite’s to be Republicans – anti Royalty – despite Napoleon promoting Marshal André Masséna as the 1st Duc de Rivoli and 1st Prince d’Essling). When **Charles La Trobe** arrived in Melbourne he was initially sympathetic to the separation of the District of Port Phillip from NSW, like his ‘friends’ at the Melbourne Club, however he soon changed and followed the advice of his English ‘masters’ through the Governors in Sydney.

The recently published *Melbourne Club, 1838-1918: A Social History* by Paul De Serville advises Melbourne Club Members the following regarding the separation of the Port Phillip District from Victoria:

*“Separation from New South Wales, self-government and control of the purse strings were objects shared by most colonists – in fact one of the few matters upon which a bickering District generally agreed. The first meeting to discuss separation had been held as early as 1840, chaired by the Club member, Henry Fyshe Gisborne. It had taken ten and half years to achieve independence from Sydney. Now the Club, along with the district, the new colony, prepared to enter its inheritance.*

*The long-desired separation from the mother colony took effect on 1 July 1851. For many years afterwards, while the pioneer colonists had a voice, it was kept as a public holiday. Amid the celebrations and the opening of Prince's Bridge in 1851, the Superintendent was promoted to Lieutenant-Governor (not entirely a vote of confidence – why not governor?); and a Legislative Council, partly nominated, partly elected, was set up. A Supreme Court was created, with William à Beckett moving easily from fourth Resident Judge to become the first Chief Justice. The new colony abandoned its original name of Port Phillip and became the colony of Victoria – a patriotic gesture that, however, lacked individuality, as there were to be many Victorias around the world.”*

Whilst the above is accurate my **Introduction: Understanding Victoria** makes it clear the founding and early Members of the Melbourne Club were instrumental in the **separation of the Port Phillip District and also the Eureka ‘Not Guilty’ verdicts – the two most important events involving the foundation and future of Victoria.**

There were fifteen years between the first separation meeting held on May 13, 1840 in Scott's School Eastern Hill<sup>1</sup> and the last Eureka ‘**Not Guilty**’ verdict (1855). **Redmond Barry** (Melbourne Club Member) played a significant role during this period from attending the first separation meeting through to the last Eureka ‘Not Guilty’ verdict – the “*Voice of the Gold Diggers*” had been heard! (Page 130 – 2008 La Trobe Lecture.)

Although during the same period **La Trobe** as Superintendent played a role in the foundation of Victoria it was **Redmond Barry and La Trobe's fellow Members of the Melbourne Club** who we need to recognise as the ‘curators’ of Victoria as we know it today. They were responsible for – “*turning a wild country into a civilised one*’.

**The Eureka Stockade (1854), and the outcome which followed, was a critical turning point in the path to ‘true’ separation for Victoria. Politically Victoria changed to be a democracy with newspapers, newsletters, periodicals and journals as the political critics – it was many years later that the ‘critical’ media was extended to cover radio, TV and the Internet; and today companies such as Apple, Google, Facebook, Twitter, Netflix, Amazon, Disney dominate the new media landscape and streaming.**

**And throughout this seminal time (up to WW2) no one in Australia was polling public opinion – that was not begun by my father, Roy Morgan, until nearly a century later in 1941. In September 1941 Roy Morgan published his first Australian public opinion poll finding on equal pay for women – the issue is just as important nearly 80 years later (See page 59 – 2008 La Trobe Lecture).**

My 2008 La Trobe Lecture (now a book) “**Women, the Media, and People from Other Countries who have made Victoria**” covers some of the public opinion poll and other survey results on **political issues, education, women, the media and people from other countries** published by my father from when he began in 1941. It also refers to newspapers, magazines, journals and periodicals printed and published from October 28, 1853 by **William H. Williams** my great grandfather. **William Williams** was a Victorian printer and ‘radical’ publisher, as was **Ebenezer Syme** and **David Syme** of *The Age*, and **Alfred Massina** (changed from Masséna) who in 1865 began with *The Australian Journal* which published prominent writers of the day including **Marcus Clarke** and **Adam Lindsay Gordon** (See pages 75-79 – 2008 La Trobe Lecture). In 1902 **Alfred Massina** was appointed the Inaugural Chairman, **The Herald and Weekly Times Ltd.**

Immediately **following the Eureka trials social concerns became the issue of the day** as out-of-work gold miners flocked to Melbourne seeking employment and accommodation. The first major dispute was over the cost to Victoria of subsidised immigration from the UK which was definitely not wanted by workers returning from the gold fields. (Nothing's changed today!)

<sup>1</sup> **Of the speakers at first Separation Meeting (Scott's School, Eastern Hill, May 13, 1840) 14 of the 19 were Members of the Melbourne Club.** The speakers were **Major George Mercer** presiding and Messrs. H.F. Gisborne, A.M. M'Crea, C.H. Ebdon, James Montgomery, Arthur Kemmis, Arthur Hogue, J.D.L. Campbell, P.W. Welsh, A. Bolden, **Redmond Barry**, J.C Riddell, W. Verner, T. Arnold, W. Meek, W. Ryrie, R. H. Browne, Dr. M'Crae, and Dr. Greeves.

# Victoria in the 1850's and Victoria Today – Women, Media and People from ‘other’ Countries – and Aborigines

## Women

An example of **social attitudes in the 1850s** was published in the January 1857 *The New Letter of Australasia* – under a “*JOURNAL OF SOCIAL PROGRESS*”.

*“...We are truly an unsociable people. Assuming as we do to be a sort of Englishman, we steadfastly persevere in the perpetuation of British foibles. Cold, unsociable, segregating in our habits, utterly innocent of the art of making ourselves agreeable to our neighbors, we nevertheless keep up the semblance of sociality, and a dismal affair we make of it. It is true that the incongruity of the elements of which Victorian society is composed raises some difficulty in the way of the total abandonment of social distinction, even for the temporary purposes of festive gatherings. We fully admit that, as here intelligence and propriety of conduct are as little tests of success in life, as wealth is of intellect and refinement, it would be both difficult and inadvisable to remove indiscriminately the social barriers. But there are many occasions on which the presence of a person may be fairly taken as an indication of his eligibility for at least the converse of the moment. Besides, people’s movements are here so generally known, ay, and often even the history of their career, that at most social meetings at least half will be in some degree acquainted, without the ceremony of introduction. But, beyond the intercourse commonly called ‘mixing in society’, there is a great want of the disposition to make ourselves agreeable. The fact is, we do not understand it. How many thousands of well-meaning people, members of societies, sum up their ideas of a social gathering in a “tea-meeting”, a slow and dismal affair, composed of long forms, weak tea, stale buns, and longwinded speeches; the very seats arranged as if with the design of preventing all intercourse between the guest. Or, to take a case when pleasure is the professed object, look at the failure of the late attempts to get up a series of assemblies at Cremorne.*

*...The people of Williamstown, having been at loggerheads for a couple of months on the question whether the ladies or gentlemen should fix the prices of the tickets, have at last had a meeting in aid of the establishment of a Mechanics’ Institution. Exertions for a similar purpose, less the quarrelling, are being made at North Melbourne, where **Mr. Justice Barry**, to whom the community lies already under large obligations for his labors in the cause of refinement and mental culture, is taking an active part. The St Kildaites are also forming what in the fashionable suburbs is to be called an Athenaeum. The working men in and around Melbourne are making strenuous exertions to raise funds by subscription among themselves toward the enlargement of the Hospital.*

*...The labor market is in a tolerably healthy state; ...*

*...Families are wont to complain of a difficulty in procuring good female servants: servants are in plenty, but many of them are so little fitted for domestic duties, that they are positively a source of trouble and inconvenience. Good general servants have no difficulty in obtaining from £25 to £30 a year, and cooks get rather more. Builders and skilled laborers are in full work, at good wages for short days’ work. Trade is now good, confidence is restored, and enterprise of various kinds, many of them new to the place, are progressing all around.*

*...The teachers engaged in the public schools have formed an association for mutual edification, and for the general improvement of their position. Such a union is much needed; we cannot but regret the mistaken step of excluding private teachers.*

*...At present, the schoolmaster is looked upon as a sort of necessary person to have in a school.*

*...Parents and patrons too often estimate education by the learning of lessons, and disregard altogether the great end of mental culture, towards which the lessons are but the means. Again, it is essential that the teacher should not be too directly dependent upon local authorities; in all small communities, division of opinion, and even bickerings, will arise, which prejudice the position of the teacher, and weaken his efforts; of all these he should be independent. We are rejoiced to see the teachers associating for the purposes immediately affecting themselves, and calculated to produce, by reaction, so much benefit to society.*

**Crime is still rife.** Several murders have lately been committed, and remains of bodies have been found in different parts of the country....”

**Since September 2008** the #MeToo movement swept the world in the wake of revelations about Hollywood producer Harvey Weinstein and in Australia famous actors such as Craig McLachlan, John Jarratt and Geoffrey Rush are caught up in the moment. Deputy Prime Minister Barnaby Joyce is forced to resign as National Party Leader after his affair with his staffer becomes public knowledge after she becomes pregnant.

Australia has had its first Female Prime Minister – Julia Gillard (2010-13) and New South Wales has had its first two Female Premiers – Kristina Keneally (2009-2011) and Gladys Berejiklian (2017-2019). Berejiklian was the first Woman to lead her party to victory at a NSW Election. Victoria has also had its first Female Governor Linda Dessau appointed in 2015.

In both Queensland and New South Wales both the Premier (Annastacia Palaszczuk (QLD) and Gladys Berejiklian (NSW)) and Opposition Leader (Deb Frecklington (QLD) and Jodi McKay (NSW) are now all Women – a first for both States.

In Melbourne Sally Capp was elected as the southern capital’s first popularly elected Female Lord Mayor joining Sydney Lord Mayor Clover Moore and was later joined by Adelaide Lord Mayor Sandy Verschoor, Hobart Lord Mayor Anna Reynolds and the Lord Mayor of Newcastle Nuatali Nelmes.

**Unfortunately little has happened to reverse ‘male biases’** with regards to ‘boys only’ schools such as Melbourne Grammar and Scotch College, Men’s Social Clubs, and business, except for some exceptions – too ‘few and far between’ – such as: Ita Buttrose at the ABC, Caroline Hewson at BHP, Gail Kelly at Westpac, Elizabeth Proust at Bank of Melbourne & Chairperson Australian Institute of Company Directors, Elizabeth Alexander at Medibank & Chancellor University of Melbourne and a few others, has failed to promote enough Women into positions of leadership.

This year the Victorian Government has opened **Her Place Women’s Museum Australia** – unfortunately insufficient funds have been provide to renovate the Museum in Clarendon Terrace in East Melbourne or keep it open for the public on a daily basis! **Obviously much more needs to be done to reverse ‘male biases’.**

## Media

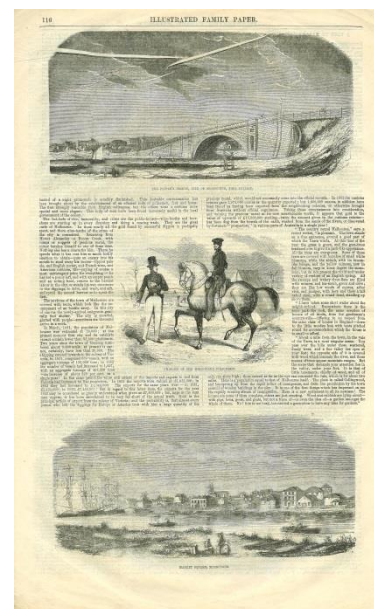
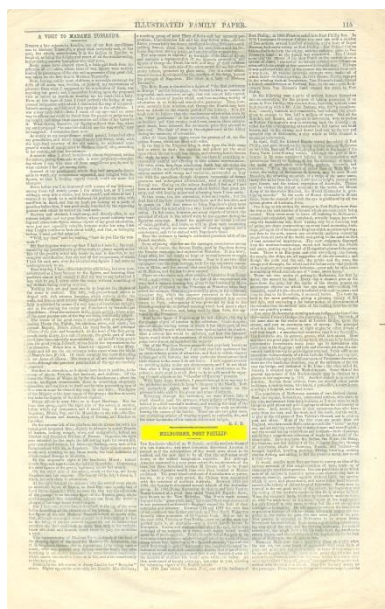
**Publishing in Victoria in the 1850s** and later was much broader than just newspapers it covered newsletters, periodicals and journals. **In the 1850s, Melbourne in particular became the home of the ‘serious, radical and provocative’ media** many years before. *The Bulletin* was first published in Sydney on January 31, 1880.

Melbourne’s first newspaper, (See page 27 – 2008 La Trobe Lecture) the *Melbourne Advertiser* was first published by **John Pascoe Fawkner** from January 1, 1838. It became *The Port Phillip Patriot* and *Melbourne Advertiser* from February 6, 1838 to September 30, 1845 when it ceased publishing. It became the *Melbourne Daily News* from October 9, 1848 until incorporated in *The Argus* on January 1, 1852.

Of the 75 newspapers that began in Australia in the period 1840-1845, there were only six operating in 1855 and only one in Victoria – the *Geelong Advertiser* (first published on November 21, 1840). *The Argus* was first published on June 1, 1846 and *The Age* on October 17, 1854. When Victoria was founded, publishing was not a big business **however there was plenty of fake news!** The early settlers looked forward to newspapers, periodicals and books printed and published in England.

In addition from the late 1850s until the Second World War, many English newspapers and other periodicals were re-printed in Australia – demonstrating a continued demand for news from Britain. Today, the Internet has revived access to news world-wide as it happens.

An example of a newspaper sent to Australia from London which was later published in Melbourne is *Cassell’s Illustrated Family Paper*. Shown next page is the April 1, 1854 London edition of *Cassell’s Illustrated Family Paper*, Vol. 1, No. 14, John Cassell which included two pages including illustrations – *Melbourne, Port Phillip*.



London edition, *Cassell's Illustrated Family Paper*, Vol. 1, No. 14, April 1, 1854

The first edition of *Cassell's Illustrated Family Paper* printed in Melbourne was *Cassell's Illustrated Family Paper* and *The Melbourne Advertiser*, (Vol. 1, No. 1) published September 23, 1856 by Slater, Williams & Hodgson.

It was not long after July 1, 1851 (Separation Day) **Lieutenant-Governor Charles La Trobe** (submitted his resignation Dec. 1852, relieved May 6, 1854), **Governor Sir Charles Hotham** (from June 22, 1854 to Dec.31, 1855) and others received criticism over unfair gold taxes from Melbourne's 'serious, radical and provocative' media, such as: *The Diggers Advocate* published by **Hough, Heath & Williams** with contributors **G. E. Thomson** (1853), **George Black & H. R. Nicholls** (1854); **Slater, Williams, & Hodgson** (1854); **Ebenezer Syme** who in July 1854 wrote for *The Argus* while contributing to *The Gold Diggers' Advocate and Commercial Advertiser*; *The Age* (1854); **W. H. Williams** (1856); **A. H. Massina & Co.** (1859); and finally **Marcus Clarke** (1868).

**William H. Williams (1831–1910)** arrived in Melbourne in October 1852. Aged 21 he soon began employment as an overseer at *The Melbourne Morning Herald* working with **George Hough and Henry Heath**. (In 1839 **George Cavenagh** moved from Sydney to Melbourne and on January 3, 1840 began *The Port Phillip Herald* before changing to *The Melbourne Morning Herald* in January 1849, and on September 8, 1855 changing again to *The Herald* which became an afternoon newspaper on January 4, 1869.)

