HISTORICAL MEMOIR OF THE
MELBOURNE CLUB
Of an edition of six hundred and fifty copies printed for private circulation this is copy number 263. 
The Melbourne Club, Front Entrance.
HISTORICAL MEMOIR
OF THE
MELBOURNE CLUB

By
ERNEST SCOTT
Professor of History in the University
of Melbourne

THE SPECIALTY PRESS PTY. LTD.
MELBOURNE
1936
HISTORICAL MEMOIR
OF THE
MELBOURNE CLUB

BY

ERNEST SCOTT

PUBLISHED FOR
PRIVATE CIRCULATION
IN 1936
The following corrections to Sir Ernest Scott's *Memoir* have been prepared by the club's honorary archivist, Major-General R. R. McNicoll:

P. 4 Line 2. *For William read George.*

Lines 7 to 11. There is evidence that the club never rented rooms in the Lamb Inn.

Line 12. The 'opening dinner' was postponed from 18 June to 3 July 1839; and it was held not at the Lamb Inn but at Fawkner's Former Hotel which the club had leased as from 1 June and had occupied soon after 18 June.


Lines 16 to 18. On 21 February 1839 Messrs Hogue, Browne, Carrington and Snodgrass were elected members of the club, not to the committee.

Line 19. If the term 'original members' means the subscribers to the prospectus, they numbered 23. If it means the members whose names were on the roll on 1 January 1839, the date of the first general meeting, they were said to have numbered nearly 50.

P. 6. Line 1. Robert Russell reported that the accommodation afforded by the club's temporary premises was 'better than an Inn'. There are indications that the temporary rooms were in the house of Dr Barry Cotter, which was portion of the former Angel Inn, in Queen Street at the corner of Collins Street.

Line 25. The lease was signed on 24 May.

P. 7 Lines 27 and 28. Mr Bolden was right: the former Fawkner's Hotel was the first club house, not the second.
P. 8 Line 1. *For At the beginning read In the middle.*
Line 7. *Delete and Redmond Barry.* (Barry was elected to membership in October 1840.)
P. 12 The illustration facing this page should be captioned Fawknor's Hotel.
P. 14 Line 22. *For regard read respect.*
Line 23. *After would be insert but.*
P. 16 The illustration facing this page should be captioned The Second Club House.
P. 18 Chapter heading: *read THE SECOND CLUB HOUSE.*
P. 39 Lines 1 to 4. The Port Phillip Club was formed several months before the balloting incident to which Professor Scott refers.
Line 5. The original method of election was by a ballot of the whole body of members present and voting, not, as stated by Scott, a ballot of the committee of management.
P. 66 Line 3. *For Lock read Loch.*
PP. 87, 89, 92 and 97. J. C. Riddell and W. T. Mollison were elected in 1840, and A. F. Mollison and James Graham were elected during 1839, so none of them could have been an 'original member'.

PREFATORY NOTE

THE Melbourne Club is nearly a century old. A centenary may be no more than a mark in time by which the endurance of institutions and the reputations of men may be measured, but it is a very convenient mark. Many institutions dwindle and die, and many persons who were of some consequence in their day become forgotten, in the course of a hundred years. An institution which is still thriving, with every promise of vigorous continuity, after so long a spell of life, has had time to build up traditions and cherish memories. There is no institution in the State of Victoria—except the churches of the principal religious denominations, founded almost as soon as settlement was established on the banks of the Yarra—which can yet claim a century of existence; and there is no institution still functioning which took unto itself the name "Melbourne" at an earlier date than this Club did. The form of government in the State has entirely changed. There was no "Victoria," but merely a "Port Phillip District," in 1838-9. There was not even an incorporated city of Melbourne when this Club was founded. Not a single newspaper now published existed then. Not a building now standing stood then. Not a society now in being was formed then. The Club, despite its many evidences of youth, may think itself almost venerable.
The life of an institution which has flourished throughout a century all but a few months, and has included within its membership a very large number of the pioneers and leaders of the country, is well deserving of permanent record. It would, indeed, be an ungrateful act of negligence if the occasion were not signalised by a chronicle tracing the origins and development of the Club.

The material used in this narrative has been gathered mainly from minute books and letter books. Use has also been made of early newspaper files and of information communicated privately. There are hundreds of memorable names in the manuscript volumes of the Club’s records; names of men who in the earliest years figured largely in the establishment of the pastoral industry, and at later dates were occupied with politics, commercial development, finance, science, medicine and the law. Most of them find no place in the following pages because, while enjoying the amenities of the Club, they did not take a prominent part in its administration. But a glance down the list of Presidents and Vice-Presidents reveals the typical men who stamped upon the Club a character and tradition which another century may honourably maintain but hardly excel.

It is a remarkable fact that down to 1880, every President of the Club was in a real sense a Victorian pioneer, and came to this country either before or during the gold era of the ’fifties. One was a member of John Batman’s Port Phillip Association. Scarcely any were without large pastoral interests; some were amongst the greatest of the “wool-kings” of the squatting days.
## CONTENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Prefatory Note</td>
<td>v</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Introduction by the Committee</td>
<td>xi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I. — Concerning Clubs</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>II. — The Founders</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>III. — At the Sign of the Lamb</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IV. — First Members</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>V. — Fawkner’s Hotel</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VI. — The First Rules</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VII. — Redmond Barry</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VIII. — A Quarrel with Fawkner</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IX. — The Third Club-house</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>X. — Stables</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>XI. — Bushrangers</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>XII. — Purchase of the Property</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>XIII. — Club Discipline</td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>XIV. — A Subscription List</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>XV. — Primitive Melbourne</td>
<td>29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>XVI. — Comforts</td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>XVII. — The Black Swan and the Livery</td>
<td>32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>XVIII. — “On Sundays Drest in all my Best”</td>
<td>34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>XIX. — Periodicals</td>
<td>36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>XX. — The Port Phillip Club</td>
<td>37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>XXI. — Ballotting</td>
<td>39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>XXII. — The Victorian Club</td>
<td>41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>XXIII. — Club Management</td>
<td>43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>XXIV. — Larger Premises Required</td>
<td>45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>XXV. — Sale of the Old Club-house</td>
<td>46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>XXVI. — The New Club-house</td>
<td>49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>XXVII. — The Secretaries</td>
<td>52</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>XXVIII. — Burke</td>
<td>57</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>XXIX. — The Shenandoah</td>
<td>58</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>XXX. — Distinguished Visitors</td>
<td>63</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>XXXI. — Royal and Vice-Regal Guests</td>
<td>68</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>XXXII. — Identities</td>
<td>70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>XXXIII. — An Incident</td>
<td>73</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>XXXIV. — Lares et Penates</td>
<td>77</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

[ vii ]
The Presidents—

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Namelist</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Verner, Simpson</td>
<td>82</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Powlett, Barry</td>
<td>83</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Powlett, Barry, Bolden</td>
<td>84</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mackenzie, W. F. Stawell</td>
<td>85</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ebden, Griffith</td>
<td>86</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Riddell, Scutt</td>
<td>87</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Farie, Grimes, Wright</td>
<td>88</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>W. T. Mollison, Barry, W. F. Stawell, Anderson</td>
<td>89</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Haines, F. Murphy</td>
<td>90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fellows</td>
<td>91</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jeffreys, Graham, D. C. McArthur</td>
<td>92</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lloyd Jones, W. H. F. Mitchell, C. E. Bright</td>
<td>93</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gurner, Goodman, Hamilton, Panton</td>
<td>94</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cunningham, Murray Smith</td>
<td>95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sladen, A. F. Mollison</td>
<td>96</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Campbell, Matheson, J. Blackwood</td>
<td>97</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Willis, Rogers, Greene</td>
<td>98</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Baillie, R. Bright, Rede, Godfrey, a'Beckett</td>
<td>99</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Simson, Fairbairn, Grey Smith, Officer, Shuter</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Verdon, Fitzgerald, Cooke</td>
<td>101</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Box, Grice</td>
<td>102</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Murchison, Power, Fiskan, Fairbairn, L. Mackinnon, Sawers</td>
<td>103</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Staughton, Wrixon, Bridges, Manifold</td>
<td>104</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Madden</td>
<td>105</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A. D. Murphy, R. O. Blackwood, Wcigall, Ryan</td>
<td>106</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>L. K. S. Mackinnon, Fanning</td>
<td>107</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sanderson, E. F. Mitchell, Russell, D. Mackinnon, R. D. Stawell</td>
<td>108</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Irvine, Maudesley, Miller, W. G. S. McArthur, F. Clarke, Bird</td>
<td>109</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Payne, Lyle, Wynne</td>
<td>110</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hayne, Cox, Turnbull, Higgins, White, Mann</td>
<td>111</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**ILLUSTRATIONS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Illustration</th>
<th>Facing Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The Melbourne Club, Front Entrance. Photograph by A. W. Dickinson.</td>
<td>Frontispiece</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Part of Collins Street West, from a drawing by Robert Russell, the first surveyor of Melbourne; 1839. Showing the position of the Lamb Inn and Fawkner's Hotel</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Lamb Inn</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Third Club-house</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Melbourne Club, 1859</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Dining-room, circa 1860</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot;The Purple and Stovepipe of the Higher Civilization&quot;</td>
<td>32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot;People of Importance in their Day&quot;</td>
<td>36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Notables</td>
<td>44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>On the Verandah</td>
<td>48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Moderns</td>
<td>52</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>More Moderns</td>
<td>60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Club, 1935. (Photograph by A. W. Dickinson.)</td>
<td>64</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Hall. (Photograph by A. W. Dickinson.)</td>
<td>68</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Main Staircase. (Photograph by A. W. Dickinson.)</td>
<td>76</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Angle of the Staircase, showing the Portraits of F. A. Powlett, Robert O'Hara Burke, and J. A. Panton. (Photograph by A. W. Dickinson.)</td>
<td>80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A Corner in the Library. (Photograph by A. W. Dickinson.)</td>
<td>84</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Dining-room</td>
<td>92</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot;The Lawn a Carpet all Alive, With Shadows Flung from Leaves.&quot; (Photograph by Russell Grimwade.)</td>
<td>96</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot;A Green Thought in a Green Shade.&quot; (Photograph by Russell Grimwade.)</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Afternoon</td>
<td>108</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
INTRODUCTION

BY THE COMMITTEE

A CLUB, like any other community of man, acquires with time a tradition, a character, and an influence of its own. It does so the more readily if it continues long in the same abode, until a kindly and familiar spirit comes to inhabit every precinct.

A consciousness of these things cannot fail to provoke an interest in the past history of a Club which has been almost coeval with British settlement in Victoria, and has played its part in a rapidly changing society.

From Sir John Higgins came the idea that the time was ripe for an historical memoir of the Melbourne Club, and when a happy and generous response moved the distinguished author of the following pages to undertake the work, Sir John's assistance and encouragement were never lacking.

The Committee gratefully availed themselves of Professor Scott's readiness to devote to the benefit of his fellow-members his time, his proved literary power, and the considerable labour of research, which have resulted in this volume, and they believe that the author will be rewarded by the grateful appreciation of present and future members of the Club.

[ xi ]
I.

CONCERNING CLUBS:

A club, as defined in Dr. Johnson’s dictionary, is “an assembly of good fellows meeting under certain conditions.” The great lexicographer himself was, with Sir Joshua Reynolds, a founder of a club of that kind, which, as Boswell informs us, was wont to meet once a week at the Turk’s Head in Soho, and included, during his membership of it, Edmund Burke, Oliver Goldsmith, David Garrick, Gibbon, Sheridan, and Sir Joseph Banks. Many such clubs existed in England before there were any which had permanent homes of their own and a subscribing membership to maintain them. But in the last quarter of the 18th century, London possessed several club-houses, chiefly concentrated in Pall Mall and St. James’s Street; and there is nothing surprising in the circumstance that in the gay days of the Regency of George the Magnificent, as Thackeray tells us, “one fine morning in the full London season, Major Arthur Pendennis came over from his lodgings, according to his custom, to breakfast at a certain club in Pall Mall, of which he was a chief ornament.”

It was also such a club that in 1788 was formed “by the Prince of Wales in opposition to Brooks’s, because Tarleton and Jack Payne, proposed by H.R.H., were blackballed” —as we learn from the “Cornwallis Correspondence.”
By that time clubs were a well established feature of London social life, membership of a good club was a requisite for an English gentleman, and club etiquette had become a traditional unwritten code. It followed as a consequence that when men from Great Britain possessing gregarious social instincts became residents in a British colony anywhere in the world, they wanted to enjoy the amenities of a club. They could not be happy without one. "The need of a world of men for me" had to be satisfied.
II.

THE FOUNDERS:

The Melbourne Club itself furnishes a living example. The town of Melbourne received its name in 1837, when Governor Sir Richard Bourke came round from Sydney to look at the infant settlement which had arisen upon the banks of the Yarra. In November of the following year, a meeting was held at the officers' quarters in the barracks to take steps to found a club. The fact that the gathering was at that place indicates that the military took a leading part in the movement. That there should be a club was soon settled; and that it should be called the Melbourne Club was probably determined there and then. On the morning of January 1st, 1839, the promoters met again at the same place to provide for the management and to adopt preliminary rules. On the evening of that day they dined at the Lamb Inn, paying £2 a head for the feast. The Port Phillip Gazette, Arden's paper, in its issue of January 5th, 1839, published a brief account of the event:

"On the first day of the year a general meeting of the members of the Melbourne Club was held for the purpose of appointing a committee, and to take into consideration the building of a house suited to the convenience of the service it is intended to be applied to. The list showed nearly 50 names. Amongst them we may mention that of Mr. Hawdon, to whose enterprise the District is indebted for having opened a communication by land to South Australia. About 20 of the members subsequently sat down to a dinner at the Lamb Inn, laid out in the most splendid scale, comprising all the varieties this infant settlement could afford."

[ 3 ]
III.

AT THE SIGN OF THE LAMB:

Negotiations had in the meantime taken place between the promoters and the owner of the Lamb, one William Smith. His hostelry was situated on the north side of Collins Street, near the site of Temple Court. With the small membership at the beginning, it was premature to venture upon purchasing a property. It was therefore arranged that the Club should rent rooms from the proprietor. But by June the membership had increased sufficiently to warrant the Club in taking the whole of the Lamb Inn, and some additions were made to that low-built wooden structure. The Club was thus fairly launched, and on June 18, 1839, "the opening dinner," as the Secretary's letter called it, was held at the Clubhouse. William Westgarth, long after the Lamb had disappeared, remembered it as "a little wooden edifice fronting a small cliff which the street-levelling there had left for future disposal." (Personal Recollections of Early Melbourne, p. 59). The "cliff" rose from the back of the inn.
PART OF COLLINS STREET WEST.  

(See page 3.)

From a drawing by Robert Russell, the first surveyor of Melbourne, 1839; showing the position of the Lamb Inn and Fawkner's Hotel. (1) the Post Office; (2) the Lamb Inn; (3) Fawkner's Hotel.
IV.

FIRST MEMBERS:

Who were the original promoters? We have a list of those who attended the first meeting. They were Captain William Lonsdale (4th King's Own Regiment), the magistrate and administrator of the Port Phillip District; Colonel White and his son; Captain Bacchus and his son, W. H. Bacchus (whose name is perpetuated in Bacchus Marsh); Lieutenant G. B. Smyth; Dr. P. E. Cussen, and Messrs. F. A. Powlett (Powlett Street, East Melbourne, is named after him), G. Arden (proprietor of the Port Phillip Gazette), Robert Russell (the surveyor of Melbourne), B. Baxter, James McFarlane, W. W. H. Smythe, W. H. Yaldwyn, T. F. Hamilton, A. M. Mundy, L. Scott, R. W. Murdoch, W. W. Darke, W. Ryrie, Donald Ryrie, and Stewart Ryrie junior. The honorary secretary was a solicitor, William Meek, after whom Meek Street, Brighton, was named. The first committee of management, elected on February 21, consisted of Arthur Hogue, J. Browne, H. N. Carrington, and Peter Snodgrass. The original members numbered only 27.
V.

FAWKNER'S HOTEL:

The Club remained in its Lamb Inn quarters till the membership had grown to nearly 50. It was then necessary to seek a more commodious home. At that time a hotel on the south side of Collins Street, at the east corner of Market Street, was kept by John Pascoe Fawkner, the former Launceston publican, now a prominent person in Melbourne. He was an enterprising man, though with more bustle than aptitude in his business affairs, and was ever ready to consider a promising proposition. He had more than one string to his bow. In addition to owning the hotel, he was the proprietor and publisher of the *Port Phillip Patriot*, ran a general printing office, and kept a stationer's shop. Francis Labillière—a member of this Club in later years—in his *Early History of Victoria* (II., 95) calls Fawkner "the founder of Melbourne," which stretched his claims unduly.

Fawkner's hotel, the best known hostelry in the town at this date, was a substantial brick building with an upper storey. Lady Franklin—the beautiful and courageous Jane—stayed there two days in April, 1839, when she came over from Tasmania to commence her famous overland journey from Melbourne to Sydney; and the town went jubilant with fireworks and organized a blackfellows' corroboree in her honour. This was the hotel which the committee of the Melbourne Club in June 1839 agreed to lease from Fawkner at £250 per annum for five years. As it contained 22 rooms, it was sufficiently large for the membership at that time.
It should be understood that the hotel in Collins Street was not Fawkner's first Melbourne venture as a publican. His first hotel, the Royal, was nearer the river. David Fisher, who stayed there in 1835, describes it (Letters from Victorian Pioneers, p. 12), as "built of turf or sods, with a portion of wood, and comprising six apartments of a very primitive order, occupied by Johnny Fawkner as a public house." It was "the first, and then the only, public house in the District of Port Phillip. Here we could get a glass of bad rum and plenty of water by paying a good price for the same; but we could get nothing to eat nor a place to sleep in. This celebrated hotel stood on the site now occupied by the Custom House, in Flinders lane or street."

