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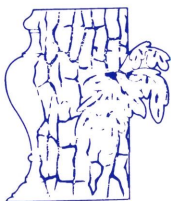
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Cover: Ballarat Amateurs Pair Oared Prize Cup, 1862 by Joseph Thomas Sleep.

THE AUSTRALIANA SOCIETY

PO BOX 643, WOOLLAHRA NSW 2025



— SOCIETY PROGRAMME —

MEETINGS — 1996

Thursday
6 June 1996

Barbara Reeve will give an illustrated talk 'Fakes, Forgeries & Little White Lies'. Barbara Reeve is the head of Conservation at the Australian National Maritime Museum. Society members may bring along their doubts, Australiana only please!

Thursday
1 August 1996

Annual General Meeting.
Robert Griffin will lecture on 'English Furniture Pattern Books and Australian Furniture Design'. Robert Griffin is a curator with the Historic Houses Trust of NSW.

Thursday
3 October 1996

Louise Mitchell will give an illustrated talk on Colonial Costume & Fashion. Louise Mitchell is a Curator of Costume at the Powerhouse Museum.

Thursday
5 December 1996

Christmas Party – Special Guest Speaker.
Bring along a plate.
Dr Anna Rubbo will lecture on 'Aspects of the life and work of Marion Mahony - Architect, Artist and Designer - the Wife of Walter Burley Griffin'
Dr Rubbo is a Senior Lecturer, Faculty of Architecture, Sydney University.

Society meetings are now held at the K Mart Learning Centre, Powerhouse Museum, Harris Street, Ultimo. Access is off its Macarthur Street entrance. Parking available.

Drinks served 7.30-8.00pm, followed by Australiana Showcase (bring your Australian treasures along for general discussion). Lectures will commence at 8.30pm.

Further details of our new venue can be found in the November 1995 issue of *Australiana*.

Tasmanian colonial furniture in New Zealand

Mary Cree

In February 1998 a new museum will be opened in Wellington, New Zealand when colonial furniture from the Crowther family, who lived in Van Diemen's Land, will be displayed.

Herbert John Crowther was the seventh child of William Lodywk and Victoria Marie Louise Crowther and a grandchild of the first Crowther to migrate to Van Diemen's Land in 1823.

He was his mother's favourite and was affectionately known in the family as Jack. Like his three brothers, Edward, Arthur and William he was going to study medicine like his father. Unfortunately an accident, followed by illness put paid to his wishes. Whilst talking to his father of his future he took a coin from his pocket and said "I will toss this and heads I go to New Zealand, tails I go to Japan to seek my fortune". The coin came down for New Zealand, which was just as well as his father was able to give him some introductions that

enabled him to join H. M. Customs and start his career in Wellington.

His life was mostly lived in the south and he and his wife and daughters lived in many places after Wellington, Westport, Christchurch (Christchurch North). He proved to be very popular and was known as a humorist and something of a "dry wit".

After his father died his widowed mother decided to take her unmarried daughter and return to England where she settled in Bournemouth. Herbert went to Tasmania to visit her and it was then she gave him most of the family furniture.

I asked Geoffery Stilwell, the distinguished Tasmanian historian, why Herbert and not Edward, the eldest son, and he replied "she only trusted him". It was a trust that proved a boon to New Zealand museums and at least one National Trust.

In the colonial Cottage Museum,

Wellington are chairs, a settee and other furniture that came from the Crowther Collection. Of equal interest are hand made lace and a handmade lady's embroidery work box which is dated 1870.

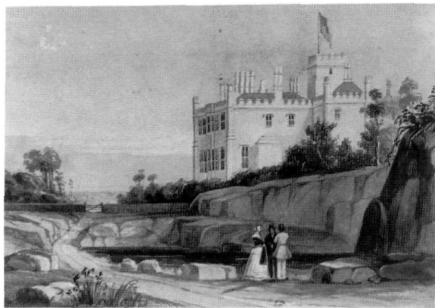
What is fascinating is a complete colonial kitchen with a willow tree rocking chair, a child's high chair and a small stained willow-wood Regency chairs with wooden seats and peg legs that originally went with the Crowther family in 1830. Perhaps most important of all are cedar chairs made for the Crowther family in Tasmania during the 1830s, these have upholstered seats that lift off to reveal cane seats for hot weather. Of interest are cane seated beechwood dining chairs, probably from the emigrant's cabin.

When Herbert John Crowther died he has left all the early colonial furniture he had inherited, plus what he had collected himself to the New Zealand Museum.

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Benjamin Brain: A Forgotten Australian Sculptor

Jane Lennon

In 1868 two professional sculptors - both former students of the Royal Academy who had travelled in Europe and worked in Rome - died in Sydney in within a few weeks of each other. On 26 April Thomas Duckett succumbed to tuberculosis speeded by his grief at the death of his wife in England and on 10 May Charles Abraham died during an epilepsy attack at the local Tarban Creek mental asylum.¹ In the same month another English sculptor, Benjamin Brain, could be observed executing decorative carving on the facade of Jeremiah Moore's book shop in George Street (demolished) which had been designed by the architect Michael Golden. The most notable features were the three window pediments which Brain carved with the heads of Virgil, Homer and Shakespeare.²

Unlike Duckett and Abraham, Brain had not studied at the Royal Academy Schools. Nonetheless, his colonial career followed a similar path to that of Duckett and Abraham for like them he worked both as an architectural carver and a portraitist. His known busts, however, were not models of the local gentry, but representations of eminent people executed after engravings and photographs.

The first of these was modelled in May 1868. *Our Sailor Prince the Duke of Edinburgh* was a cabinet bust of Prince Alfred, the second son of Queen Victoria, who had visited Sydney in January and again during March and April; in addition to the usual enthusiasm which surrounded the prince, his popularity had been

boosted during the course of the last visit by his having escaped assassination by James O'Farrell at a Picnic at Clontarf on 12 March. The prince had been much feted during his Australian sojourn. Transparencies representing him bloomed in the

streets of each city which he visited; photographers competed to take his picture; engravings appeared in the illustrated press; his figure in wax was on view at Madame Sohler's in Sydney and Melbourne. The portraits were executed with varying degrees of

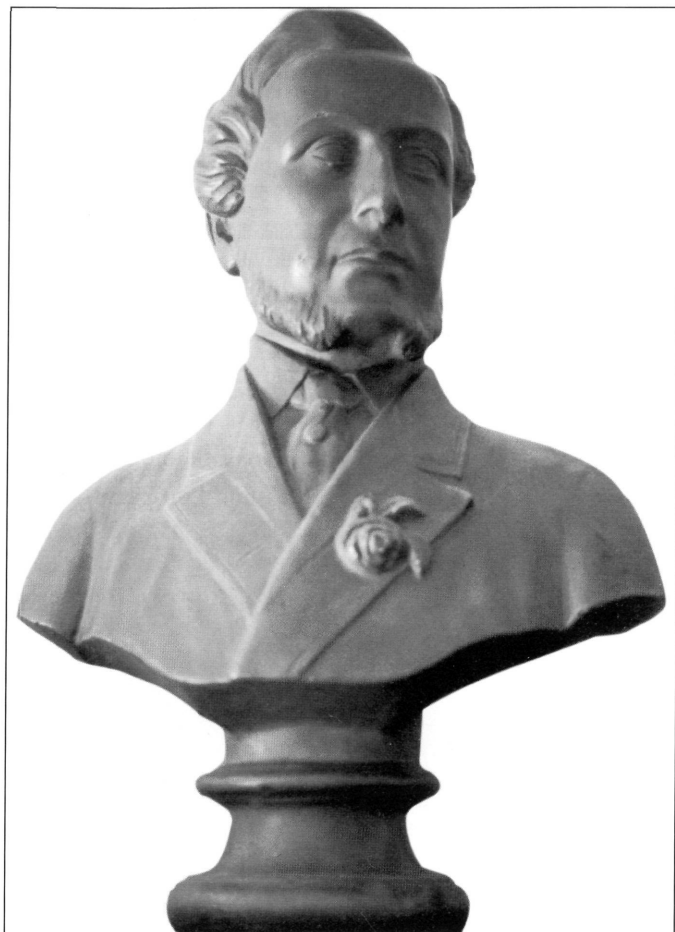


Plate 1. Benjamin Brain, *Our Sailor Prince the Duke of Edinburgh* (cast by Antonio Caproni), 1868, plaster, private collection.

competence - or incompetence, according to some press reports. For example, it was said that in many of the transparencies the Prince assumed 'an immense variety of absurd, grotesque, and improbable aspects' and that the majority of them were 'stiff, and wooden, and glaring'.³

Brain's bust was described as representing the Prince with 'the well known rose in the button-hole of the surtout'. It was advertised as having been 'approved previous to completion, and patronised by his Excellency the Earl of Belmore, and his Worship the Mayor of Sydney'. The model was cast in plaster of paris by Antonio Caproni, an Italian-born plasterer and modeller who had set himself up in business in Sydney in the late 1850s. Casts were on view at several venues including Caproni's modelling premises at 233 Castlereagh Street, and at the book store of Brain's former patron, Josiah Moore.⁴

One of these portrait busts, painted a terracotta colour, is known to survive. The prince wears mufti: a shirt and a tie fixed with a pin and a coat with a small rose in the button-hole. The dress is that which features in a number of photographs of the prince - a dark double-breasted coat with satin lapels, in the right hand buttonhole of which he frequently sported the signature rose. Brain has miniaturised the rose in order not to detract from the authority of the face. The hauteur of the head is emphasised by the eyes being blind, although as the eyes appear to have been the prince's most expressive facial feature this dignity is perhaps effected at the expense of character. [Plate 1]

Lord Belmore obviously continued to patronise Brain for he exhibited his plaster busts of Captain Cook and Lord Nelson at the Sydney Intercolonial Exhibition of 1870.



Plate 2. Benjamin Brain, Lord Nelson, c. 1870, sandstone, Royal Australian Navy, Bomera, Potts Point. Photograph by Naval Photographic Unit.

