

marmalar, the chiefs of the said tribe, have hereunto affixed our seals to these presents, and have signed the same. Dated according to the Christian era, this 6th day of June, 1835.

Signed, sealed, and delivered in the presence of us, the same having been fully and properly interpreted and explained to the said chiefs.

(Signed) JOHN BATMAN.

Be it remembered that on the day and year within written, possession and delivery of the tract of land within mentioned was made by the within named Jagajaga, Jagajaga, Jagajaga, Cooloolock, Bungarie, Yanyan, Moowhip, Monmarmalar, chiefs of the tribes of natives called Dutigallar Geelong, to the within named John Batman, by the said chiefs, taking up part of the soil, and delivering the same to said John Batman in the name of the whole.

In presence of

(Signed)

JAMES GUNN,
ALEXANDER THOMSON,
WM. TODD.

JAGAJAGA, his x mark.
JAGAJAGA, his x mark.
JAGAJAGA, his x mark.
COOLOOLOCK, his x mark.
BUNGARIE, his x mark.
YANYAN, his x mark.
MONMARMALAR, his x mark.

When the Imperial Government came to be informed of this and similar purchases, they were pronounced illegal, and in fact little short of an act of downright robbery. There was a long correspondence between the purchasers and the officers acting for the Crown. Batman and his followers made a desperate struggle to have their bargain legalised, but the Government were neither to be threatened or cajoled. The areas so purchased ultimately became a portion of the Crown lands of the colony.

However, all this time the colony made rapid advances. In two years the population had increased to 800 with 140,000 sheep, 2500 cattle, and 150 horses. The first land sale was held in June in 1837, when half-acre town allotments, or what is now known as Melbourne, were sold at from £18 to £78 per allotment. Many of these sections, in 1854 up to 1857, have realised as much as from £150 to £300. From the earliest period Port Phillip became noted for the activity and enterprising spirit that characterised the colonists. This go-aheadism soon made itself apparent to the Sydney authorities—Port Phillip being then governed at Sydney—that a mere police establishment was insufficient for the requirements of the province, when measures were taken to establish a local administration. Mr C. J. La Trobe was gazetted, in 1839, at Sydney, as Superintendant, when he shortly afterwards arrived at Port Phillip and initiated the political history of the colony. The police magistrate was advanced to the post of sub-treasurer. A stipendiary magistrate was appointed, and a legal adviser duly constituted.

The next movement of importance was a public meeting, held in 1840, to take measures for the separation of Port Phillip from the Government of New South Wales. The Governor of Sydney, supported by his Crown nominees, refused to grant even the smallest measure of justice in the direction of a separate Government, and it was not until ten years of unceasing agitation that the separation was obtained. The spoliation suffered by Port Phillip at the hands of the Sydney Government may be estimated by a comparison of the revenue from all sources and the expenditure up to 1842. It appeared that while the total revenue was six hundred thousand pounds the expenditure on Port Phillip for the same period was no more than four hundred and fifty thousand pounds, the balance being appropriated by the New South Wales Government to its own purposes.

In 1840 a puisne judge was appointed. Among other circumstances having an influence on the progress of the colony the sale of special surveys may be named. Payment into the Treasury of £5000 a requisitionist could obtain a section of eight square miles in any part of Port Phillip which he might please to select, and which was not held as a Government reserve. Then set in the mania for land. The superior pastures of Port Phillip afforded facilities in the management of stock which the older colonies did not possess. Prices rapidly rose. Stock was purchased in New South Wales and Tasmania and driven to this beautiful country by hurrying competitors. Rumours of high profit awakened attention in Great Britain and attracted a large number of wealthy immigrants, many of them the younger sons of noblemen, who came out with large supplies of stores, and bringing with them, as their servants, men accustomed to sheep and cattle. The eager competition forced up prices of stock and all commodities to exorbitant rates. Land

speculations ran high among the increasing multitudes, so that prices mounted from tens to thousands, and allotments that originally brought £40 were sold at £400. The interchanges of land were rapid, the conveyance was slow, and the issue of Crown grants still slower. While the mania lasted the fictitious prosperity of the traders blinded them to the real condition of the purchasers, and consequently to their own, and, presuming on their fancied wealth, extravagance prevailed among all classes. A universal crash was only postponed by a continued stream of immigrant capitalists. In 1841 the land fund failed, and checked the inflocking of population from the home countries. Prices dropped suddenly. Depressions and difficulties became universal, and towards the close of 1842 the condition of the colony was one of wide-spread bankruptcy.

In the beginning of 1843 an Imperial Act came into operation, providing for a partially representative Government and the incorporation of towns. It was under this Act that Melbourne was erected into a corporate town. On July 1st, a political separation took place between Victoria and New South Wales, when the colony received a direct sanction from the Queen to call Port Phillip after her own name, under which it commenced its independent career with the brightest of auspices. No off-shoot of Britain ever better deserved so high an honor. In 1847, the Rev. Charles Perry, D.D., was appointed Bishop of Melbourne. He was installed in St. James's Church, when Melbourne became a city.

