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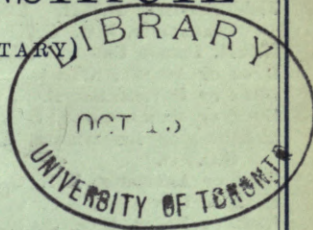
No. 8 *Royal Empire Society* Session 1906-1907
JOURNAL

OF THE

ROYAL COLONIAL INSTITUTE

(EDITED BY THE SECRETARY)

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CONTENTS

Part VIII.—Vol. XXXVIII.

	PAGE
ADDRESS PRESENTED TO SIR FREDERICK YOUNG, K.C.M.G.	<i>Frontispiece</i>
ELECTION OF FELLOWS	504
"THE TREND OF VICTORIA'S PROGRESS." By HON. THOMAS BENT	505
DISCUSSION	522
CONVERSAZIONE, AND PRESENTATION OF TESTIMONIAL TO SIR FREDERICK YOUNG, K.C.M.G.	528
REVIEWS OF NEW BOOKS	532
DONATIONS TO THE LIBRARY	547
NOTICES TO FELLOWS:	
LIBRARY DESIDERATA	559
CLOSE OF THE SESSION	563
APPOINTMENT OF A COUNCILLOR	563
APPOINTMENT OF HONORARY CORRESPONDING SECRETARY	563
NEWSPAPERS FOR SALE	564
HOURS OF OPENING INSTITUTE	564
PHOTOGRAPHS OF COLONIAL SCENERY	564
TELEGRAPHIC ADDRESS	564
ADVERTISEMENTS	ii-xiv

JULY 1907

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THE Journal of the Royal Colonial Institute, the first issue of which appeared on December 1, 1890, and was numbered part i., vol. xxii., is an official record of the transactions of the Institute. It is published on the first of each month from December to July inclusive, in advance of and in addition to the annual volume of Proceedings, and contains reports of Papers and discussions, elections of Fellows, donations to the Library, notices of new books presented to the Library, and official announcements of the Institute.

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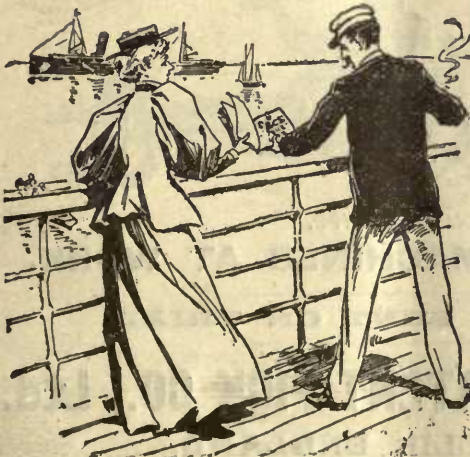
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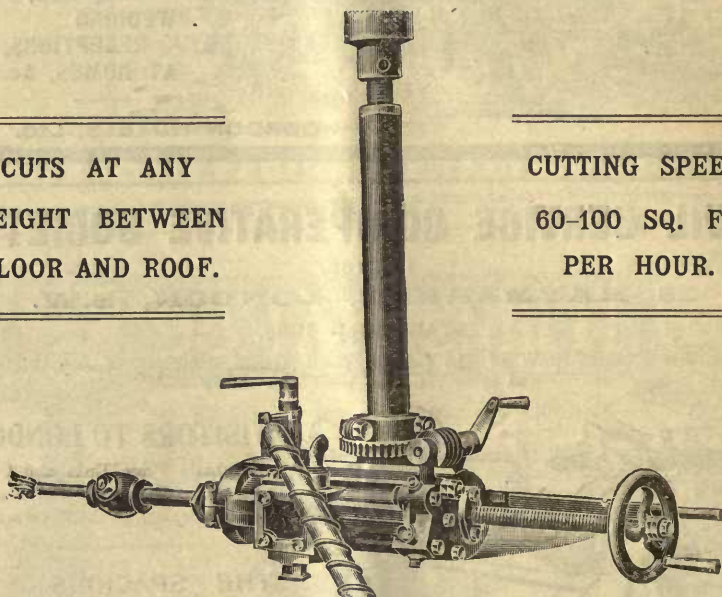
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JOURNAL

OF THE

ROYAL COLONIAL INSTITUTE

No. 8. SESSION 1906-1907

JULY 1907

*All communications to be addressed to the Secretary, Royal Colonial Institute,
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PROCEEDINGS.

EIGHTH ORDINARY GENERAL MEETING.

THE Eighth Ordinary General Meeting of the Session was held at the Whitehall Rooms, Hôtel Métropole, on Tuesday, June 11, 1907, when a Paper on "The Trend of Victoria's Progress" was read by the Hon. Thomas Bent, Premier of Victoria.

The Right Hon. the Earl of Jersey, G.C.B., G.C.M.G., a Vice-President of the Institute, presided.

Amongst those present were the following :—

MESSRS. A. ADAMS, JR., W. H. ALLEN, MRS. ASPINWALL, MESSRS. J. B. BAILEY, A. J. L. BALL, H. F. BILLINGHURST, DR. AND MRS. ERNEST BLACK, MRS. BLEAZBY, MESSRS. J. BOLTON, J. R. BOOSÉ, W. BOWDEN, MISS BRIGGS, COLONEL D. BRUCE, C.B., F.R.S., MRS. BRUCE, MR. M. BRODZKY, MAJOR J. A. BURDON, C.M.G., MR. DUNCAN CAMERON, COLONEL C. F. CAREY, MESSRS. E. B. CARTER, J. CATTO, MR. AND MRS. ROBERT CHADWICK, MR. AND MRS. CHALMERS, MESSRS. W. CHAMBERLAIN, E. CLARK, MR. AND MRS. E. J. CLARK, GENERAL SIR C. MANSFIELD CLARKE, BART., G.C.B., G.C.V.O., LADY CLARKE, MR. J. COATES, LADY COCKBURN, MR. A. COHEN, MR. AND MRS. CHARLES COLES, MISS COLES, MESSRS. W. F. COURTHOPE, W. J. COX, W. S. CUFF, C. CZARNIKOW, D. DALLAWAY, F. H. DANGAR, MRS. AND MISS DAUNCEY, MESSRS. H. DAVIES, HUMPHREY DAVY, MR. AND MRS. E. G. DE MATTOS, MESSRS. C. F. DE NORDWALL, P. DE SINCAI, MISS C. DE THIERRY, MESSRS. W. T. DEVERELL, C. C. DILLON, A. D. EASTERBROOK, H. F. EATON, R. G. EMERY, W. T. ENGLEFIELD, B. J. FINK, MISS VESEY FITZGERALD, MR. W. H. GARRISON, MRS. H. GOOCH, MISS GOULDEN, MRS. E. A. GREEN, MESSRS. W. H. HAGLEY, C. B. HALL, R. T. HAINES, J. E. HARRISON, E. S. HARRISON, W. C. HARRISON, MR. AND MRS. P. F. HART, MR. AND MRS. C. H. HAYES, MISS HAYES, MR. G. R. HEMMERDE, MISS J. C. HERBERT, MR. AND MRS. M. W. HERVEY, MR. V. S. AND MISS HERVEY, MESSRS. J. F. HOGAN,