These are unlocated but a colossal sandstone bust of Nelson signed by Brain was removed from the Johnston estate at Annandale in the 1950s and is now the property of the Royal Australian Navy (Bomera, Potts Point). The fluid and assured style of this work indicates that Brain was a better carver than a modeller. A sensitive, Romantic rendering, it shows Nelson, his hair tied behind, dressed in uniform. [Plate 2]

The Johnston family had a long

naval tradition beginning with George Johnston who sailed with the marine detachment in the First Fleet. The Johnstons may have commissioned the work from Brain although as the column - signed by 'Arnold' - appears to be a later addition the bust and its base may have been purchased together at a much later date. Indeed it is possible that the portrait is that lost bust of Nelson once owned by the former harbour master, Thomas Watson, and displayed along with

busts of other naval heroes at Watson's Trafalgar Hotel in Castlereagh Street and his adjacent cottage where Watson was resident from 1863. By 1873 Watson had moved from Castlereagh Street to the Star and Garter Inn at Randwick, which he retitled Captain Cook's Lodge, reputedly placing a bust of Cook over the entrance.⁵ Watson's busts of Nelson and Cook were almost certainly related to the plaster models of these men by Brain which were exhibited by Lord Belmore in 1870.

Watson and Lord Belmore are known to have had contact with each other through the activities of the Captain Cook Statue Committee; in January 1870, after being approached by Watson and other members of the Committee, Belmore declared his support for the statue fund.⁶ Lord Belmore's patronage of the bust of the Prince in 1868 suggests that he was among Brain's earliest supporters, although it is uncertain whether his busts of Cook and Nelson preceded those commissioned by Watson. It is possible that Brain hoped through his influence with Belmore and Watson to gain the commission for the statue to Captain Cook; the deaths of Duckett and Abraham probably also made him hopeful of receiving other 'high art' commissions. However, the Sydney sculpture market was at a low ebb and the preference was increasingly for a foreign sculptor to undertake the proposed statue to Cook. By the time of the Sydney International Exhibition in 1870 when Belmore exhibited Brain's busts of Nelson and Cook to the public, Brain had settled in Geelong, Victoria. A bronze statue to Captain Cook was undertaken in London by Thomas Woolner and was finally unveiled in Hyde Park in 1879. Had Brain remained in Sydney it is almost certain, however, that he would have received the commission from Watson for a statue of Cook for a site in front of his residence. The work, carved in sandstone by the

stonemason Walter McGill and unveiled in 1874, is now owned by Randwick Council.

Soon after his arrival in Geelong Brain carved a colossal bust of the Duke of Edinburgh in Tasmanian stone;⁷ presumably he had taken a model of the bust of Prince Alfred to Geelong and used this to secure the commission. He also executed an allegorical figure of Science in stone from the Barrabool Hills for a niche over the entrance of the local Mechanics' Institute. The resulting work was described as 'a robed female figure, holding in her hand the "governor" of a steam-engine'.⁸ It was a considerably more ambitious commission than Brain could have hoped to secure at that time in New South Wales. It seems that the gold-backed economy meant that, even in provincial Victoria, there was more chance of a sculptor earning a livelihood than in urban Sydney.

As a sculptor based in Geelong, Brain exhibited at the Victorian Academy of Arts Exhibition in 1870. He continued to practise sculpture in Geelong and Melbourne. In July or August 1877 he moved from Prahran to Ballarat where he dealt in mining scrip. Brain lodged with G. Cooper in Armstrong Street and later moved to the Unicorn Hotel where the landlord observed him to be in a state of severe depression. Brain confided that his distress was due to his having lent Cooper mining scrip which he feared would not be returned. On the Sunday morning after his arrival Brain did not appear at breakfast. The housemaid called him to lunch and, later, to dinner but could not rouse him. When the landlord entered the room he found Brain lying on his side, his hand holding a small pocket-revolver with which he had shot himself in the mouth. A search of Brain's clothing uncovered some loose change and four pounds in notes, ten Black Horse and seventy United Parker scrip along with a receipt from Cooper and a note

acknowledging that he would return another ten Black Horse scrip.⁹

At the time of his death Brain was described as a short, plump man of about fifty-five who smoked a pipe. He was said to be a widower with relatives living in Greville-street, Prahran, his former address.¹⁰

It is time for some recognition of Brain's contribution to nineteenth century Australian sculpture: since his death Brain has been forgotten featuring in no history of Australian art. And, in this era of republican-monarchist debate, the reappearance of his lost bust of the Duke of Edinburgh is timely reminding us of the cult of royalty which reached its pitch-point in the fanfare accompanying the rare visits to the colony by members of the British royal family - an attitude which has not been abandoned by some Australians over a century later.

Note

- 1 For Thomas Duckett see Jane Lennon, 'Thomas Duckett' in *The Dictionary of Australian Artists: Painter, Sketchers, Photographers and Engravers to 1870*, ed. Joan Kerr, Melbourne 1992. Death Certificate of Charles Abraham 10 May 1868.
- 2 SMH, 21 May 1868, (4).
- 3 Argus, 27 November 1867, p. 5, cited Anita Callaway, 'Colonial Transparencies: Seeing Through the City Spectacle', in *Transition*, (36-37).
- 4 SMH, 21 May 1868, (4).
- 5 *North British Advertiser and Ladies' Journal*, 29 Jan. 1876, cited *Sydney Mail*, 22 April 1876. 'Old Sydney', Truth, 18 Feb. 1912. Watson is listed in Castlereagh Street until 1876 in local directories.
- 6 See for example *Sydney Mail*, 29 January 1870, (5).
- 7 Argus, 27 June 1870. I am grateful to Anita Callaway for this reference.
- 8 *ibid.*
- 9 SMH 28 September 1877 (ex-Ballarat Courier).
- 10 *ibid.*

The Ward Testimonial

John Houstone

Two factors largely responsible for the rapid economic development and population increase in Australia in the 1850's were firstly, the discovery of gold in 1851, and secondly, the development of railways in New South Wales and Victoria.

The Sydney Railway Company was incorporated by Act of Parliament on 10th October 1849, and the turning of the first sod for the railway was performed by Mrs Keith Stewart, daughter of Governor FitzRoy on 3rd July 1850. After various vicissitudes, and finally the Government acquiring the company's assets in 1855, the line from Sydney to Granville was opened on 26th September 1855, covering a distance of 13 miles and 52 chains,

The Melbourne and Hobson's Bay Railway Company was formed in 1853 and constructed a single line 2½ miles in length from Flinders Street Melbourne to a pier at Sandbridge (Port Melbourne). Owing to the late delivery of four locomotives from Robert Stephenson & Co. of England, the company was forced to have Robertson Martin R Smith, Engineers, of Melbourne construct a locomotive. This was delivered in ten weeks and was able to haul trains on the appointed opening day in September 1854 making it the first steam railway in Australia. At the end of 1854 two Stephenson locomotives arrived and were put into service,

Mr Joseph Ward was an executive of the company. He moved on to become Secretary of the newly formed Railway Board in 1857 and on the 28th October 1857 he was given a presentation by the officers and workmen of the Railway Company. This consisted of a "Silver Cup and Salver,



The Ward Salver

and a gold watch accompanied by the signature of the subscribers on a scroll".

The salver turned up in Bill Ellenden's auction rooms a few years

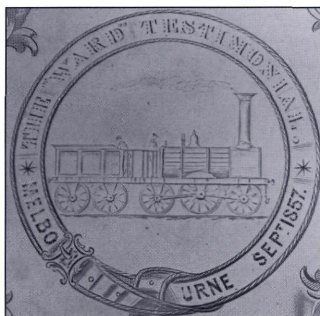
ago; the whereabouts of the other articles are unknown. The salver is made by George Angell, London, 1857 and was retailed by Kilpatrick & Co. of Melbourne. The locomotive shown in the engraving is thought to be the locally constructed one, rather than one of the Stephenson locomotives. Interestingly no accurate contemporary drawing or photograph of the locally made locomotive has been discovered. The drawing on the Railway Centenary postage stamp, 100 years had to be a reconstruction.

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The Australian Encyclopedia

The Argus, 29th October 1857.

When We Rode the Rails, Patsy Adam Smith. Cornstalk Publishing 1983.



Detail of Ward Salver

The Eureka Stockade – Ballarat, Victoria

David Senior

If ever an event united Australia, that event was the Battle of Eureka Stockade.

Up until 1850 Australia had been a fragmented society. Wealthy Squatters built vast empires and traded goods with India, China and Malaysia, as well as with sister fledgling colonies including New Zealand. They wrestled for power with the Military hierarchy and both cultivated favour with British appointed governors. Everyone jostled arm to arm with poorer freemen and ticket-of-leavers while the lowly convict lived a degraded existence only yards away in distance but light years away in reality. Australia was a small backwater with a hugely diverse population. This all changed in 1851 with the discovery of - GOLD.

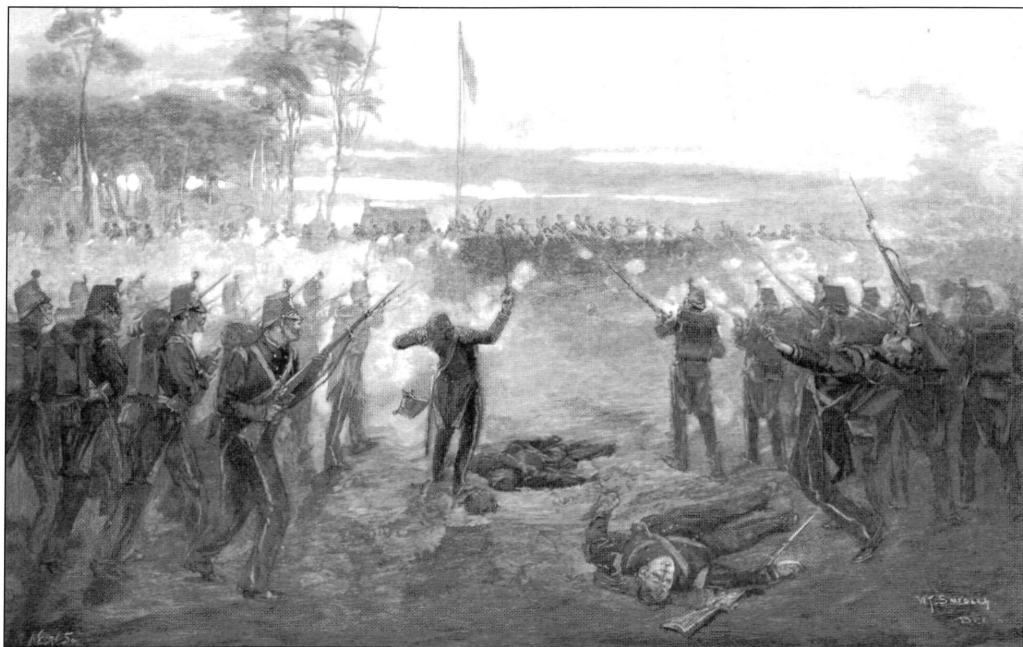
Gold brought people. Adventurous people. Strong minded people. Risk takers. People who were prepared to chance all to gain wealth and fame. And they came in their thousands from every corner of the globe. The old hierarchy and these new adventurers clashed. The Squatters and these adventurers clashed. The convicts and these adventurers clashed.

