

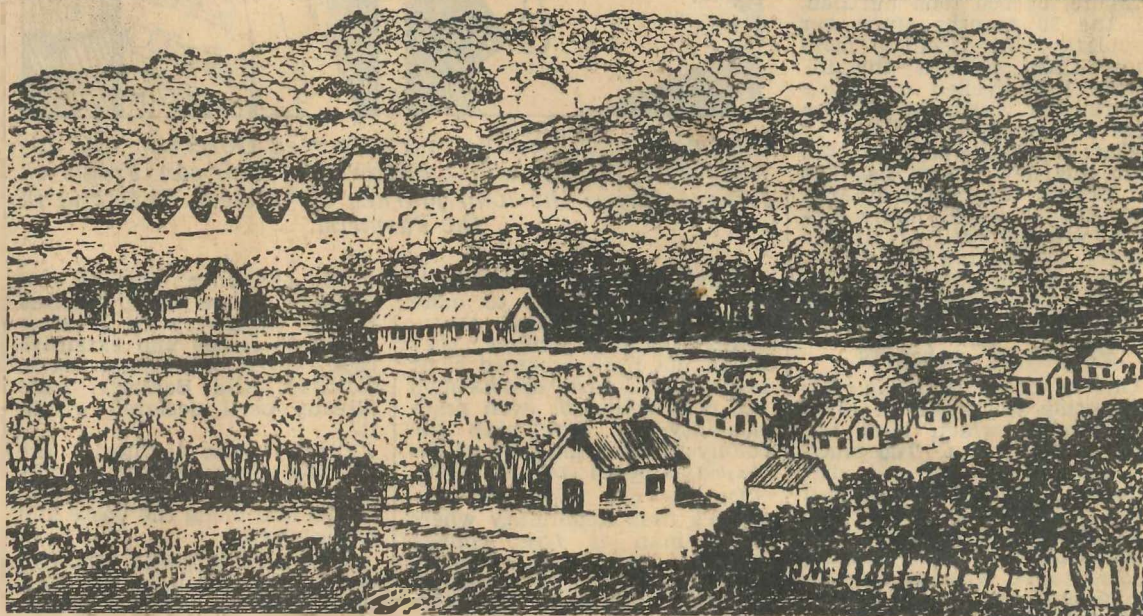
WESTERN AUSTRALIAN CHRONICLE

A SURVEY INTO THE EVENTS OCCURRING IN OUR YOUNG COLONY TO 1832

COLONY'S POPULATION ABOVE 1,500

Not yet the
land of
milk and honey

Our first years



Our town of Perth as it was when it became the seat of Government in 1829. The long building was the Church and School and the one in the foreground the House of our Governor.

ROME, saith the sage, was not built in a day. Neither, we venture to suggest, was she built in a month nor even in a year.

It seems not unfitting therefore that this, our first fittingly recorded attempt to mark the foundation of Western Australia, should take place three years after the event.

True, the most cogent reason for the delay is that the colony's first printing press was but recently arrived from Hobart Town.

But this lack has also given opportunity for a more comprehensive review; a three-year period has seen not only our colony's graduation from formless infancy but indicates the character it is developing and the path it may follow.

Exploration

By looking behind, one is sometimes assisted in estimating what lies ahead. For this reason, we present this summary of events since the coming of our first settlers — to refresh their memories of earlier ordeals and for the benefit and information of more recent arrivals not privileged to have taken part.

As readers will see elsewhere in these columns, the architects and — if he will forgive the expression — accoucheur of the colony was, fittingly, our present Governor, Captain James Stirling RN, formerly of Lanarkshire.

Five years ago, with boats' crews from HMS Success, he explored the Swan River to a point 10 miles above where Guildford now stands.

His reports on fertile river lands, and the need to forestall any French settlement in New Holland, caused a decision in January 1829 by His Britannic Majesty's Government to assist in the establishment of a colony on the Swan and to appoint Captain Stirling as its chief representative.

Those wishing to leave an England sadly impoverished by the Napoleonic Wars were encouraged by promises that all land would be free of taxes and that the colony would be Australia's first in which no convict settlements were permitted.

It was with high hopes, then, that our first settlers arrived in the Parmelia on May 31, 1829. There was an early setback when their 443-ton vessel grounded. It was refloated with the aid of HMS Challenger which had arrived five weeks earlier.

However, a base was estab-

TO BE LET

on an improving lease

CHELLENHAM FARM, eligible situate on the Canning River, containing about 5,320 acres; 15 have been under cultivation—and is well-watered, having three springs; and, being contiguous to Fremantle and Perth, is well adapted for depasturing imported stock, receiving colonial-bred stock to supply the market, &c.

For particulars, apply to Mr. James Davey, Northam, or to AGETT & STOKES, General Commission Agents.

lished on Bruache Island, which we now know as Garden Island. The arrival on June 8 of HMS Sulphur, with a detachment of the 63rd Regiment under Captain F. C. Irwin, permitted plans to brave possible native attacks by transferring to the mainland.

Few present will ever forget the stirring ceremony at Rous Head on June 18, when the Union Jack was hoisted and Captain Stirling read the proclamation constituting His Majesty's Settlement in Western Australia.

Although rough weather caused the majority of settlers to remain on Garden Island for many weeks, land along the Swan and Canning rivers was explored by Lieutenant Henry, of HMS Challenge, and by our Harbourmaster, Commander Currie.

First tree

In July the sites of Fremantle and Perth were selected. The former was named after Captain Charles Fremantle, the son of a Nelsonian hero and captain of Challenger, the latter after our respected Secretary of State for the Colonies. Mrs. Dance, wife of Commander W. T. Dance of HMS Sulphur, cut the first tree on the Perth site and its first stone was laid with general acclamation on August 12 — the birthday of our Glorious Sovereign, King George the Fourth.

• Continued on Page 2.

TO BE SOLD AT PERTH
On Wednesday the 20th Instant,
at One O'Clock
by Messrs. L. & W. Sampson

FINE American flour in barrels, Rice, Soap, very superior Schiedam in hhds. Scotch filled, Shawls, Persian for lining bonnets, white Sateen, and a Variety of Ribbons &c.

— ALSO —

A quantity of slops, ladies' tabbinets, Flannel, Hemp, Carpeting, Men's shoes, Table lamps, Cotton rugs, Axes of various sorts, Augers, Brass Candlesticks, &c, &c.

WANTED

BY a respectable man, age 35, a young and well-educated female for a wife. His temper gentle, his person prepossessing, and his means independent.

His only object in thus making his desires publicly known is to find a female of a similar disposition, to enlighten the remainder of those years which he may be doomed to pass by an allwise Providence in this world's wilderness.

Apply, if by letter, post-paid, to Mr. William Skippon, Carpenter/Builder and Undertaker, York.

N.B.—No objection to property.

FOR SALE

by private contract

AN excellent Black Cow, in full milk, and with calf by her side. To be seen at Bassindean.—For particulars, apply to Mr. Peterson, at Bassindean, or at the office.

Dismay at parcelling of land

• Continued from Page 1.

Much water has flowed past both towns since then. By the end of 1829, we had witnessed the arrival of almost 1,100 more persons in 25 ships, ranging from the 108-ton Eagle to the Gilmore, of 500 tons burthen. In the 30 months since our population has risen to more than 1,500; though the increase has levelled off lately for reasons which we propose here to examine.