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The Minutes of the last Ordinary General Meeting were read and confirmed, and it was announced that since that Meeting 26 Fellows had been elected, viz., 3 Resident and 23 Non-Resident.

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William H. Allen, J.P., Sir Richard Solomon, K.C.B., K.C.M.G., Arthur H. Tickle.

Non-Resident Fellows :—

Wm. A. Caldecott, B.A., F.C.S. (Transvaal), His Honour Judge Ernest B. Docker (New South Wales), James Fairbairn (Transvaal), Frank Fraser (Gold Coast Colony), Alfred Giblin (New Zealand), H. Danvers Godden (New South Wales), Frederick T. Hall (Hong Kong), George E. Hands (Natal), R. C. Higginson (Fiji), Harry G. Holmes (Gold Coast Colony), John D. Hughes (Liberia), Wilson Johnson (Transvaal), Richard W. Jonklaas (Ceylon), John J. Keevil (Brazil), Professor Stephen B. Leacock, Ph.D. (Canada), William Millar (Transvaal), Henry J. O'Leary (Cape Colony), Henry N. Ridley, M.A., F.R.S. (Straits Settlements), A. Hamilton Russell (New Zealand), Lieut.-Colonel Achilles Samut, C.M.G. (Malta), George F. Shepley, K.C. (Canada), Charles F. Stallard (Transvaal), Sidney W. Whitmore (Transvaal).

It was also announced that Donations to the Library of books, maps, &c., had been received from the various Governments of the Colonies and India, Societies and public bodies both in the United Kingdom and the Colonies, and from Fellows of the Institute and others.

The CHAIRMAN: No words are necessary to introduce Mr. Bent to an audience which takes an interest in Victoria or in Australia. I believe he will put before you a very true and, at the same time, glowing story of the prosperity of Victoria. After all, the gifts of Nature alone cannot make a people really prosperous, for their prosperity must depend to a large extent upon the ability and honesty and earnest character of their statesmen.

The Hon. Thomas Bent then read his Paper on

THE TREND OF VICTORIA'S PROGRESS.

Before commencing the reading of his Paper Mr. BENT said: "I have been asked to read a paper on 'Victoria.' Now, I observe on the wall a map of the whole of Australia, and what I say regarding Victoria to-night you may apply to Australia pretty generally. The reason I have not given a paper about Australia is because I find that even in this great city of London there are jealousies among people who are interested in that country, and therefore I will confine myself to my own State of Victoria. I have to thank you, my Lord, for taking the Chair this evening. You were Governor in New South Wales—a very popular Governor too—and Lady Jersey has left behind her a name for charity and good works. It has been suggested we should have local men as Governors. Now I say what we want is men of the type of Lord Jersey—a connecting link, a silver thread that binds us to the Empire. For thirty years I have been a member of Parliament in Victoria, and have known nearly every Governor we have had from the first down to the present Governor, who is quite as popular and does as grand a work as those who have gone before him."

JOHN BATMAN, who in 1835 ascended the River Yarra, marked out the future site of Melbourne, and in his diary entered the famous legend, "This will be the place for a village." Now, seventy-two years after, Greater Melbourne, with an area of 163,500 acres and a population of over half a million, stands there. Until 1851 the district formed a part of New South Wales under the name of Port Phillip, when it became a separate Colony, and, at her express wish, took the name of our late beloved Sovereign, Queen Victoria. In 1856 our State was granted responsible government.

Victoria occupies the south-eastern portion of the Australian Continent, being bounded on the north and north-east by New

South Wales, and on the west by South Australia. Its extreme length from east to west is about 420, its greatest breadth 250, and its extent of coast-line nearly 600 geographical miles. Its area is 87,884 square miles, or 56,245,760 acres, and, as the whole Continent of Australia is estimated to contain 2,972,906 square miles, Victoria therefore occupies a thirty-fourth part of its surface, Still, it contains one-third of the whole population.

Great Britain, exclusive of the islands in the British Seas, contains 88,729 square miles, or 56,786,560 acres, and is therefore slightly larger than Victoria. It is interesting to glance at the relative amounts of production between the two countries at the present time, as such a comparison will serve to indicate the potential resources of Victoria and her sister States :

	Great Britain.	Victoria.
Wheat (bushels) . . .	58,902,000	23,417,670
Oats (") . . .	116,437,000	7,232,425
Barley (") . . .	58,110,000	1,062,139
Potatoes (tons) . . .	3,763,000	115,352
Horses	1,572,433	385,513
Cattle	6,987,020	1,737,690
Sheep	25,257,196	11,455,115
Pigs	2,424,919	273,682

With her salubrious climate and bountiful soils, it should be quite possible to make Victoria as productive as Great Britain in the items specified, especially as there is an unlimited market for her products with British and other countries.

To demonstrate to the people of the United Kingdom (to whom, generally, the States of Australia are almost unknown lands) how great is the wealth and variety of their inexhaustible resources, and to enable the richness and fruitfulness of our country to be realised, I propose to give a broad review of Victorian progress, especially that made within the last few years, and my story will equally reflect the advancement made by the other Australian States.

FINANCES.