The old hierarchy closed ranks with the squatters and set restrictive rules for these newcomers. The worst rule was that all goldseekers would pay a monthly licence fee whether gold was found or not. And this rule was to be vigorously enforced using Officers and men many of whom were either inexperienced, incompetent or corrupt. Not the kind of enforcers easily accepted by adventurers. The

goldseekers were also told that although they were to pay a licence tax, they would not be allowed to have parliamentary representation. TAXATION WITHOUT REPRESENTATION. Highly galling to all free people. The scene was set.

Many clashes took place on many goldfields, but it was at Ballarat where events took their worst turn.

Gold was discovered on Ballarat in late 1851 and it soon established itself as the richest single goldfield in the world! By early 1854 some forty thousand diggers were at work there. Although many struck it rich others found little and were living in abject poverty. This was exacerbated by the Goldfields Commissioners who ordered daily licence hunts. Diggers were ordered up from their shafts



The Eureka Stockade, Ballarat, Picturesque Atlas of Australia, Sydney 1888.

sometimes three times a day to answer to some overbearing ex-lag from Van Diemen's Land wearing a troopers uniform. If no licence was forthcoming then it was off to the stockades to be chained to a log until a five pounds fine was paid, at that time a huge sum! To say that most diggers were unhappy would be an understatement. A chain of events was about to unfold that would change the whole political system in Australia.

One young Scottish digger, James Scobie, had bumped into a friend from back 'home'; lots of drinks were called for to celebrate. By late that night both young Scots were well and truly the worse for drink. "Just one final drink before calling it a night; lets call at Bentley's Eureka Hotel".

Bentley's Hotel was closed when a drunken hammering was heard on the door accompanied by a voice demanding service. Bentley was a tough brute of a man and not one to be trifled with. He was an ex-convict whom many believed was in secret partnership with a local magistrate, Mr Dewes. What happened that night is unclear but apparently a scuffle broke out between Bentley and Scobie. All that is sure is that Scobie's murdered body was found next morning nearby.

Bentley was brought to trial before Magistrate Dewes and acquitted. The diggers went wild with anger and converged on Bentley's Hotel to dispense some real justice! One thing led to another and the hotel was burned to the ground with Bentley just escaping with his life. The diggers had further insult added when three of their number were arrested and sentenced to six months' hard labour for participating in this event. Giant meetings were called for to discuss the diggers next move.

Thousands met on Bakery Hill and 'Stump Orators' abounded. Many leaders came forward. Frederick Vern,

an ex-Prussian soldier, wanted a military solution. John Basson Humffray, a Welsh lawyer, wanted moderation and negotiation to solve the diggers grievances. Timothy Hayes, an Irish patriot, was not only the chairman but also ideologically opposed to British rule. Other viewpoints were also put by Raffaello Carboni, an Italian intellectual, George Black, George Kennedy and others. The Goldfields Commissioner, Robert Rede, who had spies at this meeting, was alarmed! Initially, the moderates under Humffray won the day. The diggers first made representation to Commissioner Rede and then directly to the Governor, Sir Charles Hotham, but to no avail. And Licence hunts increased! It seemed to the diggers that the authorities were trying to goad them! Further meetings were held, a resolution was passed to burn all licences and to defend any digger arrested for not possessing one.

On 29th of November 1854 Timothy Hayes, spoke to a crowd of ten thousand diggers in part as follows. "... Should any member of the league be dragged to the lockup for not having the licence, will a thousand of you volunteer to liberate the man?"

"Yes! Yes!"

"Will two thousand of you come forward?"

"Yes! Yes! Yes!"

"Will four thousand of you volunteer to march up to the camp, and open the lockup to liberate the man?"

"Yes! Yes!". (the clamour was really deafening.)

"Are you ready to die?"

"Yes! Yes!..." Lots of pistol shots into the air. Later that day, a committee met at the Adelphi Theatre (built by Californian Charles D Ferguson) to work out a battle plan.

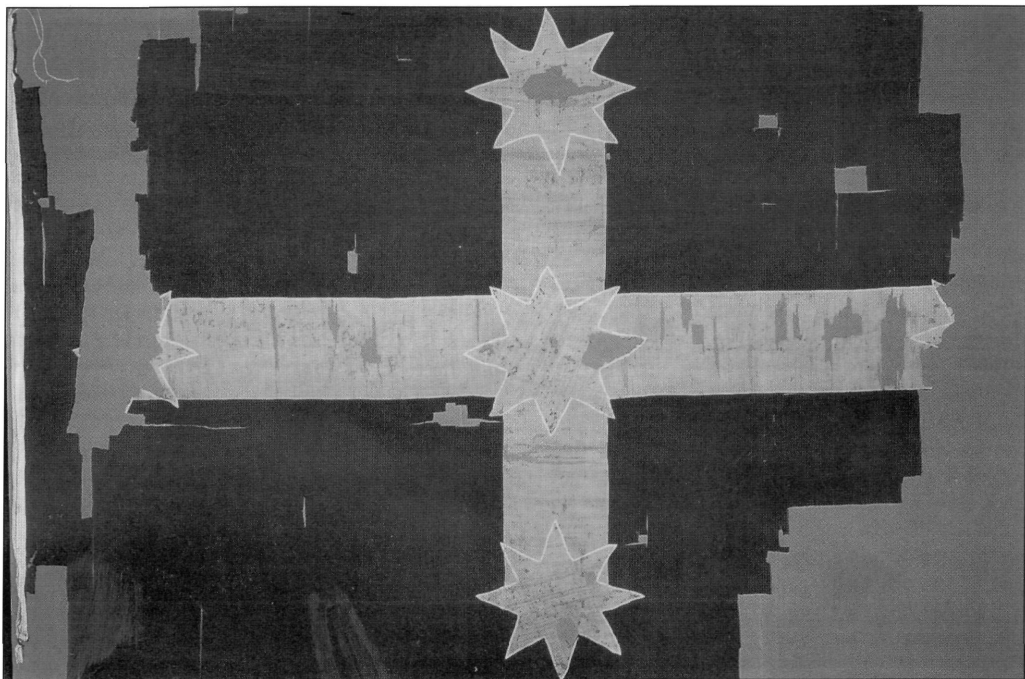
At a final giant meeting held next day a young Irishman (Timothy

Hayes' goldmining partner), Peter Lalor, stepped forward. He seemed to hold the crowd as if by magic. Lalor asked the diggers to swear an oath of allegiance to a new flag designed by Canadian, Captain Ross of Toronto. Solemn silence reigned. Lalor knelt down looking up at the newly unfurled 'Southern Cross' and administered the oath, "We swear by the Southern Cross to stand truly by each other, and to fight to defend our rights and liberties". Armed defence was agreed to. Thousands of willing diggers were to be formed into companies, drilled and armed.

A hasty stockade was thrown up on the Eureka Lead. A German blacksmith, a veteran from the Mexican wars, busied himself making pikes swearing they "... would fix red-toads and blue pissants especially ..." (a reference to the redcoats and blue-jacketed police troopers). Lalor, knowing that they were dreadfully under-armed and short on powder, sent out parties to commandeer supplies.

On the 28th of November a detachment of the 'Fortieth Regiment of Foot' arrived on Ballarat to help bolster the Police Troopers, an hour later a contingent of the 'Twelfth Regiment of Foot' arrived with arms and ammunition. Further reinforcements were on the way including cannon. Everyone was feverishly preparing for combat. They didn't have long to wait!

On Saturday the 2nd of December 1854 some fifteen hundred diggers were at the stockade. By far the best armed and mounted were some two hundred California Rangers under Captain James McGill. Carboni, by this time Lalor's lieutenant, says they were "... armed with a Colt's revolver of large size, and many had a Mexican knife at the hip." Many were battle hardened veterans of campaigns in Texas, Sonora, Oregon and South America. Some were hoping to form



The Eureka Flag. Ballarat Fine Art Gallery.

a new republic. It is unclear what happened to most of the 'California Rangers', but apparently later that day most were sent to 'commandeer' some cannon being sent to assist the government forces. They were to be sorely missed at dawn next day. At midnight many of the diggers in the stockade had drifted back to their camps leaving only a skeleton force of about one hundred and fifty including a few California Rangers, after all, tomorrow was Sunday, no-one would attack on the Sabbath. Then, somewhere around 3.30 am a sentry gave an alarm: 'To Arms! To Arms! California Rangers to the front!'

Peering through the misty half-light of early dawn the diggers could just make out the lines of oncoming Redcoats and Troopers. Led by a daring young officer, Capt. J. W. Thomas of the 40th Regiment, the battle was

about to start. This is a transcript of Capt. Thomas's official report.

Camp, Ballaarat, December 3, 1854.