For it must be admitted that this new colony has not yet proved the "Land of Milk and Honey" which many settlers, whether well or ill advisedly, anticipated it to be.

The reasons are manifold, though not, happily, insurmountable.

Engaged outcasts

One is disappointment, amounting to grievance, over the way in which land has been parcelled out. Too much of the fertile acreage discovered early has been shared out among too few settlers, so that many have found themselves from their first stepping ashore to be without land or occupation.

Another is the unwise choice of servants and workmen made by many heads of families before leaving England. As the Governor has himself complained, too many masters have engaged the outcasts of parishes, or else have brought out men without reference to character.

Drunkenness and rebellion among these ruffians is causing endless trouble to masters and authorities alike. Many of them are forsaking family service — a fact which is not surprising when even a carpenter can earn here up to £1 a day.

WANTED FOR WHALING

SIX Able Seamen, and a Boat-steerer. Apply to D. Scott, Fremantle; or to the captain at Fremantle.

A LADY accustomed to tuition, wishes to devote her time to the education of children in a respectable family in the neighbourhood of Fremantle or Guildford. Her acquirements comprise, in addition to the various branches of English education, the French and Italian languages, music and drawing. — Address to A.B., Post Office, Perth.

WANTED, as cook and house-servant (waiting not required), a respectable person. None without unexceptional character need apply. Inquire of Mr. Embleton, Club, Perth.

STOLEN

FROM Mahogany Creek, the Wire Screen of a Winnowing Machine, by which it is rendered useless. Whoever will give such information as will lead to the conviction of the offender shall receive Two Guineas Reward on application to J. Harris Esq., Strelley.



Captain James Stirling, our esteemed Governor, and his wife, Mrs. Stirling, who gave birth to their son, Frederick Henry, during the long journey to Western Australia in the *Parmelia*.

This lack of cheap labour is not only distasteful to more gentle folk, who find themselves tackling chores they would not have dreamed of at home; it also casts doubts upon the desirability, or even practicability, of developing the colony without the help of His Majesty's penal commissioners.

Despite our boast of Australia's first community where every man is free, convict workers may yet become essential here, as advocated by a visitor elsewhere in these pages.

But enough of this gloom-mongering. On the brighter side, our farmers, baffled at first by the basic differences in soils and seasons, are now successfully adapting their old English skills to a new environment.

Sands which looked incapable of nourishing anything more palatable than crab-grass are producing presentable grain-crops. Vegetables are thriving in equally unlikely circumstances and our sheep and cattle — most, fortunately, of good breeds — are thriving as well as, or better than, on the green pastures of Home.

Fertile valley

Even the land shortage may yet be eased. The Surveyor-General, Mr. Roe, is still evaluating the result of several hazardous, but highly valuable, explorations made under his direction.

Outstanding among them have been the expeditions of Lieut. Erskine and Ensign Dale of the 63rd Regiment, into and beyond the ranges named

FOR HIRE

JOHN GREGORY of the Cleikum Inn, Guildford, notifies the public that he has a team of useful bullocks to be let on hire.

FOR SALE

A STRONG cob horse, staunch in draft. Price Forty Guineas. Apply to Samuel Moore.

WANTED

AN apprentice, to learn the trade of wheelwright and millwright. Apply to Alfred Carson, Herne Hill.

after Governor Darling, of Sydney. These have resulted in the discovery of a river valley so fertile and extensive that three townsites, York, Northam and Beverley, have already been declared within it.

Other virgin territories are yielding their secrets, notably those around King George's Sound and along the Vasse and Collic rivers.

With such potential who can doubt that, whatever our previous setbacks, we are poised on the threshold of a Great Adventure?

Stirring song

To end this review, we believe it is fitting to recall that stirring song delivered at the first Governor's Ball by our Civil Courts Commissioner, Mr. George Fletcher Moore. Nothing could sum up more appropriately our hopes and aspirations:

*From the old Western world we have come to explore
The wilds of this Western Australian shore:
In search of a country we've ventured to roam
And now that we've found it let's make it our home,
And what though the colony's new, sirs,
And inhabitants yet may be few, sirs,
We see them increasing here too, sirs,
So Western Australia for me.
With care and experience I'm sure 'twill be found
Two crops in the year we may get from the ground.
There's good wood and good water,
Good flesh and good fish,
Good soil and good clime and what more could you wish?
Then let everyone earnestly strive, sirs,
Do his best, be alert and alive sirs,
We'll soon see our colony thrive sirs,
So Western Australia for me.*

HOUSE FLIES DESTROYED

A PREPARATION for destroying flies in any number, in packets at 2s 6d each, with directions for use, prepared and sold by C. Foulkes. One packet is sufficient a quantity for the season and a single trial will amply prove its efficacy in destroying those noxious insects.

Reprieve for HMS Success

Our jarrah saves hull

NEWS has been received from England that will gladden the hearts of our earliest arrivals. HMS Success, ordered home to Spithead last year to be broken up, may yet be reprieved — thanks to her new bottom of Western Australian jarrah.

Early arrivals will need no reminder that this fine 28-gun frigate and her gallant crew played a leading part in the establishment of our colony, even before its inception.

Commanded, then, by our Governor, Captain Stirling, she arrived first in March 1827 when her captain led a boat expedition 40 miles up the Swan and named many local landmarks after his companions, among them John Carnac, William Preston, G. G. Heathcote, Thos Woodman and Peter Belches.

As we all know, Captain Stirling's enthusiastic and enlightened reports led to the foundation of the Swan River Settlement. HMS Success, westbound from Sydney, was among our earliest wellwishers in November 1829, but disaster struck when she grounded on the treacherous bank which now bears her name.

She was towed to Careening Bay for repairs, her underwater damage proving so serious that her return Home was delayed for 12 months.

Naval authorities there ordered her breaking-up, but, we learn, they now seem likely to change their minds.

The qualities of the jarrah used for re-bottoming her have so impressed them that a special survey has been ordered, which might be followed by orders for ship-building timber from our forests.

Meanwhile, there seems a likelihood that HMS Success will be recommissioned as a harbour ship at Portsmouth.



Mr. George Fletcher Moore, the Civil Courts Commissioner.

SALARIES OF OUR PUBLIC OFFICIALS

Emoluments total £4,871

WE publish below a hitherto confidential item of information which, we are sure, will attract the interest and close scrutiny of all inhabitants.

It is a list of the annual salaries of all persons holding official status in the colony, from the Governor himself down to the Colonial Secretary's messenger.

We are aware that in England such publication would be looked upon as a breach both of confidence and good manners, a person's income there being regarded as very much his own affair.

But we believe that in a new, untrammelled society all should be open and above-board. It is the colonists who help to pay these emoluments and we trust that, in making them known, we may help to "nip in the bud" any tendency towards an inflated Public Service.