In 1853 the three men in partnership purchased the firm Coonebee & Mould and established **Hough, Heath & Williams** with Heath as the registered printer and publisher. On October 28, 1853 they published the 'first voice of the gold diggers' – *The Diggers' Advocate* (See page 14 – 2008 La Trobe Lecture) – more than a year before the Eureka Stockade uprising on Sunday December 3, 1854. (Some of **William Williams's** many publications are listed after my lecture from page 9.)

**Since September 2008** Apple, Google, Facebook, Twitter, Netflix, Amazon, Disney have dominated the new media landscape and streaming has 'taken off' locally.

In Australia Channel 9 almost went bankrupt in 2012 before being taken over in a debt for equity swap, while Channel 10 faced the same fate in 2017 before being taken over by the American CBS Corporation. Channel 9 later merged with Fairfax Media and launched its own locally based streaming service Stan – now seen by 3 million Australians and second only to Netflix (seen by 11.5 million) according to the latest Roy Morgan figures.

In 2019 the age of the Australian 'media mogul' appears to be coming to an end with the **Packer family** selling out of media a decade ago and **Rupert Murdoch** – 88 years old (News Corp), **Kerry Stokes** – 78 years old (Channel 7) and **Bruce Gordon** – 90 years old (Channel 9 & WIN Television) Australia's last remaining 'media moguls'.

**We all must expect many more changes in every form of Media over the next few years.**

## People from 'other' Countries – and Aborigines

In the 1850s Victorians (as mentioned above) were concerned about their jobs being taken by subsidised UK migrants, 'ticket of leave' convicts and the Chinese. There was little mention of working with Aborigines except as 'convenient' servants.

The following two notes expressing opposing views were written in March 1854 by **Dr A. Thomson** and **Thomas Learmonth** on NYK Line paper. (I found the following 'notes' in a recently bought book – *Bonwick's Port Phillip, 1856.*)

**Dr A Thomson** M.C., March 1854

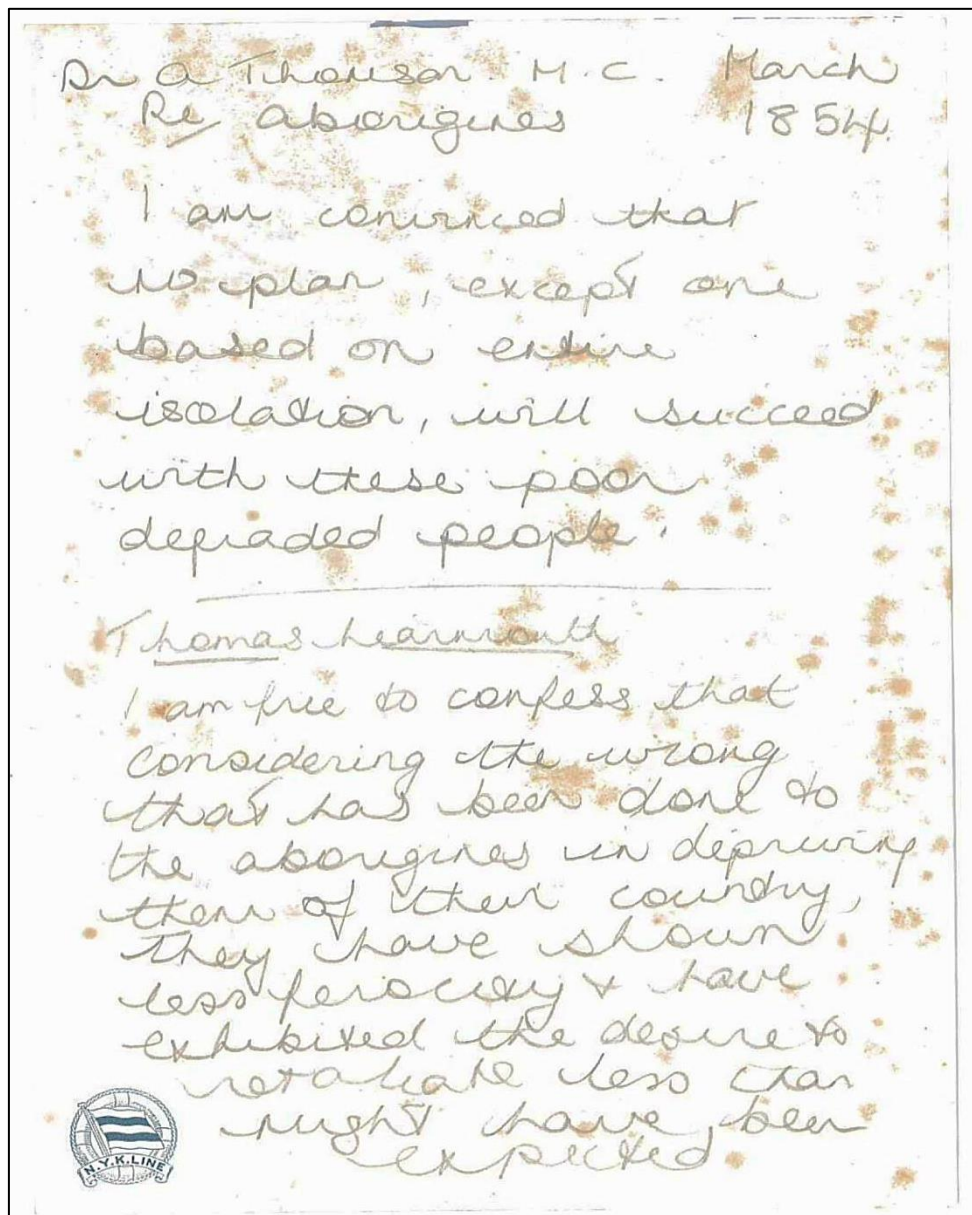
Re Aborigines

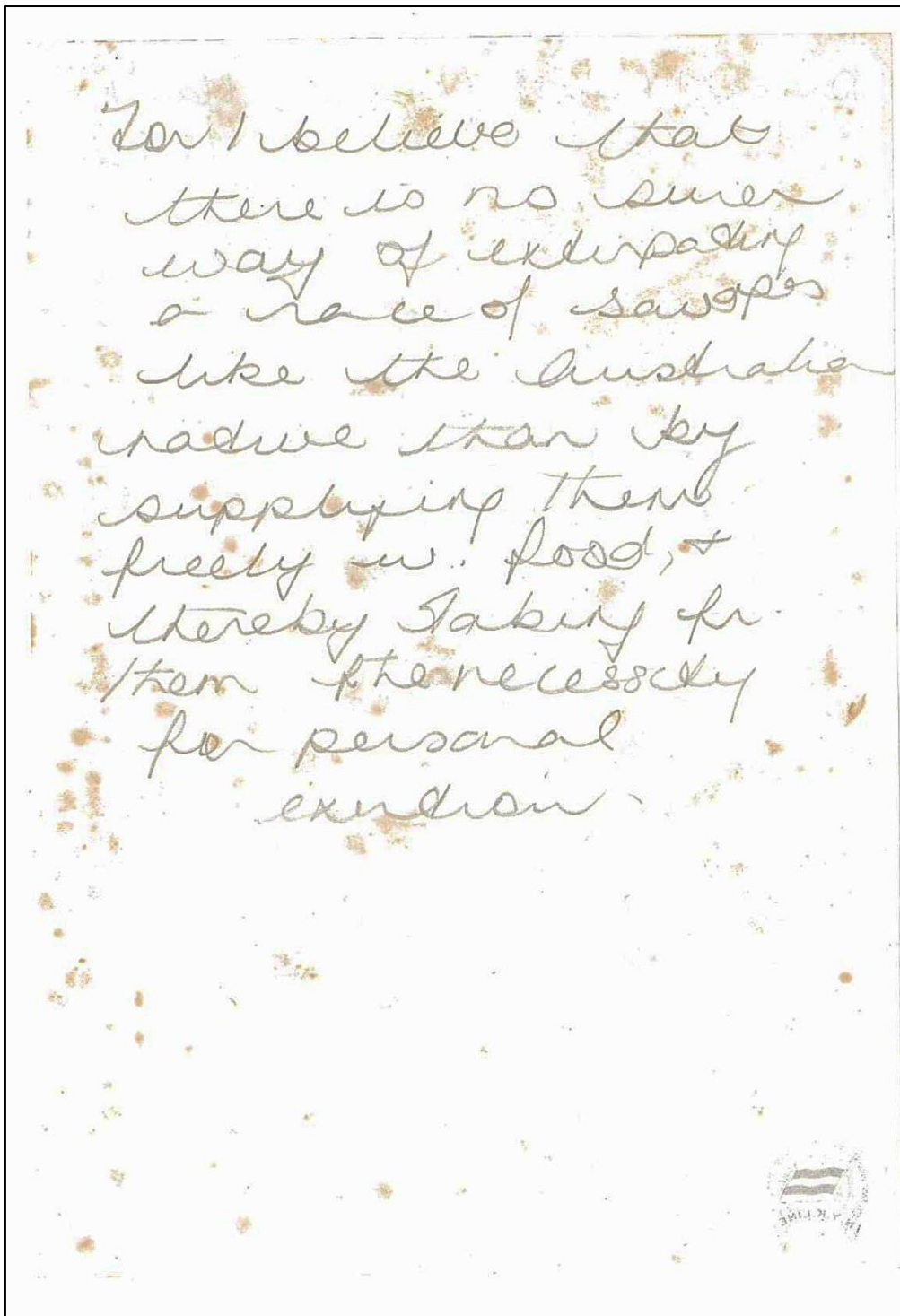
"I am convinced that **no plan, except one based on entire isolation, will succeed** with these poor degraded people."

**Thomas Learmonth**

"I am free to confess that considering the wrong that has been done to the aborigines in depriving them of their country, **they have shown less ferocity & have exhibited the desire to retaliate less than might have been expected.**

**For I believe that there is no surer way of extirpating a race of savages like the Australian native than by supplying them freely with food, & thereby taking from them the necessity for personal exertion."**





From the first few **Chinese** arrivals on the goldfields in the early 1850s anti-Chinese sentiment swelled with many miners seeing the Chinese as alien.

In the 1850's there were few article published which **presented the Chinese in a positive way** such as *The Chinese Puzzle* published by **W. H. Williams**: (See Attachment 2)

***The Chinese Puzzle***, Melbourne Monthly Magazine, May 1855:

".... 'Down they shall be put,' say many wise people, of the Chinese now.

.... We submit then, in the first place, that we want colonists, and that till there is a clear case against John Chinaman, we want him. We see him marching through the street in European dress, and we are much obliged to him for his custom; we see him consuming European food, and we admire his appetite.

.... We see him refusing European drink, and we respect his sobriety!"



*Chinese Literature, The Journal of Australasia*, No. 6, December 1856: (See Attachment 3)

“....That the Chinese call us barbarians is well known; nor are we backward to ‘reciprocate the compliment’ by thinking them such: perhaps both are equally wide of the truth.

...But as we pursue our inquiries into the less obvious traits of their character, as a distinct people, it may probably excite surprise in some minds to find that they have now, and have had from time immemorial, a national literature of no contemptable rank; that they have not only voluminous works on morals and philosophy, but that their libraries are rich in romance, poetry, and the drama.

....Viewed chiefly through mercantile medium, the Chinese have been hitherto looked upon merely as tea-growers, and good customers in the opium market;

....but to us who are brought into occasional intercourse with this despised section of the human family, a sketch of one of their popular dramas may possess attraction.”

From the 1860s the Chinese were particularly despised for introducing the habit of opium smoking and novel forms of gambling. In 1867, a census of Chinese settlements in regional Victoria recorded at least 50 Chinese gambling houses and 80 opium shops in 9 centres across regional Victoria. In addition 1 in 2 Chinese gambled regularly and at least 4 out of 10 Chinese used opium regularly.

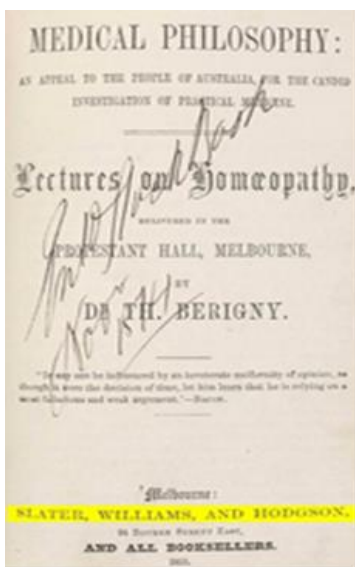
**Since September 2008** ISIS, China, North Korea, Middle East (Iraq, Iran), Afghanistan, Africa have been the global hotspots providing refugee outflows – to Australia, as well as increasing global tension as western powers, including Australia, grapple with how to handle these complicated situations.

Australia joined the campaign against ISIS (Islamic State in Iraq & Syria) with the United States and United Kingdom and helped to destroy the terrorist ‘state’ before it became too entrenched. The recent USA trade war with China will have a major impact on Australia as we seeks to balance our largest trading partner (China) and the traditional guarantor of Australia’s security and greatest military ally (USA). **Wars continue and the world in many ways has not been as unsafe since WW2 finished – illegal immigration is no closer to being solved; while Australia is no closer to a satisfactory solution with our indigenous people – opinions are still divided as they were over 160 years ago.**

**Thank you,**

**Gary Morgan**

### **Some William H. Williams publications follow – most listed in 2008 La Trobe Lecture**



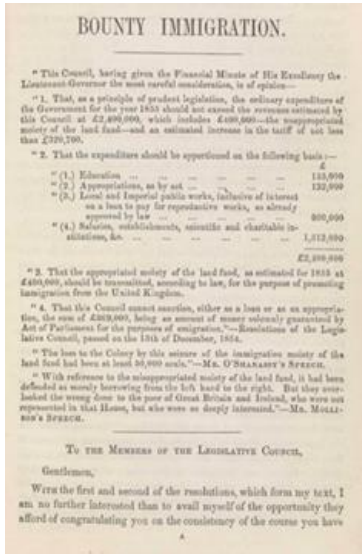
The printing firm **Hough, Heath & Williams** was ‘short-lived’ and published only six editions of *The Diggers’ Advocate*. It was then published by **George Black** on February 24, 1854 as *The Gold Diggers’ Advocate and Commercial Advertiser* with **H. R. Nicholls** an editor. The first edition was printed in Melbourne by **F. Sinnett & Company** with later issues printed by Herald ‘people’ – **Frederick Sinnett & William Williams**. (See page 16, No.7-Vol.1 – 2008 La Trobe Lecture.) **Frederick Sinnett**<sup>2</sup> was Editor of *The Melbourne Morning Herald* from 1852 to 1855 before establishing *Melbourne Punch* in August 1855.

In January 1854 **William Williams** established his own printing firm at 79 Elizabeth Street and printed Dr L.L. Smith’s *Medical Journal of Diseases of the Colony*.

Then later in 1854 **William Williams**, with **George Slater**, established the printing and publishing firm **Slater, Williams and Hodgson** at 94 Bourke Street East and Market Square Castlemaine.

On July 6, 1854 **Ebenezer Syme** (*The Age*) sent a letter to **John Pascoe Fawcner** concerning the then printing of *The Gold Diggers’ Advocate and Commercial Advertiser* by Herald ‘people’ – **Frederick Sinnett**

**& William Williams** (See page 67 – 2008 La Trobe Lecture). From September 1854 to November 1856 **Slater, Williams and Hodgson** printed and published many publications which give an insight into social and political Victoria.