We have an interesting memory of the Club in those days, preserved in a letter written in 1913 by Mr. C. Bolden, of Preston Bassett, Buckinghamshire, to his nephew, Mr. G. Bolden, of Terang. Mr. C. Bolden was the son of the Rev. John Bolden, who was president of the Club in 1847. The letter states:

"I can remember as a lad the original house of the Melbourne Club, a small whitewashed building in Collins Street, about opposite where the Bank of Australasia now stands. As far as I can remember, it was the only stone building in Collins Street. All the rest were of wood; and the stumps of trees still remained in the street."

The lad could not be expected to know that this was the second home of the Club; and what seemed to him to be stone was whitewashed brick. But he wrote in old age of what he had seen about 70 years previously.
At the beginning of 1840 the Club entered upon a new phase of its career, when the first president was elected, in the person of William Verner. The committee chosen at the same time consisted of Armyne Bolden (vice-president), Charles Hutton, James Graham, J. Hunter, H. Jamieson, W. H. Yaldwyn, Joseph Hawdon, James Simpson and Redmond Barry. In 1841, William Meek, W. Ryrie and F. A. Powlett joined the committee, in place of Yaldwyn, Hawdon and Simpson, and Redmond Barry became honorary secretary.
VI.

THE FIRST RULES:

The Club now also had printed its first set of rules and list of members. The title page of the little pamphlet reads: "Rules and Regulations of the Melbourne Club, 1841. Melbourne. Printed by J. P. Fawkner, Collins Street. MDCCCXLI." These rules provided that "the number of members comprising the Melbourne Club, exclusive of honorary members, is not to exceed 150." Rule 8 imposed a regimen of careful management upon the committee, in the positive behest that "the committee are not to exceed the yearly income of the Club to any extent without the sanction of a general meeting, to be called to consider and authorise such extra expenditure." Caution was also imposed upon such members as might be clumsy in their movements, or perhaps occasionally somewhat frolicsome, by the rule "that any member breaking or injuring any article the property of the Club, shall pay double the original cost thereof." Evidently this was found to be too menacing—or too expensive—and an amending rule in 1845 required that any member who broke or injured anything should simply "pay the necessary cost of replacing it."

Number 6 of the original Rules provided that "Foreigners of rank and quality, civil, military and naval officers, and other gentlemen being merely visitors in this District, may be invited to become honorary members of the Club during their sojourn here, not exceeding one
month." But this indulgence to foreigners of rank and quality was omitted when the rules were revised in 1855, and a new rule extended the hospitality of the Club to "all ordained clergymen and officers of the army and navy on actual service."
VII.

REDMOND BARRY:

The honorary secretary, whose bold quill-written script decorated the minute book from 1841, deserves special attention. Young Redmond Barry sprang from Ballyclough, County Cork, where he was born in 1813. He studied law at Trinity College, Dublin. Three years after he was called to the bar (1836) he brought his brogue, his imposing presence and his remarkable hat to Melbourne. Genial, energetic, warm-hearted, with a deep love of literature and a genius for conversation, he soon established himself as a popular personage in Melbourne social circles, and, almost in the course of nature, was elected a member of the Melbourne Club. He was to become Sir Redmond Barry (K.C.M.G. 1877) and a justice of the Supreme Court of Victoria. His life-size bronze statue in front of the Melbourne Public Library shows him as he was late in life. The effigy is well placed there, for the foundation and nurture of that great institution was Barry’s darling project.

From 1840 till he died in 1880, Barry was a member of the Melbourne Club. He was president in 1844, 1846, and again in 1858. No other man in the history of the Club has been thrice President. His natural dignity was punctuated by his distinctive taste in hats. The inventor of the Barry hat was known only to himself; probably it was a Dublin hatter, who was provoked to fashion a distinguishing crown for so fine a head. Its tapering cone and level brims were contemplated with wonder and admiration; and he was quite aware of the surprise it
evoked. Barry served for two periods as honorary secretary to the Club. The first was from January 1st, 1841, to November 17th. He was then succeeded by C. H. Ebdon, who in 1843 became a representative of the Port Phillip District in the newly constituted Legislative Council of New South Wales; his election on June 20 of that year was the first political event of the kind to occur in Melbourne.

Barry's second term occurred under a resolution passed at a general meeting in January 1848: "That the duties of secretary be for the present performed by two members of the committee, under the designation of 'The Sub-Committee'." This sub-committee, from September 18, 1849, consisted of Barry and F. A. Powlett, and sometimes Barry and C. H. Ebdon; but it seems clear that Barry attended to the strictly secretarial work, and his colleague to other functions; and he continued to act in this manner till (probably) the early part of September 1851. But from February 12, 1850, a clerk was employed to do the routine work, including the recording of minutes. Barry was also at several periods a member of the committee of management and attended its meetings regularly, even after he became a judge in 1852. No man gave more varied and assiduous attention to the interests of the Club in its early years than did Redmond Barry.
This is John Pascoe Fawkner's Shakespeare Hotel, not the Lamb Inn - which was in Collins St, on the west side of Temple Court.
VIII.

A QUARREL WITH FAWKNER:

John Pascoe Fawkner was not a very pleasant man to have dealings with. His newspaper was frequently abusive, and he was found to be "unsatisfactory and dilatory" in matters of business. Inasmuch as he was the Club's landlord, he might have been expected to be considerate towards it as an institution. But an incident which occurred in 1841 caused much ill-feeling against him. He was provoked to wrath by the conduct of a few young and fiery bloods of the town, some of whom were alleged to be members of the Club; but his journal, as will appear, had been wantonly provocative.

During Barry's first period of secretaryship, in 1841, a ball was organized—one of the earliest social events of the kind which the little town had known. (It cannot have been the first, because the diary of the Rev. William Waterfield, the first Congregational minister in Melbourne, contains the entry, under date July 21, 1840: "There was a grand ball and supper at the Adelphi. I was invited but did not go. My taste does not lie that way.") Some of the promoters were certainly members of the Club, and William Meek, the former Club secretary, was secretary to the ball committee. It had been intended that the ball should be held on Queen's Birthday night, May 24th; but for various reasons it was postponed till June 8th. The fact became known that it was not intended to permit anybody who wished to attend to buy tickets, but that a certain amount of discretion would be exercised. Thereupon Fawkner's newspaper
attacked the organizers of what it called “the Dignity Ball.” “We will war to the death,” proclaimed that journal, “against the men or the amusement who attempt to set themselves up to decide authoritatively as to the eligibility or non-eligibility of their fellow colonists for admission to society.”

The rival journal, The Port Phillip Herald, just as stoutly maintained that the promoters of a ball had a right to refuse to sell tickets to persons whose presence might be deemed objectionable. The two newspapers published leading articles columns long on this question, the Patriot, day after day, endeavouring to work up prejudice about the exclusiveness of the “Dignity” people.

Unfortunately Fawkner’s paper overstepped the limits of fair controversy in publishing offensive remarks about the ladies who were expected to be present. It can be understood that the following comment (June 7) would be bound to evoke resentment: “The Dignity Ball folks have little reason to plume themselves on the character of some of the ladies and gentlemen who are expected to be in attendance. Indeed, if they were as fastidious with regard to character as they are with regard to standing in society, there would be a thin attendance of ladies at the Dignity Ball.”

The sequel was one of which the committee of the Melbourne Club felt bound to take notice. On June 10, the Port Phillip Patriot published the following advertisement:—

“£20 Reward

“The above reward will be given by the undersigned to any person or persons who give sufficient evidence
to convict the cowardly ruffians who (not daring to show their ill will otherwise) smashed the front windows of the Port Phillip Patriot offices on Wednesday morning last, at the time when the aristocracy of Melbourne were returning from the Dignity Ball.

"The undersigned chanced to be in the Patriot office early in the morning of the last Regatta Ball, and detected three of the gentlemen of the Melbourne Club in the act of breaking the Patriot office door with a tomahawk, which together with an iron pot they had stolen from a shop a little further down the street. A number of other gentlemen belonging to the same Club are concerned in this outrage, and the above reward will be paid to the party on whose evidence the offenders are convicted.

"John P. Fawcner.

"Patriot Office,
"9 June 1841."

Apart from the principle that persons arranging a ball, or any other social event, were entitled to exercise discretion as to whom they would admit, and that on the other hand this principle itself might be challenged by those who did not accept it, Fawcner's newspaper had by insult transgressed the limits of decent criticism. Indeed, on the morning when Fawcner's advertisement appeared, the Patriot published another paragraph stating that "the far-famed and long-expected Dignity Ball came off" but that "few of the ladies of Melbourne honoured the assemblage with their presence, in consequence of certain doubts which had got afloat, attached to the reputation of one or two fair dames expected to be
present." "The only really good part of the evening's entertainment was the supper, which we are told did great credit to Mr. Meek's knowledge of the science of gastronomy." Clearly the Patriot was determined to irritate; it was "looking for trouble."

As the Club was particularly mentioned, twelve members signed a letter directing the attention of the committee "to an advertisement in this morning's Patriot which appears to us to compromise the character and respectability of the Club." The twelve included J. Carre Riddell, A. F. Mollison and Major G. Mercer, one of the members of John Batman's Port Phillip Association. Thereupon the Committee called a special meeting "in order to vindicate the character of the members generally and remove the stigma under which the Club as an assemblage of gentlemen must otherwise labour."

Unfortunately we have no record of the general meeting. A blank page and a half in the minute book shows where the proceedings should have been noted; but apparently the writing was deferred, and then forgotten. As no further reference to the trouble appeared in Fawkner's newspaper, we may perhaps infer that an interview took place, and it was deemed prudent to drop the subject. The incident is, however, useful as indicating the sensitiveness of the members and the committee for the maintenance of the good repute of the Club.

The lease of Fawkner's hotel was due to expire on June 1st, 1844. But before that time the property had passed into the hands of the Union Bank, which agreed to extend the lease for three months. Fawkner had "let down" the Club by not paying insurance to the amount
The Third Club House.
of £17/10/-, as he was required to do by the terms of the lease. The committee paid the money to protect its property, and afterwards endeavoured, ineffectually, to recover the money from him. By this time the Club needed ampler accommodation. The membership had increased considerably; additional bedrooms were required; and it was considered desirable to provide more of the amenities and recreations of club life. The committee had been looking round for a new home.
IX.

THE THIRD CLUB-HOUSE:

In June, 1844, the Clarence Hotel, situated in Collins Street, upon the site now occupied by the Commercial Banking Company of Sydney—formerly by the Bank of Victoria—was on the market. It was a substantial brick building, erected on a half-acre block which had originally (November 1837) been bought for £40. At the auction (June 3rd, 1844) the property was bought by Robert Campbell of Sydney, whose Melbourne agent was Archibald McLachlan, a member of the Club. The committee of the Melbourne Club determined that this centrally situated place would suit admirably, and at once negotiated with McLachlan.

It was agreed that the Club should lease the property for five years; and on August 23rd the committee resolved: "That the Secretary be empowered to accept Mr. McLachlan's offer of the Clarence Hotel at a rent of £160 for five years, he agreeing to complete the improvements required by the Club according to Mr. Jackson's plan."

Jackson was the architect employed by the Club. Two months later, the rent was increased to £167/10/- per annum upon McLachlan agreeing to "stucco the outside of the Club house, paint the woodwork of the outside, build a walk along the eastern side of the yard in front and rear, finish the stables, and put the cellars in repair." McLachlan also leased to the Club, for an additional £10 per annum, a dwelling house and yard in Flinders Lane at the back of the premises of the Club.

[ 18 ]
STABLES:

The reason for the leasing of the Flinders Lane premises was that they were required for stabling the horses of the Club members. An interesting feature of Melbourne Club life in those days is thereby recalled. A riding horse is so rarely seen in Melbourne streets nowadays that the appearance of one would occasion comment. But then, probably, there was no member of the Club who did not at some time require the use of the stables. The Club made a good bargain in sub-letting them to one Richard Lovelocks for £35 a year. The building of a hay shed was necessary as an adjunct to the stables. The ostler was permitted to "charge for livery" 3/9 per night, afterwards increased to 4/-. but he was sometimes a difficult ostler, with perhaps a decorative vocabulary, as witnessed by the following committee minute: "A complaint against the ostler for incivility to two members having been preferred and investigated: Richard Lovelocks was called in, and having been reprimanded by the President, expressed his regret for the occurrences."

But Richard did not mend his ways, and a few months later was again brought before the committee and informed "that he must on all occasions be extremely particular as to the engagements he enters into with members of the Club and be careful not to give any offence." He continued, however, to cause dissatisfaction, and the next time we read of him in the minutes, was when (January 1848) he gave notice of his intention to "relinquish the tenancy of the Club stables and premises."
The committee then advertised for a new ostler, and found one, named French, who was prepared to pay £70 per annum. Within a few months he too was reprimanded. A little later he gave up the stables, and ostler number three, John Grant, took charge of them, also paying £70 a year for the right. He seems to have been a superior ostler, and continued to hold the post as long as the Club remained in occupation of these premises.
The Melbourne Club, 1859.
BUSHRANGERS:

There was an occasion when it was fortunate that a group of members had their horses stabled on the premises. On the night of April 29, 1842, Mr. J. G. Latrobe, the Superintendent of the Port Phillip District, was dining at the Club with a party of friends. (He did not become a member till 1844, and must have been a guest on this evening.) At 9.30 a messenger came in haste to inform his Honour that a gang of bushrangers had bailed up a number of homesteads on the Plenty River. The gang was known to be in the district some days before, and was now reported to be operating near Heidelberg. At once five members of the Club, Peter Snodgrass, Henry Fowler, Robert Chamberlain, Oliver Gourlay and James Thompson, saddled their horses and rode off to Heidelberg. After making enquiries there, they beat the Drummond Creek country. They learned that the bushrangers had raided two stations the day before.

After scouring the neighbourhood all night, and being joined by some police and settlers—about 30 in all—they came, in the morning, near to the station of Mr. Campbell Hunter on the Plenty. (Hunter had for a short period been a member of the Club.) It was observed that four horses were tied to a fence, and inferred that these belonged to the criminals of whom the party was in search. When the house was approached, four bushrangers, who were well armed, opened fire. A brisk encounter ensued,
in the course of which Snodgrass and Gourlay were hit, though not severely injured, whilst Fowler received two bullet wounds in the face, the marks of which he bore for the rest of his life. The leader of the gang, however, was shot dead. Before he expired he asked that his mates should be told "that I died game." The three others maintained a defence from the shelter of a store, but were at length compelled to surrender.

The prisoners were taken, handcuffed under armed guard, to Melbourne, where they were tried before Judge Willis. His Honour quoted ten lines of Cicero, in Latin, in his address to the jury, to signify his sense of the enormity of the offence, and afterwards handed a copy of the eloquent passage to the press. The prisoners were convicted of shooting with intent to kill, were sentenced to death, and hanged on June 28. Full accounts of the incident are given in the Port Phillip Herald of May 3 and 6, 1842; the trial is reported in that newspaper on May 13 and 17, and the execution is described in detail in the issue following the event.

Of the four bushrangers, two were bounty immigrants, and therefore had been brought to Australia at the public expense. A second was a sailor known as "Yankee Jack," whilst the fourth was an expiree from Tasmania. They had formed their partnership in crime in New South Wales, and crossed the Murray in the belief that there was profitable scope for their exertions in the Port Phillip District. Messrs. Billis and Kenyon, in their valuable work Pastures New (Vol. I, p. 83), referring to this adventure, say, with much probability: "Considering the number of ex-convicts in Port Phillip in the early
'forties, the colony was singularly free from marauding bushranger gangs, compared with the experience of Van Diemen's Land and the Sydney district. There were certainly bushrangers, and some desperate crimes, but it was not till the gold rushes that squatters or travellers generally had serious cause for alarm. Perhaps the early capture of one gang discouraged the formation of others.”

A public banquet under the presidency of William Verner was tendered to the five members of the Club who had taken the lead in ridding the district of this dangerous gang.
XII.

PURCHASE OF THE PROPERTY:

In 1849 it was learnt that Robert Campbell was prepared to sell the property to the Club for £1,900; and on October 22 the committee posted a notice expressing the view that purchase at that price would be advantageous. It was proposed to borrow £1,200 on mortgage at 8 per cent., to pay £300 out of the Club funds, and three members (Messrs. Powlett, Stawell and Highett), advanced the balance, £400, at 10 per cent. A general meeting having confirmed the action of the committee, the Club became the owner of its own premises. It paid off its debt to the three members early in 1850.

That the Club had made a remarkably good investment is shown by the circumstance that in December 1853, the committee, as recorded in the minutes; "were placed in possession of a conditional offer which was likely to be made to the Club by the directors of the Bank of Victoria, to purchase the present Club premises for the sum of £30,000, and a further proposition in the event of the above sale being effected, that the Club should purchase the premises recently occupied by Mr. Benjamin in Collins Street, Eastern Hill, furnished for £25,000. The committee gave it as their opinion that if an offer of the sum of £40,000 could be obtained from the Bank of Victoria, the Club would probably be inclined to entertain the proposition, and that the matter should be laid before a general meeting of the Club."