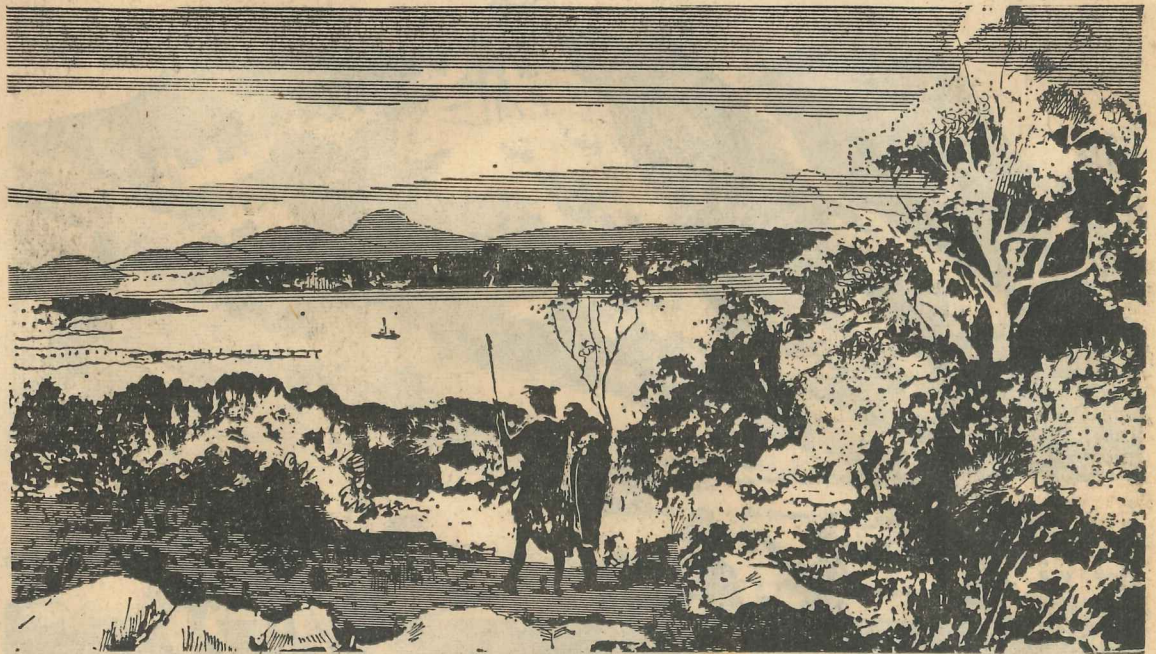
The list

The salaries are as follows:

James Stirling, Esq., Governor	£800
Peter Brown, Esq., Colonial Secretary and Acting Treasurer	£400
John Septimus Roe, Esq., Surveyor General	£400
Chas. Simmons, Esq., Colonial Surgeon	£273 15s
Rev. J. Wittenoom, Colonial Chaplain	£250
Wm. Hy. Mackie, Esq., Law Counsel to Govt.	£200
H. C. Sutherland, Esq., 1st Asst. Surveyor	£200
R. V. Edwards, Esq., 2nd Asst. Surveyor	£200
John Morgan, Storekeeper	£200
A. Hillman, Esq., Draughtsman	£150
M. J. Currie, Esq., Harbour-master	£100
H. W. Reveley, Esq., Civil Engineer	£100
Messrs. Browne and A. P. Smith, Clerks, Colonial Secretary's Office	£75
Mr. A. Price, ditto	£50
Mr. W. R. Clint, Clerk, Surveyor General's Office	£50
Mr. Shelton, Storekeeper's Clerk	£50
Thos. Blakey, messenger in Colonial Secretary's Office	£25
10 artificers, one at 6s 3d, the remainder at 5s 6d per working day	£872 9 s

Annual total £4,871 4s 9d

After contemplating this astronomical outlay we record with relief that the offices of Naturalist and Acting Superintendent of Parks and Gardens, held by James Drummond, Esq., and of Superintendent of Govt. Stock, held by George Mangles, Esq., are both unpaid.



Two of the local tribesmen on a knoll looking down towards a jetty on the Swan River.

Depredations of the natives

Fatal spearing

A MEETING of all settlers along the Upper Swan has been convened at Guildford next week to debate the increasing dangers to themselves, their households, servants and stock caused by the horrid depredations of the natives.

It will be proposed at the meeting that the colony be abandoned unless the Government takes more effective steps to safeguard life and property.

Such a proposal should not surprise Authority in view of the latest outrage by the natives, the fatal spearing of Mr. Gaze in his own paddock on the Canning River and the near escape of his companion Mr. Thomas.

The murderers, who have since terrified women and children by hurling their spears through windows, are apparently men of the Upper Swan clan led by that formidable warrior, Yagan.

Poor Mr. Gaze was their

third victim in the past year, the others being Mr. Mackenzie and Mr. Entwistle, who was speared to death before the horrified eyes of his two little sons.

There are those, including our Civil Courts Commissioner, Mr. George Fletcher Moore, who claim that the present state of war between Yagan's tribe and the white community is not altogether the fault of the natives.

These apologists point out that the killings are not all on one side; that, in fact, a native was the first to die in an affray over a housebreaking, that more natives than whites have been killed and that one of them was Yagan's half-brother Domjuim, shot stealing loaves from a Fremantle bakery.

It must be admitted that the natives find our property laws hard to understand and that some settlers have taken little note of Governor Stirling's proclamation that no frauds, cruelties or felonies should be practised against the colony's original inhabitants.

The blood-feud tradition of the Upper Swan tribe has been aroused and not yet assuaged. There seems a daunting likelihood of further tragedies unless more protection can be given to settlers and Yagan apprehended.

South coast neglect was shameful

A new order

Plans are under preparation for the development of a proper settlement on King George's Sound (Albany) now that it has been transferred from New South Wales authority to come under the administration of our own colonial government.

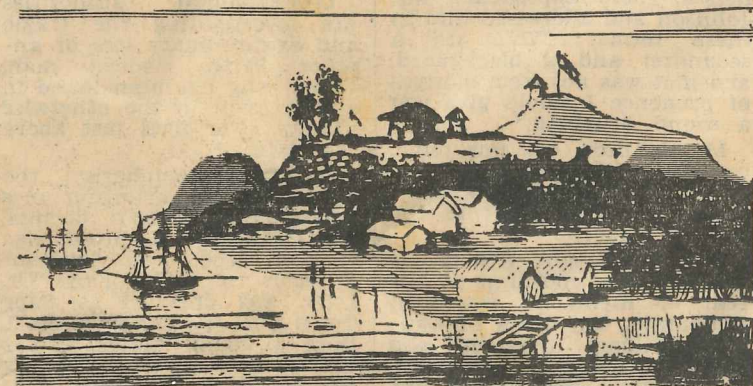
The change will remove a blot on our fair South Coast, for the neglect of its previous administrators can be described only as shameful. Although Major Lockyer and his convicts established themselves at the Sound six years ago, the New South Wales Government forbade them to erect a single dwelling-house or public work of any description, beyond the miserable huts that were necessary for the cover of the party.

What the object of such dog and manger policy could possibly have been the high authorities in the East can best explain.

An attempt at more civilised surroundings was made last year when a comfortable little house near the Government Garden was erected for the visit of the Governor and Mrs. Stirling.

More good buildings are planned, together with the removal of hosts of European dogs on Breaksea Island, which are evidently the progeny of animals landed by passing ships and whose hideous barking carries clear to the mainland.

A start has also been made on a road between Albany and Perth, although this is recognised as a long and difficult enterprise.



Rous Head and the mouth of the Swan River at Fremantle.



In earlier times, French explorers who came upon our shores, then known as New Holland, offered beads and other bric-a-brac to the local natives at Shark Bay.