"Sir, I have the honour to report, for the information of the Major-General, the following details relative to a collision that took place this morning between the troops under my command, and the Ballaarat rebels. The Major-General has already been made aware of the fact, that a large number of ill-disposed persons have, for some days, been openly organising, drilling, and equipping themselves, with the undisguised object of attacking her Majesty's troops, and, if possible, subverting the Government. During the night of the 1st instant frequent signals were observed passing from tent to tent around the camp, and several shots were fired over the heads of the sentries. I, therefore, considered it necessary, on the following day, to is-

sue a public notice, that no light would be allowed in the neighbourhood after 8 o'clock; that no discharge of firearms would be permitted under any pretence; and that persons disobeying these orders would be fired at. This notice produced the desired effect. Early on the 2nd instant information reached me, that the rebels were forming an entrenched camp at the Eureka diggings, about a mile and a half from our camp, with the absurd intention of intercepting the forces under the Major-General's command en route from Melbourne.

In the course of the afternoon Mr Commissioner Amos, in charge of the Eureka station, arrived here, and reported that an armed party of the rebels marched up to his camp, taking him prisoner, and subsequently released him, but kept possession of his horse.

During the whole of that day strong parties of insurgents were parading the diggings in every direction, many of them, in sight of the camp, robbing stores, collecting arms, and forcing people to join their ranks. I did not consider it prudent to attack them, as they were not collected in any one spot, and the safety of the camp would have been risked had a large portion of the force been withdrawn. I determined, however, to attack their camp at daylight the next morning; for this purpose the troopers were ordered to assemble at half-past 2 A.M. At 3 o'clock I left, with the following force, mounted; escort of the 40th regiment, thirty men under Lieutenants Hall and Gardyne; mounted police under Sub-inspectors Furnell, Langley, Chomley, and Lieutenant Cassack, and seventy men; 12th regiment, under Captain Quade and Lieutenant Paul, with sixty-five rank and file; 40th regiment, under Captain Wise, Lieutenants Bowdler and Richards, with eighty-seven rank and file, and twenty-four foot police under Sub-inspector Carter. The total number of troops were, one hundred mounted men, and one hundred and seventy-six foot; the remainder of the troops and police I left to guard the camp, under the command of Captain Atkinson, of the 12th regiment; having with me, Mr Commissioner Amos, Mr Hackett, P.M., and Mr. G. Webster, Civil Commissary, as the three magistrates to authorise my proceedings.

In excellent order, and perfect silence, the force arrived in about half an hour in front of the rebel entrenchments, and about three hundred yards from it, and undercover of a rise of the ground. The detachments of the 12th and 40th regiments extended then in a skirmishing order, each having its proper support. Part of the mounted force of military and police moved towards the left of their position to threaten its flanks and rear; the remainder of the mounted force and

foot police were kept in reserve. We then advanced quietly to the entrenchments, where the revolutionary flag was flying; at about one hundred and fifty yards, as we advanced, we were received by rather sharp and well directed fire from the insurgents, without word or challenge on their part; then, and not till then, I ordered the bugle to sound the 'commence firing;' for about ten minutes a heavy fire was kept up by the troops advancing, which was replied to by our opponents. During this time I brought up the infantry supports and foot police. The entrenchment was then carried and taken by the point of the bayonet; the insurgents retreating, I ordered the firing to cease. All persons found within the entrenchment were taken prisoners, and many of the fugitives were intercepted by the cavalry. I then marched the infantry and a portion of the mounted police, in charge of the prisoners and wounded, to camp, directing the remainder of the cavalry to recover the Government camp at the Eureka, which was about five hundred yards distant from the place where we then stood, and which was reported to be in possession of the insurgents. They found it had been occupied by them during the night, and that it had subsequently been deserted; the whole force, accordingly, returned to camp.

The prisoners were in number 128; a few of them, however, I ordered to be released, as I was not satisfied of their being in the engagement, though they were taken in the immediate neighbourhood. Several have been taken since on the charge of insurrection, which makes the number in custody to be 114.

The behaviour of the troops and police, both officers and men, in this skirmish was very good; and whilst I hope the Major-General will be pleased to convey to his excellency my appreciation of the conduct of the whole police force under my command, I feel it right to notice the ex-

treme steadiness of the foot police under Captain Carter, who were brought up with the supports to carry the entrenchment.

I am most desirous of acknowledging the great assistance I received in this affair, and in all the arrangements connected with my command, from Captain Paisley, R.E., who was good enough to act as my aide-de-camp on this occasion, and joined the skirmishers in their advance. Mr Webster remained under fire the whole time, giving me the benefit of his services. Mr Hackett, the police magistrate, remained with the infantry; and Mr Amos guided the cavalry to their position.

I cannot omit from my dispatch the expression of my deep regret at the dangerous wound received by Captain Wise of the 40th regiment, who was remaining at his post after getting a slight wound, fell on the inside of the entrenchment when conspicuously leading his company to the attack. Lieutenant Paul, 12th regiment, also received a severe wound, but continued to do his duty in the ranks.

The number of killed and wounded on the side of the insurgents was great, but I have no means of ascertaining it correctly. I have reason to believe that there were not less than thirty killed on the spot, and I know that many have since died of their wounds. Amongst these and the persons in custody, several leaders of the insurrection appear, two of whom lie dangerously if not mortally wounded in hotels near the spot.

The effect of this blow has been that the police now patrol, in small bodies, the length and breadth of the Ballarat Gold Fields, without threats or insults. To such of the wounded as have not been removed, I have sent medical assistance, and have caused the unclaimed dead to be taken away and buried in the cemetery.

I have the honour to be &c, &c, &c,

J.W. Thomas

Captain, 40th regiment, Commanding troops at Ballarat".

Captain Thomas's account doesn't agree on some points with other accounts. Many reported the continued bayoneting of prisoners long after the battle was over, and many attest to seeing lots of diggers' bodies with numerous bayonet wounds. There are oral accounts of women throwing themselves on top of loved ones to stop the bayoneting. Some sixteen of the military were either wounded or killed, included in this latter group was Captain Wise.

Peter Lalor recorded some twenty-two diggers whom he remembered dead and a further twelve wounded, some, like the Canadian Captain Ross, died later. It is highly probable that many more crawled away and died, never to be recorded. Lalor himself had his arm amputated in a hut near the skade. He was later spirited away to Geelong by Peter and Michael Carroll and nursed back to health.

The disappearance of the California Rangers is a mystery. One story being that they were lured away on a 'wild goose chase' by the government spy, Henry Goodenough. The military were armed mainly with the 1842 pattern musket. This was a single shot, smooth-bore percussion musket that was probably accurate to around one hundred yards. One can only conjecture what the outcome of the battle would have been if the fifteen hundred diggers from the day before had still been there. And two hundred of them were armed with Colt's large re-

volver. This would probably have been the .44 cal. 2nd model Dragoon six shot, a terrible weapon at relatively short range. Could this be the reason why they were lured away?

Thirteen prisoners were eventually tried for sedition (treason), these were the ones that the prosecution thought they had a watertight case against. If found guilty they could expect the death sentence. The evidence was overwhelming, so, imagine the embarrassment of the prosecution when the jury brought down a verdict of NOT GUILTY! The jury had decided what real justice was.

Rewards that had been posted for Lalor and others were now cancelled. The government had seen its error. Changes were made. The gold licence was abolished and replaced by a fairer system. The diggers were granted parliamentary representation and both Lalor and Humffray were elected as the diggers' first members of parliament.

Mark Twain wrote that it was "... the finest thing in Australian history ... a victory won by a battle lost ... the people know it and are proud of it." Many Australians believe that a 'fair go' was born that day. In 1948, Ben Chifley, then Prime Minister wrote "The permanency of Eureka in its impact on our development was that it was the first real affirmation of our determination to be the master of our own political destiny". And the 'Southern Cross' flag is used to this day by diverse groups to show defiance in the face of oppression.

Oh! As for Bentley, he was re-

tried and found guilty. And Magistrate Dewes was expelled ignominiously from the service. And we? We had the beginnings of democracy.

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People of Ballarat have long considered themselves the custodians of the site of Eureka and fierce debate has raged unabated for years on how best to celebrate this event. Finally, after years of hard, thankless work by many dedicated enthusiasts the City of Ballarat has received a Victorian state grant of approx. \$3 millions, and a further \$100,000 federal grant. This is to be used to build an "interpretive Centre" of national importance on site at the Eureka Historic Precinct.

Committees has been formed comprising experienced local historians, architects, business managers and others with skills to offer. Eminent historians such as Professors, Geoffrey Blainey and John Malony are also supplying expert input. A building design competition was held which attracted a field of some twenty major firms. The winners, 'Phillip Cox, Sanderson P/L are one of Australia's best known international architectural firms and were designers of Yalura, the Melbourne Tennis Centre, Sydney Football Stadium and much of Darling Harbour.

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Two Giant Blue-gums

Michael Bogle

It is difficult to add any new information about the Tasmanian use of furniture timber to the exhaustive survey found in Fahy and Simpsons' *Nineteenth Century Australian Furniture*. But during a recent visit to the State Library of Tasmania, Hobart, this researcher found some oblique references to Tasmanian timber that may interest *Australiana* readers.

The catalogue for the Great Exhibition of 1851 in London illustrates how anxious Tasmanians were to bring their timber resources to the attention of international merchants.¹ Van Diemen's Land could offer "Blue gum timber equal to oak as a shipbuilding timber" as well as wood describer as stringy bark, blackwood, sassafras, myrtle, muskwood, Huon pine, he-oak veneer, (*C. stricta*), two veneers of the native cherry tree (*Exocarpus cupressiformis*), veneers of Tasmanian honeysuckle tree (*B. Australis*) and so on.

Van Diemen's Land had another timber entry for London's Crystal Palace but it arrived too late for exhibition. In a report prepared in 1855, an anonymous public servant noted that a plank of blue-gum 145 feet long, 20 inches wide and 6 inches thick had been prepared for the 1851 London exhibition but it was so large that it proved difficult to find a ship to carry it. By the time a vessel was found, the sawn plank arrived in Britain too late to exhibit.²

For the 1855 Paris exhibition, the colony's foresters were determined to exceed their 1851 record and felled another giant blue-gum to saw out a single plank 160 feet long x 20 inches wide and 6 inches thick for shipment to Europe.³ Many of the unusual timbers from Van Diemen's Land were

also consigned to le Jardin des Plantes following the exhibition. The intense effort to fell and prepare the second blue-gum plank also proved to no purpose for it also arrived too late for the Parisians.