The finances of our State are in a most sound and flourishing condition. We have had an account with the London and Westminster Bank here for many years, and a number of people who went to London used to come back and tell us that that bank was no help to us at all. Now I find still in this city there are a few interested persons who wish to cause bad feeling, and I wish to take this opportunity publicly of saying, notwithstanding what these

gentlemen say, that we came here, we saw these bankers, and although I did not get all that I thought I was entitled to get, yet I was received with such consideration, and matters were placed before me in such a manner that I am able to tell you to-night we have settled on friendly terms, and instead of having any cause of offence against this bank, we intend, as far as Victoria is concerned, to stick to it. Our revenue has increased year by year for some time; last year it was £7,803,915, of which the railways returned £3,797,766, which is an indication of the prosperous nature of the country. Our public debt, of which 94 per cent. has been expended on public works, such as railways, water conservation and irrigation, ports and harbours, roads, &c., has been reduced by £797,000 during the last three years, and it now stands at £52,537,236, and our railways alone are worth over sixty millions. We have done no borrowing, except for redemption purposes, for years past, and the borrowing we have done has been chiefly within our own borders, which is a further proof of the prosperity of our people. Payment of the loans falling due on July 1 and April 8 next year (amounting to six millions) is provided for, and we then have no loans to meet until 1913. Our railway service and all our public works are being improved every year.

The net burden of the public debt upon the people at June 30, 1906, was only £3,238,101, as the balance was all interest earning; and although the debt as a whole represented £43 5s. 9d. per head of the population, each person had only to find the interest on £2 12s. 10d. of that amount, less than 2s. each for the year, for the money which has so greatly developed Victoria.

Since 1903 our annual imports have increased by £7,374,940, or 41 per cent., and exports by £9,216,000, or 47 per cent.; our Inter-State imports, which chiefly comprise raw materials for manufacture, or for transfer to oversea markets, exceeded 1903 by £4,861,979, or 88 per cent.; while on the other hand the Inter-State exports, which are mainly in a manufactured form, and are for consumption in the other States, which illustrate the growing importance of Melbourne as a distributing and manufacturing centre for the neighbouring States, increased by £2,287,114, or 27 per cent. While our exports "oversea" have increased by £6,928,900, or 62 per cent., the imports only increased by £2,512,960, or 20 per cent.

Taking seven articles of rural production—as live stock, butter and cheese, wheat and flour, frozen meats, wool, hides and skins, and tallow—exported oversea, the progress made in three years is

startling. During that short time oversea trade has increased from £5,136,000 in 1903 to £12,371,000 in 1906, an increase of £7,324,000, or 140 per cent. To this has to be added the value of exports to other States, which advanced from £3,349,400 in 1903 to £4,671,000 last year, an increase of £1,321,500, or 39 per cent.

The increase in exports from 1903 to 1906 in the seven items referred to tells in itself on what a sound basis our great advancement rests. The value of exports had increased in three years in this manner :

Live stock	from	£57,261	to	£174,725
Butter and cheese	"	860,674	"	1,638,125
Wheat and flour	"	74,742	"	2,763,987
Frozen meats	"	342,233	"	633,468
Wool	"	3,147,829	"	6,026,940
Hides and skins	"	607,244	"	928,767
Tallow	"	46,499	"	204,776
		<u>£5,136,482</u>		<u>£12,370,788</u>

An increase in three years of £7,234,306.

The value of the production of four of Victoria's great industries for the ten years ending 1905 was:—Gold, £32,214,455 (the total value of gold produced in Victoria to the end of 1906 amounted to £276,517,000); wool, £26,933,000; wheat, £22,979,000; and butter, £18,754,000.

There is scarcely any branch of rural industry which has not been firmly established. Wool forms the main staple of Australian exports, to which Victoria contributes her share. The sheep-raising industry was within a few years ago in the hands of a comparatively few men who owned flocks from 10,000 upwards; but the mixed system of farming and the greater distribution of land which are supervening have made sheep-breeding a most important adjunct to the operations of almost every farmer. The raising of fat lambs for the export market is becoming an increasingly important branch; and, instead of relying entirely upon natural grasses, the system of growing special crops, chiefly rape and lucerne, is coming more and more into favour, as it is found that the keeping of flocks of sheep of from 500 to 3,000 works in admirably with wheat-growing.

It is a most impressive fact that more than one-half of the eleven million sheep, in flocks from 3,000 downwards, are held on the 52,000 average-sized holdings, which, in addition, depasture much more than half of the beef cattle. Consequently, our farmers, in addition to their profits from cereals, dairy and other products, take the

greater share of the frozen meat and wool industries, and benefit proportionately in other respects. Owing to the mild and equable climate animals spend the whole of their lifetime in the open air. There is no housing during the winter months and no purchasing of food for stall feeding.

Wheat forms the next most important of Victorian exports. Highly profitable results are obtained from the large areas of nearly level land in the northern parts of the State. Cultivation and harvesting are carried out by labour-saving appliances, such as ploughs with four to ten furrows, combined seed and manure drills, strippers or harvesters, the last two being peculiarly Australian. In the case of the harvesters, the threshing, winnowing, grading, and bagging are all done by the one machine. Over large areas of Victoria it is estimated that a return of four or five bushels per acre will pay the whole cost of raising the crop, so that anything above this extremely small yield is profit to the farmer.

The possibilities of development of the butter industry alone are enormous. Since 1888 it has been phenomenal. Then the production only amounted to £50,000 a year, but within a period of sixteen years it had grown to £1,654,000. Now, substantial progress is to be seen on every side by reason of a system of intense culture, which each year shows an increasing number of dairymen and an increasing profit per cow. The Government fully recognises its right, and is continually exercising it, to educate and assist the producer in every way, not only by strict supervision of the industry, but by the provision of perfect cold storage and excellent marketing facilities.

The extended areas devoted to dairying and the gradual adoption of advanced systems of breeding and feeding dairy stock, together with the manufacturing and marketing of products being almost entirely on a co-operative basis, are largely responsible for the headway made.

Recent years have been fruitful in regard to legislation relating to the industry. The Milk and Dairy Supervision Act, the Pure Foods Act, and the Commerce Act, are all operating to ensure that in every case only the cleanest, purest, and most wholesome of products shall be produced for the local, as well as the export, trade. The basic principles of these Acts are that each article shall be what it purports to be—that is to say, as well as providing standards of composition and limits of foreign contents, specific brands and labels must be attached, giving certain particulars which are in accordance with fact, and not even liable to mislead. The pur-

suance of this policy will soon earn for Victorian exporters a reputation for honesty and reliability for products that will command a strong preference and increased prices for our goods.