The progress of the colony of Victoria since 1851 has been ably written by Westgarth, MacCombie, Bonwick, Howell, and a dozen other well-informed colonists.

In 1840 a team of bullocks and a dray was dug out of a swamp in Collins street, where it had got embedded. Twenty years later in Collins street the land alone was estimated to be worth two millions and a half sterling; and the land which Batman hoped to secure at Geelong and Indented Head from the natives, in exchange for a few blankets and tomahawks in the same year was estimated at six millions sterling.

(To be continued.)

No. XXXII.

By SNYDER.

▲ RETROSPECTIVE VIEW OF THE COLONIES PREVIOUS TO THE EVENTS WHICH ARE RECORDED IN THESE REMINISCENCES.

TASMANIA.

The history of Tasmania presents two pictures which stand out in startling contrast to each other. Tasmania is now the garden of the Southern Hemisphere. It was for many years an earthly Pandemonium during which a prolonged Saturnalia prevailed; and both of these phases are within the memory of men living now.

Tasmania was first settled as a convict colony in 1804, under the Lieutenant-Governorship of David Collins, a colonel of the Royal Marines. There were in this year landed on the island three hundred and sixty-seven male prisoners, and twelve free women, the wives of prisoners. These increased month by month, and year by year, until in 1837 the population of free men and prisoners amounted to forty-five thousand. At this period the condition of the colony may be understood from a speech delivered in the Imperial Parliament by Sir James Macintosh. "The settlement," he said, "can never be worse than it is now, where no attempt at reformation is dreamed of, and when it is governed on principles of political economy more barbarous than those which prevailed under Queen Bess."

As the population originally consisted of persons transported from Britain, with a corrupt military body under an equally corrupt command, the presence of crime was less to be wondered at than the existence of any virtue at all. While the criminals in England averaged one in a thousand of the population, they formed in Van Dieman's land, one in one hundred and one, in 1824, and one in sixty-two, in 1833. In England, crimes against persons were as one in thirty to crimes against property; in Tasmania, such were one to two, in 1824, and one to seven, in 1833. For many years there was no secure night asylum for the convicts employed, who were left at full liberty to prey upon the orderly and well-disposed. In like manner, the female convicts, upon arrival, found rations of food supplied to them, but no place of shelter during the night.

The immorality, debauchery, and wickedness prevailing under such a system of prison government may well be imagined. Tradesmen felt compelled to lie down on their beds with firearms to protect their lives and property. Murders and murderous assaults were of every-night occurrence. Captain Cheyne, Inspector of Public Works, stated in evidence, years subsequently, that the amount of depravity in the island was unparalleled in the history of crime at any age in any part of the world, while the chaplain of the convicts designated Hobart Town as a den of thieves, a cave of robbers, a cage of unclean birds, an isthmus between earth and hell. The officials all lived in a state of concubinage with the prisoner women, turning them into the factories when they had become tired of them, and withdrawing others to supply their place. Scarcely a single official set an example by attending public worship. Commissariat rum was sold by prostitutes for the profit of officers. The marriage contract was not

strictly enforced. Sales of wives, public and private, were common. One woman was publicly sold for fifty ewes, another for £5 and a gallon of rum. Mr Bent's newspaper remarking at the time on these two sales said, "From the variety of bidders, had there been more of these women in the market, the sale for them would have been very brisk." Five men and a woman were tried and convicted of having driven three hundred sheep into a brush fence, where they denuded them of their fleeces by pulling them from the flesh with their hands. They then made a huge fire, and burnt, or partially burnt, the carcasses. The wool obtained from these sheep was sold to a hawker, for two gallons of rum, two pounds of tobacco, and six shirts. The hawker turned evidence against the offenders, when the five men and the woman were hung in a row, within a fortnight of the crime having been perpetrated. The only marriage celebrated in the island in 1817, was between a couple whose united ages amounting to one hundred and thirty-seven years. The Rev. Dr. Ullathorne, once Vicar-General of New Holland and Van Dieman's Land, and, subsequently, Roman Catholic Bishop of Birmingham, alluded to the immorality among the population in these awful terms:—"There is another class of crime, too frightful even for the imagination of other lands, which St. Paul, in detailing the vices of the heathen, had not contemplated, which were unknown to the savage until taught by the convict—crimes which are notorious—crimes that, dare I describe them, would make your blood to freeze, and the hairs to rise in horror upon the pale flesh." Drunkenness prevailed among all classes. The editor of a Hobart Town paper declared, "One half of those who die in the present time perish directly or indirectly through alcohol." The public-houses were filled with convicts night and day, drinking, putting up robberies, planning murders, or the violation of the persons of women. A party of six emancipists drank, at one sitting, in a tavern, seven bottles of sherry and forty-one bottles of port. Mr Bonwick tells of two prostitutes, known as "Fat Catherine" and "Carrotty Kit," who undertook, in a drunken frolic, to swim across the Derwent River for a wager of rum. The whole colony was drunk for weeks together, under one Governor, who was nicknamed from his excesses "Mad Davy." The payment of constables was made in rum, drawn from the Commissariat. The constables, of course, became sellers of rum. A woman might have been a thief, or a forger, or have been guilty of a violent assault, without having lost her self-respect, by retaining her virtue; but where she was sentenced to transportation this was simply an impossibility. The voyage of a shipload of male convicts was something too horrible to relate. What must it, then, have been for women where males were mingled with them to endure? It is true that wooden barriers to the women's quarters were erected at starting; but they were soon removed, and, as one who has seen these things remarked—the ship was free from cabin to fore-castle. This is what has been said by the Rev. John West, a true philanthropist, and a man of undoubted piety. "Both male and female prisoners were commonly forwarded together; the officers and soldiers selected companions for the voyage, and a sentence of transportation included prostitution." These practices were first tolerated, and afterwards justified as *nobilitie*. A felon ship was a Pandemonium