LIBEL

A BASE and malicious report has been fabricated and put into circulation by JAMES DOW, butcher, of this place, with the sole object of injuring my credit and character — viz., that I left my native country in consequence of having committed a murder there. I am induced to take this public notice of the libel because the most groundless assertions sometimes receive a degree of credit when they are met only by silence; I therefore venture to publish the sub-joined testimonial of character given to me on my departure from my native place by several gentlemen of known respectability.

ALEX SMITH, tailor, etc., Perth.

"THE bearer, Alexander Smith, has resided in this town several years and is a quiet, industrious man; in our opinion a good tradesman; and of good moral character so far as is known to us.

Geo Primrose (Justice of the Peace for Aberdeen),
Robert Thompson, merchant tailor,
Alexander Stables,
Thomas Leush,
James Irvine."

— Aberdeen, Scotland.

FOR SALE

A LARGE collection of grafted fruit trees, selected from choice sorts in England, comprising vines, peaches, nectarines, apricots, apples, pears, plums, cherries, oranges, lemons, shad-docks, guavas, figs, medlars, quinces, &c.

Charles Brown's garden, Perth.

WANTED

A NUMBER of posts and rails in mahogany (about 800); the former not to be less than 3½x5 inches, and 7 feet in length; the latter not less than 2½x4 inches and 9 feet in length. To be delivered at the public landing place, Guildford. — A. Waylin.

DUEL FOUGHT
OVER SLANDERMr. G. Johnson
shot to death

WE report with regret the death of a well-respected Fremantle merchant, Mr. George French Johnson, 33, by a means which we hope will never recur in the colony.

He was shot to death in a duel with Mr. William Nairne Clark, a solicitor, also of Fremantle.

It appears there had been animosity for some time between the two men over alleged slander in business matters. Mr. Johnson seems also to have anticipated a fatal outcome, for he made a will only one day before matters came to a head outside Mr. Solomon's house at Fremantle.

Mr. Clark, according to witnesses, there approached Mr. Johnson and addressed him in these terms: "You are a scoundrel and a blackguard, and if it was not from motives of prudence I would give you a sound drubbing."

Mr. Johnson did not reply, but that night sent a message to Mr. Clark demanding satisfaction for the insult in the form of a duel.

This was fought with pistols the following morning at the rear of Richmond House in Fremantle, the home of Captain William Graham who acted as second for Mr. Clark. Mr. Thomas Yule acted for Mr. Johnson.

Mr. Johnson's bullet missed Mr. Clark, but the latter's penetrated Mr. Johnson's side just above the right hip-bone, driving 12 inches into his body. Mr. Clark immediately rushed to offer his assistance, appearing very agitated. But the wound proved fatal despite the assistance of Drs. Harrison and Langley, and the unhappy man expired the following day.

Mr. Clark, with Mr. Yule and Captain Graham, has since been charged with manslaughter before a Magistrates' Bench at Fremantle with the Honble W. H. Mackie as chairman.

All were found not guilty — mainly, it appears, because the dying man had told Mr. George Leake, J.P., that he had no complaint against them.

We would not quarrel with the verdict. However, we would point out that duelling is a brutal and barbarous aspect of European decadence which we would have hoped would never infect our young and aspiring society.

Tragic demise

Governmental authorities are investigating the tragic and extraordinary loss of another Perth medical man, whose body has been found in a depression in the otherwise shallow river flats just above the town.

His death emphasises the remarkable run of misfortunes among the colony's doctors. The unhappy tradition was founded when the Assistant Surgeon to the Colony, Dr. Daly, was drowned at Cape Town from the *Parmelia*. Since then a round dozen of our doctors have drowned, died by other means or lost their reason.

A HISTORY IN
BRIEF OF OUR
YOUNG COLONYCoast strewn
with wrecks

AN account of the Western Australian colony would not be complete without a reference to the history of our new home before British settlement. For it must be admitted that Britons were not the first "foreigners" to arrive here, even though they proved the first to realise its potential.

It seems possible that the Malays and Chinese visited our northern shores at least; virtually certain that the Portuguese, then among the world's great navigators, had sighted our coasts as early as 1542.

However, the first Europeans to frequent these waters, guided, we are assured by Englishmen trained in the Portuguese routes, were the galleons' crews of the Dutch East India Company.

Established in 1602, its headquarters were at Batavia. To return thence from Holland its ships would round the Cape of Good Hope and, like our own vessels, harness the west winds of the Roaring Forties to drive across the Indian Ocean before turning north for Java.

Perpetual hazard

But lack of chronometers to measure latitude accurately meant a perpetual hazard of driving at night upon the coast of Western Australia, marked on their charts as New Holland. Even in daylight, treacherous reefs could claim wrecks many miles offshore.

Sadly, their first known European victim was the English ship *Tryal*, whose bottom was ripped out in 1622 by uncharted rocks near the Monte Bello Islands. Later victims included the Dutch East Indiamen *Zeewyck* and *Batavia*; the latter wreck giving rise to what it may fervently be hoped, will remain the most bloody episode in our local history.

Led by a ruffian named Jerome Corneliz, most of the crew mutinied while the captain was navigating a cutter to Batavia for rescue. He returned to find the rogues had massacred 125 survivors, many of them women and children. For this crime Corneliz and his henchmen had their hands cut off and were hanged on the Abrolhos Islands.

One man was reprieved and marooned on the mainland. This solitary sinner appears to have been the first white inhabitant of Western Australia.

In the meantime those who had visited these coasts and



The mutineers of the East Indiaman, Batavia, receive their punishment on the Abrolhos Islands. First their hands were cut off and then they were hanged for their shocking crimes.

returned were singularly unimpressed.

The Dutch skipper Hartog landed in 1616 on an island 500 miles north of Fremantle but contented himself with leaving an inscribed tin plate replaced in 1697 by his countryman Vlamingh. This latter was removed only 14 years ago by the French explorer de Freycinet.

Our own privateer, Dampier, in the ship *Cygnets*, spent two months at King's Sound in 1688 but dismissed the country as arid and the natives as "The most miserable people in the world."

Willem Vlamingh, in command of the *Geelvink*, *Nyptang* and *Wesel*, appears to have led the first European party to visit our own portion of Western Australia, when he landed in 1696 and explored Rottneest Island and the lower reaches of the Swan River, both of which he named.

The naming

Dampier returned three years later in the *Roebuck* with instructions from King William the Third to explore more thoroughly. However, he turned North from Shark Bay and our corner of the continent remained again undisturbed until little more than 40 years ago.

These latest bold seamen sent to arouse our "Sleeping Beauty" were Captain George Vancouver, in *HMS Discovery*, and Captain Broughton, in *HMS Chatham*. Captain Vancouver sighted and named Chatham Island, near Leeuwin, in 1791, then sailed on to explore the coast as far as Esperance, including King George's Sound.

An expedition along our South coast the following year, by Admiral D'Entrecasteaux with the ships *La Recherche* and *L'Esperance*, concerned the Lords of the Admiralty by indicating growing French interest in the area.

In 1801, they dispatched Captain Matthew Flinders in *HMS Investigator*, to survey the entire southern coastline of what he re-named "Australia" On his way Home, he was

treacherously imprisoned at Mauritius by the French, who immediately mounted another expedition under Commodore Nicholas Baudin. His ships revisited Rottneest and the Swan River and explored north as far as North West Cape, bequeathing us such names as Port Leschenault and Heirisson Island.