Of cheese the British people import £6,375,000 worth. Till now Victoria's contribution is practically nothing; yet there is ample scope for a large cheese as well as butter export trade, and dairymen are now wisely giving it their attention. Then there is a great opportunity for concentrated milk and cream, of which Victoria, a great milk-producer herself, imports £200,000 worth annually. Oversea steamers calling at ports in England and the Continent are in a unique position to ship supplies thereat, but when they prefer to patronise Australian concentrated milk in preference to other brands, it is paying a high compliment to the Victorian product.

There is a very bright side to the ever-increasing development of Victorian products, which neither time nor economic disruption can ever tarnish: and that is our geographical position, which gives seasons diametrically opposite to those of the other great producing countries of the middle and northern latitudes which send their produce to the British market. This is our great national asset, of value incalculable, of expansion inexhaustible, and it is being highly developed along its own peculiar lines. It provides against the possibility of over-production of our staple products, which are also our exportable products. It compensates us many times over for the greater distance we are from your markets, in itself only a slight handicap as regards freight, for with perfected systems of cold storage our products more than hold their own with those of the world.

This great fact makes us realise that the foundation of all our wealth is our fertile soil, and we are working out our destiny on this great primary principle, aided by exceptionally advantageous physical conditions. Victorian exports must be enormously increased before any limit appears, and altogether the prospects of the great Victorian dairying industry are very encouraging.

PHYSICAL FEATURES.

Roughly speaking, one-fifth of Victoria consists of mountain ranges, one-fifth is a vast field of volcanic soil, only surpassed in area by similar fields in Africa and North America, while for fertility it is without a rival; and the remaining three-fifths are alluvial plains, sloping to the sea on the south with a rainfall

exceeding 40 inches, and to the River Murray on the north, an area in which on account of the lighter rainfall the great water conservation and irrigation works to which I will refer are being carried out. Originally, nearly the whole surface of the country was covered with dense forests, and although, judged by European standards, the rangy country is still heavily timbered, it has been found that in every direction where the forest has been cleared, the valleys and the hill slopes will grow, in addition to other products, almost every kind of European fruit and deciduous tree luxuriantly. All the English fruits are grown in abundance throughout the State; and the export of apples has already reached large proportions. In the northern districts grapes from which our beautiful wines are made, oranges, lemons, and figs are grown to perfection; and throughout, oats, barley, potatoes, root crops, maize, tobacco, &c., are all extensively cultivated. We have great forests of magnificent commercial timber in Australia, and many of the eucalypts reach tremendous dimensions. Trees with trunks as large as Nelson's Column, Trafalgar Square, are plentiful, while some have been measured over 300 feet in height, and others 75 feet in circumference at 6 feet from the ground.

CLOSER SETTLEMENT.

One of the greatest factors in rural development in Victoria is the comparatively small dairy farm which is being made the cornerstone of a system of very intense culture. By the resumption of large areas of private land, previously only devoted to grazing, we are replacing sheep by men, women, and children, and in place of a few shepherds' huts are putting dozens of happy, contented homes, surrounded by compact blocks of arable land sold on terms extending to thirty-three years. Every man who works intelligently and industriously has every chance of meeting his payments, even though he should encounter one or two bad seasons.

In no country outside Australasia has the agriculturist a better chance of rising. In the days of Old England her joy in prosperity and her mainstay in adversity were her peerless yeomanry, who owned and cultivated their own holdings. In these days, young Victoria, constitutionally only fifty years old, has laid the foundation of hers in the owners of the general purpose farms. These are the wealth makers of the Antipodes—many cases can be quoted where in a season returns have been sufficient to purchase the farms worked—and though, in our very short past, our farmers have not

made the most of their enviable opportunities, now they are responding in a whole-souled manner to the lessons of experience, which is the mother of all agricultural wisdom, and the teachings of science, and are bringing their lands to the advanced state of productivity their fertility warrants. When the actual conditions of our land settlement are studied, and the small amount of cultivation of the occupied area is disclosed, the remarkable thing is that the average return per holding should be so great as £344. This fact, which should always be borne in mind, indicates uncontestedly the tremendous and profitable scope there is for agricultural development in Victoria, which possesses one of the few highly favoured climates of the world, which approximates very closely to that of the South of France.

In Victoria we were faced with the problem of the dwindling of rural populations and centralisation in cities. We looked for years to the individual to create agricultural progress, and when no advance was made the necessity for a vital economic readjustment was recognised and promptly met. During the past six years the Government, under the powers of the Closer Settlement Acts, has already expended £1,574,000 in resuming private estates amounting to 164,000 acres, situated in fertile and settled districts, always within easy reach of a railway station, and often within 100 miles of the capital. These lands have been subdivided into over 1,300 farms, and agricultural labourers' and workmen's holdings, on which there is settled a population of 4,152 persons. In course of preparation for occupation there are 70,160 acres.

Under the Closer Settlement Acts the Government is empowered to spend £500,000 per annum in acquiring estates for Closer Settlement purposes. Another Act, called the Small Improved Holdings Act, was passed last year to provide small agricultural holdings close to centres of population for persons without capital. In this connection the Government may expend £150,000 per annum. The land is sold, not leased, thus maintaining private ownership, in infinitely greater diffusion than ever before, on terms extending to thirty-three years, with the option of obtaining a clear title, free of any latent defect, within six years.

Under the Closer Settlement Act of Victoria a farmer gets an allotment of land, most carefully selected by experts, worth £1,500, by paying a deposit of half of a year's rent, generally about £40, and paying the balance in half-yearly payments, equal to 3 per cent. of the value of the allotment, or about £40 every half-year. Within six years he must effect improvements equal to one-fifth of

the total value of the allotment, and within three years fence external boundaries.

In the last Session of Parliament an Act was passed authorising the reservation of parts of some of the estates acquired for the settlement of approved British settlers, who by paying the small deposit could acquire the same from the Agent-General for Victoria in London.