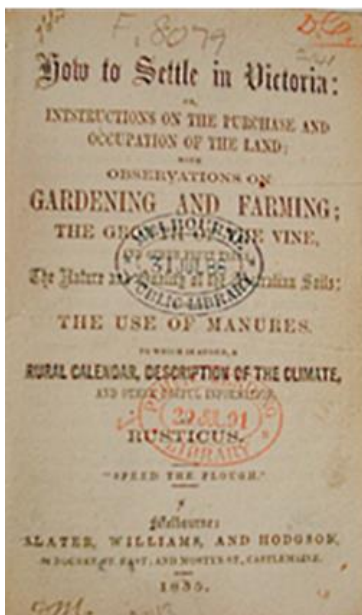
In 1855 **Slater, Williams and Hodgson** published *Th. Berigny, Medical Philosophy: An Appeal to the people of Australia, for the Candid Investigation of Practical Medicine, lectures on Homeopathy, delivered in the Protestant Hall, Melbourne.*

Also in 1855 **Slater, Williams, and Hodgson** published for an anonymous author: “One who has handled the spade”, ‘*Bounty Immigration*’: A letter to the Members of the Legislative Council, Melbourne & Castlemaine.

‘*Bounty Immigration*’ was the earliest known critical comment on the allocation of funds for immigration and for schools in the 1854 Budget. In the 1854 Budget speech, the Council stipulated that £155,000 be allocated for education and “...£400,000 should be transmitted, according to law, for the purpose of promoting immigration from the United Kingdom.”. It also stipulated “That this Council cannot sanction, either as a loan or as an appropriation, the sum of £869,000, being an amount of money solemnly

guaranteed by Act of Parliament for the purposes of emigration. (Resolutions of the Legislative Council, passed on the 13th of December, 1854... **Mr O’Shanassy’s** speech.)

“With reference to ‘the misappropriated moiety of the land fund, it had been defended as merely borrowing from the left hand to the right. But they overlooked the wrong done to the poor of Great Britain and Ireland, who were not represented in the House, but who were so deeply interested.” (**Mr Mollison’s** speech.)



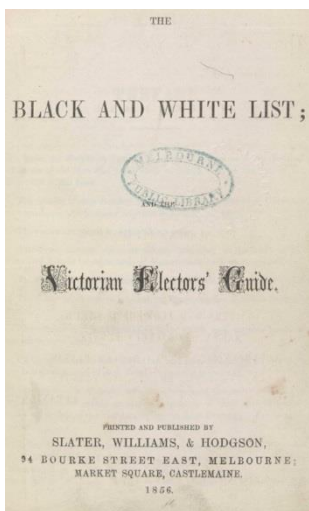
In 1855 **Slater, Williams, and Hodgson**, Melbourne & Castlemaine, published *Rusticus, How to Settle in Victoria, or, Instructions on the purchase and occupations of the land, with observations on gardening and farming, the growth of the vine and other fruit trees, the nature and quality of the Australian soils and on the use of manures....*

Other titles published by **Slater, Williams, and Hodgson** included, *Black and White List; The Victorian Electors’ Guide, The News Letter of Australasia*, first published in July 1856 by George Slater and printed by **W. H. Williams** - see below. (See other **W. H. Williams** publications shown on Introduction page ix, pages 14, 55, 70, 72, 73, 74, 124, 141 and Appendix 1a & 1b - pages 86, 87 & 88 – 2008 La Trobe Lecture.)

In 1856 **Slater, Williams and Hodgson**, Melbourne & Castlemaine printed and published for **Daniel Bunce** his second edition, *Language of the Aborigines of the Colony of Victoria, and other Australian Districts: with parallel translations and familiar specimens in dialogue as a guide to Aboriginal Protectors, and others engaged in ameliorating their condition.* (In

1846 **Daniel Bunce** explored Australia ‘east-to-west’ with **Ludwig Leichhardt**. **Daniel Bunce’s** second wife was **John Batman’s** youngest daughter, **Pelonomena**.)

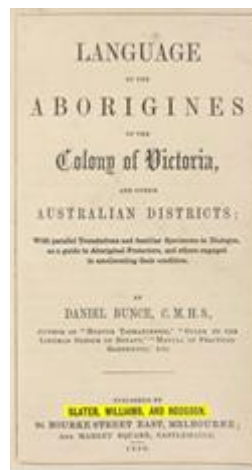
<sup>2</sup> **Frederick Sinnett** moved to Melbourne in December 1851 as ‘intended editor’ of *The Melbourne Morning Herald and General Daily Advertiser*. He formed **F. Sinnett & Company** and brought new capital into the business. In 1854 printers **Slater, Williams and Hodgson** (Page 25) and **Sinnett & Co** (Page 33) listed as exhibitors in the *Melbourne Exhibition Official Catalogue* (printed and published by **F. Sinnett and Company**). In September 1856 **C. F. Somerton** took over from **F. Sinnett & Co** as printer and publisher of *The Melbourne Morning Herald and General Daily Advertiser*, renaming the paper *The Herald*. Of **Frederick Sinnett’s** few writings, the most notable was his essay ‘*The Fiction Fields of Australia*’ published by **George Slater** printed by **William Williams** in *The Journal of Australasia*, September and November 1856 when **Fredrick Sinnett** raised the important question of the day: “...it is alleged against Australia that it is a new country, and, as Pitt said, when charged with juvenility ‘this is an accusation which I can neither palliate nor deny.’ Unless we go into the Aboriginal market for ‘associations,’ there is not a single local one, of a century old, to be obtained in Australia; and, setting apart Mr. Fawknor’s pre-Adamite recollections of Colonel Collins, there is not an association in Victoria mellowed by so much as a poor score of years....”



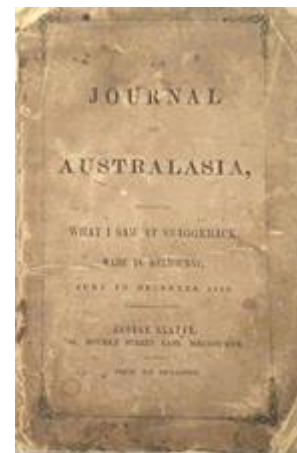
*The Black and White List; and the Victorian Electors' Guide, 1856*



*The News Letter of Australasia, Number XIII, July 1857*



*Language of the Aborigines of the Colony of Victoria, 1856*



*A Journal of Australasia, June to December 1856*

An example of ‘serious, radical and provocative’ **William Williams** is seen in his article *The Chinese Puzzle* (<http://www.roymorgan.com/about/papers/2015-papers>) published in the May 1855 *Melbourne Monthly Magazine*. (See Attachment 2)

In 1856 **George Slater** published and **William Williams** printed *The Settlement of John Batman in Port Phillip from His Own Journal*. (See page 124 – 2008 La Trobe Lecture.) (Some believe a ‘made-up’ document! – 1835 fake news!)

In 1856 **George Slater** and **William Williams** also printed and published *The Journal of Australasia and The News Letter of Australasia*.

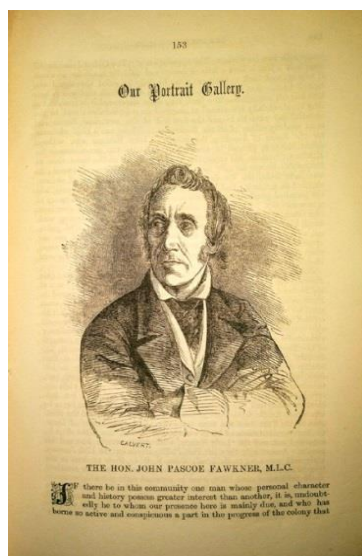
In December 1856 **William Williams** became sole-proprietor and in January 1857 changed *The Journal of Australasia* to *The Illustrated Journal of Australasia and Monthly Magazine*. (See below yellow front page of April 1857 edition, and page 125 – 2008 La Trobe Lecture.)

In 1857 **William Williams** was sole-proprietor of his own business **W. H. Williams** located at 87 Brunswick St, Collingwood, printed and published one of Melbourne’s first suburban newspapers, the *Collingwood and Richmond Observer*. (See next page a copy of the ‘Front page’, September 12, 1857 issue.)

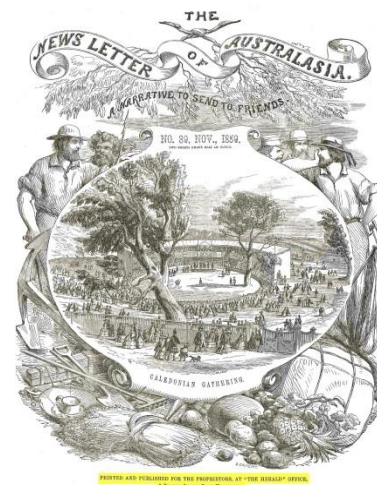
**Samuel Winter** (1857) and **Alfred Massina** (about 1858) joined **W. H. Williams** as apprentices. In 1871 **Winter**, **Massina** with **John Halfey**, purchased the evening *Herald*. In 1902 **Alfred Massina** was Inaugural Chairman, *The Herald and Weekly Times Ltd* and **Samuel Winter** Managing Editor. (See page 75 – 2008 La Trobe Lecture.)



*The Illustrated Journal of Australasia and Monthly Magazine. April 1857*

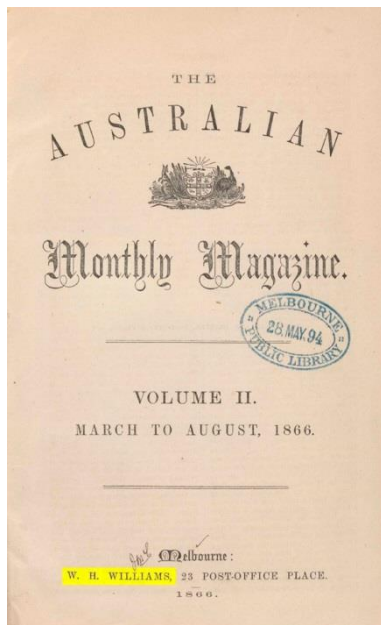


*Our Portrait Gallery, from The Illustrated Journal of Australasia. April 1857*



*Caledonian Gathering The News Letter of Australia No. 39, Nov., 1859*

In 1860 **W. H. Williams** moved his business to 23 Post Office Place, between Queen and Elizabeth Streets, followed by 72 Little Collins Street West, and then 83 Queens Street. From 1865 to 1867 *The Australian Monthly Magazine*, Melbourne, was published and printed by **W. H. Williams** at 23 Post Office Place. In May 1866 it contained **Marcus Clarke's** earliest publications under the *nom de plume* of 'Mark Scrivener'.

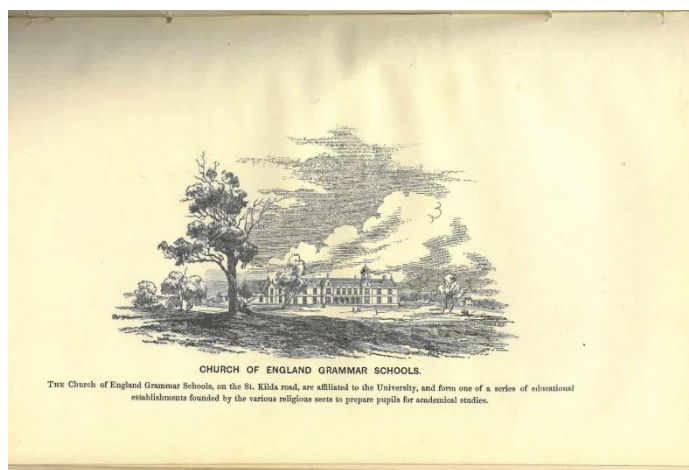
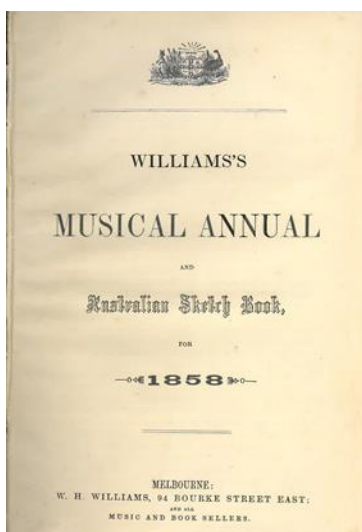


*The Australian Monthly Magazine*  
November 1865

*The Australian Monthly Magazine*  
Vol 11. March to August, 1866

*Collingwood & Richmond Observer*, Sept 12, 1857  
A Social, Political & Literary Journal

**Other publications of W. H. Williams** were *Williams's Musical Annual and Australia Sketch Book for 1858*, front page & illustrated engraving below. [The Australian Musical and Dramatic Review](#) (1866–? see next page), *Illustrated Australian Annual for Christmas and the New Year* (1869–70) *Advocate* (1868–72) with Samuel Winter, *New Idea Weekly Paper* (1876), *Melbourne Clipper and Racing and Theatrical Record* (1876–77), *Democrat* (1877), *Tomahawk\** (1880–?), *The Australian Woman's Magazine and Domestic Journal\** (April 1882–Sept. 1884), *Australia Tit-Bits\** (1885–90), *Illustrated London News, Australasian edition* (1891) *Hawk* (1892–94). *Hawklet* (1894–1908). Comment, 27 February, 1908 denounces *The Hawklet*. '**Under the Lash: The Filthy Hawklet**'. (\*Also see following Appendix 1b. Below are the front page and an illustrated engraving from *Williams's Musical Annual and Australia Sketch Book, for 1858*.)



Melbourne Church of England Grammar Schools when founded in 1858

*Williams's Musical Annual and Australia Sketch Book for 1858*, published by W. H. Williams, 1858

**Appendix 1-4 covered in July 5, 2008 La Trobe Lecture  
(before the GFC):**

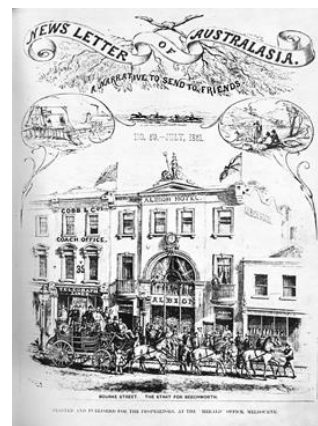
**Women, the Media, and People from Other Countries  
who have made Victoria – 1851 to Today**

**The Victoria Day Council 2008 La Trobe Lecture**

**By Gary Morgan, Roy Morgan Research**

**Queen's Hall, Parliament of Victoria**

**Saturday, July 5, 2008 at 7.00 pm**



*News Letter of Australasia*. No. 59. – July, 1861  
Cobb & Co's Coach Office -The start for Beechworth

**Appendix 1a** lists some titles published by Slater, Williams and Hodgson:

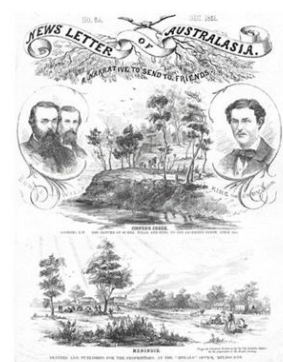
1. *Cassell's Illustrated Family Paper* and *The Melbourne Advertiser*, Melbourne, publisher Slater, Williams, Hodgson & Co., 1854.
2. British Colonial Electric Telegraph Company, *Primary prospectus of the British Colonial Electric Telegraph Company*, publisher Slater, Williams, and Hodgson, 1854.
3. Anderson, H. (ed.), *Guide to the gold-fields of Victoria, with a map and the new regulations for the gold-fields and local courts*, Melbourne, publisher Slater, Williams and, Hodgson, 1855.
4. Berigny, Th., *Medical Philosophy: An appeal to the people of Australia, for the candid investigation of practical medicine: lectures on homoeopathy*, Melbourne, publisher Slater, Williams, and Hodgson, 1855.
5. Anonymous author – One who has handled the spade, *Bounty Immigration: A letter to the Members of the Legislative Council*, Melbourne, publisher Slater, Williams, and Hodgson, 1855.
6. Bunce, D., *Language of the Aborigines of the Colony of Victoria, and other Australian Districts: with parallel translations and familiar specimens in dialogue as a guide to Aboriginal Protectors, and others engaged in ameliorating their condition*, Melbourne, publisher Slater, Williams, and Hodgson, 1856. (In 1846 Daniel Bunce explored Australia 'east-west' with Ludwig Leichhardt, his second wife was John Batman's youngest daughter, Pelonomena.)
7. Rusticus, *How to Settle in Victoria, or, Instructions on the purchase and occupations of the land, with observations on gardening and farming, the growth of the vine and other fruit trees; the nature and quality of Australian soils, and on the use of manures*, Melbourne, publisher Slater, Williams, and Hodgson, 1855.
8. *The Black and White List: and, 'The Victorian Electors' Guide*, Melbourne, publisher Slater, Williams, & Hodgson, 1856.
9. *The News Letter of Australasia*, George Slater and W. H. Williams publishers, W. H. Williams printer, then at the "**Herald**" Office for the Proprietors. Printed on superfine paper and included blank pages for letter writing. Often included illustrated engravings by **F. Grosse**, **S. Calver**, **M. M. Chevalier (Nicholas)** and **Cyrus Mason**. Many engravings also published in *The Illustrated Journal of Australasia* which was sold by all booksellers for 6d, published from July 1856 to at least the December 1861 issue No. 64 (below) which paid tribute to the ill-fated **Burke and Wills** expedition. It included an engraving 'at Menindie' from a drawing by **Ludwig Becker** who died during the expedition.