A third French expedition under de Freycinet convinced the Admiralty its fears were well grounded, and persuaded it in 1817 to dispatch another survey and exploring team under Lieutenant Philip King in *HMS Mermaid*.

Lieutenant King returned in *HMS Bathurst* in 1822; only five years before Captain Stirling, now our acclaimed Governor, arrived to explore the Swan River and successfully to recommend the establishment of a British Colony.

Long may he remain with us; and may his dream of an Earthly Paradise here at last be realised.

Count your blessings

NO matter what problems may confront us in our infant colony, count your blessings; for the outlook here is far happier than at Home.

This is the brave message from one of our earliest arrivals, Mrs. Eliza Shaw, in a letter to an English friend: "Had I been aware of the full extent of all to be undergone in the first instance I might have shrunk from it, appalled.

"Yet were all we regard and love with us, I do not think I should cast many longing, lingering looks back to England.

"I fear her prospects are far from bright, she is certainly far past the meridian of her glory. The times are awful and portentous."

OUR FOOD SITUATION — PARLOUS

THE arrival of two more ships laden with stores from England has relieved somewhat the danger of famine in the colony. Notwithstanding, the overall food situation is parlous in the extreme.

Some idea of the shortages which afflict the population can be gauged from the prevailing prices: wheat, 35s to 40s per bushel; salt pork from £10 to £14 a cask; fresh meat, 1s 10d per lb.; and butter 7s per lb. when procurable at all.

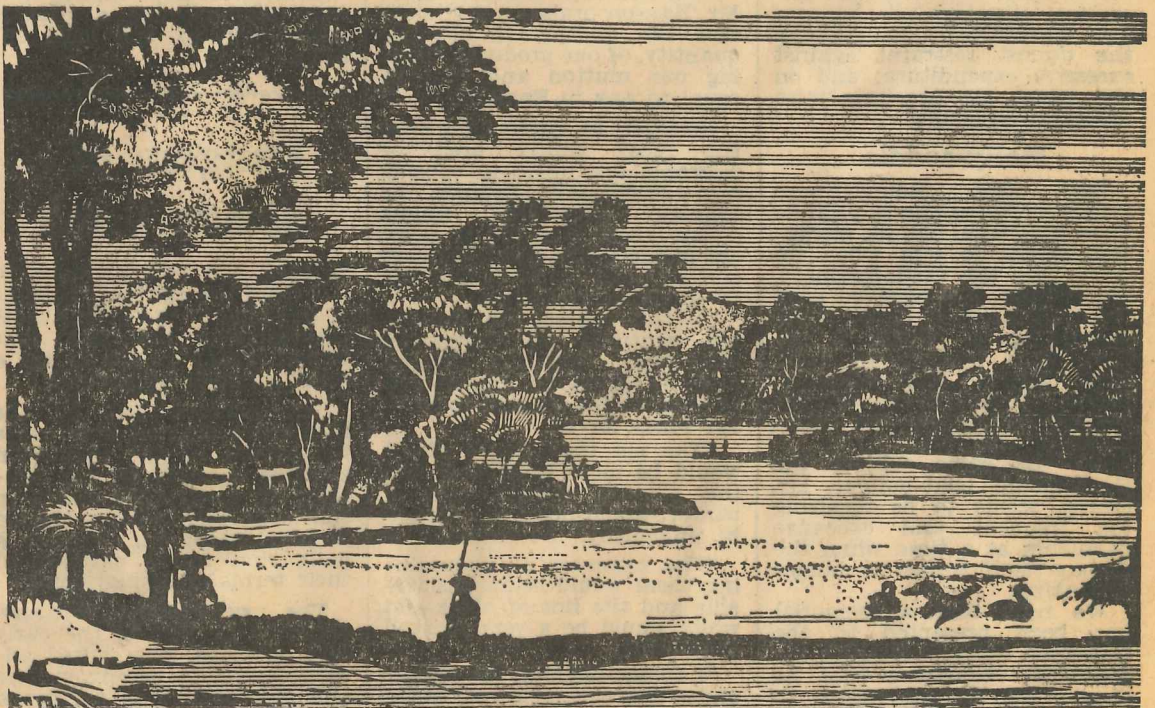
Some of these difficulties have been caused by adverse winds delaying the arrival of storeships, but the blame for some, it must be admitted, lies nearer home.

Big grants

When more than a million acres of land have been granted since settlement three years ago, it is scandalous to report that only 200 were under cultivation soon enough to yield the last harvest, such as it was.

Lack of agricultural experience — and of ready money to buy stock — has been blamed by some for this unhappy situation.

It is to be hoped not many try to remedy the latter deficit by the methods of a local inventive genius, Mr. Woods, who created his own currency by buying up and melting into coinage, all available white metal cutlery and teapots. His enterprise has just earned him seven years' transportation to Van Diemen's Land.



Captain Stirling's party exploring the Upper Swan.

Our finances must be put into order

Accounts confer no credit

OUR recently-appointed Legislative Council will have a hard task in putting the Colony's financial affairs in order; for the communal cash-box has been almost emptied before the paint is dry upon it.

That is the sad and astounding fact emerging from publication of the Colonial Accounts for 1831, which have but newly been released.

No doubt Authority would wish they might have been concealed still longer, for the picture they present confers no credit upon our policy-makers.

Although the Colony's credit balance stood at £4,721 15s 11½d at the end of 1830, it was depleted last year so disastrously that at the year's end it had shrunk to only £146 12s.

By far the most significant disbursements during this period seem to have been payments to destitute persons totalling £69 11s 7d and a very large number of loans to settlers.

These varied in amount from a few shillings to nearly £400, and together represented a total of £3,000.

It may be said that expenditure under both these headings is necessary at this period of our development, both to succour those families still without gainful employment and to help in providing opportunities which would expand our economy and draw in these unfortunates.

But, since we are in an uncertain situation, it behoves the Government to exercise the utmost restraint against excessive expenditure; and on this point the Accounts raise considerable doubt.