In addition to the larger holdings, the Closer Settlement Act provides for agricultural labourers' holdings. An approved man gets £200 worth of land situated in the heart of progressive and prosperous farming districts, where work is plentiful and wages good, on the same liberal extended payments, and the Government advances pound for pound up to £50 for fencing and building; or in lieu of such advance puts up a cottage not exceeding £100 in value, which sum is to be repaid in sixteen years, with 5 per cent. on the unpaid portion.

The effect of the Closer Settlement policy has been greater than the scope of the Act permits. One of its most gratifying effects has been the voluntary conversion of great privately owned fertile areas from grazing to intense culture. Many large estates have been subdivided and sold, some on extended terms, and many others have been converted into compact dairy farms and let on the share system—the owner finding the house and outbuildings, stock and equipment, and the tenant the labour, and taking a share of the proceeds. This system has been the means of giving many men their start to independence.

There are many improved holdings privately held in the State only waiting the advent of energetic men with moderate means to yield immediately an attractive and profitable return. Farms suitable for every branch of agriculture are offered. On all of these holdings the pioneering work has been done, the great benefits of which the incomer will profit by.

There are still great areas of undeveloped country to be opened up; but quite apart from this, the possibilities that present themselves may be gathered from the fact, with an area of 56,245,760 acres there are 34,518,000 acres occupied by 54,275 persons, who only cultivate 4,269,877 acres, yet during 1906 the products of the soil reached the comparatively great sum of £18,565,831, averaging £344 per holding, which stands pre-eminently high when compared with other countries. It is said, with every justification, that, without touching the great areas of

undeveloped Crown lands, Victoria can easily treble the number of producers on her occupied lands with great profit.

In the Western District, the richest agricultural province in the State, with a most copious rainfall and easy access to many ports, containing 6,859,000 acres, there are only 236,362 acres cultivated, 195,500 acres sown in grasses, and 5,801,000 acres in natural grass, just in the same condition as it was when given to us in 1856, fifty years ago.

Notwithstanding its close proximity to four shipping ports and railway facilities, and its wonderful fertility that won for it the name of Australia Felix by the first explorers, it only contributes 5·54 per cent. of the cultivated land, while it contains 18·42 per cent. of the total occupied area. In every 100 acres only about four acres are cultivated, the balance being sheep-runs in little more than a natural condition.

In the Wimmera and Northern Districts and the Mallee, which are drier, and consequently less inviting to the husbandman, the percentages of cultivation to the total land occupied are 23·78, 25·90, and 14·99 respectively. In four years the cultivated area has increased by 5·59, 5·46, and 4·51 per cent., as against an increase of only 1·59 per cent. in the most desirable district in the State.

Although the holders of land in the districts mentioned form but 30·42 per cent. of the holders of land of the State, no less than 79·01 per cent. of the area cultivated belongs to them.

The holders of much of these great fertile areas have done very little in the way of development. Naturally, they have obtained an enormous increment through the expenditure of public money in the development of the State; and the Government has determined to resume, with just and equitable compensation, a great part of this district, and, after opening it up by a railway, to dispose of the land on Closer Settlement terms.

The great influence exerted by the Closer Settlement and other Acts making for rural development was added to by the Water Act in 1905. By the initiation of a comprehensive and business-like policy of water conservation and irrigation—the outgrowth of lengthy and costly experience—great changes have been brought about. The obligations placed on the landowners to recoup to the State the annual expenditure on works has caused the holders to use the water allotted to their lands to the best advantage, which consequently necessitates the employment of much labour, as the cultivation of cereals, mainly carried on by machinery, is giving way to intense culture.

The increased productiveness resulting from irrigation is inevitably tending to reduce the size of farms by enabling a smaller area to maintain a family in comfort, as dairy farming is most profitably carried on when the farm is comparatively small, and can be worked by the owner and his family with little outside assistance.

WATER CONSERVATION.

The expenditure upon what may be called our new water conservation policy in Victoria up to date has been over £3,000,000 sterling; and, particularly during the last few years, the Government of Victoria has developed a vigorous irrigation policy, and has passed an Act by which the whole of the waters of the State have been nationalised for the public benefit, thus determining the common law of England, which had previously been in force.

This remarkable achievement has not been consummated in any other part of the civilised world. The Government, aware of the huge cost of obtaining the water in England and the millions of pounds spent in litigation in America, determined upon this course, so that all schemes of water conservation and irrigation should be established upon a firm and permanent basis.

Many irrigation schemes had been established and working for the past twenty years, and in order to control them and the large works being initiated, the States Rivers and Water Supply Commission was appointed.

At the present time, although we are comparatively but a small population, the sum of £350,000 a year is being spent in the construction of channels and reticulation works, and within the next five years we hope to have an area skirting the River Murray of 1,500,000 acres completely reticulated with irrigation channels. This will be the largest irrigation scheme in Australia, and will provide settlement in the most permanent form for a very large population.

In connection with its land settlement policy, the Government has determined to see that there is no doubt as to the necessary supply of water, to guard against the ill-effects of drought. Although we have large areas in our State of great fertility, with a rainfall equal to that of England, yet in these irrigation areas, which we are so firmly establishing, there will be a fruitfulness and productiveness greater than in a country dependent upon a more copious yet erratic rainfall. Experience in every part of the world has proved that land with a low rainfall, but commanded by

water which can be applied just at the time it is required, gives the most profitable results.

There is one feature connected with the Victorian irrigation schemes which is of striking consequence to settlers. They have the great advantage of dealing with the Government itself, and not with private individuals, as in Canada and America, where the whole of the water rights have been absorbed by companies and individuals largely for the purpose of speculation. In many cases ruin has been brought to the settlers. But, throughout Victoria, the whole of the irrigation schemes are under direct Government control, the irrigation rate is a fixed rate, paid direct to the Government through the Commissioners appointed, and assistance is rendered to the farmer by educating him as to the best use he can make of the water.

In addition to the large area of $1\frac{1}{2}$ million acres which will be controlled by channels within the next five years, the Government has several other more isolated schemes in actual development and construction. At the present time the works initiated involve an expenditure from $1\frac{1}{2}$ to 2 millions of pounds.