As will be seen later, however, the committee was un-
duly optimistic. The Bank wanted the property, but not at that price.

The next very important stage in the history of the Melbourne Club was the sale of the property which had been the Clarence Hotel, and the purchase of the land upon which the Club house stands. But before we consider that development, it will be desirable to note some features in the early history of the Club which it would be a pity to permit to fade out of remembrance.
XIII.

CLUB DISCIPLINE:

The committee had some trouble with a probably small number of young bloods who were disposed to be somewhat random in their ways. They had to be disciplined in gentlemanly usage, and the "grave and reverend signiors" were prompt to pull them up. Thus, the following minute of April 18, 1841, tells its own tale: "That the following notice be posted in the dining room in consequence of various noisy scenes which have taken place during the race week: The committee of the Club feel called on to express their strong disapproval of various occurrences which have taken place within the last week, and to appeal to the good sense of members to consider how the character of the Club is likely to be compromised by a repetition of such proceedings."

Untidiness offended the Committee. Hence the notice ordered to be posted (July 11, 1841): "Members are requested to take notice that considerable inconvenience has arisen from the custom of leaving clothes about the Club house, and much unnecessary trouble given to the committee and servants." All such property would in future be put in a room and left there for 14 days; and if it were not claimed would be "disposed of." Prudence, also, dictated the following ukase: "That a fine of five shillings be enforced for placing a cigar or pipe upon the billiard table or the seats; and that four trays be placed in the room for the reception of cigars."

Infringements of the rules, especially in regard to the entertainment of strangers, were promptly checked,

[ 26 ]
and apologies were required from offenders. A member
drew attention (1845) to the conduct of certain mem-
bers, who not only brought in strangers to supper—dead
against the rules—but "kept up the servants of the house
several hours later than the limited time." The Secretary
was directed "to ascertain the names of the gentlemen
present on the occasion" and ask for any explanation they
might wish to offer.

The committee very rarely had serious cases to deal
with, affecting either members or honorary members; but
the behaviour of one of the latter in 1860 gave the secre-
tary, Edward Bell, an opportunity of showing what he
could do as a "polite letter writer" when occasion called
for his talents of that order. The name of the honorary
member to whom the following letter was sent does not
appear elsewhere in Club records:

"Sir,

"I am directed by the committee of management to
state that complaint has been made to them of cer-
tain violent expressions used by you on two occa-
sions in the public room as to the management of
this Club. The committee regret that the arrange-
ments of the establishment do not meet your ap-
proval, and suggest to you the propriety of your at
once removing your name from the list of honorary
members of the Club.

"I have, etc.,
"Edward Bell, Sec."

It was rather "sec," in the French sense; and certainly
effectual.
XIV.

A SUBSCRIPTION LIST:

Once—in 1863—the committee did not score a hit in a contest with a naval officer, who had asked for permission to place a subscription list in the room most frequented by members. Money was being collected for the benefit of survivors and dependents after a marine disaster. The committee refused permission, on the ground that a club should not be used for collecting money for any outside purpose, however laudable it might be. The officer replied, with a sharp edge to his courteous tone, that in fact a subscription list had been laid on the table, by means of which money was collected for the benefit of the famous prize fighter, Tom Sayers! The Secretary was instructed to reply that the list in question was not sanctioned by the committee.
The Dining Room, circa 1860.
XV.

PRIMITIVE MELBOURNE:

Melbourne was in a crudely undeveloped state in those days of emergence from the rough, and many discomforts had to be endured. A minute of February 3, 1841, tells its own story: "Letter from several members complaining of the bad quality of the water. Secretary ordered to direct good water to be procured."

At this time Melbourne had no reticulated water supply. It depended upon a few wells, and more largely upon what Captain Lonsdale once disrespectfully called "the Yarra rivulet," from which water was drawn and supplied to purchasers in barrels. A newspaper comment of the time (Port Phillip Patriot, March 29, 1841) showed that the water supply question had engaged public attention, but so far nothing had been done:—"When some months ago a continued drought had reduced the waters of the Yarra to so low an ebb that the stream became absolutely brackish above the falls, a water company was forthwith formed; shares to an almost unlimited extent were taken, and while the water in daily use continued brackish and unwholesome, the company flourished most vigorously. But the rain which washed away the brackishness and restored the waters of the Yarra to their customary purity, swept away with it every vestige of the water company."

The darkness of the streets on moonless nights was another source of trouble. There was as yet no gas, and only tardily was a move made to induce the public light-
ing of Melbourne. That is shown by a committee minute of May 8, 1846: "That the Secretary be empowered on the part of the Club to sign the recommendation to the Town Council of Melbourne to levy a rate on the occupants of houses for the purpose of lighting the streets."

The Club itself in those days was lighted with oil lamps and candles; and the consumption of candles involved a substantial expenditure. It may be presumed that ordinary tallow candles were made in Melbourne at that time, and local supplies bought as required. But when a member was visiting England and would undertake to make purchases on behalf of the Club, candles figured in the lists of requirements. Mr. F. A. Powlett, who was about to visit England in December 1846, was requested to buy, amongst other things, 300 pounds of sperm candles at an estimated price of £40, and Mr. Dalgety bought 250 pounds in 1849.
XVI.

COMFORTS:

The purchases of quantities of wine, beer and liqueurs during the early periods of the Club's history are interesting indications of the prevalent taste of the time. Only a single instance of whisky being bought has been found in the early minutes. Some brandy, but not much, was ordered. The members drank wine, and liked it good. Claret was largely bought; Chateau Lafitte was the favourite variety, and was more generally consumed than any other wine. Madeira, moselle, sauterne, champagne, and of course port and sherry, figure frequently among the Club's orders from its London wine merchant. In 1845, champagne was sold to members at 6/- per quart bottle; in 1855 the price was raised to 8/-. Hock and moselle could be obtained for the same price. A liqueur which was much favoured by members in those times was "eau de Dantzic," which now would be asked for in vain. "Camden wine," evidently a product of the Macarthur vineyard in New South Wales, was popular.

The favourite imported beers were Bass, Allsop, Barclay and Guinness; and once "a few dozen of Preston Pans ale" were ordered—probably to satisfy the palate of an importunate Scottish member who insisted that the only ale worth drinking was that brewed at the place where the shaggy Highlanders cut up the English infantry in the first flush of the '45.

The profit on the sale of cigars to members was in 1845 declared to be the perquisite of the house steward, this being granted to him in lieu of a rise in wages.
XVII.

THE BLACK SWAN AND THE LIVERY:

Not long after the Club was established, attention was paid to the graces of life. At a committee meeting on March 27, 1841, it was resolved: "That the Club crest be a Black Swan, and motto 'Rara Avis'."

The swan still swims on the stationery and curves its graceful neck in several excellent wood carvings in the Club, but the motto has slipped into disuse. Redmond Barry would have regretted that; for we shall probably not err in the conjecture that he selected it. He remembered the line in Juvenal's sixth satire — naturally he would! — "Rara avis in terris nigroque simillima cyclno"; and deemed it appropriate. In April 1849, a member, Mr. Dalgety, being about to visit England, the committee availed themselves of the opportunity to order through him a large quantity of silver, cutlery, glass and earthenware, including "a large size dinner set of neat pattern in iron stone Staffordshire ware sufficient for 40 or 50 people"; and the articles were to be marked "'Melbourne Club' in a garter." That device also is familiar to-day.

A little later (Sept. 4, 1849) the committee resolved: "That the 1st and 2nd waiter be immediately put into livery; that the liveries remain the property of the Club; and that they consist of as follows:—dress livery: blue cloth livery coat cut round straight, collar red edging and gilt buttons on flaps of coat and of cuffs; scarlet cloth waistcoat and black plush breeches. Undress livery: brown drill cutaway coat and waistcoat bound with scarlet edging and pepper and salt trousers." On September
"The Purple and Stovepipe of the Higher Civilization."
11: "Resolved: That Mr. Lush's tender be accepted on condition of his finding a better blue and scarlet cloth. Nelson expressed his willingness to wear livery."

Lush was then one of the best-known tailors in Melbourne; he of the "do-his-duty" name was the head waiter. Again on January 13, 1851, the committee determined: "That liveries be ordered for the two waiters of the cloth patterns which have been sent by Mr. Lush, pepper and salt coats and striped waistcoats being substituted for the drill previously worn."
XVIII.

"ON SUNDAYS DREST IN ALL MY BEST":

The Club was from its earliest days respectful to the religious denominations. In its first year the committee ordered that the hall door be closed on Sundays from half-past 10 a.m. to half-past 1. It voted £5 a year for “five sittings in the episcopal church.” A few years later the committee ordered three seats in St. James’s and three in St. Peter’s (Eastern Hill) to be taken; but as St. Peter’s demanded £6/6/- to be paid in advance, the order, as far as concerned that church, was temporarily revoked. This patronage of the Church of England, however, aroused a good Presbyterian in Mr. Neil Black, at whose instance the committee directed “that a pew with five sittings be taken for the use of the Club in Scotch Church.”

In one of the letters signed by Redmond Barry during his secretaryship in 1850, he, with a characteristic determination that when members of his Club went to church they should be known to be such, added the postscript: “A pew in the front part of the church would be preferred.” But at this date church-going was evidently a popular habit, for the committee was informed that “there are no sittings vacant at the present time,” either in St. James’s or St. Peter’s.

In 1864 there was a revolt on the part of some members against the continuance of the subscription for a Club pew. A motion was carried, by a narrow majority, that the pew in St. Peter’s church be discontinued. Evi-
dently feeling ran high on the question, for another section demanded a special meeting, which carried a motion favouring the retaking of the pew. Anti-pewites and pro-pewites waxed warm. As far as can be ascertained, however, the practice fell into desuetude from about this time.

On the other hand, the Club down to a much later date had its own box at the theatre whenever performances of particular note were given.

Admission to the amenities of the Club, too, was, of course, conceded without regard to religious differences. The Roman Catholic vicar-general, Father Patrick Bonaventure Geoghegan, was admitted to membership under the rule that enabled ordained clergymen to repose in the bosom of the Club without paying entrance fee; and the first anglican bishop, Dr. Charles Perry, entered under the same rule. We learn from the goldfields' diary of Lord Robert Cecil that when the bishop arrived in Melbourne, Father Geoghegan left a card on him "and the Bishop actually sent it back, a piece of bigotry I believe he has since regretted." We may hope that both were good friends while they frequented the Melbourne Club, where Father Geoghegan was a genial and popular member till he left to become Bishop of Adelaide.
XIX.

PERIODICALS:

The lists of periodicals for which the Club subscribed yield a few points of interest. The Quarterly Review and Blackwood were of course ordered; the two best-known weekly organs of the period, the Spectator and the Examiner, no good club would have failed to have. But subscriptions for the Glasgow Herald and the Dublin Evening Mail were evidently listed to satisfy the craving for home news of Scottish and Irish members. The Edinburgh Courant was afterwards added. The Sporting Magazine, and Colonial Magazine were in demand. Such reference books as Hart’s Army List, the Navy List, the Annual Red Book, and the East India Register, were required; and in 1845 an order was placed with a London bookseller to supply “a copy of the best Peerage, bound.” Why the Stud Book was not required till 1846 is not apparent. There was always a good supply of Australian newspapers; and when the Argus commenced publication in June 1846, the Club committee at its next meeting ordered “that the Melbourne Argus be also taken in.”
"People of Importance in Their Day."

Left to right: (1) Judge Clovis; (2) F. A. Paullet; (3) G. R. Caldwell; (4) R. Fowkes; (5) H. Jeffrey; (6) A. D. Lang; (7) H. Bell; (8) C. S. Bowlings; (9) R. Green; (10) Dr. Ford; (11) Dr. Pugh; (12) J. M'Caw; (13) W. Highett.
XX.

THE PORT PHILLIP CLUB:

In April 1841 the Melbourne Club had for the first time to face a rival institution, which rented premises in Lonsdale Street, and called itself the Port Phillip Club. Its president was J. B. Were, Andrew McCrae was vice-president, and John Hunter Patterson was treasurer. But the Port Phillip Club came to grief in 1843, when its committee approached the Melbourne Club with a proposal for absorption. The committee of the Melbourne Club, having examined the accounts and balance-sheet of the Port Phillip Club, declined to recommend its members "to adopt their proposition of assuming the liabilities," but was prepared to recommend the admission of the members on the conditions that they should stand a ballot and each pay £5 entrance fee, and the annual subscription.

As the minutes for the period following the decision (February 28, 1843) do not record an unusual accession of new members at the time, it may be presumed that the offer was not accepted, though the terms were not illiberal, inasmuch as the entrance fee at the time amounted to £21. The members of the expiring Port Phillip Club, however, were left with the obligation of discharging their own financial obligations.

A memento of the Port Phillip Club is still in the possession of the Melbourne Club, in the form of a rugged and capacious snuff box. Snuffing was a popular habit in those days, and most clubs had a common box into which
a member in need of a sneeze could dip. This box was made from the knot of a beech tree growing on the estate of Sir William Baillie, Bart., Polkemmet, Linlithgowshire, and was presented to the Port Phillip Club by James Dennistown Baillie (third son of Sir William) who with his brother, Thomas, owned Carngham station, near Ballarat.
XXI.

BALLOTING:

In all probability the Port Phillip Club was formed in consequence of the dissatisfaction felt by a small group of members of the Melbourne Club at the rejection, in January 1841, of certain candidates for election. The method of election to the Club at the beginning was by the committee of management. But in 1843 a special balloting committee was appointed. Many members disliked this method, and preferred election by ballot by the whole body of members. The rule was altered accordingly. In 1853 the method of election by a balloting committee was reverted to. But when the rules were revised in 1855, it was provided by Rule III that “Members shall be elected by a general ballot”; and that has ever since been the practice of the Club. It is interesting to note that one member who served on the balloting committee was that Hugh Childers who after leaving Victoria entered the Imperial Parliament and became at various times Home Secretary, Secretary for War, and Chancellor of the Exchequer.

The general ballot method of election has been followed during the subsequent history of the Club, except on one occasion, as recently as 1932. It was learnt that the Bohemian Club was about to come to an end. Most of the members of that Club were well known, and the wish was generally expressed that such of them as desired to enter the Melbourne Club should be received. To enable this to be done, a new rule was passed, providing
that "in the event of the Club known as the Bohemians passing a resolution for dissolution," any effective or honorary member, on making application in writing for membership of the Melbourne Club, might, by resolution of a majority of the committee, be admitted to membership. The result was that 83 of the Bohemians became members from June 1932.
XXII

THE VICTORIAN CLUB:

Another rival club seemed for a short while likely to rear its head, in 1856. On May 16 of that year The Argus, then edited by Edward Wilson, published a full-column leading article blowing the trumpet of the promoters. "We have but one club, against which we desire to say nothing"—whereupon the oracle proceeded to say much. The Melbourne Club might be "a very agreeable and desirable place of resort for a number of persons who were, almost all of them, acquainted with one another years ago, and who indicate no desire to extend the bounds of their friendship." If the writer of the article had known the facts, he would have been aware that the Club had been admitting new members at such a rapid rate that the Club-house had become inconveniently crowded, and the managing committee was on the point of recommending the purchase of new and larger premises.

The leader-writer went on to admit that a club, like any other society, had a right to refuse to admit fresh members. "A number of men possessing but one leg each, would be perfectly justified in getting up a club in which the possession of one leg would be an indispensable qualification. Two-legged men would have no right to complain of exclusion." It was expected, the writer concluded, that the new club, which was to be called the Victorian Club, would be constituted during the ensuing week.

But events did not work out as expected. At the first general meeting of the prospective members, held on
June 3 at the Mechanics’ Institute, “the question of controversy,” as the Argus reported, “was as to the amount of the entrance fee and subscription.” It was ultimately determined that the entrance fee be fifteen guineas and the annual subscription five, which were certainly more alluring than the Melbourne Club rates.

A curious circumstance was that Hugh Childers presided over the general meeting, and that C. H. Ebden was a member of the committee, both being then, and later, prominent members of the Melbourne Club. Other members of the committee included Mr. Justice Molesworth (who became a member of the Melbourne Club), Professor Wilson (the first occupant of the Chair of Mathematics in the University of Melbourne), and Edward Wilson of The Argus. But the Victorian Club had a very short life. It rented premises at 100-102 Bourke Street West. The Melbourne Directory for 1859 shows that it still existed in that year, but by 1860 it had “fizzled out,” the Directory showing that No. 100 was then occupied by a solicitor, whilst No. 102 was “vacant.”

Regarding Childers, it may be added, that he remained a member of the Club after his departure from Victoria and his entry into politics in England. He was still a member when he died in 1896.
XXIII.

CLUB MANAGEMENT:

For the first eleven years of the Club history, the secretaryship was an honorary office. As already mentioned, William Meek was the first; Redmond Barry the second. Then followed, in succession, C. H. Ebden (1841), Dr. James Kilgour (1842), S. Raymond (1844), Dr. George Playne (Oct. 1844), Ebden and Barry and Powlett and Barry under the sub-committee system; Edward Grimes (1852), J. F. Bury (1856), C. Candler (1857), and E. Bell (1859). A small honorarium was paid in two of these cases. Clerical assistance was employed from 1850.