In 1855, the island's colonists considered their blue-gums to be the world's largest trees and avidly sought to exploit their novelty. In the 1850s, the news of California's giant sequoias had not widely circulated. By the 1860s, however, parties of tourists were visiting the Yosemite, California groves including Hobart's well-travelled widow Lady Franklin.⁴

In Victoria, during the Centennial fervor, the surveyor George Cornthwaite found a mountain ash in Gippsland which he optically measured at 366 feet standing. Australia was back in the contest for the world's tallest tree. But to verify his measurement the surveyor felled the record-breaking forest giant. It carried the

contest at 373 feet,⁵ The current "World's Tallest Tree" (a California sequoia) is 364 feet.

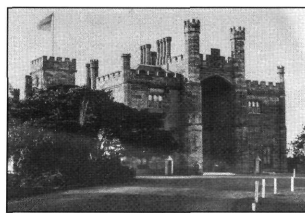
To conclude with the tardy Tasmanian blue-gums, one cannot help but wonder to what use these magnificent specimens of sawn timber were put? But given the wood's durability and its value in the 19th century, it seems certain that somewhere in Paris there is a part of France that is forever Tasmanian.

- 1 Official catalogue of the Great Exhibition of the Works of Industry of All Nations. Spicer Brothers, London, 1851.
- 2 Contributions from Tasmania to Paris. 1855. Best Printers, Daily Courier office, Hobart, 1855.
- 3 *ibid*,
- 4 Schama, Simon, *Landscape and Memory*. Knopf, 1995, p.190.
- 5 Bonyhady, Tim. "The Giant Killers," *Sydney Morning Herald*, 3 February 1996.

Government House NSW

In 1834 plans for a new Government House in Sydney were commissioned from Edward Blore, 'Special Architect' to the English King William IV. Blore's plans were modified in Sydney by the colonial architect Mortimer Lewis and the building was constructed between 1837-1845. It is the most sophisticated example of a Gothic Revival building in New South Wales, with crenellated battlements, turrets and detailed interiors.

The ground floor rooms include dining room, drawing room and ballroom. These contain an outstanding collection of 19th century and early 20th century furnishing and decora-



tion that reflect the changes of style and the differing tastes of the Governors and their wives. Government House continues to be used by the Governor for official receptions dinners and investitures.

Government House is now open at the following times: House: Friday - Sunday 10am - 3pm
Garden: every day 10am - 4pm
Booked groups: Thursdays
Telephone enquiries: 02 9931 5222

Samuel Clayton & the Foundation of the Darling Mills

The Story of an Emancipist Silversmith who Influenced the Early Social Fabric of the Colony

Penny Williams

Foundation Trowels & Freemasonry

A silver foundation trowel engraved by Samuel Clayton, whilst considered to be rare is not an entirely unique item.

The 1821 trowel made by him and used by Governor Macquarie to lay the first stone of the first Catholic Chapel in the colony is engraved with Masonic symbols as well as words associated with Freemasonry; *Wisdom, Strength and Beauty*, an indication that there was a Masonic presence associ-

ated with the foundation ceremony.

The Clayton trowel presented to Lieutenant Governor Erskine in 1823 recording his patronage of the Benevolent Society and the Auxiliary Bible Society is stated to be the gift of the Lodge N^o 260 Irish Masonic Constitution (hereafter referred to as I.C.). So that when a third trowel made by Clayton and used to lay the foundation stone of the Darling Mills at Parramatta in 1825 is also discovered to mention the Lodge N^o 260 I.C. two questions come to mind, how strong

was Clayton's association with Freemasonry and why was it that he was the person commissioned to produce these silver presentation pieces? Records show that he was certainly involved in the Masonic movement before he was transported to Sydney and once here he was probably the single most active person involved in establishing the first non military Masonic lodge in the colony that being the Australian Social Lodge N^o 260 I.C. (Refer to APPENDIX 1.)

The story of the foundation of

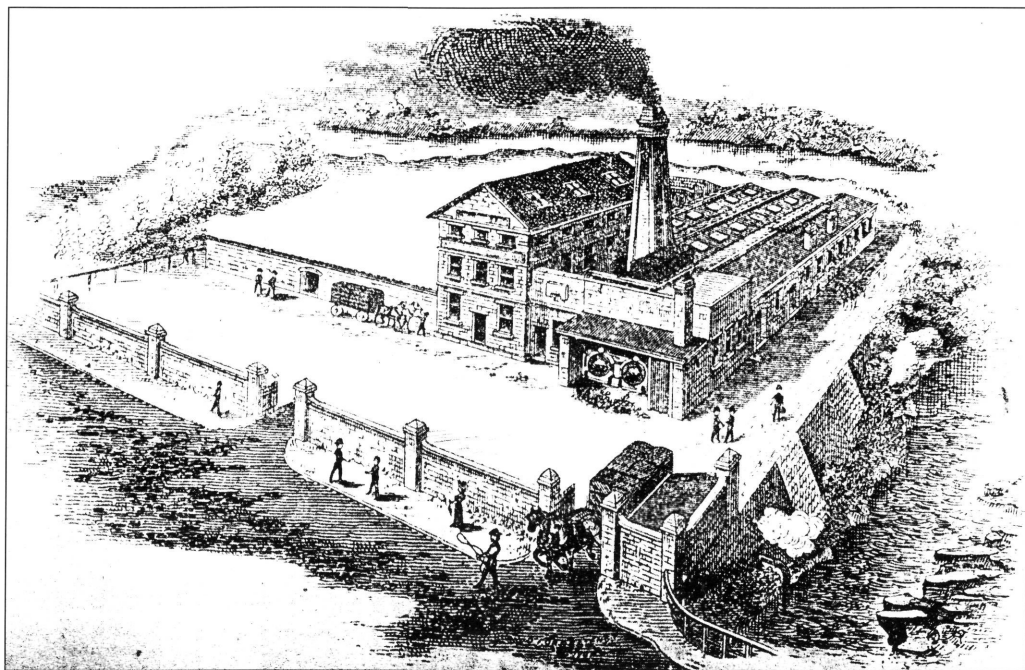


Fig. 1. Darling Mills, Parramatta. Courtesy of the Grand Lodge Library.

Fig. 2. Darling Mills circa 1911, Courtesy Mitchell Library, Small Picture File. (A comprehensive history of the Darling Mills, Paramatta, by J. K. S. Houston is documented in the Parramatta Historical Society Journal 1926, and APPENDIX 2 indicates its original location).



the Darling Mills in 1825, is used to illustrate the encouragement and recognition of enterprise by the Masonic movement and the necessary social importance attached to the formal ceremony. (Figs. 1 & 2).

Patriotic Mr Raine and the Darling Mills at Parramatta

The proprietor of the Darling Mills was John Raine, who on his death 20 December 1837 is reported as a "strange and eccentric man ... Liberal to the extreme, he expended several fortunes in speculation".

Thwarted by Commissioner Bigge in an attempt to set up a steam mill on the Derwent in Hobart, he selected Parramatta for the establishment of a second steam mill in the colony called the Darling Mills. Although in later years it was to become known as "the Woollen Mills", early in 1826 it commenced operating as a steam flour mill and by May 3rd 1826 was reportedly grinding between 2500 & 3000 bushels of settlers' grain per week and ... "the enterprising proprietor, we are glad to say, is beginning to experience a return of the dumps, and we trust

he will meet with a rich recompense for his patriotism." Towards the end of that year it was reported that he harnessed spare power from the steam engine to crush linseed oil, a limited colonial commodity and a component of paint. He also received acclaim for attempting to supply cheaper bread and meat to the poorer inhabitants of the Parramatta district.

The Celebration of the Darling Mills Foundation

It was traditional to honour enterprise in the colony, especially landmarks of settlement, as it imbued confidence in the aspirations of the populace. There seemed to be little differentiation between a public works exercise or an individual's entrepreneurial activity, so long as it represented progress. In reality any such enterprise would have meant supply contracts for building materials and victualling provisions as well as skilled building trades contracts, all in all, economic stimulation. We learn that His Excellency Sir Thomas Brisbane had been solicited to honour the foundation party with his

presence and to christen the Mills but he had declined as the Court was sitting at Government House. Mr Raine asked members of the Masonic body (represented by the two warranted social lodges operational in Sydney at the time, Lodges N^o 260 I.C. and 266 I.C.) to celebrate the Mills foundation. Whether Mr Raine was a Freemason is not established, however if he was, his background suggests that he would have been sympathetic to an English Constitution (hereafter E.C.). He was obviously a man of substance and social merit and so it was that the Freemasons of Sydney travelled to Parramatta and opened the lodge at Walker's Inn (the Red Cow Inn, refer APPENDIX 2). The pomp and circumstance surrounding the laying of the foundation stone for the Darling Mills is reported as follows in the Sydney Gazette, 4 August 1825:

"Having opened lodge at Walker's Inn, the procession moved to the place appointed for the erection of the building, when the following ancient ceremony was gone through by the brethren, clothed in Masonic costume:-

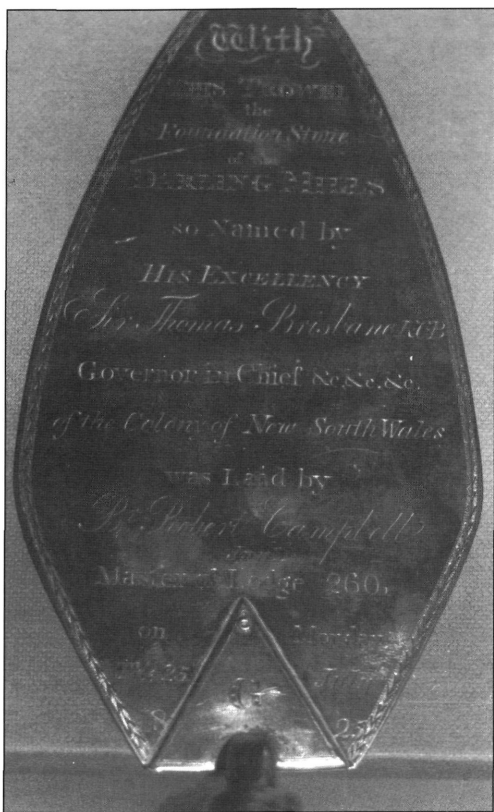


Fig. 3. Obverse face of trowel



Fig. 4. Reverse face of trowel

The silver trowel used to lay the foundation stone of the Darling Mills on 25th July 1825. Photographs courtesy of the United Grand Lodge of New South Wales.