The Government is not solely relying upon the diversion of water from running streams, but is building large reservoirs to hold enormous quantities of water. It may astonish the people of England to know that plans are being got out for the building of one of the largest reservoirs in the world—a reservoir twice as large as the celebrated Assouan reservoir, which is well known to you as one of the wonders of the world—and you are also aware of the development consequent upon irrigation which has taken place in Egypt during the last few years. The great Victorian reservoir is being initiated by the Government at Traawool, on the River Goulbourn, and, although practically yet unknown, will in the near future be a national work of which Victoria will be justly proud. I wish to impress upon you this very important fact: that, though we have great areas which do not need irrigation, as they have plentiful and consistent rainfalls, yet in the northern parts, where the climate is sunny and dry and the rainfall low and erratic and the soil most fertile, the Government is laying the basis for enormous settlement and great population.

In addition to the irrigation works, we have schemes in actual operation for supplying domestic and stock water to great areas of the State of Victoria, and are at present busy with a scheme for supplying stock and domestic water to about 8,000 square miles of the finest wheat lands in the world.

When I tell you that many of the settlers—not a few, but many scores of them—have, through their wheat crops and the raising of lambs, actually made in one year the price which they paid for their land, you will perceive the golden opportunities offered.

Another great subject which has been discussed for the last twenty-five years has been the control of the waters of the greatest river in Australia—the River Murray. But the question is now settled, for by an agreement made between New South Wales, South Australia, and Victoria, it has been decided to lock this magnificent stream and one of its tributaries, the Murrumbidgee, for nearly 1,500 miles, thus establishing permanent navigation in the very heart of Australia. This great river has its source in the snow-clad mountains of New South Wales. You may be surprised that we have any snow-clad mountains in our lands of nearly perpetual sunshine, but the fact remains. This river, which flows many miles wide at certain times of the year, is now about to be put under complete control, and its waters conserved on a huge scale, thus enabling irrigation to be developed to any extent. In short, when these national water conservation schemes, now being rapidly developed, are completed, the fear of drought will pass from Victoria for ever, for the land is being completely intersected, wherever necessary, by artificial rivers completely under man's control.

In order, as a start in a small way, to utilise the Murray waters, the Government is establishing two irrigation colonies similar to Mildura. Many of my audience have heard of Mildura, which, standing in an area with only a rainfall of about 10 inches per annum, has been made one of the most delightful spots on earth. Though its climate is so dry, in no place would you find more beautiful orchards and more prosperous and contented homes. In this spot we have on British soil all of the advantages of the climate of Southern Europe.

There still remain four million acres of land along the Murray, in addition to that which we are bringing under irrigation, which can be easily irrigated; so, therefore, there is an immense development which can be made in the future for all products, especially fruits and raisins, for which there is an unlimited possibility of expansion in the export trade to the United Kingdom. You will appreciate this when I say that Victoria at present only supplies about $1\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. of your total imports.

The possibilities for stock and sheep raising and dairy products are truly illimitable.

I have simply and very sincerely sketched what we have in view in regard to our great water-conservation projects, steps in national progress which we are undertaking steadily and surely, and which, as they proceed, carry with them commensurate increases in our national wealth.

RAILWAYS.

The whole of the railways of Victoria are State-owned. Their length is 3,400 miles, and the capital expenditure up to 1906 was £38,866,197. As they are estimated to be worth £60,000,000, they are consequently worth £7,500,000 more than our public debt. Though the State does not desire to make money out of the railways, as it looks to the indirect benefit resulting from the opening-up of the country and conveying the produce of the farmer cheaply to the coast, yet for the last three years, notwithstanding considerable freight concessions, all interest and working expenses have been paid, the sum of £603,000 expended for improvements made within recent years, and a profit of £200,000 paid into the Consolidated Revenue. We are now considering the advisability of converting from steam to electricity our network of suburban railways, which will involve an expenditure of £3,000,000.

DIFFUSION OF WEALTH IN VICTORIA.

To refute, by facts which cannot be denied, the malignant slanders on Australian stability, I will give particulars of the diffusion of wealth in Victoria and her sister States.

Three of the Australian States—*i.e.* New South Wales, Victoria, and South Australia—stand above all other countries in the world, with the exception of the United Kingdom, in regard to private wealth per head, and New Zealand is only exceeded by the United Kingdom and France. The figures are: United Kingdom, £302; New South Wales, £266; Victoria, £261; South Australia, £260; France, £252; New Zealand, £246.

The diffusion of wealth in Victoria is very great, as during the five years 1898 to 1902 357 persons per thousand of deaths left an average amount of property amounting to £482 per person. The increase in the number of estates has been remarkable, as proved by official figures, and goes to show that the economic conditions prevalent in Victoria during the last twenty-eight years have led to a wide and growing diffusion of wealth amongst the people. In 1905 there were 3,853 estates, amounting to £6,003,478, which passed through the Probate Office, thus showing that, on the

average, more than one in every three of the adults who died left an estate worth £1,558. In 1885 the proportion was one in four persons with an estate of £2,218, which goes to show that since then wealth has become much greater and more diffused. Victoria is not singular in this respect, as it is the same with each of her sister States.

A further indication of the stability of our progress is to be found in the banking returns, as the amount on deposit at the close of 1905 was £4,500,000 greater than during 1903.

The best evidence of the growing habit of thrift, as well as the wide diffusion of wealth amongst the middle and poorer classes in Victoria, is contained in the Savings Banks returns, the number of depositors, according to population, having increased by 23 per cent. since 1899. At the end of 1905 more than one person out of every three in the State (including children and infants, who themselves number more than one-third of the population) was a depositor, with an average credit balance of just £25.

Glancing back over Victorian figures for the past twelve years an extraordinary advance is shown. In not a single phase can anything be seen but steady, substantial increase in wealth, not distributed amongst the few, but more and more every year amongst the people.

Further evidence of the wealth and thrift of the people of Victoria is afforded by the fact that over 18 per cent. of the total population, including women and children, have their lives insured for an average sum of £139. Every year shows a steady increase.

In a land so favoured by nature, where wages are high, hours of work short, and the necessaries of life cheap, it is only natural that Australians are happy and contented. The poorer people count as necessaries what the same class in some countries look upon as luxuries. For instance, in Australia the consumption of meat reaches a total of 233 lb. per head per annum. In other countries the next highest is the United States with 150 lb., Great Britain 109 lb., and Canada 90 lb. Perhaps in no country in the world will there be found so high a percentage of the people owning their own homes, nor such a clear way to advancement.

EDUCATION OF THE PEOPLE.