That the committees and secretaries managed the affairs of the Club with assiduous care and eminent success is shown by the results. They built it up from a small institution in rented rooms to a great club owning a house which can bear comparison in many respects with the best clubs in the world. They were devoted to its interests, scrupulously watchful over its character, jealous for its honour. They were also shrewd men of business. They lost no chance of improving the circumstances of the Club, maintaining its status and nursing its finances. They watched its growth as men who knew they were building an institution worthy to endure.

The rules printed in 1855 provided that "the number of effective members of the Melbourne Club shall be 300," and in that year the annual report chronicled that "the Club now numbers 177."
There was one crisis when special care in management was requisite to keep the Club floating on an even keel, and that was caused by the great gold discoveries of the "early 'fifties." The effect was immediately felt by all those in Melbourne, whether individuals or institutions, who had to pay wages and buy commodities. A committee minute of December 19, 1851, reflects a feeling of temporary embarrassment: "It was resolved after mature consideration that owing to the present unprecedented rise in the price of all the necessaries of life, the rate of wages, etc., it was absolutely necessary that the prices hitherto charged in the Club, of every description, should be increased at the rate of 30 per cent. until further notice." The salary and wages of the steward and all Club servants were raised. There was a disposition for them to rush off to the diggings, and the committee was driven to resolve to "make the best arrangements in their power" to retain the staff in the service of the Club.

Again in 1854 the committee in the annual report commented on the increased cost of every article of consumption and the necessity of increasing the wages of every servant on the establishment. Prudence and efficiency dictated the raising of the annual subscription from £7/10/- to ten guineas. In fact, the members, at a special general meeting (August 22, 1854) consented to the subscription being raised to twelve guineas per annum from January 1st, 1855.
NOTABLES.

Left to right: (1) R. Finlayson; (2) H. G. Ashten; (3) J. G. Findlay; (4) J. Pease; (5) C. H. Bright; (6) G. M. Bell; (7) H. Carter; (8) Claude Tere; (9) H. A. Wind; (10) D. Pugh; (11) H. Brown; (12) George Cardier; (13) J. Ballock; (14) Edward Bell; (15) Reginald Bright; (16) W. T. Mulvany; (17) H. E. Heggy; (18) (seated) Captain F. C. Standish.
XXIV.

LARGER PREMISES REQUIRED:

It became evident from 1853 that the Club was cramped in its premises, and members of the committee looked round for a more suitable site. At one time the Prince of Wales Hotel, 61 Flinders Lane East, was under consideration. Indeed, a special committee on January 13 of that year came to the conclusion that "it was decidedly advisable that the purchase of the property for £10,000 should be at once completed." Three members offered to advance £7,000 to enable it to be purchased, namely, E. P. S. Sturt, £1,000; W. H. F. Mitchell, £1,000; and J. Carre Riddell, £3,000. This project, however, did not fructify owing to unfavourable monetary conditions. Meanwhile fairly large sums continued to be spent upon improving and enlarging the Club’s property. During six months in 1854 the building work in operation deprived members of comfort and convenience to such an extent that, the committee lamented, “the house receipts have been small.”
XXV.

SALE OF THE OLD CLUB-HOUSE:

At a special general meeting held on October 1st, 1836, the motion was carried: "That this meeting is of opinion that if an advantageous offer for the Club premises can be obtained, it would be desirable to procure another site."

A select committee, consisting of Messrs. F. A. Powlett, James Simpson, William Highett, James Blackwood, John Badcock, Compton Ferrers, E. P. S. Sturt, Matthew Hewey, David C. McArthur, and Edward Grimes, was appointed for the following purposes: To ascertain whether any more eligible site could be procured, and at what price; the amount that could probably be obtained for the Club's property; and the cost of erecting a new club-house, "or whether it might be more advisable to contract with some capitalists to build the club at a reasonable rental." Several sites were examined, including three in the vicinity of St. Paul's, but were not considered suitable.

The project was brought to a more definite issue when, on May 25, 1838, a special general meeting of the Club resolved: "That the present Club-house be sold, and another site purchased, and a new building erected thereon." A special committee was appointed to give effect to the resolution, consisting of Redmond Barry (president of the Club), C. H. Lyon (vice-president); the trustees, Messrs. F. A. Powlett, W. F. Stawell and W. Highett; and Messrs. W. M. Bell, B. F. Bunny, J. Blackwood, C. H. Eden, C. Farie, F. T. W. Ford, B. Hawthorn, D. C. McArthur, W. T. Mollison, and the secretary, C. Candler. At later
dates Messrs. J. Graham, C. N. Bagot, C. Pasley, P. de Castella, E. Bell, W. Mair, Andrew Clarke, M. Mercer, and E. Klinger were added to this committee. (Klinger though not the Club's regular solicitor—Mr. John Clarke, of the firm of Ross and Clarke, occupied that position—was asked to do the legal work connected with the sale of the old premises and purchase of the new property; and he was responsible for the whole of those transactions.)

The expansion of the special committee from 15 members to 24 indicates that important transactions were in hand, and that the assistance of those who could aid in arriving at sound decisions was welcome. The Melbourne Club, indeed, had reached a crucial point in its history, and from the things done then, in the middle of 1858, ensued the signal success attained in the following years.

It was known to the committee that the Bank of Victoria, at this time housed at 24-28 Swanston Street, would like to purchase the Club's property in Collins Street. Indeed, W. Higlett, the chairman of the Bank's board, was also a trustee of the Club; and there is every reason for believing that, while desirous of securing for the Bank at a fair price the property it desired to possess in that part of the principal street in Melbourne where business was most concentrated, he was also eager to promote the policy of the Club, in acquiring a new and commodious abode on terms which would place it in an easy financial position. On each side were men who were keen in bargaining, and there was some neat-handed dealing.

The committee was informed (May 27) that Higlett had introduced to the directors of the Bank of Victoria the subject of purchasing the Club-house and premises,
and that they had signified their intention not to make any offer, though prepared to receive an offer from the Club. The committee of the Club, in reply, was "not in a position to submit any proposal but if an offer of £18,000 were made, leaving the Club in possession for a period of twelve months, free of rent, the committee would recommend and support such a proposition." The directors of the Bank (May 31) still declined to make an offer, but remained prepared to entertain a proposal. The committee of the Club declined to make a definite proposal, and proceeded to consider other sites. But in November the property was offered to the Bank for £16,500 and declined.

The committee had by that time become impressed by "the decrease in the value of land in the neighbourhood," and the directors of the Bank were naturally aware of that factor. The negotiations dragged on till May 1859, when the Bank offered £12,000. The minute records that "Mr. Higheitt having stated his opinion that the committee should not accept the offer made by the Bank of Victoria, but should put it (the property) up to public auction, left the meeting."

In accordance with this advice, the old home of the Club was offered at public auction on May 27, 1859, with a reserve price of £12,400. The reserve was not reached, but on the following day a private offer of £12,200 was made. Thereupon the Bank, fearing to lose the site which it coveted, made an offer (June 6, 1859) of £12,500, which was promptly accepted.

The sale concluded one part of the process by which the Club found its fixed abode. The second part was the purchase of the property near the top of Collins Street.
ON THE VERANDAH.

The member seated was Mr. Gowan Evans (d. 1897). The waiter was William Leggatt. Photograph taken in 1897.
XXVI.

THE NEW CLUB-HOUSE:

The first reference to the new site which occurs in the minutes, was on May 31, 1858, when C. H. Ebdon "stated that there was a very eligible site in Collins Street, the particulars of which he had not yet been able to ascertain." On June 10, Ebdon reported that "he had ascertained from Mr. Bradshaw that the property referred to would be put up for auction shortly, and upon the members of the Club binding themselves to bid £8,000, he would allow it to be sold for that price." Charles Bradshaw was not a member of the Melbourne Club, but was probably well known to a large number of its members. He had been concerned in business enterprises in Melbourne certainly since 1843, probably earlier; and he was interested in several pastoral properties. It does not appear that he owned the Collins Street land; the special committee reported that "the property is in the hands of Mr. Bradshaw, who is not empowered to sell it directly to the Club, but he has the power to offer it for sale by public auction, which he undertakes to do, provided the Club will guarantee to offer £8,000 for it."

The committee unanimously determined that the land thus available should be secured, and on July 12 resolved: "That Mr. Ebdon be requested to purchase the allotment in Collins Street at the auction to-morrow for £8,000, and that in the event of a higher bid than £8,000, Mr. Ebdon be requested to bid as high as £8,100." The property was bought for the lower amount, £2,000 being
paid on deposit and the balance being due in six months. The purchase, building and furnishing were financed by the issue to members of the Club of debentures bearing 8 per cent. interest, and £25,000 was subscribed on these terms by January 10, 1859.

In July 1858, two of the trustees, Sir William Stawell and William Higget, desired to resign, the former because he wished to be relieved of responsibility "for any more trusts," and the latter because he was leaving Victoria. From August 11, 1858 the trustees were F. A. Powlet, W. M. Bell, and Edward Klingender. Stawell, however, became a trustee again at a later date.

The architect chosen was Leonard Terry, whose office was at 46 Collins Street West. After consulting the committee as to the requirements and receiving precise instructions, he prepared plans, which were approved on October 25. The first two designs for the facade of the building were not approved; the facade of the Club as it now stands was built from Terry's third design. There were also rival views as to the general plan of the Club. There were prepared, as the minutes show, "one plan in accordance with the views of Messrs. Ebden, Lyon and Clarke, and another in accordance with the views of Messrs. Powlett, McArthur and Barry." The architect had to make drawings for each group, and the committee decided between them. On November 25, the contract for the erection of the building was let to James Linacre, his tender being £20,875, which was only £375 in excess of the architect's estimate. Seventeen contractors tendered. The new club-house was completed in September 1859, and the final payments were made to the architect and
contractor on December 12. The architect’s fees appear to have amounted to £1,100. The exact date when the Club was ready for occupation by its members is indicated by a letter addressed by the Secretary to the Post Office requesting that “on and after Monday, the 10th October inst., all letters addressed to the members of the Melbourne Club may be left at the new Club-house, Collins Street East.”

The premises were augmented in 1883, when a block of land adjoining on the west side, with a 44 feet frontage to Collins Street, was bought, enabling the present dining room to be built. The spaciousness of the room, 83 ft. x 42 ft., enabled the Club to give on occasions the banquets which formed a feature of its life; whilst the overhead space provided a new library and an extension of the bedroom accommodation to 38 rooms.
XXVII.

THE SECRETARIES:

The Club has been fortunate in administration. For the first eleven years the secretaryship was an honorary office, the duties of which were performed by a succession of eminently capable men; and the committee of management, as the minute books show, devoted much time and close attention to the Club's affairs. In the annual report dated January 10, 1855, the need for a secretary who would give his whole time to the work, was indicated. "Your committee," the report stated, "though willing to accord their services to the best of their ability, regret that a difficulty exists in appointing a paid secretary, as they are confident that a man of honour and trust in such a situation would transact the affairs of the Club infinitely more to the advantage of the institution."

In December 1856, F. J. Bury was appointed "paid secretary of the Club," part of his remuneration being in the shape of an apartment and living expenses. The duties were "understood to be the general management and supervision of the affairs of the Club." Bury resigned in June 1857, receiving the thanks of the committee "for his zealous attention to the interests of the Club."

He was succeeded by C. C. Candler, who also received board and an apartment as part payment. He resigned in June 1859 because, he stated, "in the opinion of many members the appointment of a secretary was unnecessary" and he wished that "the question might not be en-
Moderns (April, 1905).

Standing, left to right: (1) Dr. Edward FitzGerald; (2) Dr. Rawson; (3) C. N. Holby; (4) Captain Crowell, R.A.N.; (5) S. Hallam-Harris; (6) H. M. Stewart; (7) L. A. Campbell; (8) T. M. Stewart; (9) David Ether; (10) Captain Russell; (11) Thorne; (12) W. H. Bate; (13) Dr. J. P. Evans; (14) H. Lawrence; (15) Liberal Evening; (16) C. H. Campbell; (17) E. Winter.

Seated, left to right: (1) C. Coudert; (2) C. M. Upton; (3) H. W. Stoughon; (4) R. Murray Smith.

(Photograph by the Hon. Victor Nelson Hood.)
cumbered with his retention of the office." Candler, however, consented to act as Secretary for the time being.

That time was awkward for a change to occur, as the Club was in process of moving from its old home to the new building, and an unusual amount of work necessarily fell upon the secretary. Candler did in fact continue to act as an honorary secretary till the end of July, when he resigned and Edward Bell was requested by the committee to act in the same capacity "as a temporary arrangement," a bed room and board being placed at his disposal. Bell, except for this accommodation, was the honorary secretary till October of the same year, when the committee "recognising the valuable assistance rendered by him" offered him the appointment of paid secretary on similar terms to those previously accorded. The amount of onerous work done by Candler and Bell was, indeed, remarkably valuable, and those members who had expressed the view that a permanent secretary was not required, were surely unaware of the volume of business transacted, especially during the critical months of transition from the old premises to the new.

Bell resigned in 1863, and was succeeded (April 1) by Captain James R. Scott, who remained in office about a year. The committee then resolved to make the experiment of combining the offices of secretary and steward. They found a suitable man in W. H. Evans, who had been manager of the Port Phillip Club Hotel. He had no doubt that he could discharge the combined offices, and as he held them for 19 years—from August 1864 till May 1883—it is evident that his services gave satisfaction.

During Evans's term (in 1868) some bright-minded
member hit upon the idea of defining the secretarial duties. He drew up, and the Club adopted, a code of no fewer than 40 regulations, commencing: "The Secretary shall have the charge of the whole property of the Club and be held responsible for the efficient management of the establishment." To a normal judgment that would seem to have been ample for all practical purposes, as no Secretary could do more than be custodian of all the property and have charge of the entire management. But this code went on, in 39 later paragraphs, to specify in detail every possible item which could comprehensively bind the secretary-steward and remind him of the multifariousness of his duties. The lynx-eyed Lycurgus who drew up the 40 rules was determined to leave no loophole for human frailty. Apparently, however, it was found that this portentous statute of obligations was not requisite to keep a good officer up to the mark, and the 40 did not appear in the Club rules when they were again printed.

When Evans retired in 1883 he was followed by G. Barber, who also was both secretary and house steward. Next came P. Agnew (1884 to 1889). The Club then advertised for a Secretary, and the choice fell upon C. J. Penfold, of New Zealand. But shortly after accepting the appointment (April 1889) Penfold had to go to England on private business.

The committee thereupon selected Edward W. Wallington, who had been private secretary to Lord Carrington, governor of New South Wales. He entered upon his duties in July 1889. Wallington would have been an ideal Club secretary, for he was a good man of business, with charming manners and infallible tact. But he had held
the reins less than a month, when he received a telegram from Lord Hopetoun, just appointed Governor of Victoria, asking him to accept the post of private secretary to him. As might have been expected, he behaved with the most perfect correctness. He told the Club committee that his own preference would be to accept Lord Hopetoun's invitation, but he placed himself unreservedly in the hands of those who had appointed him. In the circumstances, the committee raised no objection to Wallington's resignation. At the termination of Lord Hopetoun's period he remained at Government House as Secretary to the next Governor, Lord Brassey. Wallington earned a far-reaching reputation for discretion and good judgment, which stood him in good stead and carried him to a post of higher distinction in later years. It was said of him that, when a suggestion was made that a Governor should do something which appeared to him to be a little doubtful, or perhaps not strictly in accordance with safe precedent, he would look down over the gothic arch of his prominent nose, and murmur “Better not!” When the Duke and Duchess of Cornwall and York came to Australia in 1901 to open the Commonwealth Parliament, Wallington was here again, as Secretary to the first Governor-General, Lord Hopetoun (afterwards Marquis of Linlithgow). His qualities—not the least of which perhaps was his cautious “Better not!” disposition—commended him to their Royal Highnesses, who offered him an appointment on their staff; and so he became in due course Sir Edward Wallington, Treasurer to Her Majesty Queen Mary, a post which he held until he reached an advanced age.

[55]
Wallington's successor was J. Lang, who, however, resigned owing to ill health in June 1890. C. J. Penfold, then again a candidate, was appointed, and remained secretary for six years. Robert Cornish was appointed in 1896, and remained in office till he died in October 1917. The committee recorded in a minute its appreciation of his "devotion to the welfare of the Club." The next secretary was J. Howard Taylor (1917-20), who was followed by W. Johnston. He was compelled to resign owing to ill health in 1921; whereupon Robert Logan Chirnside rendered a valuable service by acting as honorary secretary till the committee could find the right man. By the guidance of Providence, or excellent judgment, or a mixture of each, the committee selected Paymaster-Captain A. M. Treacy, O.B.E., R.A.N., who entered upon his duties on March 15, 1922, and happily still discharges them.
XXVIII.

BURKE:

Particular interest was taken by the Club in the ill-fated Burke and Wills exploratory expedition of 1860-61. Sir William Stawell, who was President in 1859, was chairman of the Exploration Fund Committee which managed the financial business, and many of the largest subscribers were members, who were interested in this attempt to traverse the continent from Melbourne to the Gulf of Carpentaria not only for scientific reasons, but also because of their own pastoral activities. Robert O'Hara Burke, who was chosen to command, was elected a member of the Club, and used it much while he was superintending the equipment. The best portrait of Burke is the oil painting which hangs on the main staircase, a picture lent by the committee for the purpose of making an engraving, often reproduced in books.
XXIX.