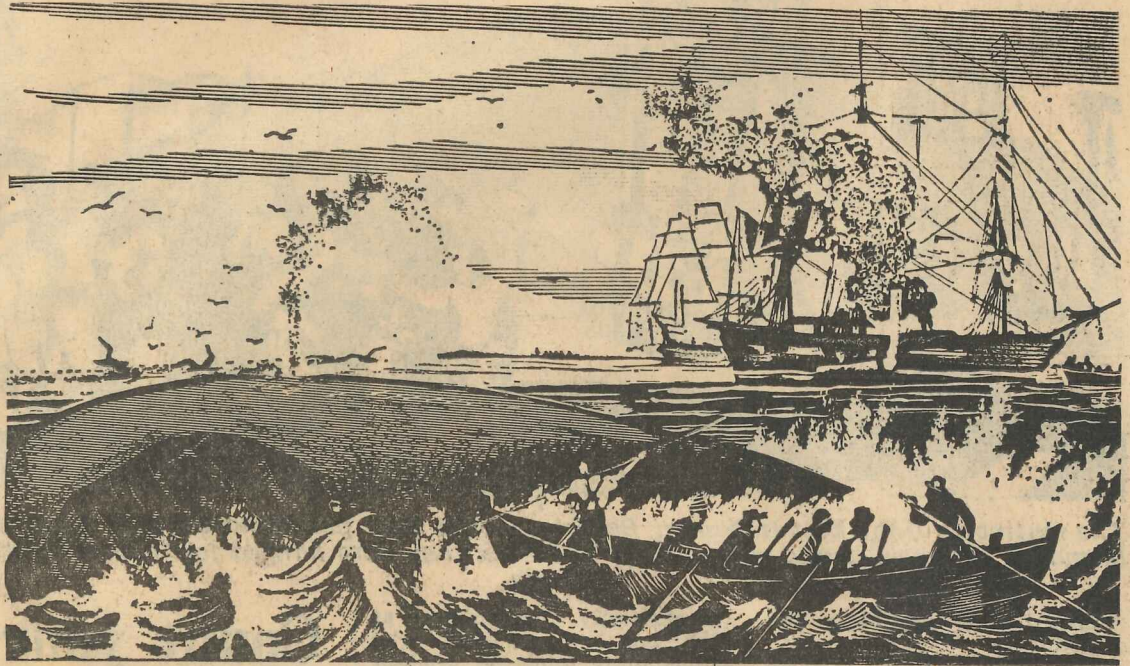
Molly-coddle

The new Round-House Prison at Fremantle is a handsome structure, but its attraction begins to dim when we learn that the Civil Engineer, Mr. Reveley, has received payment of no less than £1,202 concerning it. Would it not have been possible to build more simply and basically, rather than thus "molly-coddle" felons at the community's expense?

On the same subject the Government boat-builder, Mr. Smith, seems to be receiving too frequent and excessive payments at a time when the Colony itself seems in danger of sinking.

We note that a memorial has been presented to the Governor, Captain Stirling, respectfully requesting that he should ask on his return to England for a broadening of the Council's powers.

CATCH BY SOUTH SEA WHALERS



South Sea whalers off our coast show the way to a new industry.

We suggest equally respectfully that while on his pilgrimage to Westminster he should ask for a broadening of our finances, which are strait indeed.

Cheap labour from India?

To see ourselves as others see us is always reckoned a salutary experience, if sometimes a painful one.

We offer, therefore, the observations of a recent visitor, Mr. J. Hanson, now returned to Madras after having sailed to the Swan River, King George's Sound and Van Diemen's Land.

In a long and detailed letter, Mr. Hanson praises our climate and the quality, if not the quantity, of our products, classing our mutton and beef as equal to any in England.

However, he warns that even the most gently bred of migrants are liable to subside into "Robinson Crusoes or country labourers" unless cheap labour is found to carry out public works and build cart and carriage roads to link our far-flung communities.

On this subject Mr. Hanson has ventured an interesting suggestion; that the government of India be approached to send native convicts to build our roads for us.

"The aid they would afford would be most invaluable and the climate, though cold in winter, would not I am certain be unhealthy," he writes.

"The expenses of maintaining them would be inconsiderable and the line of black and white would be a very marked distinction.

"I do not see that the settler, under this arrangement, would have cause to dread the slightest contamination to Society."

2s.2d.lb. for first wool

WE are happy to announce a successful export of wool from the Colony by Mr. Spencer Trimmer, following his depasturing of 500 sheep east of the Darling Ranges.

His wool parcel was sent to London and has been sold there at the rate of 2s 2d per lb; notwithstanding criticism by so-called experts, who scarcely comprehend our local difficulties, that the product was "dirty and badly packed."

The success of Mr. Trimmer's venture gives hope that in time wool may become a sizeable contributor to our local income.

Dangers of demon drink

WAYS are being sought to curb the excessive amount of drinking in the Colony, notwithstanding the fact that import duties on spirits are a principal item of revenue.

The concern felt by the Legislative Council may cause the repeal of the regulation allowing masters to pay one-third of a servant's wages in spirits, as well as being obliged to give males and females a daily rum ration as part of their terms of employment.

The wet-wages measure, approved in 1830 in the early coin shortage, has caused adverse comment among visitors and the Council is concerned that the drinking habit may spread to the natives.

Mr. Lukin plans to venture into whaling

MR. LIONEL LUKIN, of Fremantle, is contemplating purchase of a suitable vessel to engage in whaling at King George's Sound.

His enterprise will be welcomed on two counts, the development of a new local industry and the discouragement of too great an appreciation of that part of our coast by overseas interests.

It is reliably reported that six times as many foreign ships as British called last year at the Sound, the great majority of them American whalers. This cannot be a healthy state of affairs for a British port.

Mr. Lukin, who arrived in the Egyptian in 1830, is an engineer who, despite British nationality, served for many years in the army of the Czar.

At present he owns the goods barge Fanny, which plies between Fremantle and Perth.

Another local venture planned is a flour mill to the south of The Narrows. Mr. William Shenton hopes to have it operating next year.

TO BE LET

THAT well known Farm on Melville water, the property of Mr. A. Butler, consisting of Two Thousand Acres.

All persons cutting down trees or taking wood from the aforesaid estate or trespassing in any way, will be prosecuted according to law.

W. H. SMITHERS, Agent.

COLONY'S FOUNDING FATHERS

Their names
will ever be
remembered

THERE is some little chance that this publication may be regarded as worthy of preservation for posterity. We therefore take pleasure in listing below those who may rightly be termed our Founding Fathers; the Government appointees and those of lesser stock who formed the first settlers' party aboard the *Parmelia*.

May they and their progeny prosper, and their names be remembered in the history of the colony.

Captain James Stirling, RN, Lieutenant-Governor; Mrs. Ellen Stirling, wife; Andrew Stirling, 3, son; Frederick Stirling, 4 months, son; William Stirling, nephew.

Peter Brown, Colonial Secretary; Mrs. Caroline Brown, wife; MacBride Brown, 2, son; Ann Brown, 6 months, daughter.

Commander M. J. Currie, RN, Harbourmaster; Mrs. Jane Currie, wife; Mrs. Jane Daly, widow of the Assistant Surgeon who died at Cape Town; Joseph Daly, 6, son; Henry John Daly, 4, son; Edward Daly, 2, son; Eliza Rose Daly, 2 months, daughter.

Thomas Davis, Smith; Mrs. Catherine Davis, wife; Jno Davis, 3, son; Charlotte Davis, 2, daughter; John Davis, 13, nephew.

James Drummond, Superintendent of Gardens; Mrs. Sarah Drummond, wife; Thomas Drummond, 18, son; Jane Drummond, 16, daughter; James Drummond, 15, son; John Drummond, 13, son; Johnson Drummond, 9, son; Euphemia Drummond, 3, daughter.

Alexander Fendam, Cooper; Mary Fendam, wife.

William Hoking, Artificer; Mary Hoking, wife; Jno Hoking, 14, son; Wm Hoking, 12, son; Mary Hoking, 10, daughter; Thomas Hoking, 8, son; David Hoking, 6, son; Charles Hoking, 2, son.

George Mangles, Stock Superintendent.

John Morgan, Storekeeper; Mrs. Rebecca Morgan, wife; James Morgan, 11, son; Rebecca Morgan, 12, daughter.

H. W. Reveley, Civil Engineer; Mrs. Amelia Reveley, wife.

John Septimus Roe, Surveyor; Mrs. Matilda Roe, wife.