An appropriate anthem-

"Let there be light, th' Almighty spoke, Refulgent rays from chaos broke."

And an invocation prayer was read by Brother Samuel Clayton, Master of Ceremonies of Lodge 260, assisted by Brother Hill, Past Master of 266. The stone was then laid by Brother Robert Campbell, jun., Master, with a handsome silver trowel made for the occasion and presented by Mr Raine, Esq ... After applying the plumb, level, and square, he approved of the work being perfect to proceed on. Corn, wine, and oil were poured on the stone from vases carried by three of the brethren. A short

prayer for its success with three times three closed the Masonic Ceremony. A display of fireworks followed. The brethren, after labour, retired for refreshments under the marquee, where a profusion of delicacies was provided by the liberal proprietor.

The Freemasons returned to Walker's Inn, closed Lodge, and proceeded to Hill's Tavern, Hyde Park, Sydney where with Mr Raine's private friends, they partook of a sumptuous dinner. The liberality evinced in this instance has been seldom paralleled in the colony by a private individual. The dinner was served up as usual in the first class style by Mrs Hill."

The Silver Foundation Trowel

Curiously Brother Hill who took part in the ceremony is listed as Arthur Hill and is believed to be the printer & engraver of 81 George Street, Sydney. Hill engraved trade cards for the silversmith Alexander Dick and was possibly employed by him to engrave silver after Clayton's retirement. But it was Samuel Clayton who engraved the trowel.

OBVERSE FACE:- 'With This Trowel the Foundation Stone of the Darling Mills so Named by His Excellency Sir Thomas Brisbane K.C.B Governor in Chief &c. &c. of the Colony of New South Wales was Laid by Br Robert

Campbell Junr Master of Lodge 260, on Monday, 25th July, 1825.'

REVERSE FACE:- 'Presented to The Lodge by John Raine Esqr. This belongs to the Lodge of Harmony PP. 814 E.C. Wm Smith W.M.

Br S. Clayton Fecit.'

[N.B On the reverse face of the trowel the engraving Br S. Clayton Fecit is contemporary. The rest of the engraving should be considered with circumspection. Lodge N^o 814 E.C. did not receive dispensation until 1832 [see APPENDIX 1] and records show that a William Smith was the Worshipful Master (W.M.) of Lodge N^o 814 E.C. in January 1858 (earlier records are not available.). A plausible explanation for the later engraving is that the recipient/custodian of the trowel in 1825 had some affiliation with Lodge N^o 814 E.C and handed over the custody of the trowel at a later date. (Figs. 3 & 4).

The trowel handle is struck with Clayton's standard 'S.C' maker's mark on the reverse bend as depicted below. (Fig. 5).

A Fateful Day for the 40th Regiment

As the Sydney Masons assembled in Parramatta on the 25 July 1825, and prepared for the ensuing ceremony they were quite oblivious of the disaster that had befallen the regimental band members who had set off with every intention of assisting in the ceremony.

The Sydney Gazette, 28 July 1825:- "A very melancholy accident happened on Monday morning by the overturning of the Eclipse coach on leaving Sydney. The coach was proceeding down the Brickfield Hill at rather a quick pace, when a bullock cart suddenly crossed the road. The coachman endeavoured to avoid it by pressing forward at an increased rate, but was unable to effect his purpose. The coach came in contact with the cart, and after hanging on the balance for a short distance; fell over with a tre-

mendous crash which broke in the side. One man, a musician of the band of the 40th, was killed almost on the spot; for he died within a very short time after he fell - his skull being fractured. Another is not expected to survive; and three or four more are most dreadfully bruised. There were sixteen persons on the outside, and six inside. Eleven of them were the 40th's band, who were proceeding to assist in the ceremony of laying the first stone of the Mills and Steam Engine- Buildings about to be erected by Mr John Raine ... The man who was killed was a very valuable man and is much regretted by Colonel Thornton. It is a misfortune that the act of kindness on the part of the Colonel should have been attended with such bad results: but it is quite impossible to attach any remote blame to him for consenting to lent the services of the band on the occasion ..., the musical instruments were broken to pieces and the extent of the injury was not generally known in Parramatta till late in the day ... otherwise it would have occasioned an interruption to the ceremonies."

By all accounts this disaster did not mar a splendid occasion in the history of Parramatta. Everyone attending the laying of the foundation stone was certain that the Darling Mills was destined to play its role in benefiting the settlers in the neighbouring Hawkesbury district.

A Colony of Thieves

Further inspection of the same newspaper reveals a heading "Ludicrous Robbery," a sad reminder of a lingering problem in the colony:- "At an early hour on Wednesday morning last it was discovered that the foundation stone

which had been laid on the previous day at Parramatta, for the erection of the new steam engine, had been removed, and the several coins under stolen, during the night".

The three storey stone building was finished and operational well within the year. It is hard to imagine the phenomenal manpower that must have been brought to bear on this project, but it is probably a reflection of the building capabilities and resources which were developed during the Governorship of Macquarie.

Samuel Clayton, Addendum

The following information may be useful adjunct when used in conjunction with previously published details of Samuel Clayton's life and work [NB Correspondence by Samuel Clayton has been referenced from the Mitchell Library microfilm files FM4 10585-10586.]

There are some questions about Clayton's life which still beg answers, the sketchy conflicting details of his earlier life, but in particular the seriousness of his crime?

Some records would indicate that he was born about 1783, whilst his death notice puts this around 10 years earlier.

In 1816 Samuel Clayton arrived in Sydney having been transported for 7 years. The Indents of the transport ship the *Surrey 2* describe him as 5ft 4½ inches with fair pale complexion, brown hair and hazel eyes and he was reportedly 33 years old. His wife, Emma, was a free passenger on board the *Surrey 2* and probably also accompanied his 11 year son. It seems possible that his first wife was Jane Macguire and that she was the mother of his son Benjamin Clayton born on 22 February 1805 [Genealogical Society General Index]. It is also possible that Jane Macguire and Emma are one and the same in that he married a Miss Macguire (Emma?) And that his last wife's name Jane has been misassociated.

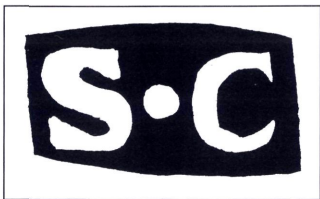


Fig. 5.

Samuel and Emma lived at 23 Pitt Street at the time he was involved in founding the first Masonic Lodge. His letters to Ireland imply that he was comfortably situated with plenty of patronage for his work as an Artist, Jeweller, and Silversmith. Emma, who was either 40 or 41, died on 25 November 1823 of a liver complaint and Samuel writes "a better Companion never existed ... but death is inevitable HOMO MEMENTO MORE." [Interestingly there is reference in correspondence to Samuel Clayton's sister-in-law, a Cornelia. W. Johnson of Baltinglass. Was this her married name?]

Clayton obtained his ticket of leave, T.O.L. number 1151, on 1 October 1824 and is recorded as marrying Jane Lofthouse at St Phillips Church on 2 October 1824. Her death is also recorded at the same church 6 years later, on 14 December 1830. Not long after this Clayton made his Last Will and Testament (not expected to exceed £1000) on the 2 March 1831, his sole executor was Benjamin Clayton.

Samuel Clayton was the Master of Ceremonies at the inaugural meeting of the Lodge N° 260 I.C. on 6th January 1820, and he retained an active and regular involvement with this lodge for 13 years. Neither the death of his wife Emma nor the death of his wife Jane seemed to greatly alter his attendance pattern.

However in December 1833 Masonic records mention his ill health and interestingly by 10 February 1834 we find that Samuel Clayton attended the Lodge N° 260 I.C. as a visitor from the Lodge N° 820 E.C. This sudden change coincides with previous research which indicated that Clayton was still thought to be in residence at 23 Pitt Street in 1834 but had moved to Windsor by 1835. Perhaps ill health was the reason why he chose to move to Windsor where his son, Benjamin Clayton, practised as a Doc-



Fig. 6. Seal used in 1820.

tor. The reason for his change of lodge is not immediately so accountable. However, if his son was a member of Lodge N° 820 E.C. this might have influenced him and it might have made it easier for him to share transport to lodge meetings. [This point is still under investigation.] Benjamin Clayton was initiated into Lodge N° 260 I.C. in 1826 but he does not appear to have much of a record of attendance after this. At this juncture he was living at the home of Dr William Bland and working as his assistant. The doctor was also an early initiate of the Lodge N° 260 I.C. but was later listed as an original member of the first English Constitution Lodge N° 820 E.C. when it held its first meeting in 1829. As Benjamin's mentor, his influence probably played a considerable role in the young man's life.

In 1826 Samuel mentions his son's desire to travel to Europe and in fact this probably eventuated, as Benjamin became a Member of the Royal College of Surgeons, London, returning to become active in the colony in the 1830's. He received a 100 acre grant of land near Robert Pymble on 12 November 1832 and he then married Francis Matilda Broughton, daughter of Commissary William Broughton, on 19 January 1834.

After Samuel Clayton's departure from Lodge N° 260 I.C. records show that in April 1834 he was asked to return the plates which were prob-



Fig. 7. Seal used in 1843.

ably those which he had originally engraved for printing Masonic Certificates when the Lodge N° 260 I.C. was first established. [Refer 1826 certificate for John Bray illustrated in "A History of the United Grand Lodge A.F. & AM. of New South Wales" full book details in Appendix 1]. He obviously acquiesced and felt happy to attend as an occasional visitor. On 7 March 1836 the Lodge N° 260 I.C. thanked him for making a present of a small Masonic seal, but after two years his visits stopped. Probably related to his departure for Gunning, New South Wales.