THE SHENANDOAH:

The Melbourne Club having no political purposes, and being careful throughout its history to avoid even the suspicion of partisan connections, is entitled to resent a suggestion of having on any occasion failed to preserve this characteristic. Peculiar circumstances did, however, in 1865, lead to an accusation which was founded upon a complete misapprehension of what occurred. The facts are plain.

In January 1865, during the American civil war, the Confederate cruiser Shenandoah entered the port of Melbourne. The commander, J. J. Waddell, solicited permission from the Victorian Government to purchase coal and supplies, and to have certain repairs carried out. The Premier, J. G. Francis, informed him that these requests might be granted, but also drew his attention to the obligation of the Government to observe strict neutrality. The ship was placed upon a slip, and repairs to her machinery were carried out by the firm of Langland Brothers and Company.

Great popular interest was taken in the Shenandoah by the Melbourne public. Her reputation had preceded her. She had been preying upon the shipping of the northern (Federal) States of America. It was rumoured that she had sent to the bottom nine vessels between the Cape of Good Hope and Melbourne. Thousands of people went to Williamstown to have a look at this ship, which, flying a white ensign emblazoned with a St. George's
cross and stars, had so audaciously maintained the cause of the southern States. Special trains had to be run to carry the traffic.

This curiosity to see a ship of war with a sensational record, was in no sense a manifestation of sympathy with Jefferson Davis’s Confederacy. The causes of the quarrel which led to the civil war were not generally understood at the time, and even if they had been, and if popular feeling had been chiefly favourable towards the northern cause, the same desire to inspect the Shenandoah would doubtless have been shown.

Similarly, there was naturally curiosity to converse with Waddell and his officers, and to hear from their own lips stories of their adventures during the months of naval warfare. A few members of the Melbourne Club, who had made Waddell’s acquaintance, invited him and his officers to dine with them at the Club on Tuesday evening, January 31st. The expectation of an interesting evening induced other members to express a wish to be present. At no time was it even suggested that the Club, as such, was arranging the entertainment. It was privately organized, and did not differ from the very many private dinners given at the Club before this event and since, except for the unusual degree of interest evoked owing to the career of the Shenandoah, which a contemporary writer described as being “like the old deeds of Drake and Raleigh on the Spanish Main.”

The number of those who wished to be present became so large that the committee was asked to allow the large dining room of the Club to be used. A committee minute of January 28, 1865, makes it clear that the dinner
was a private one:—"Leave having been asked for the entertainment of Captain Waddell and officers of the ship Shenandoah at a private dinner on Tuesday, 31st inst., and it being found that 40 members had already enrolled their names on the list; it was resolved that permission should be given to hold the dinner in the public room, as the private room would not accommodate that number."

The granting of that permission, reasonable in the circumstances, was the only official act of the Club in connection with the dinner; and those who attended no more displayed, by so doing, sympathy for the Southern cause in the civil war, than did the thousands of people who crowded the railway trains to look at the ship. A correspondent of The Age, however, expressed surprise at a rumour that some judges had been present; and that journal, in a violent leading article, while declaring that "the soft-headed flunkeys who are recognised as the leaders of the Melbourne Club are entitled to any misdemeanour against common sense and good taste," proceeded to denounce government officials who were present as having committed "a breach of the neutrality enjoined by Her Majesty."

The only breach of neutrality committed in Victoria in connection with the Shenandoah had nothing whatever to do with the Club; but consisted in the negligence of the Government in not preventing Waddell from augmenting his crew by enlisting some British subjects—as he undoubtedly did. It was that negligence which afterwards induced the arbitrators at Geneva, in 1872, to award to the United States damages on account of the further havoc wrought by the ship after she left the port of
Mori Moderns (also April, 1905).

Standing, left to right: (1) R. Sorell; (2) Sebastion Bowring; (3) W. Sorell; (4) A. Cornish; (5) C. Cuddler; (6) Dr. Melissos; (7) Colonel Ouvert; (8) C. H. Bass; (9) H. L. Howes; (10) W. Newton; (11) C. W. Lecouced; (12) W. M. Henderson; (13) W. H. Johnson; (14) W. T. Casa Rajdoli; (15) Leslie Merkins; (16) T. C. Griffith; (17) J. Cadets; (18) J. T. Longstreet; (19) H. Rovelli; (20) H. O'Brien; (21) C. Gordon Linn; (22) Professor T. G. Tidwell; (23) John Grier; (24) C. B. Yeild; (25) Dr. Bosco. Seated, left to right: (1) Radnich Sh Maced; (2) R. C. Craig; (3) Dr. Lilian; (4) M. Henry; (5) H. M. Chamber; (6) Dr. Phili Norven; (7) John Sawyer; (8) Colin Toynecott; (9) Judge Johnston; (10) J. B. Davis; (11) M. G. Anderson.
Melbourne. Those damages were paid by the British Government.

There was a disposition at various times to attribute to the Melbourne Club an influence in politics which it neither deserved nor desired. Another instance occurred during the furious controversy evoked by the Graham Berry Government in “tacking” to the Appropriation Bill for the ordinary annual services of the administration, a vital matter of principle, in the form of provisions for “payment of members.” Berry, in one of his passionate bursts of rhetoric in 1878 (Victorian Parliamentary Debates, Vol. xxvii, p. 2403) fulminated against “the clique or cabal who aspire through the Melbourne Club to rule this colony.” Inasmuch as Berry had declared that, the Legislative Council must be “punished”—the word he employed—for holding up the Appropriation Bill till the unconstitutional “tack” was removed from it, there were, doubtless, many members of the Club who disapproved of his policy, and it is also true that some members of the Council were also members of the Club. But Berry misrepresented the case. The views of individual members of the Club were their own, and they had a right to express them. But there was no question of the Club being involved in this or any other political issue; and the idea of the Club aspiring to rule the colony of Victoria was absurdly void of truth.

An interesting case in which the committee of the Club refused to grant a request lest it should appear to introduce a political question, occurred in September 1860. A testimonial to the hero of Italian nationalism, Garibaldi, was being organised in Melbourne, and the
committee was asked whether the secretary of this Club might be authorised to receive subscriptions from members. The committee replied refusing the request, "as the Club does not recognise any demonstration of a political tendency," and pointed out that "if individual members should wish to subscribe, ample opportunities will doubtless be afforded them in other places."
DISTINGUISHED VISITORS:

The Melbourne Club during a history now approaching a century, has extended hospitality to many distinguished visitors. The annual report in 1855 commented on the fact that the Club was "a social institution which has not only afforded comfort and accommodation to its individual members, but enables us to extend the same to strangers and visitors; and your committee are happy to think that many a valuable friendship may now and hereafter be acknowledged to owe its origin to the existence of the Melbourne Club."

The first eminent name of an honourable member mentioned in the minutes is that of T. H. Huxley, assistant-surgeon of H.M.S. Rattlesnake, who, with Captain Owen Stanley—and after whom the Owen Stanley range in New Guinea was named—was elected on February 12, 1848. Huxley was at that time unknown to fame. He was, indeed, meditating settling down to practice medicine in Australia, thinking that he would thereby the sooner gain the income to enable him to marry Miss Henrietta Heathorn, to whom he had become engaged while the Rattlesnake was in Sydney waters. But, happily for literature and science, he returned to England and became celebrated as biologist, essayist, lecturer, and, above all, "Darwin's bull dog," as he described himself.

In July 1866 two distinguished French travellers were made honorary members of the Club—the Duc de Penthièvre (son of the Prince de Joinville), and the Comte de Beauvoir. They had planned to meet in New South
Wales the Prince de Condé, who also was making a tour of the world, and to return to France with him; but upon their arrival in Melbourne the melancholy news was communicated to them that that young member of the Royal House of Orleans had died in Sydney. Beauvoir in his book *Australie: Voyage autour du monde*, described the comforts of the Club with warm enthusiasm. He considered that it had no cause to envy any of the clubs of Paris—"toujours tenu avec une recherche exquise." He found it the rendezvous of all the chief men of the city and "tout les squatters"; and a happy place of resort, where he could enjoy conversations which enlightened him about the affairs of the country. Beauvoir appears to have especially enjoyed the society of Sir Redmond Barry, and under his guidance, "tout affable et actif," was shown the principal sights of the town. Sir Redmond's wine cellar delighted him, and he wrote affectionately of a very large bottle of port, adorned with cobwebs, and having also upon it an ode of Horace, written on parchment, which had aged with the bottle. The guess may be ventured that the Horatian ode was number xviii of book I, in praise of wine. Prior to the departure of the French visitors, the Club gave a dinner in honour of the Duc de Penthievre, which was attended by 120 members. "Here," was the Comte's final comment, "they drink champagne as if it were water, and the clubs are as fine as those in London. Comme nous sommes déjà loin des sauvages!"

When Anthony Trollope visited Melbourne in 1872, he was at the height of his reputation with his Barchester tales. He had already published 33 novels. Everybody who loved literature read Trollope in those days, and there
THE MELBOURNE CLUB, 1935.

(Photograph by A. W. Dickinson.)
(See page 73.)
has been a strong revival of interest in his books in our own time. Being accompanied by his wife on his journey he did not reside at the Melbourne Club while he was here, but much appreciated its hospitality—"a hospitality," he wrote, "which, unfortunately, the London clubs cannot reciprocate with equal profusion." It was impossible, he thought, "for a London man not to feel half ashamed when he accepts with freedom a generous hospitality which he knows that he cannot return with the same full hand." "There are excellent clubs in Melbourne," he commented, "having all the comforts of London clubs, with the additional accommodation of a large number of bedrooms for their members."

In January 1885 James Anthony Froude, one of the four most picturesque historical writers in the English language, stayed at the Club with his travelling companion, Lord Elphinstone. This was before his appointment to the Regius Professorship of History at Oxford in succession to his old enemy, Edward Augustus Freeman. Froude was "one of the best and most agreeable talkers of his day," says his biographer, Herbert Paul. His charm did not consist in smartness of repartee, or in an exuberance of anecdotal reminiscences, but in a faculty for putting himself in tune with those with whom he conversed, drawing them out, and contributing, from his own vast knowledge and by his own felicity of speech, fresh insight into the subjects discussed. "He could talk to old and young, to men, women and children, to Devonshire seamen or labourers, to the most highly cultivated society of Oxford or London, with equal ease and equal enjoyment." At this Club he found congenial com-
panionship, as described in his book, Oceana. He had already made many friends in Victoria, while he was the guest of the Governor, Sir Henry Lock, at Macedon. "At the Melbourne Club," he wrote, "we made many more. . . . With the gentlemen whom I met at the Club I had much interesting talk about colonial politics,—federation, the relation of the colonies with the Empire, etc."

While he was staying at the Club, the news came over the cables of the fall of Khartoum and General Gordon's death. Whenever English interests were in peril, he "found the Australians not cool and indifferent, but ipsis Anglicis Angliciores, as if at the circumference the patriotic spirit was more alive than at the centre." "The principal men in Melbourne," Froude commented, "are of exceptional quality. They are the survivors of the generation of adventurers who went out thither forty years ago, on the first discovery of the gold fields—those who succeeded and made their fortunes while others failed. They are thus a picked class, the seeming fittest, who had the greatest force, the greatest keenness, the greatest perseverance."

The month Froude spent in Victoria was one, he confessed, "into which had been crowded the experience of an ordinary year."

In 1892 a young author, already famous for his "Plain Tales from the Hills," "Barrack Room Ballads," and "Departmental Ditties," came to Melbourne during that long tour of the world which ripened his experience of life, and kindled his imagination to explore fresh regions for stories and verse. Rudyard Kipling stayed at the Melbourne Club, and remembered his visit in conversations many years later. He referred to the Club's garden, with
its lawns and climbing plants growing over old walls, when in his "Letters of Travel" he wrote of "a long verandah giving on a grass plot where laughing jackasses laugh very horribly, where sit wool-kings, premiers and breeders of horses after their kind. The older men talk of the Eureka Stockade, and the younger of 'shearing wars' in Queensland, while the traveller moves timidly among them wondering what every third word meant." Not many visitors, perhaps, would have troubled about unfamiliar words; but Rudyard Kipling was a specialist in unusual terminology, and would not have been likely to leave their meanings undiscovered.
ROYAL AND VICE-REGAL GUESTS:

Captain William Lonsdale, the first administrator in the Port Phillip District, was an original member of the Club. Mr. G. J. Latrobe (the first Lieutenant-Governor of Victoria) was invited by the committee to join in 1844, and became so popular that when he was about to leave the country, on the eve of responsible government in 1854, the annual report commented upon him as "the personal and esteemed friend of many, and the sincere friend of our institution." The Governor-General of the Commonwealth during the period of the great European war, Sir Ronald Munro Ferguson (afterwards Viscount Novar, K.T.) frequently found relaxation, amidst the responsibilities and troubles of that trying time, in dropping in for lunch and conversation. In a letter from him to the present writer a dozen years after his return to Great Britain, he observed that "club life was at its best" while he was in Australia, and that he had often remembered with pleasure the congenial company he used to find on the lawn or in the smoking room.

Entertainments, some lavish when the occasions were special, many interesting for personal reasons, have been a feature of the life of the Club throughout its history.

In 1866 a ball whereat the chief guest was Sir Thomas Manners-Sutton (Viscount Canterbury) was a memorable event. The ball given in honour of the Duke of Edinburgh in 1867 called for a display of hospitality meet for the entertainment of a royal prince; and effort was not
spared to make the event sparkling, as the cost of it, about £2,100, is sufficient to prove.

These were not the first occasions when ladies graced the Club, for in 1863, the officers of H.M.S. Djambi having been invited to dine, and finding after the appointment was made that another engagement had to intervene, the committee rose to the occasion by inviting them to supper, with the provision “that ladies be allowed to accompany members into the House and partake of refreshments there, the supper room to be open till 12 p.m.”

A dinner was given in honour of His Majesty George V, then Duke of Cornwall and York, in 1901. The Prince of Wales was similarly entertained on June 3, 1920, and H.R.H. the Duke of Gloucester on November 7, 1934.
XXXII.

IDENTITIES:

On July 1, 1890, Mr. James Graham gave a notable dinner to all members of the Club then living who had held office. The party, numbering 31, consisted of Sir Francis Murphy (President), James Graham (host), T. F. Hamilton, J. A. Panton, R. Murray Smith, J. Warrington Rogers, Molesworth Greene, Reginald Bright, Colonel Rede, F. R. Godfrey, Robert Simson, George Fairbairn, T. J. Nankivell, Robert Power, F. Grey Smith, Edward Klingender, Colonel Mair, C. Candler, Charles Ryan, P. A. Agnew, John Simson, John Curtayne, William Strahan, John Grice, William Robertson, Robert Watson, F. G. Moule, H. R. Hogg, Robert Cornish, J. C. Tyler, and Captain E. W. Wallington.

Forty years later (July 1, 1930) a similar dinner was given to members who had held office, when there were 22 present; these being Sir John Grice, R. O. Blackwood, L. K. S. Mackinnon, Sir Edward Mitchell, Philip Russell, Donald Mackinnon, Sir Richard Stawell, Sir William Irvine, Sir Henry Maudsley, Mr. Justice McArthur, Sir Frank Clarke, J. E. Hayne, T. H. Payne, H. M. S. Cox, W. G. L. Spowers, J. M. Niall, John Turnbull, H. G. Robertson, A. Jeffreys Wood, Sir Brudenell White, Hugh R. Syme, and Captain A. M. Treacy. This list included all past-presidents and vice-presidents then living, except John Sanderson, who was living in England, and Sir Thomas Lyle and Sir George Fairbairn, who were unable to be present.
Several group photographs taken on the garden verandah also remind us of some men who were once familiar in the Club. Three of these come down to us from the era when the stove-pipe top hat was de rigueur. It might be white or black, but it had to be tall and uncompromisingly straight. See how the cylinders rise in rigid perpendicularity from the narrow brims to a crown out of which a modern beholder almost expects to see smoke emerging! Yet some of these gentlemen were dandies in their day, and would no more have been seen in Collins Street, even when a “brick-fielder” was blowing from the north, without these strange contraptions on their respectable heads, than they would have gone to church in their nightgowns. They would not even be photographed without their hats! A former secretary, who identified the members of both groups, wrote that they were taken “about a year or two after the club entered on its present premises,” and that can be accepted as reliable. The same writer’s notes upon the individuals may be quoted, to preserve his description of them:

“Those pictured are—Mr. Robert Firebrace, son of Major Firebrace, one of the original proprietors of Long Tunnel; he married a daughter of the late Dr. Black. Mr. H. G. Archer (barrister) and Dr. Ford (a well-known Collins Street practitioner). Mr. J. Phelps (one of two brothers who had big stations on the Lachlan River), Mr. Charles E. Bright (partner in Gibbs, Bright and Company); he married a daughter of Viscount Canterbury, and lives in England. Mr. E. Bell, private secretary to Governor La Trobe, and Mr. Curtis Candler, the present district coroner. Mr. H. Carter, Q.C.,
the original holder of the commissionership of titles, and a great Shakespearean scholar. He built the first house on this side of the St. Kilda baths, and so lonely at that time was the spot, that one night burglars broke into the place, and in a scuffle inflicted injuries on Mr. Carter from which he never quite recovered. Mr. Claude Farie, at one time a squatter in the Western District, afterwards sheriff and inspector of penal establishments. Dr. Pugh, living in London, a hearty man of some 90 years. Mr. Ryan, of Ryan and Hammond. Mr. Badcock, manager of the Bank of New South Wales. Mr. W. M. Bell, merchant, and Mr. W. Molleson, M.L.A., a squatter at Pyalong, beyond Kilmore. Mr. Molleson had great influence on both sides of the House. Mr. Hogg was a squatter, who married a daughter of Dr. Black. A current witticism against him was that he owned Pigface Plains and his overseer was named Bacon. Captain Standish, Chief Commissioner of Police, formerly a Royal Artillery man, and for many years chairman of the Victorian Racing Club. Mr. Powlett, chief commissioner of Crown Lands; Mr. Caldwell, who married a sister of Lord Wolseley; and Mr. Jeffrey, an old naval officer and sporting man, with a station near Rochester, beyond Bendigo. Mr. Laing, a Western District squatter. He took up land at Fiji, and died there. 'Charlie' Dowling, successively commissioner, warden, and Police Magistrate. Mr. R. Greene, brother of Mr. Molesworth Greene. Mr. John McCrae, M.L.C., Commissioner of Public Works in the McCulloch Ministry of 1869. Mr. Hightett, M.L.C., one of the founders of the Bank of Victoria.
XXXIII.