*The Illustrated Journal of Australasia*  
No.11-Vol. 2. May, 1857



*View in the Botanical Gardens*, etching from org.  
**M. Guerard** drawing. (No.11-Vol. 2. May, 1857)



Tribute to **Burke & Wills**  
*News Letter of Australasia*  
No. 64. December 1861.



**THE AUSTRALIAN**  
**Woman's Magazine**  
AND  
**DOMESTIC JOURNAL.**

No. 3. (Published on Wednesdays in a fortnight.) **JUNE, 1882.** Price 6d.

**CONTENTS.**

<b>Shorter:</b> The Women's Cause, (Continued) Vol. 1, p. 5 The Women's Cause, (Continued) Vol. 1, p. 6 The Women's Cause, (Continued) Vol. 1, p. 7 The Women's Cause, (Continued) Vol. 1, p. 8 The Women's Cause, (Continued) Vol. 1, p. 9 The Women's Cause, (Continued) Vol. 1, p. 10 The Women's Cause, (Continued) Vol. 1, p. 11 The Women's Cause, (Continued) Vol. 1, p. 12 The Women's Cause, (Continued) Vol. 1, p. 13 The Women's Cause, (Continued) Vol. 1, p. 14 The Women's Cause, (Continued) Vol. 1, p. 15 The Women's Cause, (Continued) Vol. 1, p. 16 The Women's Cause, (Continued) Vol. 1, p. 17 The Women's Cause, (Continued) Vol. 1, p. 18 The Women's Cause, (Continued) Vol. 1, p. 19 The Women's Cause, (Continued) Vol. 1, p. 20 The Women's Cause, (Continued) Vol. 1, p. 21 The Women's Cause, (Continued) Vol. 1, p. 22 The Women's Cause, (Continued) Vol. 1, p. 23 The Women's Cause, (Continued) Vol. 1, p. 24 The Women's Cause, (Continued) Vol. 1, p. 25 The Women's Cause, (Continued) Vol. 1, p. 26 The Women's Cause, (Continued) Vol. 1, p. 27 The Women's Cause, (Continued) Vol. 1, p. 28 The Women's Cause, (Continued) Vol. 1, p. 29 The Women's Cause, (Continued) Vol. 1, p. 30	<b>Beauty and Health:</b> The Hair, (Continued) Vol. 1, p. 31 The Hair, (Continued) Vol. 1, p. 32 The Hair, (Continued) Vol. 1, p. 33 The Hair, (Continued) Vol. 1, p. 34 The Hair, (Continued) Vol. 1, p. 35 The Hair, (Continued) Vol. 1, p. 36 The Hair, (Continued) Vol. 1, p. 37 The Hair, (Continued) Vol. 1, p. 38 The Hair, (Continued) Vol. 1, p. 39 The Hair, (Continued) Vol. 1, p. 40 The Hair, (Continued) Vol. 1, p. 41 The Hair, (Continued) Vol. 1, p. 42 The Hair, (Continued) Vol. 1, p. 43 The Hair, (Continued) Vol. 1, p. 44 The Hair, (Continued) Vol. 1, p. 45 The Hair, (Continued) Vol. 1, p. 46 The Hair, (Continued) Vol. 1, p. 47 The Hair, (Continued) Vol. 1, p. 48 The Hair, (Continued) Vol. 1, p. 49 The Hair, (Continued) Vol. 1, p. 50 The Hair, (Continued) Vol. 1, p. 51 The Hair, (Continued) Vol. 1, p. 52 The Hair, (Continued) Vol. 1, p. 53 The Hair, (Continued) Vol. 1, p. 54 The Hair, (Continued) Vol. 1, p. 55 The Hair, (Continued) Vol. 1, p. 56 The Hair, (Continued) Vol. 1, p. 57 The Hair, (Continued) Vol. 1, p. 58 The Hair, (Continued) Vol. 1, p. 59 The Hair, (Continued) Vol. 1, p. 60 The Hair, (Continued) Vol. 1, p. 61 The Hair, (Continued) Vol. 1, p. 62 The Hair, (Continued) Vol. 1, p. 63 The Hair, (Continued) Vol. 1, p. 64 The Hair, (Continued) Vol. 1, p. 65 The Hair, (Continued) Vol. 1, p. 66 The Hair, (Continued) Vol. 1, p. 67 The Hair, (Continued) Vol. 1, p. 68 The Hair, (Continued) Vol. 1, p. 69 The Hair, (Continued) Vol. 1, p. 70 The Hair, (Continued) Vol. 1, p. 71 The Hair, (Continued) Vol. 1, p. 72 The Hair, (Continued) Vol. 1, p. 73 The Hair, (Continued) Vol. 1, p. 74 The Hair, (Continued) Vol. 1, p. 75 The Hair, (Continued) Vol. 1, p. 76 The Hair, (Continued) Vol. 1, p. 77 The Hair, (Continued) Vol. 1, p. 78 The Hair, (Continued) Vol. 1, p. 79 The Hair, (Continued) Vol. 1, p. 80 The Hair, (Continued) Vol. 1, p. 81 The Hair, (Continued) Vol. 1, p. 82 The Hair, (Continued) Vol. 1, p. 83 The Hair, (Continued) Vol. 1, p. 84 The Hair, (Continued) Vol. 1, p. 85 The Hair, (Continued) Vol. 1, p. 86 The Hair, (Continued) Vol. 1, p. 87 The Hair, (Continued) Vol. 1, p. 88 The Hair, (Continued) Vol. 1, p. 89 The Hair, (Continued) Vol. 1, p. 90 The Hair, (Continued) Vol. 1, p. 91 The Hair, (Continued) Vol. 1, p. 92 The Hair, (Continued) Vol. 1, p. 93 The Hair, (Continued) Vol. 1, p. 94 The Hair, (Continued) Vol. 1, p. 95 The Hair, (Continued) Vol. 1, p. 96 The Hair, (Continued) Vol. 1, p. 97 The Hair, (Continued) Vol. 1, p. 98 The Hair, (Continued) Vol. 1, p. 99 The Hair, (Continued) Vol. 1, p. 100	<b>The Children:</b> The Children, (Continued) Vol. 1, p. 101 The Children, (Continued) Vol. 1, p. 102 The Children, (Continued) Vol. 1, p. 103 The Children, (Continued) Vol. 1, p. 104 The Children, (Continued) Vol. 1, p. 105 The Children, (Continued) Vol. 1, p. 106 The Children, (Continued) Vol. 1, p. 107 The Children, (Continued) Vol. 1, p. 108 The Children, (Continued) Vol. 1, p. 109 The Children, (Continued) Vol. 1, p. 110 The Children, (Continued) Vol. 1, p. 111 The Children, (Continued) Vol. 1, p. 112 The Children, (Continued) Vol. 1, p. 113 The Children, (Continued) Vol. 1, p. 114 The Children, (Continued) Vol. 1, p. 115 The Children, (Continued) Vol. 1, p. 116 The Children, (Continued) Vol. 1, p. 117 The Children, (Continued) Vol. 1, p. 118 The Children, (Continued) Vol. 1, p. 119 The Children, (Continued) Vol. 1, p. 120 The Children, (Continued) Vol. 1, p. 121 The Children, (Continued) Vol. 1, p. 122 The Children, (Continued) Vol. 1, p. 123 The Children, (Continued) Vol. 1, p. 124 The Children, (Continued) Vol. 1, p. 125 The Children, (Continued) Vol. 1, p. 126 The Children, (Continued) Vol. 1, p. 127 The Children, (Continued) Vol. 1, p. 128 The Children, (Continued) Vol. 1, p. 129 The Children, (Continued) Vol. 1, p. 130 The Children, (Continued) Vol. 1, p. 131 The Children, (Continued) Vol. 1, p. 132 The Children, (Continued) Vol. 1, p. 133 The Children, (Continued) Vol. 1, p. 134 The Children, (Continued) Vol. 1, p. 135 The Children, (Continued) Vol. 1, p. 136 The Children, (Continued) Vol. 1, p. 137 The Children, (Continued) Vol. 1, p. 138 The Children, (Continued) Vol. 1, p. 139 The Children, (Continued) Vol. 1, p. 140 The Children, (Continued) Vol. 1, p. 141 The Children, (Continued) Vol. 1, p. 142 The Children, (Continued) Vol. 1, p. 143 The Children, (Continued) Vol. 1, p. 144 The Children, (Continued) Vol. 1, p. 145 The Children, (Continued) Vol. 1, p. 146 The Children, (Continued) Vol. 1, p. 147 The Children, (Continued) Vol. 1, p. 148 The Children, (Continued) Vol. 1, p. 149 The Children, (Continued) Vol. 1, p. 150
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**W. H. ROCKE & CO.**  
The Largest Stock in Melbourne of  
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**E. G. HOOPER, PHARMACEUTICAL CHEMIST.**  
**69 BOURKE ST. WEST, MELBOURNE.**

*The Australian Woman's Magazine and Domestic Journal, No 3, Melbourne, publisher W. H. Williams, June 1882. (First edition, April 1882 – last edition, September 1884.)*

No. 59—Vol. 11. THURSDAY, JULY 23, 1885. 2 PENCE, TWOPENCE.

<p><b>W. S. MOON &amp; CO.</b>  <b>MONUMENTAL SCULPTOR,</b>  And Marble Importer,  Corner of West Melbourne  Road &amp; Victoria Road.</p> <p><b>ROYAL PHOTOGRAPH GALLERY.</b>  <b>Oruella &amp; Co.,</b> <b>Photographers.</b>  11 ROYAL ARCADE, MELBOURNE.  62' Corner de la Vieille, St. 6d.</p> <p><b>BEST SHILLING LUNCH IN MELBOURNE.</b>  <b>JOHN BULL TAVERN,</b>  14 St. Collins St. East.  JAMES BERRA, PROPRIETOR.</p>	<p><b>TERRY and OAKDEN,</b>  <b>ARCHITECTS AND SURVEYORS.</b>  31 KING COLLEGE STREET, MELBOURNE.  SPECIALISTS IN ALL KINDS OF LAND SURVEYING, ARCHITECTURE, &amp; CONSTRUCTION, AND ALL KINDS OF BUILDING CONTRACTS.</p> <p><b>W. H. WILLIAMS,</b>  <b>Plain &amp; Ornamental Printer,</b>  83 QUEEN STREET.</p> <p><b>ALBERT MANVEUR,</b>  <b>VALUATOR,</b>  Room, Land, and Estate Agents,  84 COLLINS ST. WEST, MELBOURNE.  Telephone 111.</p> <p><b>BANJO SOLOBY,</b>  <b>GENERAL PRINTER,</b>  83 QUEEN STREET,  MELBOURNE.</p>
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<p><b>MONEY TO LEND!</b>  Any Sum of Money on Mortgage or otherwise.  <b>ENRIQUEZ de MAYER</b>  118, 120, 122, COLLINS ST. EAST, MELBOURNE.  WILL, LEGACY, BEQUEST,  INVESTMENT, &amp;c.  D. HENRY,  118, 120, 122, COLLINS ST. EAST, MELBOURNE.</p> <p><b>C. J. DAVIDSON &amp; CO.,</b>  <b>Printers and General Auctioneers,</b>  118, 120, 122, COLLINS ST. EAST, MELBOURNE.</p>	<p><b>W. H. WILLIAMS,</b>  <b>Printer &amp; Publisher,</b>  83 QUEEN ST., MELBOURNE.  <b>PRINTING.</b>  <b>DISPATCH. QUALITY. MODERATE PRICES.</b>  <b>NEWEST DESIGNS.</b>  Book, Pamphlet, and Newspaper Work.  Office of "AUSTRALIAN TIT-BITS."</p>	<p><b>ALBERT MANVEUR,</b>  <b>VALUATOR,</b>  Room, Land, and Estate Agents,  84 COLLINS ST. WEST, MELBOURNE.  Telephone 111.</p> <p><b>BANJO SOLOBY,</b>  <b>GENERAL PRINTER,</b>  83 QUEEN STREET,  MELBOURNE.</p>
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JOSEPH STOKER—JONES' SEWING MACHINES FOR FAMILIES AND MANUFACTURING—83 BOURKE ST. EAST.

*Australian Tit-bits, No 59, Vol. 11, Melbourne, publisher W. H. Williams, July 23, 1885. (See three different W. H. Williams "printing" advertisements on the front page.)*

**Appendix 2: (Pages referred to in brackets below from *The First Ninety Years – The Printing House of Massina, 1859 to 1949* by Ronald G Campbell)**

**Australian Masséna Families (Pages 8-11)**

1. Jean Charles Domenica Antoine Paul Masséna b abt 1783. In 1822 married Susannah Reynolds b 1802. Parents of 8 children including Alfred Henry Massina b 1834 and Charles Edward Paul Massina b 1825, and
2. Dr Louis Yehuda Leib Masséna b 1775 Levens, and wife (née Countess Lula Van Lear b 1775 Lear, Belgium), parents of:
  - i) Eliza Lola Masséna\* b 1807 in Westham, Essex. In 1827 married Dr William Florance\* b 1800 – a daughter (one of at least 16 children Mary Eliza Florance b 1839, married William H. Williams in Melbourne, 1857 (Pages 32, 45, 80 and 115),
  - ii) John Nathaniel Messeena b 1796 Netherlands (Surgeon). Page 9 and below Notes and Queries – 1917, and
  - iii) Dr Henry Messeena b abt 1800 (Chemist) – a daughter, Grace Carr d 1909 married Richard Henry Trevor-Roper (son of Charles Blayney), 1864. (Page 9)

Antoine-Francois Masséna (b 1733) was the father of Charles Masséna and Louis Masséna. He was an uncle of Napoleonic Marshal Andre Masséna. 1758-1817. (Page 8)

\*Great grandparents of Roy Edward Morgan (1908-1985) – founder of the Australian Gallup Poll (today Roy Morgan Poll). On April 1, 1940 Roy Morgan was appointed to the staff of The Herald & Weekly Times Limited by Keith Murdoch, Managing Director. Prior to this Roy Morgan was a freelance 'Financial writer' for The Herald, The Argus, and General Manager, The Stock Exchange of Melbourne.