—a second hell. In one snip a mutiny broke out. The women, having free access to the sailors and the military guard, corrupted both. They persuaded them to carry the ship to South America, and to lead a free life all the way. The captain was the only dissident, and a pistol-shot from one of the mutineers disposed of this little difficulty. The vessel was then steered to the coast of Brazil, and a licence prevailed which was, perhaps, never surpassed. George Goodridge, a runaway sailor, described a punishment inflicted on females in Launceston and Hobart Town. It consisted of the placing of an iron collar round their neck, on each side of which was a long prong, giving them the appearance of horned cattle; and with this head, dress they were exposed during church service.

I must here beg the reader to remember, that forty years have not passed away since most of the terrible things happened which are here recorded.

And now, at this time Tasmania has, in proportion, probably, a larger number of church-going people than England has. A larger number of school attendants; and a degree of active benevolence, social prosperity, and moral development "that," says a writer, "surprises even thoughtful colonists themselves." The value of improved property in Tasmania, in 1856, was estimated at forty-eight millions sterling. Large public works have been carried out to completion. Churches and chapels have been built, schools endowed, public libraries established, warehouses and large mercantile buildings erected, charities liberally subscribed to, roads made, and the interior of the country opened up. Newspapers of a very high character, and edited with great ability, are established at both ends of the island; and all that is good in the social, political, and religious life to be found in other colonies is to be found in Tasmania. In 1870, the religious denominations were:—Church of England, 53,000; Church of Rome, 22,000; Church of Scotland, 7,000; Free Church of Scotland, 25,000; Wesleyans, 7,000; Independents, 4,000; Bap-

tists, 1,000; other sects, 3,000. The Church of England had 100 places of public worship, with sittings capable of accommodating 16,000 persons. The Roman Catholic body had 32 places of worship, and an estimated number of 12,000 attendants. The Church of Scotland, 25 places of worship, and the Wesleyans 52 chapels. There were 112 Sunday-schools, attended by over a thousand women and men teachers. There were in 1870 350 miles of telegraph lines, and in 1869 telegraph communication was established by means of a submarine cable between Tasmania and Victoria. A line of railway was completed in Launceston, connecting that town with Deloraine, Westbury, Longford, Perth, and Evandale. In her mercantile marine Tasmania owned 32 seagoing vessels, 18 ships engaged in the whaling trade, and 9 steamers, besides 70 small craft, making a total of nearly 15,000 tons, and employing over 1,200 seamen. In 1873 Tasmania owned five banks, with notes in circulation to the amount of one million, and deposits of nine thousand sterling, with gold and silver amounting to over £257,000; the several savings banks had held deposits to over £120,000. In 1872 the revenue was nearly a quarter of a million. The exports were eight hundred and eighty-six thousand, those of wool alone amounting to nearly half a million. The island has many manufactories, and for some years exported large quantities of colonial brewed beer to Victoria. The native-born youth are by nature and inclination abstainers from alcohol, the exceptions being very few. The native-born women are among the most beautiful in person to be found in any part of the world. They are chaste and pure in their lives.

And these are the two pictures, faithfully but feebly described, of what Tasmania once was and now is.

No. XXXIII.

By SNYDER.

▲ RETROSPECTIVE VIEW OF THE COLONIES PREVIOUS TO THE EVENTS WHICH ARE RECORDED IN THESE REMINISCENCES.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

If Tasmania was infamous during the era of first settlement, New South Wales, were it possible, was infinitely more so. Both countries were first settled by the