AN INCIDENT:

An incident which occurred more than half a century ago, affecting a dispute between a member and an honorary member of the Club, would not be a proper subject for consideration here, but for the fact that it has been mentioned in a book and a newspaper. In neither case were the circumstances recorded quite correctly, though both writers stated that they were eye-witnesses.

In 1923 a volume was published entitled *Trifles and Travels* by Arthur Keyser. It was a book of light gossip about several countries, including Australia. At page 136 the author related:

"It was in Australia, too, and in no less a place than the Melbourne Club, that I saw the best known man in that city thrown out of the window. That genial giant, Colonel Craigie Halkett, tired of the nickname of Jumbo, announced it as his intention to throw out of the window the next person who used it. At once the rash and incredulous member exclaimed, 'What Ho, Jumbo!' and almost before those words had left his lips huge arms tore him from the ground and hurled him out of the window to the street. What a to-do there was!"

The words in italics are not so printed in the book. A review of Mr. Keyser's volume was published in *The Sydney Mail*, and was read by Mr. J. C. Gibsone, of Kelso, near Bathurst. He also had witnessed the assault, and sent
his account of it to The Sydney Mail where it was published on August 29, 1923. Mr. Gibsone stated:

"On reading your review of Trifles and Travels, I was amused at the account of what happened at the Melbourne Club, of which I was a member. I made Colonel Halkett’s acquaintance on the P. and O. steamer, the Peshawar, and when we arrived in Melbourne he was made an honorary member. This was in 1881. I came out in 1868, and had been for a trip back to the Old Country. Captain Standish, Chief Commissioner of Police, was the ‘well-known’ man whom Colonel H. tried to throw out of the Club dining-room window. Fortunately for both, no injury was inflicted, as Standish's hip struck the ledge of the window as he fell on the floor. The window was open, and had he been thrown out he’d have fallen 10 or 12 feet. The Colonel and myself were dining together, and the Captain and friends at a table adjoining. He made some insulting remark about Halkett, when up jumped the latter and took Standish in his arms and off with him. He was brought before the chairman and committee and his honorary membership cancelled."

Here again the italics are not in the original; the words are italicised to suggest a comparison with Mr. Keyser’s narrative.

The records of the Club show that the incident occurred not in 1881, but on the evening of November 21st, 1882. It was brought under the notice of the committee by the Hon. F. S. Dobson, M.L.C., and the Hon. James Sumner, M.L.C., who were dining in the room at the time. They stated, in a joint letter, that Colonel Halkett
rose from his seat “and assaulted Captain Standish, throwing him across the floor”; and they suggested that an en-
quiry should be held with a view to preventing such un-
seemly occurrences. But it is not correct that Colonel
Halkett was brought before the committee, or that his
honorary membership was cancelled.

What happened was that Colonel Halkett wrote to
the committee, informing them that Captain Standish
had lately, on every occasion of which he could take
advantage, insulted him. He had borne this treatment for
several days, and apologised for having momentarily so far
forgotten himself as to commit an assault on Captain
Standish. Colonel Halkett requested that his name might
be “withdrawn from the list of honorary members.” The
committee thereupon directed the Secretary to inform
Colonel Halkett “that his request had been acceded to.”
The committee declined to make an enquiry as to the
cause of the quarrel, or the provocation alleged to have
been given to the Colonel. They informed that officer,
in a letter of November 30th, that “so far as Captain
Standish was concerned, the matter did not require the
notice of the Club. Having resigned your honorary mem-
bership of the Club, the committee express no opinion on
your share in the matter.”

That Colonel Halkett, who evidently was a powerful
man, did intend to throw Captain Standish out of the
window there can be no reasonable doubt. If he had suc-
ceeded in this “Defenestration”—not of Prague, but of
Collins Street—the Chief Commissioner of Police would
have fallen into the area between the street footpath and
the wall of the Club, and would probably have been seri-
ously injured, or killed. Frederick Charles Standish, before he came to Victoria, had graduated from the Royal Military Academy, Woolwich, into the Royal Artillery, and reached the rank of captain. After being a goldfields commissioner at Bendigo, he was appointed, in 1860, Chief Commissioner of Police, and held that office till he retired in 1880. He was also District Grand Master of the Freemasons in Victoria. He was elected a member of the Club in 1856.

Colonel Craigie Halkett was an officer of the 5th Battalion Rifle Brigade. He had been elected an honorary member of the Club six times before his adventure with Standish. On the previous five occasions, strange to say, he was proposed by none other than Captain Standish himself. The first time was in November, 1879; afterwards in March, 1880; February, 1881; December, 1881; and early in November, 1882.
The Main Staircase.
XXXIV.

LARES ET PENATES:

The Club, like many similar institutions in London and other cities, has received gifts from members and visitors, who desired thus to signify their association with it. One of the most interesting of these is an exact silver replica of the inkstand made for the Board-room of the British Treasury more than 200 years ago, which has been used by successive Chancellors of the Exchequer—including Hugh Childers, who was a very faithful member of the Club during his residence in Melbourne. The finely designed piece bears an inscription stating that it was "presented to the Melbourne Club by Sir Robert Horne, Chancellor of the Exchequer 1921-22, in happy recollection of the generous hospitality of the members." This replica was made to Sir Robert’s order, by the Goldsmith’s Company of London.

A silver replica of what is known as the “Bacon” Cup, with plinth, was presented to the Club in 1911 by Sir Thomas Gibson-Carmichael (afterwards Lord Carmichael) while he was Governor of Victoria. Sir Arthur Stanley (afterwards Lord Stanley of Alderney) while he was Governor of Victoria, 1920, presented a pair of chased silver dishes, with figures mounted on dolphins. Lord Somers, Governor of Victoria 1926-31, presented, on leaving the State, a silver cigar-box.

A silver salver, in daily use, was presented by Sir Richmond Barry.

The gold cup won by Artilleryman in the Melbourne Cup race of 1919, was presented by Mr. A. Dyce Murphy;
and the beautiful two-handled gold cup, engraved as "The Williamstown Racing Cup," was presented by Mr. Harold Armitage.

A large and two smaller silver fruit stands, mounted on plinths, were presented by the captain and officers of H.M.S. Orlando in 1897; and a two-bottle Chippendale inkstand was given by the officers of H.M.S. Encounter in 1912. Rear-Admiral Bridges gave a fine pair of two-handled silver cups, on plinths.

A noble piece of silver is the large cup of Celtic design, with silver feet, presented by Her Majesty Queen Victoria to the Royal Cork Yacht Club in 1899. It was won by Mr. Howard Taylor, who gave it to the Club.

Other interesting table decorations are the replica of the 4th century "Traprain Law" bowl, given by Mr. Steuart Black; a three-handled hammered-silver "Cromwellian" cup on ebonised plinth, given by Mr. John Anderson; a two-handled silver octagonal cup on plinth, engraved "Wolawa v. Tadanga," presented by Mr. Ernest E. D. Clarke; the same gentleman gave a two-handled silver cup won by his father's cutter "Janet" in 1882; Mr. Roderick Murchison gave a large silver bowl on plinth, formerly owned by Walter T. Coldham; Mr. C. J. Penfold presented a three-handled tankard presented to him by the Canterbury (N.Z.) Jockey Club; and to Mr. T. E. Barr-Smith the Club is indebted for the pair of silver mounted kangaroo-paw cigar lighters, which are familiar on festive occasions.

Amongst the pictures given to the Club two merit special mention from their own artistic quality primarily, and also because of their associations. These very large
water colours formed half of a set of four, by Sir Oswald Brierly, the celebrated marine painter, who accompanied the Duke of Edinburgh on his visit to Australia. The pictures were bought by Sir William Clarke, Bart., and for many years hung at Rupertswood. When that house was sold, they came into the market, and these were purchased by Mr. Ernest E. D. Clarke, and given to the Club. The other two are in private possession. The pair in the Club represent (1) the Spanish Armada sailing from Ferrol on the morning of July 22, 1588, and the Duke of Medina-Sidonia going on board the San Martin; and (2) the flagship of the Andalusian squadron of the Armada, commanded by Don Pedro Valdez, being taken into Torbay by Francis Drake in the Revenge on July 31st. Both pictures were confessedly inspired by the brilliant descriptions of the scenes by J. A. Froude, in his History of England; and Brierly allowed no picturesque detail to escape his brush when he was painting them. They are well hung in the Club, and deserve careful examination. Their decorative charm and harmonious colouring are evident at a glance.

Of the portraits of past-presidents of the Club which hang upon the walls, two are those of original members. The full-length oil painting of F. A. Powlett, President in 1843 and 1845, hangs on the main staircase. The portrait of James Graham, also a full-length in oils, with landscape background, was painted in 1890. In January of that year 47 members signed a memorandum written in the Suggestion Book, in which it was pointed out that Mr. James Graham was the only original member of the Club then living in Australia; and the proposal was made
that "his portrait should be painted, as he had always taken such a deep interest in its welfare." Graham lived for eight years after this compliment was paid to him, so that he had the satisfaction of seeing the picture placed upon the wall, in the place where it now is, at the bottom of the staircase.

In the breakfast-room hangs a portrait in oils of Thomas Alexander Browne, known to all the world as "Rolf Boldrewood," the author of "Robbery Under Arms," "The Miner's Right," and other popular novels of pioneer life in Australia. He was a very old member of the Club, served on the committee, and took a keen interest in its welfare.

Amongst other possessions, valuable in themselves, but much more so because of their personal associations, are the handsome clock and barometer, mounted in Victorian blackwood, which are in the west room opposite the smoking room. They were presented to the Club by Lord Novar in the last year of his Governor-Generalship; and the wood in which they are mounted was chosen by him. An expert in forestry, he was a warm admirer of Australian timbers, and took pleasure in having things made from choice specimens. The fine grain of these two well-matched articles testifies to the care which he took in selecting the wood.

In the card room upstairs, there is an old chair bearing a brass plate engraved with the words, "From the members of the Arlington Club, London." The Arlington, a well known sporting and social club in its day, has succumbed to "the tooth of time and razeure of oblivion"; but T. H. S. Escott, in his Club Makers and Club Mem-

[ 80 ]
THE ANGLE OF THE STAIRCASE.

Showing the portraits of F. A. Powlett, Robert O'Hara Burke, and J. A. Panton.

(Photograph by A. W. Dickinson.)
bers, reminds us that “the third Sir Robert Peel, whose voice Mr. Gladstone considered the finest in the House of Commons, made his handsome presence felt in the Arlington whist-room.” The mantelpiece, also in the Club’s card-room, was made from timber taken from H.M.A.S. Australia in 1924. It originally stood in the Bohemian Club. Another noticeable piece of furniture in the same room is the long table made from jarrah, the top being one splendid piece of that timber. The table was given to the Bohemian Club by Mr. Russell Grimwade. When that genial confraternity was dissolved, it was returned to him, and he presented it to the Melbourne Club.

The handsome new glazed book-cases in the library were presented by Sir John Higgins in 1935.
THE PRESIDENTS:

The following notes upon the Presidents of the Club do not profess to be comprehensive biographies. They are in most cases no more than biographical memoranda. The intention is to indicate briefly the interests, attainments, and characteristics of the men who have been elevated to the presidency during 95 years. The past-presidents still living are mentioned without any biographical details.

1840-1841—WILLIAM VERNER, pastoralist in the Portland Bay district; resided for some years at Heidelberg, and was a member of the Heidelberg Road Trust from 1840 to 1845. He was Chief Commissioner of Insolvent Estates in 1844-46.

1842—JAMES SIMPSON was a member of John Batman's Port Phillip Association, formed at Hobart in 1835. He came to the Port Phillip District in 1836 and engaged in pastoral pursuits. At the beginning of 1836, "The first sheep were landed where Williamstown now stands and the stations of the Messrs. Wedge and Mr. Simpson then formed on the river Werribee, at the confluence of the salt and fresh water." (Letters from Victorian Pioneers, p. 161.) Simpson was also the Melbourne magistrate in the early days of settlement. William Westgarth, who knew him well, gives a vivid
picture of him in his *Personal Recollections of Early Melbourne* (p. 72). "His figure, rather tall, shapely, well-developed, surmounted by a noble head, bald with age, just touching the venerable, and with a genial expression of face, which, however, never descended to levity, although times without number to a smile or slight laugh, he sat erect upon the bench, facile princeps, as though institutions were to bend to him and not he to them. When we entered the little hut-like structure in the middle of the Western Market area, so long Melbourne's only police office, James Simpson seemed to us as much a part of its fittings as the rude little bench itself." Died 1857.

1843—FREDERICK ARMAND POWLETT was one of the original promoters of the Club, and a member of the committee of management in 1841. He was Chief Commissioner of Crown Lands and (1852) Colonial Treasurer under the system of representative government which prevailed in the period between the separation of Port Phillip from New South Wales and the inauguration of responsible government. The Powlett River, and Powlett Street East Melbourne, bear his name. He died at Kyneton in 1865.

1844—Sir REDMOND BARRY, K.C.M.G., born in county Cork 1813; called to the Irish bar 1838; landed in Melbourne 1839; was the second secretary of the Melbourne Club, and a member of the managing committee for many years. He was one of the principal promoters of the Melbourne Public Library and of the University, of which he was the first Chancellor (1855-1880). He was Solicitor-General of Victoria in 1851,
and became a Supreme Court Judge in 1852. He was knighted in 1860, and became K.C.M.G. in 1877. No man in the early history of the Melbourne Club took a greater or more continuous interest in it than did "cheery, cultured, courteous Redmond Barry," as his friend "Rolf Boldrewood" described him. Died 1880.

1845—F. A. POWLETT, second term.

1846—R. BARRY, second term.

1847—The Rev. JOHN SATTHERWAITE BOLDEN, was one of four brothers — the three others being Armine, Sandford George, and Lemuel — who were amongst the best known Port Phillip pastoralists during the first quarter of a century of this State. "Rolf Boldrewood" visited Grasmere, Port Fairy, the property of the Bolden brothers, in 1843, and greatly admired their "model stud farm and priceless shorthorn tribe," which included "perhaps the purest cattle the colony could furnish." (Old Melbourne Memories, p. 125.) John Bolden lived at Banyule, Heidelberg, where he owned a considerable area. There appears to be a family tradition that he was "the first rector" there; but that is an error. He probably officiated sometimes during his six years' residence, but the first incumbent was the Rev. Dr. H. B. Macartney, afterwards Dean of Melbourne. John Bolden was the only president of the Melbourne Club who was a clergyman. He died in England. His brother Armine was twice vice-president. Sandford Bolden died suddenly on the steps of the Club.
A CORNER IN THE LIBRARY.

(Photograph by A. W. Dickenson.)
1848—ALEXANDER MACKENZIE, pastoralist, Reedy Creek. He was an invariable attendant at committee meetings during his term.

1849—Sir WILLIAM FOSTER STAWELL, K.C.M.G., was born at Clogher, county Cork, 1815, educated at University of Dublin and Lincoln’s Inn, London, and called to the English bar 1839. He was a pupil, in London, of the famous Chitty. Coming to Victoria in 1842, for a few years he combined pastoral pursuits with the practice of his profession, and is included by Billis and Kenyon among the pastoral pioneers of Port Phillip. He was a keen horseman, and rode a chestnut named Master-of-the-Rolls in a steeplechase of which another competitor, “Rolf Boldrewood,” gives a vivid description in his *Old Melbourne Memories* (pp. 194-9). Stawell won the race. He was elected a member of the Melbourne Club on December 8, 1843. During two periods he was a trustee. When Victoria became a separate colony in 1851, Stawell was chosen by Governor Latrobe as Attorney-General. He drafted the new constitution of 1854, and in the course of the debate upon it in the Legislative Council, strongly opposed the inclusion of clauses providing for voting by ballot. When W. C. Haines became the first Victorian Premier under responsible government, Stawell was his Attorney-General. He was the first representative of Melbourne in the Legislative Assembly. In 1857 he became the second Chief Justice of Victoria. He was also the second Chancellor of the University (1881-82). He was knighted in 1858, and became K.C.M.G. 1886. He died at Naples in 1889 while on a visit to Europe in ill-health. The town of Stawell is named after him.