In May 1826 Samuel Clayton wrote that he had received a grant of land; "It may perhaps be useful to some person after I take leave of this chequered Life, for as to farming I know nothing of it more than to make use of its produce." However the Sydney Gazette reports that on 5 December 1832 he acquired 100 acres at Kurragong (sic) with a quit rent of 16/8d per annum commencing 1 January 1833. Perhaps this indicates a growing awareness of the advantages of acquiring land. But for a man who professed little knowledge of farming his major grant by purchase on 15 January 1839 is quite surprising. He acquired a total of 1535 acres of land in two portions north of Gunning, calling the larger Baltinglass, [RA, H.S. Journal 4 Proceedings Vo1 X, p. 285], and thus confirming a sentimental connection with the township of Baltinglass, 35 miles south of Dublin. In 1826 he sent love to among

other people ... "*Miss Maguire and the Johnsons of Baltinglass*" (his relatives by marriage).

Benjamin and his growing family moved from Windsor and took up residence on the property and no doubt Samuel accompanied them. Benjamin and Francis produced a total of eight children, and when Samuel died he was with his family. The death notice reads: "*Samuel Clayton, Died 26.6.1853. aged 80. At Baltinglass, Near Gunning the residence of Dr Clayton.*"

How successfully the family adapted to country life is debatable, a few months after Samuel's death, Benjamin gave notice that he was leaving Baltinglass on 10 November 1853 and just under a year later he died at Balmain on 15 September 1854.

Although little is known of Samuel Clayton's work from 1835 onwards it is thought that he no longer practised as a silversmith but that a small masonic seal made by him in 1836 may be the last known example of his work.

The two small masonic seals known to be used on certificates of the Lodge N^o 260 I.C. were possibly both made by Samuel Clayton. The former seal was used from 1820 until superseded by the later as illustrated by the press marks. (Figs. 6-7).

APPENDIX 1

A simple account of the early Masonic presence in New South Wales, including the establishment of the Irish Constitution Lodges numbers 260 and 266.

Official Freemasonry in Australia was in its infancy at the end of Governor Macquarie's term of office, but it is speculated that the brotherhood of Masons must have played a very significant part of rudimentary social life in the developing colony, particularly

amongst the emancipists who had some trade to their name. Freemasonry being non-denominational provided a common bond amongst those who did not necessarily practice the religion of the established church in the colony which was Anglican. The informal gatherings of Masons in taverns no doubt occurred on a fairly regular basis, (perhaps even at the Masons Arms, Parramatta, later licensed as the

Freemasons Arms and founded by James Larra in 1797), but until their own situations were secure they lacked the motivation to formalise their meetings.

The 46th Regiment and the 48th Regiment both displayed strong Masonic commitment, and held their own travelling lodge warrants which were issued by the Grand Lodge of Ireland. These warrants which were issued to regiments allowed them to hold lodge meetings wherever they were stationed. The 46th Regiment held the Lodge N^o 227 I.C. warrant and it would appear that a relatively few civilians were initiated into this lodge but certainly no emancipists were allowed to be lodge members. [Samuel Clayton presented an introductory letter to the Lodge N^o 227 I.C. from the Grand Lodge of Ireland; the fact that he was even given such a letter indicated that he was probably transported for a political rather than a criminal offence. Whilst the Lodge N^o 227 I.C. gave him some work, the regimental brotherhood were totally committed to maintaining their social standards, both Military and Masonic, and he was not allowed to join with them in their Masonic meetings.]

When the 48th Regiment took over the 46th's responsibilities in Sydney, they seemed to relax this previously dogmatic attitude a little, and there seem to be a few non military members associated with this travelling Lodge N^o 218 I.C. and some

emancipists. When Samuel Clayton arrived in the colony in 1816, the presence of successful emancipists was apparent and he had a natural affinity with the commercial community who were looking for a mantle of acceptable respectability. With backing from this quarter, coupled with the desire of a large proportion of soldiers to remain in New South Wales, a petition was sent to the Grand Lodge of Ireland for a Dispensation to form the first stationary lodge in the colony. The Lodge N^o 218 I.C. sponsored this petition and probably through Samuel Clayton's influence the warrant was granted to form "The Australian Social Lodge N^o 260 I.C.". Almost immediately the presence of the first stationary lodge was noticeable by its active involvement in the community.

The Lodge N^o 260 I.C. allowed emancipist members, and it is not surprising to find that on 6th January 1820, the Master of Ceremonies at the inaugural meeting of the Lodge was Brother Clayton. Research into Masonic records is beginning to throw light onto the incredible resources of Clayton's contemporary Freemasons in terms of their influence and ability. To name just a few early members of the Lodge:- Dr William Bland, Robert Campbell, Daniel Cooper, Augustus Earle, Francis Greenway, George and Richard Reiby, Samuel Terry and Ruben Uther. Within a short time a second lodge, the Leinster Marine Lodge N^o 266 I.C. was formed comprising a breakaway element from Lodge N^o 260 I.C. together with others who were probably largely motivated by elements of social status, and who did not wish emancipists amongst their membership. However after strong representation by both Lodge N^o 260 & N^o 266 the ultimate ruling from the Irish Grand Lodge was to the effect that anyone was eligible to be a Freemason in Australia so long as he was a "Free" man, Whatever

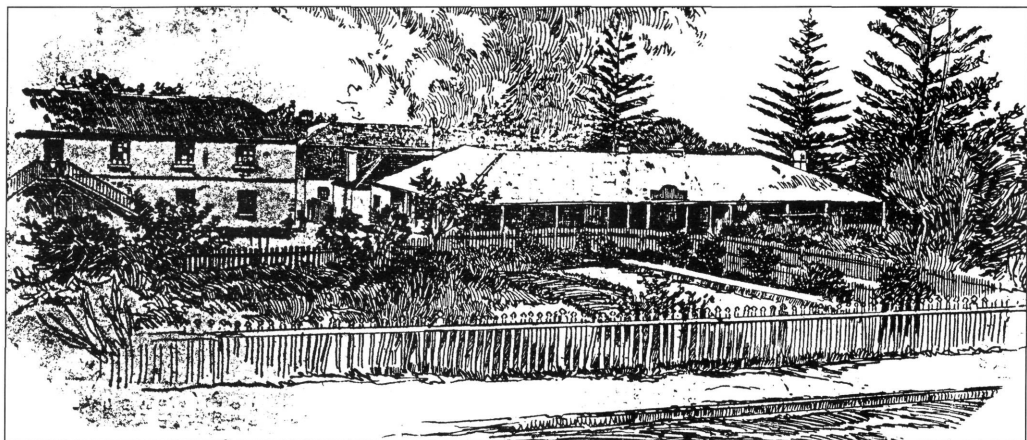


Fig. 8. The Red Cow Inn, Parramatta. Courtesy Michell Library, Small Picture file.

their differences the Masonic lodges joined forces to perform the foundation ceremony for The Darling Mills.

N.B. The first English Constitution lodge, the Lodge 820 E.C. was not warranted until 1828. It is mentioned in association with lodges N^o 260 and N^o 266 in the *Sydney Herald*, of 28th December 1835 in connection with the presentation of the silver snuff box presented to Colonel Despard. (Refer *The Despard Snuff Box* by John Houstone, *Australiana*, November 1995.)

The second English Constitution Lodge N^o 814 received a dispensation in 1832 but it was not warranted until 18th August 1848.

The recommended reference book covering this topic is "*The History of the United Grand Lodge A.F. & AM of New South Wales*," by Karl R. Cramp and George Mackaness, Halstead Press Pty Ltd, Sydney 1938.

APPENDIX 2

Parramatta Locations

The location of the Darling Mills (later referred to as "the Woollen Mills," ... "Sydney Woollen Mills," ... and "Vickers Woollen Mills,) is on the extension of Church Street

Parramatta as it becomes the Windsor Road, Situated on the north east side of the road, immediately after the North Rocks turn off.

From the exterior, none of the buildings on the site seem to bear any resemblance to the original mill which was a three storey stone building. The stone commemorating the completion of the mill is located on the Windsor road factory wall. It is not the original stone.

The Red Cow Inn where the Freemasons assembled and opened lodge was in George Street Parramatta. (Fig. 8). It was one of the few places at the time which could house a large assembly. The main residential building was described in the 1840's as "*This is sweet, English-Looking, unpretending hostelry, The Brown Cow kept by Mrs Walker. None better in England ... none so good in Sydney ... a one storey, verandahed, square building in the middle of a pretty garden...*" But separated by a carriage way from this main building was the Red Cow Hall a two storey brick building with stables below and an upper floor where social events took place. [Ref: *Parramatta the Cradle City of Australia its History from 1788*, by Frances

Pollon, The Council of the City of Parramatta 1983.]

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Prior to the commencement of this research, having no Masonic affiliation I was unaware of the depth of involvement of Freemasonry in the social and economic community of the developing colony and I feel that the significance of this contribution is not widely appreciated.

I gratefully acknowledge the generous assistance of the Grand Lodge Librarian of the United Grand Lodge of New South Wales; reference to the transactions of the Research Lodge of New South Wales N^o 971 and primarily one of the United Grand Lodge official lecturers, the Rt Wor. Bro. Arthur Astin, Lodge Sir Joseph Banks N^o 300. The Masonic information used in this paper was almost solely resourced through the Grand Lodge Library (with some reference to the Mitchell Library) and I respect the access to this historic resource.

I also extend my thanks to Fredric Sinfield, Les Carlisle, and Kevin Fahy for their assistance with the acquisition of reference material.

The Bush House Gladesville Hospital, NSW

Michael Bogle

The Bush House is part of a terraced 19th century garden complex containing the remains of a glasshouse and a lavatory located in the grounds of the Gladesville Hospital, South Campus (Once known as the Lunatic Asylum).¹

This unique building has been described at different times as a Victorian Garden Folly, a Guest House, Bush House, Tool House, Gardener's Store and a Halfway House for patients at the Gladesville Hospital,

Bush House is its most consistent name on contemporary maps and plans.

The elevated site for the Bush House overlooks Looking Glass Bay, between Looking Glass Point and Bedlam Point on the western reaches of Sydney Harbour where it meets the Parramatta River. A map in the Mitchell Library shows this bay as almost circular.² A late 19th century reclamation project filled in a portion of the bay and destroyed its original form.