Roy Morgan Research office from 2006 to 2017 was at 401 Collins Street. (See before page 129 the 1949 photo of 401 Collins St building.)

The above note on the Masséna family in Australia was prepared in December 2007 by Gary Morgan, son of Roy Morgan.

**NOTES AND QUERIES.**

168

[12 S. III. MARCH 3, 1917.

**Queries.**

We must request correspondents desiring information on family matters of only private interest to affix their names and addresses to their queries, in order that answers may be sent to them direct.

JOHN NATHANIEL MESSEENA was a son of one of the medical attendants on the first Napoleon. The father\* subsequently had a fashionable practice in Albemarle Street, and he and his wife were buried at Portsmouth. John Nathaniel had a practice in the East End of London. Jonathan Pereira, 1804-53 ('D.N.B.'), was the paternal uncle of his wife. I should like some corroboration of this family tradition. Did the Messeenas hold English degrees? Were they natives of this country? Any additional biographical details will be much appreciated. ISRAEL SOLOMONS.



\* Dr Louis Masséna

ROY EDWARD MORGAN 1908 – 1985  
In 1941 founded Australian Gallup Poll,  
today Roy Morgan Poll  
The Roy Morgan Research Centre Pty Ltd (May 1959)



### Appendix 3:

#### Media surveys conducted by Roy Morgan for Sir Keith Murdoch, 1941– 1952:

In the 1940s and early 1950s, Roy Morgan, under the direction of Sir Keith Murdoch, conducted many surveys for The Herald and Weekly Times, Associated Newspapers, News, Advertiser, etc. The studies focussed on understanding reading preferences and behaviour.

After Sir Keith Murdoch died on October 5, 1952, little interest was shown by Herald executives in this kind of newspaper research – the focus shifted to sales, i.e. circulation and readership audience measures to demonstrate ‘reach’ to advertisers.

**Michele Levine** and **Gary Morgan** presented at Country Press Association 106th Annual Conference, Parliament House, NSW, October 6, 2006

The following examples show just some of the learning’s from those times (1941–1952)<sup>3</sup>.



On the front page of *The Sun*, Melbourne, Wednesday May 1, 1946: The headline “Plot to kill MacArthur” was read by 100% of readers – male (red) and female (blue). The “Surprise Senate Move” was read by 100% of males but only 50% of females.

The picture at the bottom left hand corner was looked at by 93% of male readers.

At first glance, it looks as though the further down the page, the lower the reading levels. This is not a general phenomenon as we’ll see later.

<sup>3</sup>Source: Archival material from The Roy Morgan Research Centre Pty Ltd.

### Appendix 4: (Prepared by Gary Morgan, August 2008)

#### The Pleasant Career of a Spendthrift (1929)

BY GEORGE MEUDELL

‘My way of joking’, Meudell wrote, ‘is to tell the truth’.

LONDON

GEORGE ROUTLEDGE & SONS, LTD.

Broadway House: 68-74 Carter Lane, E.C.

Printed in Great Britain by  
The Bowering Press, Plymouth

MEUDELL, GEORGE DICK (1860–1936), was one of Australia’s most colourful personalities.

George Meudell was born on January 29, 1860 at Sandhurst (Bendigo), Victoria, son of William Meudell and his wife Elizabeth Strachan, née Taylor. Educated at Warrnambool Grammar School and Sandhurst High School, he matriculated aged 14.

A childhood accident left George Meudell blind in one eye which frustrated his intention of reading for the Bar so he joined the Sandhurst branch of the Bank of Victoria, where his father, a university-educated Scot, was Manager.

George Meudell’s father, William Meudell (1831–1911) had migrated to Victoria in 1852 and joined the Bank of Victoria in 1854. The Bank of Victoria had been founded in 1852 by Colonial Secretary, Henry ‘Money’ Miller.

In 1881 William Meudell was appointed by Henry (‘Money’) Miller General Manager in Melbourne and in 1889–1991 was Manager in London – prior to the Bank of Victoria being forced to close.

Meudell was a stockbroker, company promoter and accountant. In 1907 George Meudell contracted tuberculosis however he defied doctors’ predictions of imminent death to travel the world looking at oilfields and return to an unsuccessful nineteen-year attempt to launch an Australian oil industry. This was one of many abortive schemes: it was preceded by enthusiasm for brown coal and hydro-electricity, and followed by an interest in oil-shale.

**The following *Forward, Appendix 5-8 and Introduction* were presented in papers by Gary Morgan from July 4, 2009 to the June 26, 2011**

**Foreword: – The 158th Victorian Anniversary Dinner & La Trobe Lecture presented July 4, 2009 at The Victoria Day Council, Melbourne Club, 36 Collins Street, Melbourne.**

**Appendix 5: – Victoria Day Council Separation Tree Ceremony Oration, presented November 14, 2009 (Pages 120 - 131).**

**Appendix 6: – “Change is needed by all” Glen Eira Council Australia Day Council Breakfast, presented January 22, 2010 (Pages 132 - 137).**

**Appendix 7: – “Sham Taxes for Sham Reasons” Over 60’s Luncheon, the Hamilton Club, presented June 18, 2010 (Pages 138 - 141).**

**Appendix 8: – Charles La Trobe, Victoria’s Separation & Gold Tax - ‘turning a wild colonial into a civilised one’ Australia Day Council (Victoria) Inc. presented May 9, 2011 (Pages 142 - 154). Includes “Distinguished Members” Presented by Stewart McArthur, President, Melbourne Club, June 10, 2010 (Pages 151 - 154).**

**Introduction: – Understanding Victoria – June 26, 2011**

**The Old Colonists’ Association at The Old Colonists Club, Ballarat**

(More than seven years since I gave the inaugural Dr J H Pryor Memorial Lecture at the Ballarat Club, May 22, 2004, I must be first person since the Eureka Stockade to address ‘both sides’!)

**[Lecture, Introduction & Foreword Links:](#)**

**[www.roymorgan.com](http://www.roymorgan.com)**

**[http://www.roymorgan.com/~media/files/papers/2018/victoria-day-council\\_book.pdf?la=en](http://www.roymorgan.com/~media/files/papers/2018/victoria-day-council_book.pdf?la=en)**

Our Portrait Gallery.



THE HON. JOHN PASCOE FAWKNER, M.L.C.

**I**F there be in this community one man whose personal character and history possess greater interest than another, it is, undoubtedly he to whom our presence here is mainly due, and who has borne so active and conspicuous a part in the progress of the colony that

justly calls him its Father. The appellation of "The Oldest Inhabitant," elsewhere a jest, is here a title of honor, and proudly must he to whom it belongs look back to the time when he daily attended the signal station of Launceston, watching for the arrival of the craft that was to bear him and his companions to a land, long since discovered it is true, but as long since officially abandoned as unsuited for a settlement; and to the eventful day when he turned the first sod of the now most fertile and most wealthy colony of all the Australias. There was a rival claimant for the honor of founding the colony. John Batman was, without doubt, the first present in person, but we claim the pre-eminence for Fawcner: because, his expedition was in readiness at the same time as Batman's; he was actually here but a fraction of time afterward; he was indubitably the founder of Melbourne, and, *ipso facto*, of the settlement as a colony; and his enterprise was no personal monopoly, like the so-called purchase of 600,000 acres, but the *bona fide* opening up of a new country. Besides these claims to our regard, he has ever been identified with the best interests of the colony; ever laboring, with head, hand, and purse, for its welfare; and few institutions, civil, political, or charitable, are without the record of his aid. These are our reasons—and one tithe of such reasons would have sufficed—for the selection of Mr. Fawcner as the subject of the present illustration and biographical sketch.

JOHN PASCOE FAWCNER, the son of John and Hannah Fawcner (née Pascoe), was born in London on the 20th October, 1792. The years of his boyhood were passed in the great city until his family removed to Portsmouth, in February, 1803. On the 25th of April in the same year, he bid a final adieu to Old England from the deck of H.M.S. Calcutta, Captain Woodruffe, then sailing for Australia as convoy to a transport ship dispatched for the formation of a new settlement. After the ordinary vicissitudes of a sea voyage, then very different to the sixty-day passages of the Yankee clippers of our day, and having called at Teneriffe, Rio Janeiro, and the Cape of Good Hope, the little fleet arrived at Port Phillip Heads on the 9th of October (having made the passage in 156 days), and our hero first set his foot on Victorian land on the 19th inst. Governor Collins, who was in charge of the expedition, after a while determined on abandoning the settlement, from an idea that it was deficient in water, and was otherwise ineligible, as indeed it was so far as he was aware, for the settlement he formed was at the Heads, and the existence of the Port itself was then unknown. In consequence of Lieut. Collins' representations of his ill success, the 'Ocean,' one of the ships he convoyed out, and the 'Lady Nelson,' were sent to remove him and his people. Accordingly they left Port Phillip Heads on the 17th January, 1804, and proceeded to Sullivan's Cove, V. D. L., there to assist in the foundation of what is now the City of Hobart Town. Our hero remained in the settlement until 1806, when he removed eight miles higher up the Derwent, where he apprenticed himself to the trade of a sawyer, then a very profitable though laborious occupation. He remained there until 1814, when, having been come into collision with the authorities for what appears to have been an act of charity on his part, but was, nevertheless,

illegal as a breach of discipline under the then existing regulations, he removed to New South Wales. He returned thence in March, 1817, and again settled in Hobart Town in December, 1819. Pursuing his avocation as a sawyer with the energy and frugality which have characterised him through life, he acquired, in course of years, sufficient property to enable him to settle in Launceston, where, on the 9th of February, 1829, he published the first number of the *Launceston Advertiser*, a newspaper which he sold two years after to Mr. H. Dowling, and then opened a hotel.

We now approach the more important part of Mr. Fawkner's history, as it concerns ourselves; and, as some of its steps lie on debated if not debateable ground, we shall confine ourselves to a brief enumeration of what we know to be facts, merely setting forth Mr. Fawkner's claim to the honor of founding this colony, without desiring to disparage the efforts of other, and, as it happened, rival settlers. Early in the year 1835 Mr. Fawkner conceived the idea of establishing a colony in the promising country he had so early visited. To this end he organised a party, consisting of Messrs. Lancey, Robert Hay, Marr, George Evans, and Samuel and William Jackson, for the purpose of forming an expedition to colonise Port Phillip, then uninhabited, save by blacks, although the Messrs. Henty had long possessed a private whaling establishment at the distant port of Portland Bay. To this end he chartered the schooner 'Enterprise' to convey them to the promised land; but suffered some detention in consequence of the delay in the return of the vessel from a voyage to Newcastle, N. S. W., for which she was already under contract. When she eventually arrived, and was freighted with the Pilgrim Fathers, their retinue and equipment, the projector of the scheme was prevented by illness from accompanying the rest of the party, and the vessel proceeded without him. He sought, but was refused, permission to accompany Mr. Batman's party, which left about the same time, in the 'Gem,' and had to wait for another opportunity of rejoining his comrades. He arrived in person, and settled on the site of Melbourne, on the 30th of August, 1835, and immediately broke ground, ploughing and sowing five acres of land with wheat, which, in the February following, yielded 100 bushels. He then planted eighty acres; and, as people began to be attracted to the place, he built a weatherboard house on the site of the present Custom House, and opened it as a hotel. On the occasion of the first sale of Port Phillip land, Mr. Fawkner bought the first lot sold (block 2, allotment 1, at the eastern corner of Flinders and King streets) for £32, and the adjacent lot for £25. These lots consisted of half an acre each, less the space laid out for rights-of-way. He afterwards bought the site of the Shakspeare Hotel for £10, and other lots, some of which he still holds. On the 1st of January, 1838, he commenced the publication of a newspaper, and thus assumed the paternity of our literature. The journal was, as might be expected, of but humble form and style: there was then little or no local news; the trade of the place, then in its infancy, called for but few advertisements; and there was but little field even for the inventive newsmonger, for the essential mechanical aids were wanting. There were, as yet, no printing materials in the place.

Accordingly the *Melbourne Advertiser* was published in manuscript, and consisted of one sheet or four pages of foolscap. It contained a leading article and a number of advertisements, and was circulated gratuitously. In the following March, after nine weekly numbers of this manuscript journal had been issued, a purchase was made of an old press and a parcel of old battered type from Launceston. Every difficulty beset the infant publication. Compositors were not, save a youth who had in his boyhood served one year at the business; and many a desideratum was, like some old Latin vocatives, 'wanting.' Yet the work was carried on, and that, too, in a style far exceeding, in the merits of its contents and the excellence of its typography, that of more than one existing Victorian newspaper. Presently, however, it was fettered with 'red tape.' It was illegal, and had to be suspended, until the law provided the means by which its own requirements might be complied with. The *Advertiser* then merged into the *Port Phillip Patriot*, a paper which lasted, in other hands, until our own day, and, under its then title of the *Melbourne Daily News*, was purchased by the proprietors of the *Argus* in 1852. Mr. Fawkner parted with his interest in the paper in 1820, and concentrated his energies on the hotel, now the Shakspeare. With a characteristic desire to minister to the minds of his customers while he supplied their bodily wants, he established in his inn a free library, stored with such books as could be obtained, and supplied with files of several Colonial and European papers and periodicals that would astonish the conductors of many a modern mechanics' institution. The patriarch next appeared in public life as a member of the Market Commission, appointed in 1841, and in the following year he took his seat on the first Melbourne Town Council, where he acquitted himself so far to the satisfaction of his constituents that he was re-elected in 1842, although during the interval the population of the colony had increased to such an extent that election without some claim to confidence was by no means a matter of course. But a season of embarrassment came, and he was obliged to vacate his seat; but was re-elected the next year, on the demise of his successor. Mr. Fawkner was then settled at Pascoe-vaile, about six miles from town, off the Sydney road, where he formed an orchard and vineyard. Having purchased a quantity of land in the neighborhood from the Government at the upset price, and, perceiving the great want of land in such quantities as working settlers could afford to purchase, or find means to cultivate, he liberally determined on cutting it up into sections, and disposing of them at the same rate. To this end he formed what was called a Co-operative Land Society. The subscribers to, or shareholders in, this society obtained, by easy payments, allotments of convenient size at the same rate that the capitalist alone could obtain large blocks from the crown. Thus did the agitator for the unlocking of the lands evince at once his earnestness in the object he had set before him, and the thorough disinterestedness of his efforts to obtain land for the people. No fewer than two hundred and fifty persons were thus supplied with farms at the low price of one pound per acre, with a charge of three guineas to cover all the cost of deeds and the expenses of the office. Their sense of

the service thus rendered to themselves and the public was expressed in a valuable and flattering testimonial, presented to him when the society's affairs were wound up, on the opening of the gold-fields, in 1851.