[85]
1850—CHARLES HOTSON EBDEN was born in Cape Colony in 1809, spent some years in Germany, and came to Victoria in 1840. He was largely interested in the pastoral industry. He was the first settler on the Murray, at Albury. “Ebden was actually the second to cross the Murray.” (Billis and Kenyon, Pastures New, p. 54.) Dr. Arthur Andrews, in The First Settlement of the Upper Murray, p. 22, states that Ebden’s Mungabareena run was “undoubtedly the first run formed on the Murray, and which covered the present site of Albury.” He owned or leased properties in several districts. The township Ebden was named after him. When the Port Phillip District was given representation in the Legislative Council of New South Wales, in 1843, Ebden was elected at the top of the poll; and when Victoria attained her own legislature, he became Auditor-General. Under responsible government he was Treasurer in the Haines ministry. He was for a period secretary of the Melbourne Club, and served on the committee for several years, taking an active part in the purchase of the property now owned by the Club. His house at Black Rock still stands, though the large estate by which it was surrounded has been cut up. He made much money from land speculations, and his remark that he was “becoming disgustingly rich” was often quoted in his own generation. Died 1867.

1851—CHARLES JAMES GRIFFITH, pastoralist, became a member of the Legislative Council in 1851, and of the Legislative Assembly from 1856-59. He probably would have gained the Speakership of the Assembly but that he refused to pledge himself to ab-
stain from taking part in the debates if elected, on the
ground that by so doing he would virtually disfranchise
his constituents. Died 1863.

1852—JOHN CARRE RIDDELL came to Victoria in
1839, and was an original member of the Club. Messrs.
Billis and Kenyon classify him as “properly to be in-
cluded among the leading overlanders.” Mount Ridd-
dell and the town of Riddell perpetuate his name.
He was a member of the first Victorian Legislative
Council, and of the Legislative Assembly from 1859–
77. A good deed during his parliamentary career, for
which he deserves to be remembered, was the action he
took in the Legislative Council in 1853, to secure the
payment of a pension to Mrs. Petrie, daughter of
Matthew Flinders, the great Australian maritime ex-
plorer. Mrs. Petrie, in acknowledging her gratification
for the grant made by Victoria and New South Wales
in this regard, said that it “will enable me to educate
my young son in a manner worthy of the name he
bears.” That “young son” is the present Sir Matthew
Flinders Petrie, the famous Egyptologist. Riddell died
1879.

1853—EVELYN PITFIELD SHIRLEY STURT was the
youngest of the seven brothers of Charles Sturt, the
Australian explorer. He was commissioner of Crown
Lands for the Murray District in 1837. He came to
Port Phillip in 1840, and became a pastoralist on the
Plenty River. Previously he had a station at Mount
Gambier. He became police magistrate at Ballarat
(1852-53) and afterwards chief police magistrate in
Melbourne. “Rolf Boldrewood,” who knew him well,
speaks of him as "a grand-looking fellow, chivalrous, athletic, adventurous, an explorer, a pioneer and squatter, the hero of numerous local legends." Sturt wrote a sparkling account of his bush experiences, printed in *Letters from Victorian Pioneers*, p. 238. He died at Port Said in 1885.

1854—CLAUDE JAMES FARIE came to Victoria in 1840, and was a well-known pastoralist. He was sheriff of Melbourne from 1852 and a member of the Legislative Council from 1854-58. Died 1870.

1855—EDWARD GRIMES, pastoralist, with a large range of interests from 1840 to the middle 'fifties. He was placed in charge of the Immigration Department in Melbourne during the early "gold rush" period and was Auditor-General in 1853-54.

1856—WILLIAM HENRY WRIGHT was appointed by Latrobe in 1852 to be Chief Commissioner of the Goldfields, which were administered by him and by resident commissioners stationed at the principal centres. Wright was on the Mount Alexander field when Lord Robert Cecil and his companion Sir Montagu Chapman visited the goldfields in 1852. Lord Robert in his diary describes how he introduced himself to Wright, "who received us very kindly and gave up to us one of his tents." He afterwards lent the visitor a horse, and accompanied him on a ride to Specimen Gully. Wright advised that the licence fee, so objectionable to the diggers and so unjust in its incidence, should either be reduced or abolished. He had been an ensign in the 50th regiment while it was on service in New Zealand in 1834 and distinguished himself there in an incident
which Rusden (History of New Zealand, Vol. I, p. 171) says "proved his humane disposition at personal risk." Died 1877.

1857—WILLIAM THOMAS MOLLISON, an original member of the Club, was a member of the Legislative Council of Victoria 1853-56 and of the Legislative Assembly 1856-64. He was one of the best known pastoralists of his time. In an account of his squatting experiences which was published in Letters from Victorian Pioneers, he related that he joined his brother, A. F. Mollison—who in 1836 came to Port Phillip from Hobart—in 1838. "We lived in reed mia-mias and tents comfortably enough for some time." Pyalong was occupied as a cattle station and W. T. Mollison was still living there when he jotted down his memories of pioneering life in 1854. Died 1885.

1858—REDMOND BARRY, third term.

1859—SIR WILLIAM STAWELL, second term.

1860—Lieutenant-Colonel JOSEPH ANDERSON, C.B., K.H. (the latter decoration signifying Knight of the Royal Hanoverian Guelphic order), was a major of the 50th regiment when he came on service to New South Wales in 1834. He had had a distinguished military career, serving in the Peninsular War from 1808-12. His experiences there are described in his Recollections of a Peninsular Veteran. He was commandant in Norfolk Island during five years. He went with his regiment to India in 1839 and took part in the siege of Gwalior (1843). On retiring from the army he came to Victoria, and engaged in pastoral pursuits. He
served in the Legislative Council from 1852 to 1856; and died in 1877 at the age of 87. Anderson Street, South Yarra (where he resided at Fairlie House), bears his name.

1861—WILLIAM CLARKE HAINES, a surgeon by profession, came to Victoria in 1841, and became an agriculturist at Mount Moriac and elsewhere. He was a member of the first Legislative Council. Sir Charles Hotham appointed him Colonial Secretary in 1854. Gyles Turner, in his History of Victoria (Vol. II, p. 56) describes him as "a man with a high repute for integrity, of strong conservative instincts, a slow thinker and a poor speaker. In dabbling unsuccessfully with agriculture on the Barrabool Hills he had acquired something of the antipathy to the squatters which marked the farming class at this time, but he had too high a sense of honour to seek to do them political injustice. By no means the type of man to evoke enthusiasm in the Council, he commanded the respect of members by his dignified reticence, his patience as a listener and the unfailing courtesy of his manners." After the introduction of responsible government, he became the first Premier of Victoria (1855-58). From 1861-63 he was Treasurer in the ministry of Sir John O'Shanassy. Died 1866.

1862—Sir FRANCIS MURPHY, born at Cork in 1809, studied medicine and gained his M.R.C.S. qualification in 1835. He came to New South Wales, and practised his profession there. But a country life attracted him, and he became a sheep breeder in the Goulburn district. He crossed the Murray into Victoria in 1844 and leased
a property near Beechworth. He entered the Legislative Council after the establishment of Victoria as a separate colony; and upon the attainment of responsible government was elected to the Legislative Assembly as member for the Murray. He was Speaker of the House from 1856 to 1874, when he lost his seat. But he was elected to the Council in 1872. He was knighted in 1861. Died 1891.

1863—THOMAS HOWARD FELLOWS, born in England, 1823, educated at Eton, called to the bar 1852, came to Victoria with a view to practising his profession. He was elected to the Legislative Assembly in 1855; became Solicitor-General in the Haines government and Attorney-General in the O'Shanassy government (1857). Resigning from the Assembly, he was elected to the Legislative Council, and was a member of the Nicholson and McCulloch governments. He was prominent in the bitter disputes between the two Houses on the question of the “tacking” of a tariff to the Appropriation Bill. It was at Fellows’ instance that the Council “laid aside” the Bill, as it offended against constitutional principles. The Council upheld its contention under his leadership. When another dispute arose over the famous “Darling grant” Fellows resigned from the Council and re-entered the Assembly as member for St. Kilda, in order to lead the opposition. In 1872 he was appointed a Justice of the Supreme Court. He died in 1878. David Syme, in a memorandum printed in his biography (p. 62) related that “For nearly a year before his death, Judge Fellows was a frequent contributor to the leading columns of The Age—
chiefly on legal subjects. Considering how much opposed he and the paper had been during the long conflict over the Darling Grant affair, his offer to contribute was as unexpected as it was acceptable.” Fellows Street, Kew, is named after him.

1864—HENRY CHARLES JEFFREYS, pastoralist, was a partner with his brother, E. W. Jeffreys, in several station properties at Kyneton and other parts of Victoria. Died 1897.

1865—JAMES GRAHAM, born at Innes, County Clare, 1810, came to Victoria in 1839, and was an original member of the Club. He was both merchant and pastoralist. He was for two periods a member of the Legislative Council—1853-54, and 1866-86. Saxton, Victoria Place Names, states that Mount Graham was named after “Hon. James Graham of View Hill run.” Died 1898.

1866—DAVID CHARTERIS McARTHUR arrived in Port Phillip in August 1838, to open the first Melbourne branch of the Bank of Australasia. He was the second banker in the country; the first was a representative of the Derwent Bank Company, Hobart. Henry Gyles Turner, himself a banker, says in his History of Victoria (I. p. 171), that McArthur “arrived from Sydney with the necessary cash, safes and appliances, for the establishment of a branch of the Bank of Australasia, which he opened on the 28th August in a small cottage in Little Collins Street, on the north side, a few doors west of Elizabeth Street.” William Westgarth in his Personal Recollections of Early Melbourne, describes McArthur as “par excellence mine host of the com-
The Dining-room.

(Photograph by A. W. Dicksen.)
munity," and "geniality personified." The same writer gives an amusing description of his way of dealing with a client of the bank whom he had to interview as to "the state of his account." "First, the humorous twinkle in the eye sensibly abated, but it still lingered there, unless there must be still stronger stages of the ordeal, to bring the business culprit to reason. But when the last gleam went out, a storm was certainly imminent. The storm, however, swept past on the instant with the provocation. When that eye finally closed, a veritable sunbeam of the colony went out with it." Died 1887.

1867—DAVID LLOYD JONES, pastoralist, was a partner with his brother Bowen Jones, in properties at Avenel and elsewhere. Died 1893.

1868—Sir WILLIAM HENRY FANCOURT MITCHELL was Acting-Colonial Secretary in Tasmania before he came to Port Phillip in 1840 to engage in pastoral pursuits. Latrobe made him Chief Commissioner of Police in 1851. It was his task to organise a force capable of dealing with the difficult situation occasioned by the gold discoveries. He retained the post till he visited England in 1855. Returning in 1856 he was elected a member of the Legislative Council. He was Postmaster-General 1857-58, Commissioner of Railways 1861-63, and President of the Legislative Council 1870 to 1884. He was knighted in 1870. Died 1884.

1869—CHARLES EDWARD BRIGHT, C.M.G., was one of the founders of the firm of Bright Brothers and Co., steamship and general agents, which developed into the famous house of Gibbs, Bright & Co. He retired
from the business in 1899 and had resided in England for 30 years when he died, in July 1915, at the age of 87. Bright married, in the year before he became President of the Club, the elder daughter of the Governor, Manners-Sutton (afterwards Viscount Canterbury).

1870—HENRY FIELD GURNER, born in Sydney 1819, was from 1851 clerk of the Supreme Court of Victoria. His second name reminds us that his father was clerk of the Supreme Court of New South Wales while Barron Field, the friend of Charles Lamb, was the Judge. H. F. Gurner was the first man admitted as an attorney in Melbourne. He was also the first Town Clerk of Melbourne (1842) and Crown Solicitor. He wrote *Chronicles of Port Phillip*, and was an assiduous collector of books and documents affecting Australian history. Died 1883. Gurner Street, St. Kilda, bears his name.

1871—JOHN GOODMAN, pastoralist, was a member of the Legislative Council of Victoria 1853-56, and of the Legislative Assembly 1856-59. Died 1874.

1872—THOMAS FERRIER HAMILTON, pastoralist, arrived in Victoria 1839. He was a partner with his cousin John Carre Riddell in several stations. He was a member of the Legislative Council from 1871-84. An enthusiastic cricketer, he played against the first English eleven in Victoria in 1862. Died 1905.

1873—JOSEPH ANDERSON PANTON came to Australia in 1851, intending to become a pastoralist. But in 1852 he was appointed a goldfields commissioner in Victoria, the Bendigo district being his special charge. In 1858 he was appointed a police magistrate and later
became the chief magistrate presiding over the Melbourne City Court. He continued to be interested in pastoral activities, and also had a reputation as a fine judge of wines. He was a commissioner of the Melbourne exhibitions of 1854 and 1880-81. Always interested in fine art, he was himself a facile draughtsman. His portrait in oils, by F. McCubbin, which hangs on the main staircase of the Club, is a notable work of art. The Panton Hills are named after him. Died 1913.

1874—HASTINGS CUNNINGHAM, pastoralist, with extensive interests in cattle and sheep stations since 1842. Died 1908.

1875—ROBERT MURRAY SMITH, C.M.G., was elected a member of the Melbourne Club, March 6, 1855, the year after he arrived in Victoria. A graduate of Oxford (Brasenose and Oriel), he brought to public life qualities of tone and temper which were not common during the years when Graham Berry was the Boanerges of Victorian politics. He sat for three constituencies in the Legislative Assembly: St. Kilda (1872-77), Boroondara (1878-82), and Hawthorn (1894-1900). He refused ministerial office but was Agent-General in London from 1882-86. His political convictions were firmly held, but his urbanity enabled him to maintain friendships among men of all parties. His speeches were distinguished by elegance of diction, and pointed often by aptness in quotation when he drew upon his richly-stored memory. Thus, during a debate on the stock tax, by which, before Federation, cattle and sheep from New South Wales were taxed on being brought
across the Murray, he compared these “barbarisms of borderism” (Sir James Patterson’s phrase) to the conditions which once prevailed on the border between England and Scotland. Allan McLean interjected, “Ah, many a fine head of cattle have my ancestors stolen from yours!” “Yes,” retorted Murray Smith, quoting from The Lay of the Last Minstrel—

“They sought the beeves that made their broth
From England and from Scotland both!”

When he died in 1921, after 66 years’ membership of the Club, the President, Sir William Irvine, at the annual meeting, referred in graceful terms to his revered character; and a host of friends in commercial and political life mourned the loss of a choice spirit.

1876—Sir CHARLES SLADEN, K.C.M.G., a graduate of Cambridge (Trinity Hall) settled at Geelong as a solicitor when he first came to Port Phillip in 1842. He retired from practice in 1854, and in 1856 entered public life as a member for Geelong in the Legislative Assembly. He was Treasurer in the Haines ministry. As a member of the Legislative Council (1864-82) he took a leading part in maintaining the rights of that House against the “tacking” device of the Premier, McCulloch. For nine weeks (May-July 1868) he was Premier of Victoria. He afterwards led the movement for the reform of the Council. He became K.C.M.G. 1875. He remained an important figure in public life till he retired in 1882; and died in 1884.

1877—ALEXANDER FULLARTON MOLLISON was the elder brother of W. T. Mollison (president in 1857), who related that: “A. F. Mollison came to Port
"THE LAWN A CARPET ALL ALIVE
WITH SHADOWS FLUNG FROM LEAVES"
Phillip in a vessel from Hobart Town to view the land, having gone from Sydney to Hobart Town, as there were no vessels sailing from Sydney to Melbourne at that time. Major Mitchell had not returned from his journey through Australia Felix at this time. John Batman, McKillop and others had been settled at Port Phillip two or three months when A. F. Mollison arrived.” (Letters from Victorian Pioneers, p. 182.) He was an original member of the Melbourne Club. He was a member of the first Legislative Council of Victoria (1853-56) and of the Legislative Assembly from 1856-64. Died 1885.

1878—WILLIAM CAMPBELL became a member of the Club in 1850. An Aberdeenshire man (born 1810), he was one of the best known and most enterprising pastoralists of his time. He brought into Victoria the Camden sheep which "played the main part in the development of many of the most valuable stud flocks of Port Phillip." (Billis and Kenyon, Pastures New, p. 184. See also Mr. Rupert Greene's account of this famous flock, pp. 184-5.) Campbell was a member of the Legislative Council 1851-56 and 1862-82. Died 1896.

1879—JOHN MATHESON arrived in Port Phillip 1840, and had extensive pastoral interests in various parts of the country. He was the general manager of the Bank of Victoria when the Melbourne Club sold its former Club house to that institution and purchased the site of the present one. Died 1905.

1880—JAMES BLACKWOOD was the Melbourne head of the firm of Daigety, Blackwood & Co., founded in Sydney by Frederick G. Dalgety, one of the chief wool
houses of Australia. Dalgety—who was an early member of the Club—having to go to London in 1838 to direct the wool-selling branch of the business there, first offered a partnership to Hugh Childers, “with one-tenth of the average profits.” (Life of Childers, Vol. I, p. 87). He declined, having decided to leave Victoria. Dalgety then asked the Australian directors of the Union Bank to recommend to him a man who would manage the firm’s Australian interests. The directors recommended their own chief inspector, Blackwood. The firm of Dalgety, Blackwood & Co. was subsequently formed. Died 1881.