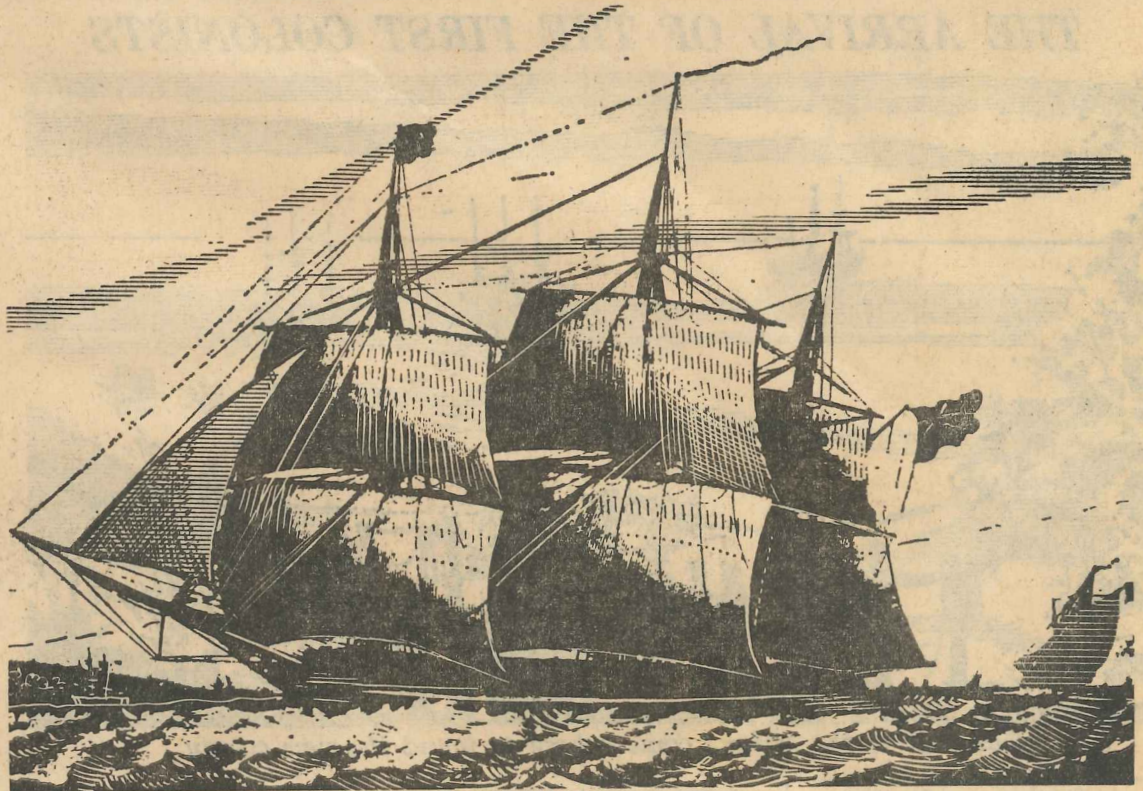
W. Shelton, Clerk to Colonial Secretary.

Charles Simmons, Surgeon.

Henry C. Sutherland, Assistant Surveyor; Mrs. Ann Sutherland, wife.

James C. Smith, Boatbuilder; Mrs. Sarah Smith, wife.

Also Thomas Blakey, Elizabeth Blakey, George Eliot, James Elliott, Richard Evans, Jane Fruin, Elizabeth Gamble, John Kelly, Elizabeth Kelly, Frederick Ludlow, Mildred Kitts Ludlow, Margaret McLeod, Patrick Murphy, Ann Shipsey, Mary Ann Smith, Charles Wright.



Captain Fremantle's magnificent ship, HMS Challenger.



Captain Charles Howe Fremantle, R.N.

Capt. Fremantle disappointed

CAPTAIN Charles Fremantle has arrived back in the Colony and has expressed some criticism and disappointment at what he finds here.

True, he seems fairly well satisfied by Fremantle, the town which bears his name, and writes: "It has many pretty and tolerable houses and several are in progress. In spite of its sandy and unpromising appearance at landing I have no doubt, if the Colony continues, of its being in time a place of consequence."

His opinion of Perth is far less complimentary. He complains, among other criticisms, that "very few houses have been built, and many of these scarcely worthy of the name."

We regret the captain, whose Challenger frigate preceded the *Parmelia*, has not found all the improvements he anticipated since he left us for sea duty in August 1829.

Problems at Augusta and Clarence

THERE is little good news concerning two outlying settlements of the colony, those situate at Augusta and at Clarence, in the south of Cockburn Sound.

Augusta, proving infertile, has been largely evacuated by its inhabitants, including the Bussell and Molloy families, most of whom have moved to the Vasse River.

Clarence is also a depressed community, but man's rather than nature's incapacity seems to bear the brunt of the blame.

This venture seems to have been dogged by ill-luck from the outset, despite the ambitious ideas and lofty connexions of its founder Mr. Thomas Peel Esq., who is cousin to England's Home Secretary.

Peel estate

Originally, he planned a settlement of 400 souls on 250,000 acres along the Swan River, but Government agreement lapsed when Mr. Peel failed to land his settlers within the allotted time.

Instead, his "Peel Estate" was transferred to a location stretching from Cockburn Sound to the Murray River, whose fertility is certainly less.

However, little real attempt has been made to assess its full worth because Mr. Peel's unfortunate migrants have been hard put to it to maintain life, let alone explore.

The wrecking of their ship *Rockingham* resulted in the loss of almost all possessions and no less than 37 died of their privations within a few months.

Most have since accepted Governor Stirling's invitation to transfer to Perth, although Mr. Peel himself haughtily declined the offer.

According to travellers, he is now living with few followers in a state of declining gentility. His estate, it is feared, will become a mere monument to the folly of grandiose schemes which are unsupported either by agricultural experience or practical application.

Scent lost its perfume

WE understand that difficulties are still besetting the perfume farm established by Mr. John Okey Davies at the junction of the Canning and Southern rivers.

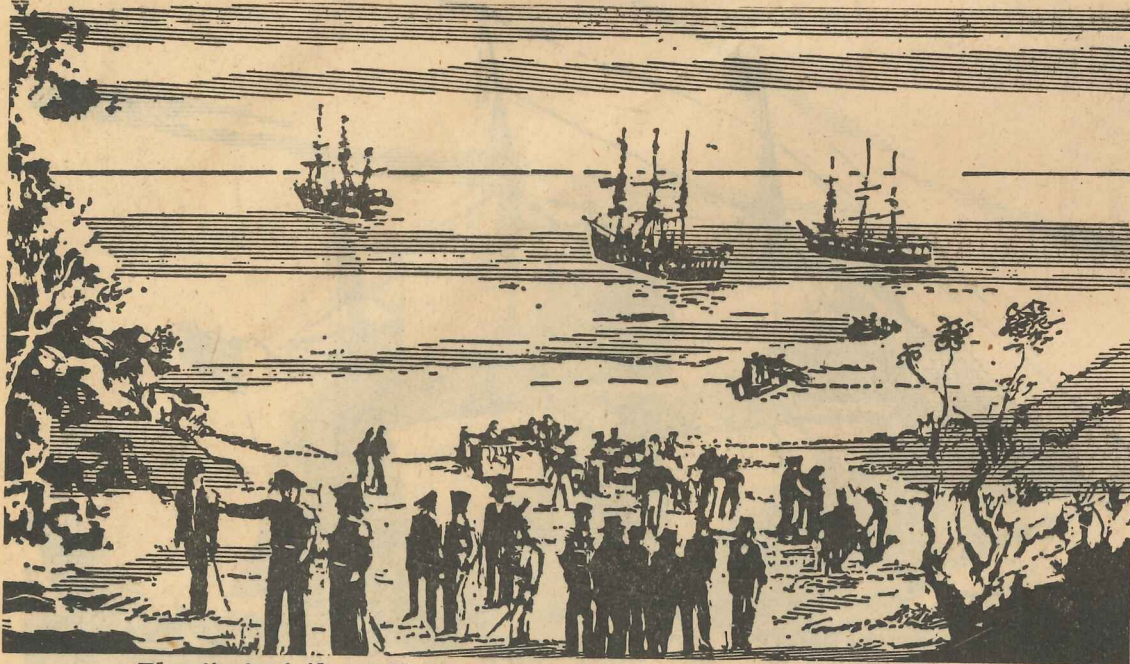
Mr. Davies, who arrived with his wife and seven children in October 1829, came at the behest of an English perfume manufactory which was confident that our soil and climate would prove ideal for the cultivation of scent plants.