Shortly after this latter event, the powers of local self-government, consequent on the Act of Separation, long looked for, were exercised in the election of the first Legislative Council of the newly proclaimed Colony of Victoria ; and Mr. Fawkner, one of the least ambitious and most industrious of our public men, took his seat for the county of Talbot. Under the then irresponsible Government, consisting as it did of Executive Officials appointed from Downing street, and supported by nominee members, most of the popular representatives were arrayed in opposition. Among them Mr. Fawkner was ever in the van of progress ; ever laboring to promote what he deemed to be the interests of the people ; opposing everything that seemed to savor of class legislation ; and working out everything that he undertook, without respect to popular clamor or official influence, and with an energy which manifested that all his movements were dictated at least by honest conviction, and were utterly irrespective of any ideas of self-interest or personal advancement. He has often been, as we think, misunderstood, and has sometimes run counter to public opinion, but his public spirit and consistency have generally justified themselves. For example : When a mistaken attempt was made to double the gold license was made by the Government, at the close of the year 1851, he stimulated opposition to the contemplated tax, and actively resisted the arbitrary enactment. Yet, when a more than constitutional opposition was offered on the gold-fields, he was as much averse to the demagogue agitators as to the measure they both resisted ; and became, in consequence, very unpopular for a time with the mining community. But his real motives were soon appreciated, and his labors rewarded by almost universal confidence. On the proclamation of the New Constitution, he was overwhelmed with most pressing requisitions from constituencies in all parts of the country. The delicate health under which he had long labored forbade his again entering the arena of political conflict in the Assembly, and he now sits as the representative of the Central Province in the Upper House, to which he was elected second on the list, his poll differing only from that of Mr. Hodgson, the senior member, by ten votes ; and this although he refrained from personal canvass, and only held one single meeting, frankly telling the constituency that he would do the best he could for them according to his ability, and that they must judge of him from his previous acts, for his health did not admit of his making any further expositions of his sentiments. To attend this one meeting he left a sick room. His political consistency and enlightened views have been manifested alike by his perseverance in the pursuit of settled objects under parallel circumstances, and by the progressive modifications which some of his opinions have undergone as the advancement of the country and the change of time called for corresponding political reforms. That he is apt to be crotchety, and sometimes petulant in debate, no one attempts to deny : these are but the evidences of an active mind struggling against difficulties. That his diction is inelegant is to be expected ; it serves to remind the hearers that the man before them has

worked his own way through life : those, however, who have watched the man closely will detect the improvement that has steadily taken place in his manners and language from the time they first knew him. They will not be surprised to learn that he is a student, ardent in the work of self-improvement ; this is to be expected from his general information and intelligence. His acquirements in this respect are all his own : his constant occupation, when not engaged in public work, is found in supplying the deficiencies of his early education, and in the study of the authors whose works he has gathered in a library second perhaps, in extent, to no private collection in the colony.

It must not be supposed that we identify ourselves with all Mr. Fawcner's opinions, or even always approve his acts. Our opposition to him on some vital points in no way detracts from our admiration of his personal character, or from our gratitude for his public services. We do not suppose there either is, or ever was, a man with whose opinions and acts another could identify himself : the thing is less possible than even a perfect grammatical synonym. But we do him the justice to declare our belief that, whatever may be his errors, they are simply errors ; and that he is actuated by an earnest desire to discover the right course in each case, and to pursue it.

In religion he is attached most closely to the Independent Church. He is politically opposed to that section of society commonly known as the Catholic party ; not, as we believe, on religious grounds, for he has always shown the greatest liberality in matters of opinion, but on account of the political influence which that body is generally supposed to exercise. His private charities, and his aids to public undertakings, especially to those which have for their object the spread of knowledge, are abundant and unostentatious. His industry has secured for him a handsome competency, but his public spirit has hindered him from becoming absolutely wealthy.

He has always been a strenuous opponent of transportation to these shores, and was foremost in the decisive battle fought on that question some years since. He objected to the ballot until he had, for the first time, the opportunity of witnessing the excellent working of the system ; since when his views have been much modified. Him we must regard as the author of the great movement toward the opening up of the lands of the colony : and the part he took in the last election of representatives of Port Phillip in the Sydney Council tended materially to hasten the long coveted separation of the two colonies. He is yet opposed to the total abolition of the property qualification of members of the Assembly, from a fear, in which we by no means concur, that it will open the door to hungry place-hunters : he admits, however, that a very moderate qualification, say an income sufficient for the means of life, would obviate this anticipated evil.

We have now reviewed, frankly, and with no more partiality than experience enforces, the antecedents, character, and acts of John Pascoe Fawcner. We have recognised his public services, admitted his errors, and acknowledged the integrity of his life. The conclusion we draw from this examination, to which years of observation have led, is a regret that there are, proportionally, so few public men to whom we can accord such a large balance of praise.



It only remains to say, that the portrait which illustrates this memoir has been drawn and engraved by Mr. Calvert, after the very clever picture by Mr. Strutt, which those of our readers who visited the late Exhibition of Fine Arts will remember as one of the best of the portraits there displayed.

## Ballararat in 1851.

### A VISION.

SEE a lone stream, rolling down  
Through vallies green, by ranges brown  
Of hills that bear no name.  
The dawn's full blush in crimson flakes  
Is traced on palest blue, as breaks  
The morn in Orient flame.

I see—whence comes that eager gaze?  
Why rein the steed, in wild amaze?  
The water's bue is gold!  
Golden its wavelets foam and glide.  
Through tenderest green, to ocean-tide  
The fairy streamlet rolled.

“Forward! hark! forward! truest steed,  
Of tireless hoof, and desert speed,  
Up the weird water bound;  
Till, echoing far, and sounding deep,  
I hear old Ocean's hoarse voice sweep  
O'er this enchanted ground!”

The sea!—wild fancy! Many a mile  
Of changeful Nature's frown and smile  
Ere stand we on the shore.  
And, yet! that murmur, hoarse and deep,  
None save the ocean-surges keep?  
It is—the cradles' roar!

Onward! we pass the grassy hill,  
Around whose base the waters still  
Skimmer in golden foam:  
Oh! Wanderer of the voiceless wild,  
Of this far southern land the child,  
How changed thy quiet home!

For, close as bees in countless hive,  
Like 'emmet' hosts that earnest strive,  
Swarmed, toiled, a vast strange crowd.  
Haggard each face's features seem;  
Bright, fever-bright, each eye's wild gleam;  
Nor cry, nor accent loud;

But each man dug, or rocked, or bore,  
As if salvation with the ore  
Of the mine monarch lay.  
Gold strung each arm to giant might;  
Gold flashed before each aching sight;  
Gold turned the night to day.

Where Eblis reigns o'er boundless gloom,  
And, in his halls of endless doom,  
Lost souls for ever roam,  
They wander (says the Eastern tale),  
Nor ever startles moan or wail;  
Despair's eternal home.

Less silent scarce than that pale host  
They toiled, as if each moment lost  
Were the red life-drop spilt;  
While, heavy, rough, and darkly bright,  
In every shape, rolled to the light  
Man's hope, and pride, and guilt.

All ranks! all ages!—Every land  
Had sent its conscript forth, to stand  
In the gold-seekers' rank:  
The stalwart bushman's sinewy limb;  
The pale-faced son of trade; e'en him  
Who knew the fetters' clank.

\* \* \* \* \*

'T is night: her jewelled mantle fills  
The busy valley, the dun hills:  
'T is the battle-host's repose!  
Her thousand watch-fires redly gleam;  
While ceaseless fusilades would seem  
To warn approaching foes.

The night is older. On the sward,  
Stretched, I behold the heavens broad,  
When—a shape rises dim;—  
Then, clearer, fuller, I descry,  
By the swart brow, the star-bright eye,  
The Gnome-king's presence grim!

He stands upon a time-worn block;  
His dark form shades the snowy rock  
As cypress marble tomb:  
Nor fierce, yet wild and sad, his mien:  
His cloud-black tresses wave and stream:  
His deep tones break the gloom:

“Son of a tribe accursed, of those  
Whose greed has broken our repose  
Of the long ages dead,  
Think ye, for nought our ancient race  
Leave olden haunts, the sacred place  
Of toils for ever fled?”



# THE COLONIAL AND THE EMERGENCE OF AUSTRALIAN LITERARY CULTURE

# JOURNALS

KEN  
GELDER  
&  
RACHAEL  
WEAVER



'THE CHINESE PUZZLE'

*Melbourne Monthly Magazine*

May 1855

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The Vandemonian alarm having died away, and the State Trials being now absolutely a bore, a new excitement has opportunely sprung up—a trial to Mayoral jurisprudence, an exercise for Young Collingwood oratory—the Chinese puzzle.

It has, of course, been our lot to witness the commencement of that terrible irruption of Pagans (as they are now invariably called) which threatens the Christianity (and the diggings) of Victoria. With horror we have heard of the barbarian hordes about to be poured into this happy land, and of their obvious intention of exterminating the British—and indeed, (in



spite of Colonel Vern) the whole European population. With horror we have read those foul and wicked prints which, when exposed in the police-court, brought the blush of shame and indignation into the cheek of His Worship, and sent a highly respectable lady of the name of Bridget (we believe from Sligo) into fits.

These things are, at first sight, horrible, we must admit; but let us look at them again, to be quite sure whether they are as monstrous as they appear.

No doubt, to get over the preliminary objection which has brought up *Paterfamilies* in his wrath, certain pictures, said—by undoubted judges—to be of an immoral tendency, have been sold by certain Pagans to certain Christians; and no doubt more—we are not told how many—have been fished up by our vigilant and intelligent police. Very well: the Collector of Customs should have stopped these in the Bay; but the offenders, either by way of sale or publication, may be punished when they get on shore. They have adopted this country, and they must, with it, take its laws. We believe they do, most submissively. Some individuals, out of an immigration said to amount to very many thousands, have then been detected in an offence and punished for it. Is their sin to be visited on their country-men? And shall we, in common justice, hang simultaneously a few of our leading booksellers in consideration of the vice of Holywell Street? “Down they shall be put,” said Sir Charles Hotham, rather too aristocratically, of foreigners in general, the other day. “Down they shall be put,” say many wise people, of the Chinese now. But why, and how?

For our part, we doubt the policy as well as the legality of any such proceedings as our intensely European fellow-citizens are calling for, against the Pagans from the land of tea. We think it would be at least wise to reflect a little before setting out on so eminently unchristian a crusade, as Peter—beg pardon, John Thomas—the hermit is getting up at this crisis.

Look at John Chinaman as you see him in Collins Street, with his happy and intelligent—and, we ought to add, clean—face, and compare him with a few of our fellow-countrymen as they first appear in the colony. If he is not a Christian, this is your opportunity to make him one; if he is, so much the better. But, as a citizen, how is he objectionable? Nobody seems willing to answer that.

We submit then, in the first place, that we want colonists, and that till there is a clear case against John Chinaman, we want *him*. We see him marching through the street in European dress, and we are much obliged to him for his custom; we see him consuming European food, and we admire his appetite. (We only hope he has imported his taste for little dogs, and will consume the few thousand useless curs which the government *won't* tax.) We see him refusing European drink, and we respect his sobriety! There he is, a Victorian from Asia—a Pagan, certainly, but ready to be converted, reverend and dear sir, whenever you like to begin! There he is, we say, a Victorian, who has brought his speciality of industry, whatever it may be, and his producing power, to add to the real wealth of the colony. A Victorian, obedient to our laws,

## RACE AND THE FRONTIER

and likely to be more useful to us in many ways than many of our importations from home, however meritorious and well-meaning they may be. If he be an inferior animal, as we are informed the intellectual Brown believes, let him do inferior animals' work, of which there is plenty required; if this be an error on the part of Brown, why then let the Chinaman improve us; let him be Lieutenant-Governor, if the post will fit him; let us do anything, in fact, except declare war upon a friend—against a visitor, at any rate—in whom we see a good servant to begin with, and possibly a good customer into the bargain.

As to any danger to our laws from Chinamen, we confess our fears lie in a different direction. We look with some alarm at the habits of despotism likely to be engendered amongst our small authorities, by the too ready submission of the thousands of Celestials whom they will now have the opportunity of bullying to the top of their bent. "The Chinaman," says an undisputed authority, "is bred up to civil obedience *tenero ab ungui*, with every chance of proving a quiet subject at least. Such institutions certainly do not denote the existence of much liberty; but, if peaceful obedience and universal order be the sole objects in view, they argue, on the part of the governors, some knowledge of human nature, and an adaptation of the means to the end." So John Chinaman would be peaceful—even at Ballaarat [sic]. One question: Was Peter Lalor, late Commander-in-Chief of the Insurgents, a Chinaman?

To our minds there is something contemptible in the rush from panic to panic for which Melbourne is so sadly distinguished. The Russians have not invaded us; the *Great Britain*, spite of her cannonading, has left of us safe; special constables have been sworn in to save us from Ballaarat: Ballaarat stands where it did, and so does Melbourne—not a constable being required. And now, at length, there being nothing left of our Rifle Brigades and our Sepoys to talk valorously about, we have a chattering of Tartar domination and anti-Celestial morals; we are to exclude industry and energy from the colony, on the plea that it is not European; and with a shout of "China for the Chinese," we are to shut ourselves within such lands as our own wise system allows us, to despise foreigners, and to be the laughing-stock of all sensible mankind, in all quarters of the world.

If anybody could tell us what we were afraid of; if we were not mere children, seeing ghosts in the dark, and only in the dark, our terrors would be respectable; but, really, our present condition is absurd. Take any British citizen aside and ask him what he is afraid of—why he wishes to exclude the Chinese—and whether he is sure that he wishes to exclude them at all. His answer is terribly confused. "Morals, sir, morals, must be attended to. Pagans, you know Pagans. No Mrs. Chisholm at the Chinese ports—no distressed needlewomen—no wives for Pagans, sir. Prints, sir, improper prints. Very proper observation of Mayor. Pagans' wives—prints—pictures—mayor—inferior race—Asiatic Tartar.—Must be put a stop to!"

This is all we can learn against the Chinese, an intelligent, educated, and industrious class of immigrants who, we think, may be made immensely serviceable to us (the English) in the



development of the industrial resources of this colony. A prejudice has been got up against them, and that prejudice has sought every possible pretext for doing them wrong. It has sought to make our little Legislature exclude the Chinese, assuming an imperial right, and pretending that we are an independent state with a voice in the matter. It has sometimes called itself by sacred names, and sometimes announced itself in a mere political character; but it is a prejudice, and worse, it is a panic. We are afraid of the Chinese, and we have not the moral courage to say so. They have not a weapon amongst them; nevertheless they have terrified us. And the Attorney-General is preparing a bill to relieve our minds—a bill for the exclusion of skilled artisans and admirable agriculturists, a bill to cause a further delay in the cultivation of our lands. That is Mr. Stawell's present amusement and occupation, since, without the assistance of Mr. Molesworth, he acquitted all the state prisoners. But let us wait a little. Let us do nothing in haste. Let us give Chinese colonists a chance, and not commence legislating against them till we know the reason why. And even then let us consider whether we wish to exclude them from the colony or only from the diggings, and whether, by cutting them off from the gold-fields and opening the land, we could not make their industry of vast value to ourselves. In short, let us look at this question as selfishly as possible. Let us assure the Chinese that they are Pagans and our inferiors, and let us bastinado them from time to time, if that oriental mode of punishment be thought desirable; but if we can get anything out of them let us do so, and unless we are a perfectly irrational people, let us stay Mr. Stawell's hand till we see whether he is about to slay an Asiatic goose come here to lay golden eggs.

Meanwhile, Mrs. Chisholm is requested to smuggle us a few China women, and, by all means, to let those she brings be young. It is, we believe, a melancholy truism, applicable to the whole people, "that with the progress of age, the old men come very ugly, and the old women, if possible, more so." (*Vide Penny Cyclopædia*, article China.)

Such being the case, perhaps some of the Pagans will unite themselves to more durable British spinsters, and, attaching themselves to the soil of Victoria, found a new family upon the face of the earth.

We say nothing of the expediency of such marriages, except that in no case, we trust, will the lady find that by any accident she has "caught a Tartar!"





No. 6.

DECEMBER, 1856.

1s. 6d.

THE  
JOURNAL  
OF  
AUSTRALASIA.