1881—EDWARD WILLIS was one of the overlanders of the earliest days of Victoria. He had his run, “very comfortably situated in the fork formed by the junction of the Plenty with the River Yarra,” as early as 1837, and in later years was a merchant at Geelong, besides maintaining pastoral interests. He became a member of the Club in 1844.

1882—JOHN WARRINGTON ROGERS, Q.C., “of Hobart Town,” became a member of the Club in 1857. He had been Solicitor-General of Tasmania. He practised at the bar in Victoria, and was afterwards a County Court judge.

1883— MOLESWORTH R. GREENE arrived in Victoria in 1842, and was active as a pastoralist at Werribee, Glenmore and Mount Hope. With his partner and uncle, Charles Griffiths, he purchased William Campbell’s famous Camden flock. He was also interested in pastoral properties in Queensland and New South
Wales. He was for many years a trustee of the Melbourne Public Library and Art Gallery. Died 1916.

1884—THOMAS BAILLIE, pastoralist, was a son of Sir William Baillie, Bart., of Polkemmet, West Lothian. His son George, who inherited the title, was also a member of the Club. Died 1889.

1885—REGINALD BRIGHT, brother of C. E. Bright (president in 1869), came to Melbourne as resident partner of the firm of Gibbs, Bright & Co. Died 1920.

1886—Colonel ROBERT WILLIAM REDE came to Victoria in 1851, and worked on the goldfields. He was appointed a goldfields commissioner in 1852, and was connected with the Eureka incident at Ballarat. Afterwards he became sheriff at Geelong, and Crown Lands Commissioner for the county of Grant. He served in the Victorian military forces. In 1877 he became sheriff of the Melbourne district. Died 1904.

1887—FREDERICK RACE GODFREY was one of three brothers who had extensive pastoral interests. He came to Melbourne in 1847. He was a member of the Legislative Assembly of Victoria from 1874 to 1877. He was president of the Melbourne Hospital for many years. Died 1910.

1888—Sir THOMAS a’BECKETT was a member of a well-known English legal family, one of whom, his uncle Gilbert a’Beckett, perpetrated The Comic History of England, whilst another, his cousin Arthur a’Beckett, contributed to Punch the amusing Papers from Pump-Handle Court which were reprinted in book form. Another uncle, Sir William a’Beckett, was the first Chief

[ 99 ]
Justice of Victoria. Sir Thomas was appointed a justice of the Supreme Court in 1888. He maintained his family tradition by radiating a quaint and lively humour which gave rise to many anecdotes, still quoted with relish by the members of the Victorian bar, and destined, doubtless, to increase in number as more jokes which he never made continue to be attributed to him. He was one of the soundest lawyers and kindest of human beings. He was knighted in 1909. Died 1919.

1889—ROBERT SIMSON, pastoralist, was a member of the Legislative Council of Victoria, 1869-78 and 1880-82. Died 1896.

1890—GEORGE FAIRBAIRN, "one of the pioneers of Queensland pastoral development," was also an extensive owner of station properties in Victoria. He was a member of the Legislative Assembly in 1864-65. Died 1895.

1891—FRANK GREY SMITH was the general manager of the National Bank. He was in appearance startlingly like Napoleon Bonaparte, and did not resent the comparison. Died 1900.

1892—CHARLES MYLES OFFICER was the third son of Sir Robert Officer, who settled in Tasmania in 1821, practised medicine there, and afterwards entered politics and became Speaker of the Legislative Assembly. C. M. Officer and his two brothers came to Victoria in 1848, and engaged in mining and pastoral pursuits. He was a member of the Legislative Assembly from 1880 to 1892.

1893—CHARLES SHUTER was educated for the army (Winchester College), but came to the Victorian gold
"A green thought in a green shade."

(Photograph by Russell Groves.)
diggings in or about 1852. He became a member of the military police cadet corps. He was afterwards a commissioner at Beechworth and police magistrate for West Bourke and Melbourne. Died 1902.

1894—Sir GEORGE FREDERICK VERDON, K.C.M.G., came to Victoria in 1851, and tried his fortunes on the gold diggings, with no success. In 1859 he was elected member for Williamstown in the Legislative Assembly, and became Treasurer in the Heales ministry. He held the same office in the McCulloch ministry, 1863–68. He was Agent-General in London 1868–72, and returned to Melbourne to be general manager of the English, Scottish and Australian bank. He was a trustee, and afterwards president, of the National Gallery, and took a keen interest in its development. He was awarded the K.C.M.G. in 1872. Physically a very imposing person, Sir George was also fond of displaying an interest in art. Died 1896.

1895—Sir THOMAS NAUGHTON FITZGERALD was a brilliant surgeon, who introduced several improvements in surgical method. He was consulting surgeon to the Australian military forces during the South African war. He was president of the Medical Congress of Australasia 1889. He was knighted 1897. Died 1908.

1896—SAMUEL WINTER COOKE was a member of the Legislative Council (Western Province) from 1888 till 1901, and a minister in Sir James Patterson's government, 1893. He entered Federal politics as member for Wannon, 1901–3. A graduate of Trinity College, Cambridge, and a barrister by profession, his political atti-
tude was rather philosophical than combative; and his monocle covered a mild and gentle eye. Apart from politics his interests were pastoral.

1897—JOHN BURNETT BOX, barrister, was appointed a County Court judge in 1905. He had previously been editor of the Victorian Law Reports. After resigning from the bench, he lived at Metung, on the Gippsland Lakes, and spent a happy old age fishing and shooting. In 1921 he was elected a life honorary member of the Club by a general meeting, to signify appreciation of his services as member of the committee, Vice-president, and President. Died 1931.

1898—Sir JOHN GRICE, a graduate of the University of Melbourne, became its Vice-Chancellor from 1918 to 1923. He was called to the bar but did not practise in the law. He was a University oarsman and a good all round athlete in his student days. Few men in the commercial and financial life of Victoria undertook so many responsibilities as Sir John Grice did. He was intensely interested in all the varieties of business with which he was concerned, and with singular breadth of view was also a master of detail. Pastoral and railway enterprises, the Metropolitan Gas Company, insurance, trustee and banking companies—he was chairman of the National Bank down to a few months before his death—occupied his close attention, and his knowledge and advice were greatly valued. During the great war he was treasurer of the Red Cross. He was a very faithful member of the Club. At an advanced age he would still come to lunch and talk with life-long friends, even when he had to be helped from his car and into it.

[102]
when he left. His portrait by Sir John Longstaff is a fine example of the art of that painter. It hangs in the breakfast room of the Club. He was knighted 1917, and died in 1935 at the age of 85.

1899—RODERICK MURCHISON was the manager of the Melbourne branch of the Bank of New South Wales. Died 1921.

1900—ROBERT POWER founded the firm of Powers Rutherford & Co., from which he retired about twenty years before he died. He was one of the best known sportsmen of his time, and a founder of the Victorian Racing Club, serving on its committee for many years. A famous amateur rider, he once rode in a steeple-chase on Viking, a horse formerly owned by the poet Adam Lindsay Gordon. Power’s trim figure and jolly countenance were very familiar in Melbourne, and he had a host of friends. He died at the age of 81 in 1914.

1901—ARCHIBALD FISKEN, of Lal Lal, an early Western District pastoralist, claimed to be “the first person who ever drove a vehicle through the then roadless forests of Warrenheip and Bullarook” and he hunted kangaroos over part of the present city of Ballarat. Died 1907.

1902—Sir GEORGE FAIRBAIRN.

1903—Sir LACHLAN MACKINNON was the general manager of The Argus and The Australasian. Died 1925.

1904—JOHN SAWERS was the Melbourne Superintendent of the Bank of Australasia. Died 1906.
1905—HARRY WERRIBEE STAUGHTON, son of Simon Staughton who was amongst the early Port Phillip pastoralists, was associated with the Melton district all his life. He lived to be 82 and died 1930.

1906—Sir HENRY JOHN WRIXON, K.C.M.G., was a Victorian public man of high distinction. At the age of 29 he secured election to the Legislative Assembly, and became Solicitor-General in the McCulloch ministry (1870-71) and Attorney-General in the Gillies-Deakin ministry (1886-90). In 1896 he transferred to the Legislative Council, and was president of it from 1900-10. He was also Vice-Chancellor of the University of Melbourne from 1903-10. He was a member of the Federal Conference of 1891. His knighthood (K.C.M.G.) was conferred upon him in 1892. Sir Henry was the author of books which had a vogue in their day—Jacob Shumate, a kind of political novel; Socialism, Notes of a Political Tour; The Religion of the Common Man; and The Pattern Nation. His urbaneity and natural dignity were attractive features of his character. Died 1913.

1907—Rear-Admiral WALTER B. BRIDGES was a naval officer of world-wide experience, who commenced his sea career in 1856 and served on many naval stations. Being on the Australian station from 1871 to 1880, he liked life in this country, and, upon his retirement from the Royal Navy, acquired the Trawalla estate in Victoria, and devoted himself to growing wool. Died 1917.

1908—Sir WALTER SYNOT MANIFOLD (knigheted 1920) was a distinguished member of one of the best-known Victorian pastoralist families. He was elected
to the Legislative Council in 1901, and was president of that house from 1919 to 1923. Died 1928.

1909—Sir JOHN MADDEN, G.C.M.G., D.C.L., LL.D., born at Cork, maintained the Hibernian tradition of the office of Chief Justice of Victoria. At the University of Melbourne, he first studied medicine, but did not finish the course, preferring the law. He became the first Doctor of Laws in the University. He used to relate, with rich humour, that his small medical training stood him in good stead during an electoral campaign, when a man in distress sought him and begged his aid in an imminent domestic event. Young Madden protested that he was not a doctor of medicine, but was assured that it did not matter what kind of a doctor he was as long as he came at once. So he went; and, as he was proud to remember, the twins did well and he had a resolute political supporter in their father. He was a suave and convincing advocate during his prosperous career at the bar. His parliamentary experience extended over nine years, during which he held office as Minister of Justice in the governments of Sir James McCulloch and James Service. His fluent and sparkling eloquence, delivered with more than a trace of the Cork brogue, was capable of illuminating any subject he was called upon to discuss during the periods when he acted as Lieutenant-Governor of the State. He was Chancellor of the University 1907-1918; and received honorary doctorates from the Universities of Oxford and Aberdeen. He was knighted 1893, became K.C.M.G. 1899, and G.C.M.G. 1906. He loved good fellowship, good
wine and good literature; and the Club never had a more popular president. Died 1918.

1910—ALEXANDER DYCE MURPHY was the younger son of Sir Francis Murphy, president of the Club in 1862. He had extensive pastoral interests in Queensland, owning Northampton Downs and other properties in that State, and stations in New South Wales and Victoria. He was part owner (with Sir Samuel Hordern) of the racehorse Artilleryman which won the Melbourne Cup in 1919. The golden trophy itself is in the possession of the Club. Died 1921.

1911—ROBERT OFFICER BLACKWOOD.

1912—Mr. Justice THEYRE a’BECKETT WEIGALL, a nephew of Sir Thomas a’Beckett, was a learned and distinguished equity barrister before he assumed judicial robes. At the University of Melbourne he was a fellow student, and later an intimate friend, of Sir Isaac Isaacs. Weigall used to say—almost to boast—that he knew nothing of criminal law and took no interest in it. For that reason largely he refused a seat on the judicial bench when it was first offered to him. When he did become a judge it was arranged in a friendly way with his brother judges that he should not sit in such cases. In his own field of law he was an acknowledged master, patient and sure. Died 1926.

1913—Colonel CHARLES SNODGRASS RYAN, an eminent surgeon, as a young man gained celebrity by serving for two years as a medical officer of the Turkish army during the wars of 1876-78. His adventures are recorded in a volume, Under the Red Crescent, written
by his friend John Sandes. He was consul-general for Turkey for many years, and on occasions when uniforms were worn, appeared resplendent with the stars of the orders of Medjidie and Osmonieh on his breast and a red fez on his head. His skill as a surgeon was widely recognised. Died 1926.

1914—LAUCHLAN KENNET SCOBIE MACKINNON was senior partner in the eminent law firm of Blake and Rigdall. Although the son of a Scottish Doctor of Divinity and in spite of having been born in the Island of Skye, he was for many years chairman of the Victoria Racing Club, and what he knew about racehorses, owners, trainers and jockeys, would have made an interesting book. Died 1933.

1915—EDWARD FANNING bore the name of his ancestor, the Edward Fanning who discovered Fanning Island in the Pacific in 1797. Some account of that adventurous “salt” is given in T. Dunbabin’s book, Sailing the World’s Edge. The Edward Fanning whom the Club honoured with its presidency, was born in England and educated at Eton and Oxford (Trinity College). As a young man he was an athlete of some prowess. Coming to Australia, where his family had long-established commercial connections, in 1871, he joined the firm of Fanning & Nankivell (later, Fanning, Nankivell & Griffiths, and still later Fanning and Co.), merchants, of which his father was senior partner. Edward Fanning was at one time concerned with sugar growing in Queensland. He was one of the best known men of his time in Melbourne commercial and financial life: a local director of the old London Bank, chairman
of the Equity Trustees Company, and a director of several important companies. He was also a trustee of the Club. Died 1917.

1916—JOHN SANDERSON.

1917—Sir EDWARD FANCOURT MITCHELL, K.C.

1918—PHILIP RUSSELL.

1919—DONALD MACKINNON, an eminently public-spirited Australian, was a graduate of Oxford (New College), and was called to the bar in England (1883) and Victoria (1884). He assisted Chief Justice Higinbotham, of whom he was a devoted admirer, in the great work of revising the Victorian statutes. Entering the Legislative Assembly as member for Prahran (1900-21) he was Attorney-General in the Watt ministry (1913-14) and honorary minister in the Lawson government. He was unsparing of effort as Director of Recruiting during the great war. Many serious errors probably would have been avoided if he had been put in charge of that work at the beginning of the war. He was Australian Trade Commissioner in the United States 1923-24. For many years he was president of the Victorian Cricket Association. He had large pastoral interests. Died 1932.

1920—Sir RICHARD RAWDON STAWELL, M.D., K.B.E., was a son of Sir William Stawell (president of the Club 1849 and 1859). He was one of the most eminent of Melbourne physicians and a leader of the medical profession in Australia. Had he lived a few months longer he would, as president of the British Medical Association, have presided over its Conference
in Australia in September 1935. But he died in April, while engaged in making preparations for that gathering. A man of wide culture and rare sweetness of nature, he was truly beloved by members of his profession, and by a host of admiring friends. He was knighted, K.B.E., in 1929.

1921—Chief Justice Sir WILLIAM HILL IRVINE, K.C.M.G., LL.D.

1922—Colonel Sir HENRY CARR MAUDSLEY, K.C.M.G., C.B.E., M.D., F.R.C.P.

1923—Sir EDWARD MILLER was for 20 years a member of the Legislative Council, from 1892, and chairman of the Bank of Victoria for many years. He was largely interested in pastoral and mining concerns. He was knighted in 1917. Died 1932.

1924—Sir WILLIAM GILBERT STEWART McARTHUR was appointed a justice of the Supreme Court of Victoria in 1920, after 26 years successful practice at the bar. He resigned from the bench, owing to ill-health, in 1934, and was knighted. Sir Stewart McArthur was the first student enrolled at Ormond College, University of Melbourne. When studying for the bar he was the pupil of J. B. Box, who was President of the Club in 1897. Died 1935.

1925—Sir FRANCIS GRENVILLE CLARKE, K.B.E.

1926—FREDERICK DOUGAN BIRD, a leading Melbourne surgeon, was for many years a lecturer on surgery at the University. He was an extremely graceful public speaker, though he did not often display his
talents in this direction; and a man of wide literary
culture. Died 1929.

1927—THOMAS HENRY PAYNE was a member of
the Legislative Council from 1901 to 1928, and was for
a time the Acting-President of the Chamber. He was
an honorary minister in the Government of Sir Thomas
Bent. His hobby was breeding high-class cattle, sheep
and horses, and he spent money lavishly on importing
blood stock for his farm, Woodburn, Kilmore. A
quiet, somewhat shy man, he was generous in many
directions, and imbued with a fine public spirit. Died
1932.

1928—Sir THOMAS RANKEN LYLE, F.R.S., M.A.,
D.Sc.

1929—AGAR WYNNE was elected a member of the
Legislative Council (Western Province) in 1889. He
was Solicitor-General in the ministry of Sir James Pat-
terson (1893-94) and in that of Sir George Turner
(1894-99.) In 1906 he was elected to the House of
Representatives (for Balaclava) and was Postmaster-
General in the Cook Government at the time of the
outbreak of the great war. A man of extremely wide
interests—legal, financial, pastoral, mining, sporting—
he was thoroughly efficient in everything he took in
hand, and, by reason of his genial and generous disposi-
tion, popular with all classes and all political parties.
In parliament he was a close critic of the drafting of
bills, and a trenchant debater; but he made no enemies,
even in times when political passion was unsparing of
reputations. Died 1934.
1930—JAMES EDWARD HAYNE, was the senior resident partner in the firm of Gibbs, Bright & Co. Died 1933.

1931—HERBERT MONTGOMERIE STANDISH COX.

1932—JOHN TURNBULL.

1933—Sir JOHN MICHAEL HIGGINS, G.C.M.G.


1935—Chief Justice Sir FREDERICK WOLLASTON MANN