Imported arum lilies and almond trees have indeed flourished there, to such an extent that the lilies are fast spreading throughout the district.

However, the distance of the farm from its sophisticated European markets appears to have blighted Mr. Davies' hopes and left his ambitions to wither on the vine.

He is now growing cabbages, beans and turnips.

THE ARRIVAL OF THE FIRST COLONISTS



The first of the settlers come ashore to found the new colony.

INFAMOUS OUTRAGE

WHEREAS for sometime past, the most wanton trespasses have been committed on the land of Thomas Williams (being 6,000 acres situated on the Lakes near Perth, held from Mr. Walters) by parties ostensibly coming in pursuit of game, and natives armed with guns, by which a great number of the said Thomas Williams' pigs have, from time to time, been shot, his grass and timber fired and burnt, and other valuable property destroyed; and, within a few days past, a valuable sow being so shot by a native sent by some persons to shoot ducks and, whereas, twenty valuable pigs were shot by some person or persons unknown; on the part of the said Thomas Williams I hereby give notice that any person or persons found on said land without lawful authority will be most rigorously prosecuted, W. T. GRAHAM, solicitor.

FOR SALE

by private contract.

A TWO horse power Threshing Machine with a Flour Mill, and Bolting Machine complete, to be driven by the same power, with extra brasses &c.

The Stones are of French burr, and the Mill is capable of grinding and dressing upwards of two bushels of wheat an hour.

Also a Threshing Machine or two horse power separate from the above.

The above Machinery is of the best make and construction and will be deliverable to the purchaser at Fremantle. Price moderate and terms liberal. Apply to Samuel Moore.

WANTED

BY a gentleman at York, A SERVANT, who can cook, wait at table, and who is willing to make himself generally useful, wages £3 per month. N.B. No one need apply who cannot produce a written character.

ON SALE

COLONIAL FLOUR by the bag, at 4d. per lb., delivered in Perth.

CACHEMERE GOATS

THE undersigned can spare a few young halfbred Cache-mere Bucks, price £3 each.

W. TANNER, Caversham.

SETTLERS CAME IN 18 SHIPS

LEST the jealous should think that too much attention has been lavished upon the occupants of the Parmelia, and should point out that they preceded other and equally worthy settlers by only weeks or months, we append the information below.

Since 769 males and 234 females had arrived in the Colony by the end of 1829, it is not practicable to publish all their names.

Instead we publish the particulars of all 18 settlers' ships which arrived from London in that year, together with the number of colonists they carried:

Parmelia, 443 tons, 55 passengers.

Marquis of Anglesey, 352 tons, 90 passengers.

Gilmore, 500 tons, 170 passengers.

Egyptian, 359 tons, 65 passengers.

Minstrel, 351 tons, 30 passengers.

Eagle, 108 tons, 18 passengers.

Hoogly, 466 tons, 190 passengers.

Rockingham, 423 tons, 220 passengers.

Atwick, 342 tons, 15 passengers.

Caroline, 330 tons, 60 passengers.

Nancy, 382 tons, 100 passengers.

Wanstead, 363 tons, 85 passengers.

Warrior, 479 tons, 165 passengers.

Protector, 380 tons, 90 passengers.

Britannia, 190 tons, 115 passengers.

Medina, 468 tons, 150 passengers.

Edward Lombe, 347 tons, 60 passengers.

Eliza, 344 tons, 130 passengers.

And to complete the record, let us not forget the livestock which also arrived in that year; 57 horses, 204 cattle, 1,469 sheep and 106 pigs. May they and their progeny prosper exceedingly . . .



The distinguished Colonial Secretary, Mr. Peter Brown.

RADISH IS A MONSTER

If recent examples of local horticulture are an indication of the future, we may soon be eclipsing the "biggest and best" claims of our American cousins.

In Perth, a radish taken from the ground has been found to measure more than four feet round the root. While it is yet on exhibition, a report has been received from the Upper Swan of a mangold wurzel discovered to be six feet in circumference.

Other land west of the Darling Ranges is yielding up to 60 bushels of wheat per acre without the use of manure.

The grain produced is of high quality and reports from England say the first samples have been highly praised there and will be preserved for seed.

Wheat, it seems, may become another important export. But before we contemplate cash rewards for filling hungry bellies abroad, let us proceed apace with the more immediate task of growing enough to feed ourselves.

Stores to ease our shortages

Arrival of HMS Sulphur

BY a happy chance, HMS Sulphur is the latest ship to arrive from India bringing stores to ease our many shortages.

It is more than fitting that she should be employed on this errand of mercy, for this sloop-of-war escorted from England our first arrivals in the Parmelia.

Indeed, that was only the start of her services to the Colony. Her cargo in 1829 included our first "Treasury", £1,195 in sterling and Spanish dollars; Mrs. Helen Dance, wife of her commander, was the only woman who would venture to accompany the male party from Garden Island to the site of Perth and to fell the first tree there.

For two years Sulphur remained to guard our coasts and to carry exploring expeditions to Augusta, the Vasse and Leschenault.

Her own officers, notably Lieutenant William Preston and Surgeon Alexander Collie, explored successfully on their own account; further important discoveries were made by Ensign Robert Dale of the 63rd Regiment, a contingent of which the Sulphur transported to Western Australia as our first garrison.

In fact Colour Sergeant Edward Barron, of the 63rd, can claim a distinction all his own. His wife gave birth to the first white infant in the Colony — a fine boy, born in the hospital marquee at Perth on September 17, 1829.

Small wonder then that the early inhabitants will extend the warmest possible welcome to our old friends in Sulphur, and rejoice that she has been chosen for the honour of transporting the Governor when he leaves in August for his visit to England.

In the meantime, we will extend to her officers and men all the hospitality which our present circumstances will allow.

NOTICE

TO Carpenters, Tailors, Bricklayers, Shoemakers and other Mechanics—

A convenient dwelling house and garden, Kitchen and brick Oven detached, formerly occupied by Mr. Price, Botanist. For further particulars apply to GEORGE BRACHER.

ABSCONDED

Maurice Brown, the indentured servant of Mr. Hewson, Wheelwright, Guildford. Any person employing or harbouring the said Maurice Brown will be prosecuted.