" Quid est enim dulcius otio literato ?"  
CICERO.

" Therefore I hope, as no unwelcome guest,  
By your warm fireside, while the lamps are lighted,  
To have my place reserved among the rest."  
LONGFELLOW.

GEORGE SLATER,  
94 BOURKE STREET EAST, MELBOURNE;  
AND PALL MALL, SANDHURST.

THE  
JOURNAL OF AUSTRALASIA.

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No. 6. — DECEMBER, 1856.

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CONTENTS.

	PAGE
OUR LIBRARY . . . . .	242
PREJUDICE . . . . .	245
EXPERIMENTS IN SOCIOLOGY, No. II. :—	
The Science of Saving . . . . .	248
AUTHORS AND THEIR BOOKS :—	
Henry Wadsworth Longfellow . . . . .	251
MR. SCRABBLES' TALE . . . . .	260
CHINESE LITERATURE . . . . .	264
WHAT I SAW AT SNAGGERACK (concluded) . . . . .	268
COMPANION TO THE FLOWER GARDEN . . . . .	275
OLD SCENES . . . . .	272
METEOROLOGY OF THE MONTH . . . . .	274
JOURNAL OF CURRENT EVENTS :—	
Politics . . . . .	275
Social Progress . . . . .	277
Science and Industry . . . . .	279
Literature and the Arts . . . . .	281
CHESS . . . . .	283
NOTES AND QUERIES . . . . .	283
NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS . . . . .	284

## CHINESE LITERATURE.

IN perambulating the streets of Melbourne, especially those in the eastern position, few things are more likely to attract the eye of an observant stranger (for to residents the phenomenon is now become familiar) than the number and appearance of those peculiar people whose literature forms the subject of the present article. Their strange costume, their impassive expression of countenance, and, still more, their features, which, like their books, seem stereotyped,\* suggest a train of thought which it may not be unprofitable or uninteresting briefly to pursue. That the Chinese call us *barbarians* is well known; nor are we backward to “reciprocate the compliment” by thinking them such: perhaps both are equally wide of the truth. The absurdity of their notions respecting the inhabitants of Europe is ludicrously apparent: let us inquire if our estimate of them be more just. Viewed in the obscure and squalid recesses of Little Bourke and Lonsdale Streets, it may, indeed, strike one that cleanliness and a scrupulous attention to sanitary regulations are not among the number of their national characteristics; nor the illuminated and parti-colored advertisements with which those localities are embellished, in the very best taste. But when we obtain an insight of their domestic economy, their modes of dealing with strangers and each other, their frugality and worldly wisdom, the instinctive aversion with which they shrink from collision with the dominant class around them, their provident habits—so opposed to the reckless prodigality of barbarians,—these and many other circumstances will tend to qualify our first impression as to their degraded position on the scale of civilization. But as we pursue our inquiries into the less obvious traits of their character, as a distinct people, it may probably excite surprise in some minds to find that they have now, and have had from time immemorial, a national literature of no contemptable rank; that they have not only voluminous works on morals and philosophy, but that their libraries are rich in romance, poetry, and the drama. These latter, which constitute the ornamental literature of a nation, would naturally lead us to infer something more solid beneath; and such we find to be in strict accordance with ascertained facts. The works of Confucius on political government and morals, which have been in existence more than 2,000 years; his curious compilation of didactic pieces by his literary predecessors, particularly the Kwōfoong, “The Manners of different States,” with innumerable commentaries thereon, are satisfactory evidence of a philosophical and ethical taste prevailing among the Chinese in periods of remote antiquity. At present, however, our business is with their lighter works,—their plays, poems, novels, and romances.

It may not be generally known that, for many years past, there has existed in England an association called the “Oriental Translation Committee,” the publications of which have been the means of throwing con-

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\* It is a well authenticated fact that the Chinese were early in possession of the art of Stereotype printing.

siderable light, not only on the history of Chinese literature, but on the character and sentiments of this ancient race. Hitherto their translations have been but partially known and less regarded by our brethren at home, except by such men as Professor Lee, of Cambridge, Dr. Morrison, in his Chinese dictionary, Professor Rémusat, of Paris, and, formerly, by Bishop Heber, Sir George Staunton, and a few other oriental scholars. Viewed chiefly through a mercantile medium, the Chinese have been hitherto looked upon merely as tea-growers, and good customers in the opium market; and their claim of affinity with the sun and moon had long been a standing joke before Sir William Jones and Lord Macartney revived it: but to us who are brought into occasional intercourse with this despised section of the human family, a sketch of one of their popular dramas may possess attraction.

“Hān Koong Tsew,” or “The Sorrows of Hān,” is a Chinese tragedy; it is one of the “Hundred Plays of Yuen,” and was translated some years since under the auspices of the Oriental Translation Committee. Love and war, those legitimate subjects of the tragic muse, constitute its whole action, and the moral of it is evidently to expose the evil consequences of luxury, effeminacy, and supineness in a sovereign,

“When love was all an easy monarch’s care—  
Seldom at council, never in a war.”

It is strictly historical, and relates to that interesting period of the Chinese annals when the declining strength of the government emboldened the Tartars in their aggressions, and gave rise to the temporising and impolitic system of propitiating those barbarians by alliances and tribute, which at last produced the downfall of the Empire, and the establishment of the Mongol dominion. The drama opens with the entrance of the Tartar Khan, reciting these verses:

“The autumnal gale blows wildly through the grass, amidst our woollen tents,  
And the moon of night, shining on the rude huts, hears the pipe’s lament;  
The countless hosts, with their bended bows, obey me as their leader;  
Our tribes are the distinguished friends of the family of Hān.”

This formidable Scythian displays his friendship after a singular fashion, as we shall see presently. He ends a speech which may be considered either as a soliloquy, or as an address to the audience, thus:—

“We have moved to the south, and approach the border, claiming an alliance with the imperial race. Yesterday I despatched an envoy, with tributary presents, to demand a princess in marriage, but know not yet if the Emperor will ratify the engagement with the customary oaths. Now for the hunt amidst the sandy steppes.”

The next personage that appears is the minister of the Emperor, and he at once displays his character in these four lines, with the recital of which he enters:—

“Let a man have the heart of a kite and the talons of an eagle;  
Let him deceive his superiors, and oppress those below him;  
Let him enlist flattery, insinuation, profligacy, and avarice on his side,  
And he will find them a lasting assistance thro’ life.”

The falsehood of this bad morality, however, is ultimately proved in the fate of its author, who thus continues:—

“By a hundred specious arts of flattery and address, I have deceived the Emperor  
he places—’tis clear—his chief delight in me. My words he listens to; he follows my

counsel. Who is there but bows before me?—but trembles at my approach? The master art I have learned is this: to persuade the Emperor to keep aloof from his counsellors, and seek all his occupation amidst the women of his palaces. Thus I strengthen my power and greatness.—Ah! who approaches? 'Tis the Emperor.

“(Enter: the Emperor YUENTE, attended by eunuchs and women.)

“EMP. (*Reciting verses*) During the ten generations that have succeeded our acquisition My race has alone possessed the four hundred districts of the world: [of Empire, Long have the frontiers been bound in tranquillity by the ties of mutual oaths; And our pillow has been undisturbed by grief or anxiety.”

The Chinese dramatists, it has been remarked, leave more to the imagination than we do; for they neither contrive that the action should all proceed on one spot, as in the Greek tragedy, nor do they make use of shifting scenes. “You can never bring in a wall,” says Snug, the joiner—so say the Celestials; and their contrivances, though not quite so absurd as those of the “Mechanicals” in “*Midsummer Night's Dream*,” are scarcely more artificial.—But to proceed. The worthy minister and his master agree that there is no better way of improving ‘these piping times of peace,’ than by adding to the numbers of the imperial harem: the favorite is appointed, then and there, “Commissioner of selection,” desired “diligently to search throughout the realm for all that is most beautiful of womankind,” and to furnish his sovereign with portraits of each, as a means of directing his choice:—and thus ends the first act or prœm.

The minister proceeds on his commission, and does just what Falstaff did on *his* recruiting service—“misuses the king's press most abominably;” but the fat knight takes money for letting off the proper objects of his selection, while our emissary, on the contrary, is bribed to take, and not to reject. He meets, at length, with a maiden of uncommon attractions:

“The brightness of her charms is piercing as an arrow! She is perfectly beautiful; and doubtless unparalleled in the whole empire. But, unfortunately, her father is a cultivator of the land,—not possessed of much wealth. When I insist on a hundred ounces of gold, to secure her being the chief object of the imperial choice, they first plead their poverty; and then, relying on her surpassing beauty, reject my offers altogether. I therefore quit them.—But, no! (considering) I have a better plan. I will disfigure her portrait in such manner that, when it reaches the Emperor, it shall secure her being doomed to neglected seclusion. Base is the man who delights not in revenge!”

We next see the lady herself, who appears soliloquising amidst the moonlight shades:—

“My mother dreamed, on the day I saw the sun, that the light of the moon shone on her bosom, but soon was cast low to the earth. I was but sixteen when chosen as an inmate of the imperial palace: but the minister, Maouyenshow, disappointed of the treasure which he demanded on my account, disfigured my portrait so as to exclude me from the Emperor's presence: thus I live secluded. Oh! companion! my lute! do thou dispel my griefs! (*Begins to play on the lute.*)

(Enter: Emperor, attended by a eunuch, carrying a light.)

“EMP. Since the beauties were selected to grace our palace, we have not yet discovered a worthy object on whom to fix our preference. Vexed and disappointed, we have passed this day of leisure, roaming in search of her who may be destined for our imperial choice. (*Hears the lute.*) Is not that some lady's lute?”

“ATTEND. It is; I hasten to inform her of your majesty's approach.

“EMP. No; hold! Keeper of the yellow gate, discover to what part of our palace that lady pertains, and bid her approach our presence; but beware lest you alarm her.

“ATTEND. (*Approaches in the direction of the sound, and speaks.*) What lady plays there? The Emperor comes; approach to meet him. (*Lady advances.*)”

The secret is now discovered, and the lady makes known to his majesty

the cruel perfidy of his minister. His majesty's mode of administering punishment seems to have been somewhat summary.

(*Ex. GRA.*)

"EMP. Keeper of the yellow gate, transmit our pleasure to the officer of the guard, to behead Maouyenshow, and report to us his execution."

The traitor, however, contrives to escape from this impromptu sentence, and, in the next act, flies to the Tartar camp with a *true* likeness of the lady (now created a princess), which he presents to the barbarian King, and persuades him, with ingenious villany, to demand her of the Emperor. No sooner said than done: an envoy is despatched by the Khan, who adds—"Should he refuse, I will presently invade the south: his hills and rivers shall be exposed to ravage. Our warriors will commence by hunting, as they proceed on their way; and thus, gradually entering the frontiers, I shall be ready to act as may best suit the occasion."

The unfortunate Emperor's fondness continues to increase; and the arrival of the Tartar envoy fills him with perplexity and despair. He consents, after a struggle, to yield up the princess; but insists on accompanying her part of the way. In the following act we have the parting scene:—

"ENVOY. Lady, let us urge you to proceed on your way; the sky darkens, and night is coming on.

"PRINCESS. Alas! when shall I again behold your majesty? I will take off my robes of distinction, and leave them behind me. To-day, in the palace of Hân; to-morrow, I shall be espoused to a stranger. I cease to wear these splendid vestments; they shall no longer adorn my beauty in the eyes of men!

"ENVOY. Again let us urge you, princess, to depart; we have delayed too long already!

"EMP. 'Tis done! Princess, when you are gone, let your thoughts forbear to dwell with sorrow and resentment upon us. (*They part.*) And am I the great monarch of the line of Hân?

"PRESID. Let your majesty cease to dwell with such grief upon this subject.

"EMP. She is gone! In vain have we maintained those armed heroes on the frontiers. Name but swords and spears, and they tremble at their hearts like a young deer. Yet do they affect the semblance of men!

"PRESID. Your majesty is entreated to return to the palace; dwell not so bitterly, sir, on her memory; allow her to depart!

"EMP. Did I not think of her, I had a heart of iron—a heart of iron! The tears of my grief stream in a thousand channels. This evening shall her likeness be suspended in the palace, where I will sacrifice to it; and tapers, with their silvery light, shall illuminate her chamber."

Then comes the catastrophe. The Tartar army retires with its prize, and they proceed in their march towards the north, until they reach the banks of the river Amoor, or Saghalien, which falls into the sea of Ochotsk.

"PRINCESS. What place is this?

"ENVOY. It is the river of the Black Dragon, the frontier of the Tartar territories, and those of China. This southern shore is the Emperor's; on the northern side commences our Tartar dominion.

"PRINCESS. (*To the Khan.*) Great king, I take a cup of wine, and pour a libation towards the south—my last farewell to the Emperor! (*Pours the libation.*) Emperor of Hân, this life is finished; I await thee in the next! (*Throws herself into the river.*)"

The lady is drowned, and the Khan, in great sorrow, decrees that her sepulchre shall be placed on the river's bank, and called "The verdant tomb." This is said to exist at the present day, and to remain green all

the year round, while the vegetation of the desert in which it stands is parched by the summer sun.

The last act opens with the grief of Yuenta at his recent loss; the Princess appears to him in a vision, wherein sundry discrepancies in the former scenes are explained; and the whole terminates, in accordance with strict poetical justice, with the decapitation of the traitor, Maouyenshow.

The preceding sketch of this popular Chinese tragedy, though necessarily conveying a very inadequate idea of the sentiments and style of the original, may yet be considered as no unfavorable specimen of dramatic taste in China; and may serve to modify our previous notions as to the literary resources of those temporary denizens of our southern capital, and of the many thousands of their gamboge-complexioned, bilious-looking brethren at the diggings. One thing, at least, is certain, that Voltaire constructed a tragedy (*L'Orphelin de la China*), which pleased his fastidious countrymen, out of the materials afforded him by a less inviting selection from the "Hundred Plays of Yuen," translated by Père Premare.

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## WHAT I SAW AT SNAGGERACK.

BY AN EX-HABITUÉ OF ST. JAMES'S STREET.

(*Concluded from page 215.*)

### IN WHICH I MAKE MY BOW.

THE best things in the world will surfeit a person in time; however good and amiable we may desire to be, we get tired and weary if we have too much of the same kind. The billets-doux of the brightest beauty in Belgravia pall upon one after a time; and the man, who receives perpetually the "cheers" of the house at his brilliant attack or masterly defence of something or the other, cares very little in the second or third session for addressing the assembly. I think, therefore, I will close the Snaggerack reminiscences, as I am not desirous of being declared "a bore." Besides, I know my ideas are not considered orthodox, and Von Mica tells me that "opinions like (mine) yours would ruin any country." It may be so. I do not believe in the cant of conventionalism which every where is fashionable. Why am I to swear by De Bulbous or James Tomkins, when I neither believe the one or the other? Do I believe young De Raff is a gentleman, although his father is a Privy Councillor, and his mother possesses the best opera box in the whole house? Not I. And when he levanted to the north, I did not wonder. Neither will I profess my faith in this man's patriotism, and that man's integrity; or feel convinced of the utility of that model-school or this rule of governing. I have dropped the orthodox notions I started in life with, and think now a little more for myself and less with others, so that, as Von Mica, who represents Snaggerack, tells me, my recollections are very wrong, ridiculous, and heterodox. I will just say 'good bye' to you all, and close friends.

## ADDRESS.

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THE present number completes the first half-yearly volume of the JOURNAL OF AUSTRALASIA. The position it has attained, the reception awarded to it by the critics and the reading public, and the success which has attended the efforts of its contributors, are most gratifying, as they shew that the anticipations and plans of the projectors were not illfounded.