An 1885 map discovered by the recent "Draft Conservation Analysis and Guidelines" researchers shows the Bush House surrounded by terraced Rose Gardens that follow the landfall of the area along the shore.³

The Bush House then reappears in a mid-20th century plan of Gladesville Hospital and it reveals that the rose garden had vanished and native bush had reclaimed the site. The shoreline had been given over to a "burning tip".⁴



The Bush House, ca. 1870. The structure is constructed in brick. The vermiculated pilasters on the corners and bordering the windows are made from rendered clinkers. The gothic-windowed gable once had rendered dentils under the eaves.



Tarban Creek Asylum, circa 1845, watercolour by Henry Curzon Allport.

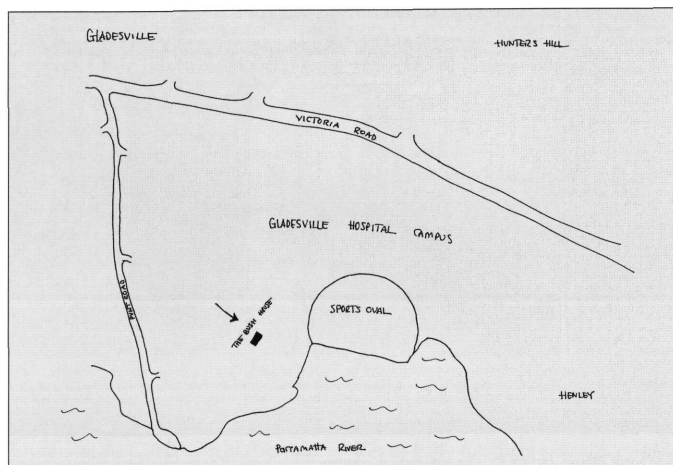
While the contract architectural researchers, Clive Lucas, Stapleton and Partners, are sure that the Bush House and some of its surroundings such as a gardener's cottage and a vineyard belong to the 1870s, there is not enough information to integrate these structures into a coherent 1870s garden plan, philosophy or theme. While the Colonial Architect of the era was James Barnet (serving from 1862-1890) and his office would have been responsible for the building's construction, it is very much out of character for the Government Architect's office.

Perhaps the impulse for the structure came from within the Gladesville Hospital? Doctor Frederick Norton Manning, the Superintendent of the Gladesville Hospital after 1868, believed in the healing powers of nature and introduced animals and garden-

ing as curatives. Sue Rosen P/L, the contract historians for the Draft Gladesville Hospital project, discovered a number of donations of plant material to the Hospital from the

Royal Botanic Gardens, Sydney, during this 1870s garden build-up.⁵

The "Draft Conservation Analysis and Guidelines for the Gladesville Hospital, South Campus" is in the



Map showing location of the Bush House.

hands of the Heritage Council and the NSW Health Department and the site awaits its fate. Naturally, the significance of the Bush House and the Gladesville campus is recognised in the draft guidelines. And if the site gets immediate attention, it will survive.⁶

But much more horticultural research is needed to re-discover and re-site this unique building in its original garden setting. This could be an impossible goal. Yet, looking at this unique building and the scale of Manning's Gladesville Hospital gardens, one gets the feeling that for Australian garden historians, there is something very important here.

Michael Bogle is a supervising curator with the Historic Houses Trust of NSW.

Thanks to the NSW Department of Health for allowing access to the documentation for the site. Thanks to Clive Lucas, Stapleton and Partners for allowing me to study the documents.

Notes

- 1 "Gladesville Hospital, Southern Campus. Draft Conservation Analysis and Guidelines". Hughes Trueman and Ludlow. (1994) for the NSW Health Department.
- 2 Mitchell Library, Map Z MZ 811. 1422/1841/I, Cited in "Draft Conservation Analysis and Guidelines", Hughes Trueman and Ludlow, 1994. p.19,
- 3 Plan of Re-survey of Asylum Reserve. Gladesville, 1885. *ibid.* p.26.
- 4 Public Works Department MH3/C3 198. *ibid.* p.32.
- 5 Untitled Draft historic study of the Gladesville Hospital site. Sue Rosen P/L (B. Johnson and S. Rosen). *ibid.* pp. 73-74.
- 6 The campus is ideally placed for adaptive re-use for a 2000 Olympics site or related purpose, The water transport connections with Homebush are in place.

Editor's Note

An early drawing circa 1845 of the Tarban Creek Asylum later known as Gladesville Hospital appears in the sketchbook of the artist Henry Curzon Allport (1788-1854) in the Mitchell Library. A pupil of John Glover he arrived in Sydney in 1839 and is distinguished by his several views along the Parramatta River. His eventual watercolour of this subject is in a private collection.

A similar lithographic view by the artist F C, Terry (1825-69) appears in his 'The Parramatta River

Illustrated', published circa 1860.

In 1832 the 'New South Wales Calendar and Post Office Directory' refers to this site as Bedlam, a lunatic asylum, now derelict.

By 1838-40 the Government Architect Mortimer Lewis had completed the construction of a substantial neo-classical sandstone building to serve the site's original purpose.

Its buildings and landscaping were increased and extended during the latter part of the century. Allport's view shows the Asylum in its original heavily wooded and untouched environment.

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Further Notes on Joseph Thomas Sleep Silversmith, Ballarat

John Houstone

Several years ago I acquired a silver presentation rowing cup as part of the considerable collection of Australian Silver and Gold of Martin Travers of Geelong. The cup is 17cm tall and weighs 9 ounces. It bears a skilfully executed embossed scene of a coxed rowing pair and the inscription "Ballarat / Amateurs / Pair Oared / Prize Cup / won by I Messrs Williams & Golightly / Jan 31 1862". (Fig. 1).

The cup is marked "G & S" which did not relate to any firm of Australian silversmiths of whom I was aware and which did not appear in either of

John Hawkins' books on Australian Silver nor in Kurt Albrecht's earlier "Nineteenth Century Australian Gold & Silversmiths".

John Hawkins published a photograph of the cup in Vol. 1 of his 1990 book (Plate 284), saying that the makers mark had not been traced.

I first thought that the skill of the embossing and the cartouche containing the inscription suggested that it was made by William Edwards (who had arrived in Australia in 1857) and that "G & S" was a retailers mark only.

In 1993 I bought another larger presentation cup from dealer Ed. Clark of Melbourne. The cup is 22 cm high and weighs 295 gms. The cup bears distinct similarities to the "G & S" cup in design of the base and stem and the style of the embossing. It is inscribed "Ballarat/Agricultural & Pastoral Society / Awarded as / Grand Champion Prize / To / John Smith / of Dean / For his Draught Mare Princess Maude the 8th / This splendid Animal / won this prize / at this Society's annual Exhibitions in 1873 & 1874 / October 30th 1874". (Fig. 2),

Fortunately Mr. Clark had telephoned the Local History Librarian of the Ballarat Central Library, Ms Katrine Kelly, when he bought the cup and she kindly offered to peruse local newspapers of the period. She rang him back to say that she had located an entry confirming that the cup was made by J. T. Sleep of Ballarat in the *Ballarat Courier* 13 January 1875.

This enabled the mark "G & S" on the rowing cup, made 12 years earlier, to be identified.

The initial G refers to Sleep's



Fig. 2.

partner from 1857, a Mr Gerrard.

Their technical ability as a silversmith is attested by the quality of the two cups referred to.

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Australian Jewellers. Cavill, Cocks and Grace, CGC Gold Pty. Ltd. 1992 (page 225).

Nineteenth Century Australian Gold & Silversmiths. K. Albrecht, Hutchinson 1969 (page 63).

[Vide. David Senior, 'Joseph Thomas Sleep: Jeweller etc. Ballarat' *Australianiana*, Vol. 18, No. 1, 1996].

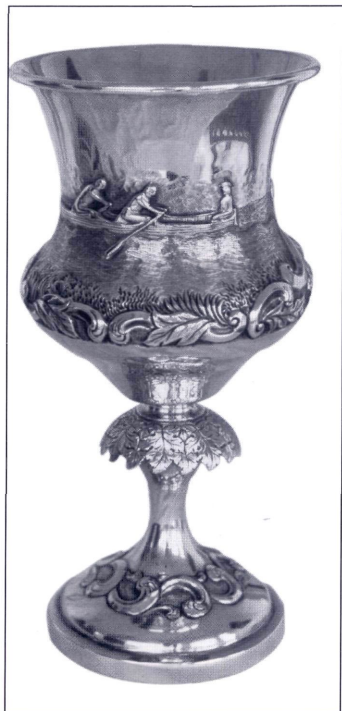


Fig. 1.



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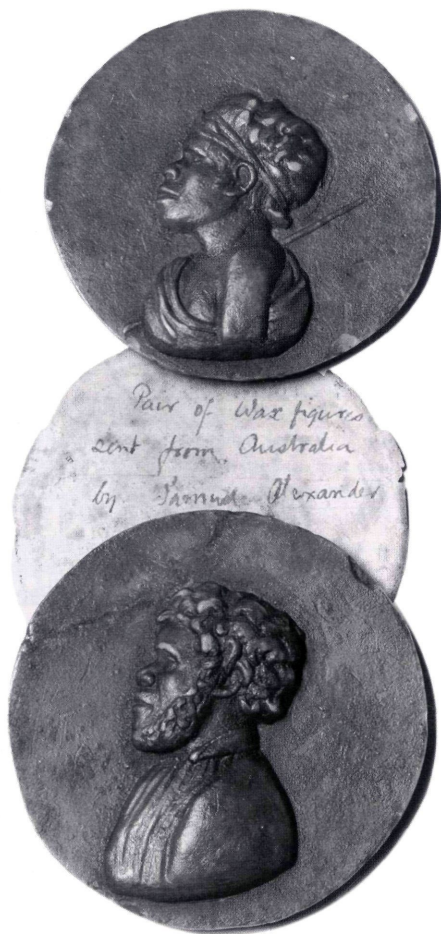
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A pair of wax portraits by Theresa Walker, probably those exhibited at the Royal Academy in 1841, of Encounter Bay Bob and his wife, being the earliest portraits of South Australian Aborigines.