In Australia the Governments and the municipalities undertake many of the functions left to private enterprise in Great Britain. For instance, since 1872 Victoria has mainly borne the charge of

educating its people. Education is free to all willing to accept it; it is compulsory, in the sense that, whether accepted or not, evidence must be produced that all children are educated up to a certain standard, and where not attending a State school, of which there are over 2,000 scattered over the State, and established even in the most remote and thinly populated districts, are receiving efficient instruction elsewhere; and it is secular.

Instruction is absolutely free as regards the ordinary course, which includes drill, singing, drawing, elementary science, manual training, gymnastics, swimming, lessons on the laws of health and temperance, needlework, and cookery and domestic economy for girls. The cadet system is general. The Government liberally subsidises the Melbourne University, and also gives scholarships annually for State school children for facilitating their higher education in University or technical science schools, or to enable them to proceed to a diploma or degree in agriculture or mining. The sons and daughters of poor people are offered annually free studentships to enable them to take up a course of training in the continuation school, and, in addition, receive free allowances for board and residence. There are many technical schools, art schools, and schools of mines subsidised by the State. The results of this fine educational system are plainly to be seen now, as 97 per cent. of the people can read and write. The annual cost to the State is £736,000, for an average attendance of 142,000 scholars.

SOCIAL ADVANCEMENT.

Australians have gone far towards the solution of great social problems which in many other countries have yet to be faced. During the brief space of only fifty years of responsible government they, virile and self-dependent, have moved from the old world of thought and deed and proceeded a goodly distance into the newer world of enlightened and more advanced life.

In addition to hospitals, asylums for the very old and infirm, homes for consumptives and inebriates and neglected children financed by the State, Victoria has some great humane systems. For instance, there is our Old Age Pension system, which gives to old people a weekly pension of 10s., not in the nature of charity, but as an absolutely moral right; our factories and shops legislation, accepted as a model by the world, which uplifts the life of the workers by limitation of hours of labour, by compulsory holidays, by stringent regulations as to healthy and sanitary work-

places, and by the payment of proper wages, thereby preventing pernicious sweating. The wages of nearly 50,000 of our workers are regulated by special boards, which have prevented unrestricted competition amongst the poor and disorganised, who previously worked long hours for wretched pay, in circumstances of extreme penury. The clothing trade, for instance, was one of the worst, now it is one of the best. Although the general minimum wages mutually determined by employers and employees in conference was fixed at 45s. per week for males, and 20s. per week for females, actually every man and woman has received on the average considerably above the lowest rate.

The last of the great innovations to be brought about for the amelioration of the industrial classes in Victoria is the Small Improved Holdings system, the aim of which is to assist deserving persons to acquire small improved holdings in rural districts as close as possible to centres of population where industrial employment may be obtained by them, to enable them to provide homes for their families and profitably use their time when out of employment. This movement attacks the unemployed problem, and quickens the development of our natural resources, and is supplementary to the other economic evolutions—the Closer Settlement Act, with its holdings for farmers, agricultural labourers, workmen and clerks, and the Water Act.

CONCLUSION.

I would say, in conclusion, that in the past in Australia, as in every young country working out its destiny under conditions so dissimilar to those under which its pioneers acquired their rural lore, farming was a neglected science. Our lands responded so bountifully to primitive methods, and so much land was held by so few, that then muscles were all that were required to bring success. It was a few years ago that, in obedience to the careful fostering and encouragement by the State, and a progressive Press always teaching from the practical points of view, that our producers emerged from the rough-and-ready era of the pioneering period to that of the higher agriculture, the period of the educated agriculturist—the man who listens eagerly to, and at once applies, the teachings of science. Directly following this natural movement there ensued a readjustment of the national responsibility in regard to primary production; and since, by conservative and economic methods, rural pursuits have been placed in the very forefront of Antipodean life.

Now, self-contained and confident, with their great primary industries well disciplined, handled, and directed, with every food-product rigorously maintained by State supervision at a high standard, Victoria and her sister Australian States extend a welcoming hand, with the promise of particular attention and every consideration, to more British men and women of just the same sort as our fathers and mothers were.

DISCUSSION.

Major-General the Hon. Sir REGINALD TALBOT, K.C.B. (Governor of Victoria): It is, I think, almost marvellous on a subject so full of statistics that Mr. Bent should have managed to hold our attention for so considerable a time. As he has said he has been "cribbed, cabined, and confined" by having to read from a printed paper, and we can only picture to ourselves what he is able to do when he is not so confined, and is able to give full vent to his powers of speech, I will not say powers of imagination, for there is nothing here said which is not founded on fact. My experience has taught me how little I know of the State in which it is my good fortune to live at the present time, but I cannot lose the opportunity of saying that on a great many points on which Mr. Bent has touched I can vouch from personal knowledge of the absolute accuracy of what he has told us. In the three years I have been there, there is hardly a district in the country which I have not visited, and I have learnt a great deal of the actual facts from my mode of travelling about, and have become acquainted with the people in a way one cannot be when one merely rushes through on the railway, even though in some districts you travel at the exhilarating rate of only nine miles an hour. It is true Mr. Bent has compared the journey from Brisbane to Adelaide with the journey from London to Liverpool, and I think in that respect perhaps he has drawn just a little bit on his imagination. Mr. Bent told us of his difficulty in finding Victorian products in London, and how he searched through 150 shops and could not find a pat of Victorian butter. It reminds me of rather an amusing story I heard the other day from a Victorian gentleman which corroborates that statement, and perhaps gives some reason why Mr. Bent could not find what he wanted. This gentleman went into a butcher's shop in the neighbourhood of Piccadilly, and said: "Have you got any Australian beef or mutton?" The butcher, with some indignation, replied that he would not have such beastly stuff in

his shop, upon which my friend said, "Will you bet me ten pounds that you have not a single Australian carcass in your shop?" With some dignity the butcher said, "I am a butcher, my trade is selling meat, not betting." My friend asked, "Well, will you bet sixpence?" "I think I can go as far as that," said the butcher. Upon which my friend, pointing to a carcass, said, "That sheep was bred within ten minutes' walk of where I live, and there is the brand." The butcher had to admit he was vanquished, but he showed, unlike some butchers, that he had a conscience, for during the whole time my friend remained in London he received every Saturday the best leg of mutton in the shop. As to Victorian butter I believe the article is mixed with inferior articles and sold, but by another name, and that some people have the audacity to charge the highest price for it. I think a great deal can be done in that respect, and I hope that when the proposed new premises are opened in London something may be done to remove a real grievance, which is, that our goods (which are good) are sold here under another name, or worse still are sometimes adulterated with inferior material and still sold at the same price. I am sure you will join with me in thanking Mr. Bent for his interesting address. Nobody could have heard him without feeling that we were listening to a man of great capabilities. He has been entrusted with the fortunes of one of the greatest, most prosperous, and most rising of the States under the British Crown, and I am sure you will join with me in wishing him long life and strength to guide the ship of State which he has so ably steered for so many years.