The present volume will, we trust, be accepted as a fair performance of the promises set forth in our opening address. We have set up a high standard of excellence, and have endeavored, by obtaining the assistance of several of the ablest writers in the colony, to produce as nearly as possible our own ideal. Literature, Science, and the Arts, Fiction, Poetry, and simple Fact, all have place in our pages. The Journal of Current Events, a prominent feature in our plan, is designed to convey a vivid and truthful picture of our Political Condition and Social Progress, and of our advancement in Science, Industry, Literature, and the Arts. In it the public questions of the day are dispassionately discussed, with a desire to arrive at right conclusions, and to exclude, as far as possible, the partizan element. We have not hesitated to express decided opinions on many moot questions, but our views bear no relation, *pro* or *con*, to any sect or party, and are deduced from a careful study of the facts before us. In the selection of papers we have been actuated by a desire to elevate the general tone of thought.

But it is considered that the reading public, using that term in its most restricted sense, bears a small proportion to the population at large, and that, in order to do the most good by adapting the Journal to the tastes of the greatest number, it will be advisable to introduce a larger amount of what is called "light reading." And this it is proposed to do in the succeeding numbers: not that we intend to abandon any part of our plan; but rather to persevere in the course which has gained us the favor of so many whose good opinion is worth having, and at the same time to introduce ourselves to a larger circle of readers, by catering for the tastes of those who as yet care not for literary reviews and scientific disquisitions.

This change is in part suggested by a change in our internal organization. The Journal has passed into the possession of a new proprietary, which, although acquiescing generally in the views of the former management, desires to popularise the work. The strictness of the plan hitherto adhered to has prevented us from accepting the contributions of many non-professional authors, who addressed themselves to the very class of readers that we now seek to cultivate. There are in this, as in most other, communities writers who have no need to seek a profit from their works, who write to please themselves, and who would be doubly gratified if, by publication, they could please others at the same time. To them we now extend our hands, and invite them to aid us in producing such a magazine as themselves would like to see. We request the contributions of all, and rely in great measure upon amateur assistance—amateur, at least, inasmuch as we do not make any general offer of payment. The experiment of accepting nothing for which we did not feel ourselves justified in paying handsomely was, at least, in Australia, a new one, and, although it has so far succeeded that, by means of it we have obtained articles of a very high order of merit, there are other considerations which we dare not overlook. The new proprietary, then, adopts the views of the original prospectus, except the rule of payment for contributions; and superadds the determination to make the Journal generally popular, by introducing a larger proportion of light reading, in the shape of Tales, Sketches, Poetry, and other matter affecting every-day life and every-day recreation.

For the illustration of the Journal Engravings of interesting scenes and objects will be employed; for this department the pencils of talented artists will be retained.

We desire to avoid a profuseness of promises, for various reasons; we unfold as much as we have done of our plans in order to shew the distinct object that we have in view, viz., to place the Journal in the hands of a large circle of readers, and to make it worthy of their hearty support.

With these observations we commend the first volume to the reader, and invite his (or her) co-operation for the future.

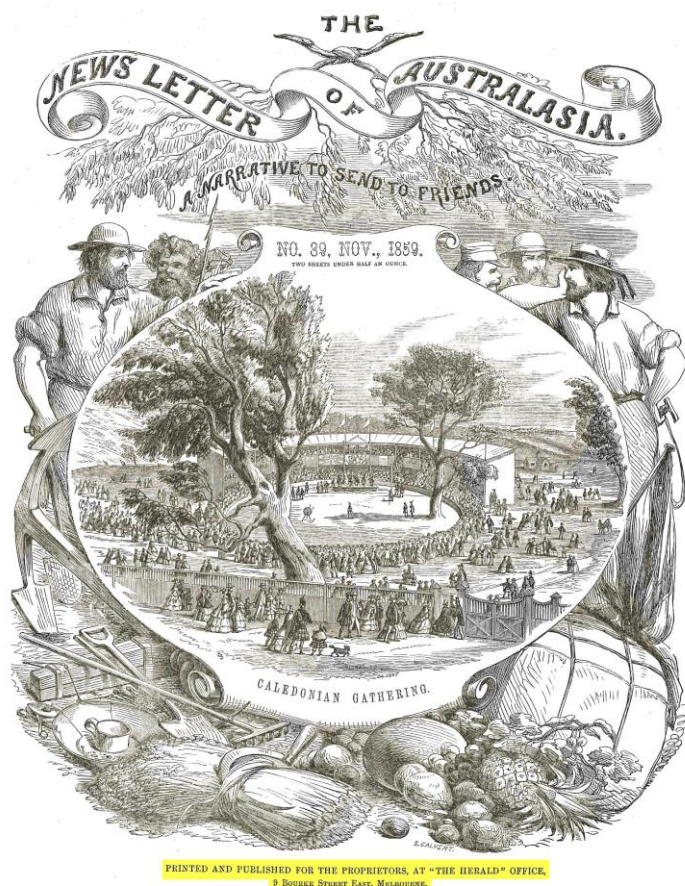
December, 1856.



# The News Letter of Australasia.

A Narrative to send to Friends. No. 39, November, 1859.

CALVERT, Samuel (illustrator); SLATER, George



*Two sheets under half an ounce.*

Melbourne:

**Printed & published for the proprietors at "The Herald" Office,**

9 Bourke Street East, Melbourne.

**Published by George Slater,**

**Printed by W. H. Williams,**

94 Bourke Street East, Melbourne.

Cover sheet. 260 x 410 mm, thin writing paper, folded into 4 pp quarto, the front with an engraving by Samuel Calvert depicting the Caledonian Gathering at the Melbourne Cricket Ground, surmounted by a decorative masthead and surrounded by an illustrated border featuring sailors and ship's anchor, an Aborigine, agricultural implements and produce; the remaining three sides blank; near fine with original folds and the expected amount of very mild creasing to the thin paper; lacking the second printed sheet.

The first issue of *The News Letter of Australasia* was published by George Slater in July 1856.

The following notice regarding this new and innovative publication appeared in *The Argus*, Page 6, 23 June, 1856:

***On July 2<sup>nd</sup> will be Published, No. 1, price 6d., "THE NEWS LETTER OF AUSTRALASIA," an Impartial Summary. "The News Letter of Australasia." printed on superfine thin letter paper, with pages three and four blank for private correspondence. Price 6d. Sold by all booksellers and newsagents.***

***Letters are not so liable to be lost as newspapers in transmission by post.***

***Send to friends at home "The News Letter of Australasia," a monthly record and bird's eye view of the events and state of these countries.***

***"The News Letter of Australasia" will contain a narrative without comment, most emphatically indicating and marking the spirit of progress of the times, and the natural characteristics of these countries.***

***"The Newsletter of Australasia" printed (by W. H. Williams) on superfine thin letter paper.***

***Sold by all booksellers. Price 6d.***

***Published by GEORGE SLATER, 94 Bourke-street east.***

***Sold by booksellers and news agents.***

## History of W. H. Williams, <http://www.austlit.edu.au/austlit/page/A53219>

The printing, publishing and bookselling firm W. H. Williams operated in Melbourne for most of the second half of the nineteenth century. The founder, William H. Williams, arrived in Melbourne in October 1852, and was employed for a period as an overseer on the Melbourne *Herald*. In 1853 he bought the business of Connebee and Mould, who had been printers at 79 Elizabeth Street since 1850. William Williams was initially in a partnership as Hough, Heath and Williams (in 1853 published *The Diggers Advocate*) and by December 1855 was sole proprietor. In 1856 the firm moved to 94 Bourke Street East, where it shared premises with bookseller and publisher George Slater who undertook a number of publishing projects with Williams including *'Language of the Aborigines'* and *'The Settlement of John Batman in Port Philip from his own Journal'*. In November 1856 Williams acquired Slater's business and founded W. H. Williams which was later located in 23 Little Burke Street East (Post Office Place), then Elizabeth Street, Little Collins Street West, and 83 Queen Street.

W. H. Williams printed, published and owned a range of periodicals and newspapers in Melbourne, many of which had literary content, such as *The Illustrated Journal of Australasia and Monthly Magazine* (1857-58) and *The Australian Monthly Magazine* (1865-67), of which William Williams was printer, publisher, owner, and initially editor. The illustrations were woodcut prints of drawings and paintings of scenes and portraits. Williams was one of the first printers in the colony to type-set musical notation, and was known as 'Musical Williams'. (See page 12)






Williams' son, also William H. Williams, trained as a compositor and entered the business, printing and publishing with his father as Williams & Williams in the 1890s, and eventually operating in his own right, as W. H. Williams Jnr.

### Works by W. H. Williams

1.  [Dimples; A Daughter of Vice](#) Melbourne: W. H. Williams, 1939-1959 single work novella romance
2.  [The Musical Millionaire, or, Love and L.S.D.: a comic opera in two acts Ivan Archer Rosenblum , Ivan Archer Rosenblum](#) (composer), Melbourne: W. H. Williams, 1905 single work musical theatre opera humour
3.  [The Swag : the unofficial flute of the sundowners and other colonial vagrants; with which is enfurcated the Bush Marconi and the Whaler's Telegraph, by Scotty the Wrinkler Philip Mowbray ,](#) Melbourne s.n., 1900 selected work short story
4.  [The Centennial Garland: An Australian Gift-Book and Souvenir to Friends Across the Seas A. F. Gardner](#) [Melbourne ]: 1888 selected work poetry
5.  [Australian Chimes and Rhymes William H. Williams](#) (editor), Melbourne: W. H. Williams, 1884 anthology novella poetry prose short story
6.  [Australian Christmas Chimes for Old and Young William H. Williams](#) (editor), Melbourne: W. H. Williams, 1881 anthology poetry short story
7.  [Vercingetorix, or, Love and Patriotism Joshua Lake , Henri Kowalski](#) (composer), Melbourne : W. H. Williams, 1881 single work musical theatre Abstract

### Lyric drama in three acts.

Translated into English (and possibly adapted) from the original French version by M Maniel.

1.  [Proi ; Or, At the Dawning \[cantata\] Marcus Clarke , Paolo Giorza](#) (composer), Melbourne : Marcus Clarke, 1881 single work lyric/song
2.  [Checkmated T. P. \(Mrs\) Hill](#) Melbourne: W. H. Williams, 1878 single work novel
3.  ['Boot and Saddle!' : Bits of South African Life in Bush and Barracks H. Morin Humphreys ,](#) Melbourne: George Robertson , 1875 selected work prose
4.  [Memories of the Past A Lady in Australia](#) Melbourne: W. H. Williams, 1873 single work autobiography
5.  [Australian Stories Round the Camp Fire Robert P. Whitworth](#) Melbourne: W. H. Williams, 1872 selected work short story
6.  [Williams's Illustrated Australian Annual, for the Holiday Season \[1870-71\]](#) Williams's Illustrated Australian Annual Melbourne: W. H. Williams, 1870 periodical issue

7. [📖 Williams's Illustrated Australian Annual for Christmas and the New Year 1869-1870: Second Year of Publication](#) *Williams's Illustrated Australian Annual* Melbourne: W. H. Williams, 1869 periodical issue
8. [📖 Williams's Illustrated Australian Annual](#) *Williams's Australian Annual*; Printable version *Williams's Illustrated Australian Annual for Christmas and the New Year* [Henry Kendall](#) (editor), Melbourne: W. H. Williams, 1868 periodical (3 issues)
9. [📖 The Australian Monthly Magazine](#) Melbourne: W. H. Williams, 1865-1867 periodical (27 issues)
10. [📖 Francesca Vasari : A Tragedy in Five Acts John Finnamore](#) , Melbourne : John Finnamore , 1865 single work drama
11. [📖 Follow the Track 'Twig'](#) , Melbourne: W. H. Williams, 1861 single work novella
12. [📖 The Illustrated Journal of Australasia](#) *The Illustrated Journal of Australasia and Monthly Magazine* combining *The Monthly Magazine* (William Williams) and *A Journal of Australasia, Made in Melbourne*: George Slater, 1856-1857 periodical (8 issues)

### History of George Slater, <http://www.austlit.edu.au/austlit/page/A37997>

The business George Slater operated at various times in the second half of the nineteenth century in Melbourne and in Brisbane, and in country Victoria and Queensland, as a bookseller, publisher, printer, stationer, newsagent, library, and dealer in homeopathic medicines. George Slater opened a bookshop in Wellington Street in Collingwood, Melbourne, soon after his arrival from London in 1853 (sometimes advertised as the 'Wellington Library'), but soon moved to 94 Bourke Street East, where the business developed into a leading Melbourne bookseller, which also **published in association with William Williams, and also traded as Slater, Williams and Hodgson**. During the 1850s George Slater published *A Journal of Australasia* (later *The Illustrated Journal of Australasia and Monthly Magazine*), which contained some of the earliest criticism of Australian literature. Another publication was the periodical *The News Letter from Australasia*, a compendium of information intended to be sent to relatives and friends in Britain. This publication featured a woodcut print on the cover, and Slater also published and sold individual prints of scenes of Melbourne and the gold diggings. Slater operated as a wholesale bookseller at 120 Elizabeth Street, Melbourne then opened branches in Castlemaine and Bendigo, but the business failed and was sold around 1858. From 1859 to 1861 George Slater operated a library in High Street, St Kilda.

In 1864 George Slater moved to Brisbane where he opened a small bookshop and stationery in the Kingsford Building in Queen Street. The business opened branches in Rockhampton and Gympie, and expanded into printing, producing maps and woodcut and lithographic prints and photographs of Queensland scenes. It also operated a subscription library, which had a list of 15,000 books in 1869. From 1867 the firm published *Slater's Queensland Almanac*, and in 1873 moved into a new warehouse and workshop in Edward Street. This business was sold around 1876 to Gordon and Gotch, who continued *Slater's Queensland Almanac* into the twentieth century.

George Slater is listed in the 1882 *Queensland Post Office Directory* as a bookseller and publisher at the New Church Book Depot. Slater purchased an interest in a homeopathic pharmacy in Edward Street in 1882, which he sold in 1885.

### Works by George Slater some with William Williams

1. [📖 The Illustrated Journal of Australasia](#) *The Illustrated Journal of Australasia and Monthly Magazine* combining *The Monthly Magazine* (William Williams) and *A Journal of Australasia, Made in Melbourne*: George Slater, 1856-1857 periodical (8 issues)
2. [📖 The Illustrated Melbourne News](#) Melbourne: George Slater, 1858 periodical
3. [📖 Arabin, or, The Adventures of a Colonist in New South Wales; with an Essay on the Aborigines of Australia](#) [Thomas McCombie](#) London : Simmonds and Ward, 1845 single work novel
4. [📖 The Settlement of John Batman in Port Phillip : From His Own Journal \[John Batman\]](#) Melbourne : George Slater, 1856 selected work diary Abstract 'Batman's crucial first expedition to Port Phillip in May-June 1835. Based on historical events rather than on Batman's actual journal and written to reinforce his claim to be the founder of Melbourne, this embellished account of the expedition has been attributed by Henry Gyles Turner to Joseph Tice Gellibrand and a prominent member of the Port Phillip Association.' (National Library of Australia catalogue.)
5. [📖 Rebel Convicts : An Australian Novel \[R. H. Horne\]](#) Melbourne: George Slater, 1858 single work novel



Edward Turner (1836-1913) 1856 original pencil & water colour drawing of 1854 Melbourne Exhibition Building (NW angle) -  
S.T. Gill used the drawing for his 1856 lithograph of the Melbourne Exhibition Building