Sir MALCOLM D. McEACHARN: I would only add a word by way of confirmation of what our Governor has said concerning the admirable address Mr. Bent has given us. In short compass he has provided us with facts which I am sure everybody will read with interest and pleasure. Mr. Bent made a reference to the trees of Victoria and the enormous size which some of them attain, though he seemed to have little doubt in his mind as to whether he was quite correct on the latter point. I can assure him he has only to go to a place beyond Healsville to find many trees such as he has described, and in many cases even larger. The progress of Victoria we must look upon as something marvellous. As you remember, a few years ago we were all in great trouble and distress in consequence of the bank difficulties; but the state of things at the present time shows that we have not only a good country but men who can stand up against difficulties, for I assure you

these difficulties were not ordinary difficulties, but such as one-half the population, had they not been really strong men, would have lain down under. But they stood to their guns and came to the help of those who were likely to go to the wall; and now, instead of trouble and adversity, we are in such splendid condition that Mr. Bent almost feels inclined to buy the Bank of England. I am sure that Mr. Bent, by the address he has given on this and other occasions, has done a great deal for Victoria, and you yourselves can do a great deal to help us by assuring your friends that Victoria is in a very prosperous condition at the present time. I am very pleased indeed to see our Governor again. I think that Victoria agrees with him better than this country, for he has been ill since he came here, and I understand that whilst in Australia he was always in very good health. I sincerely trust he will have a pleasant trip back again, and he will receive, I am sure, a very hearty welcome.

Hon. J. W. TAVERNER (Agent-General for Victoria): After the able address of our Premier, supported by the speech of our Governor, I feel that Victoria has had a very good innings, and we might very well look for a few words from my modest friend on my left, the Agent-General for South Australia, a State which occupies so much greater a space on the map. However, as our Premier more than once reminded us, his address would apply not merely to Victoria but to the whole of Australia. Only one word I would say with reference to a remark which fell from our Governor. We do all that is possible in our country by legislation and otherwise to insure the soundness of our food exports. It is for you in this country to see that the people of this country are not imposed upon. That is a direction in which you certainly can help Australia. A Bill is now passing through your Parliament dealing with butter, and I think those of you who are interested in Australia will find Mr. Jenkins and myself ready to give all the help we can while this Bill is passing through Parliament, with the object of insuring that the people of this country shall get good supplies of food. We want you to help us in preserving for the people of the United Kingdom the food as it leaves our shores. Our Premier came to this country for a bit of rest, and he has been going full speed day and night. I am glad indeed to find that his health is recovering. It is a pleasure to have him here, so that he may see for himself the great trade possibilities of this country, and I am sure he will be able to carry back to Australia good words

and good feeling from the people of this country towards that other part of the Empire to which we are proud to belong.

Hon. J. G. JENKINS (Agent-General for South Australia): I have been exceedingly pleased in listening to Mr. Bent's address. I know Victoria very well, having been through almost every part of that State, even down to Gippsland, where those large trees grow. I was blocked by one of the trees, which was so large that I had not time to get round it. There was one feature of the Colony Mr. Bent did not touch upon, and that is the beautiful scenery. I would advise all of you here who travel for pleasure to visit Victoria, New South Wales, South Australia, or any of the rest of those States. You will find there scenery as beautiful as any you will spend many pounds to see in Switzerland or Italy or in other parts of Europe. You will find too that Australia is the healthiest country in the world, for fewer people die per thousand per annum in New Zealand and Australia than in any other part of the world, and when you consider that a good many people go out because they would die if they remained in Europe, you can easily understand what a healthy climate it is. You have heard to-night what one thirty-fourth part of Australia produces or is capable of producing. Just imagine for yourselves the whole of Australia producing at the same rate, and you will readily understand that we are capable of becoming the feeders of the world. In reference to what has been said about butter, we send you the pure article, and it rests with the people of England to see that they get it.

The CHAIRMAN (The Right Hon. the Earl of Jersey, G.C.B., G.C.M.G.): I have now to propose a vote of thanks to Mr. Bent. We have heard a great deal about the prosperity and future of Victoria, and this platform has shown that if there has been any dispute near the River Murray that dispute has disappeared, and I hope disputes of that kind will never crop up again in Australia. It has been urged that we should pass some legislation for the protection of our food supplies. If I may say so, the only difficulty in the way is that our Parliament, or at any rate one portion of our Parliament, finds some hesitation in undertaking work of this kind, and apparently prefers resolutions to actions. But I hope that the force of public opinion in this country and in other parts of the Empire will eventually produce that which we all desire, viz. that we may know what we buy and may not have to pay too much for it. Mr. Bent has certainly earned the thanks not only of us in this country but also of Victoria and the whole of Australia. He hinted in the opening part of his address that people here did not know much

about Australia, but though that might have been true a few years ago, it cannot be said it is true to the same extent now, because men like Mr. Bent have made the people of this country acquainted with what is going on in the Australian part of the Empire, and I would add that nothing could be more satisfactory to a country which finds it necessary that some of its children should go beyond its borders in order to obtain a prosperous livelihood than to feel that they can do so without getting beyond the bounds of the Empire itself. Mr. Bent called me as a witness to the prosperity of Victoria. I agree with him. Some fourteen or fifteen years ago there was that rather uncomfortable state of affairs which has been alluded to. Less than two years ago when I went there I found the picture completely changed. Everything was most prosperous, and that prosperity has been continuing. One of the men who assisted to change that picture is Mr. Bent. I said at the opening and I repeat that the prosperity of a country must to a large extent depend upon its rulers and its statesmen. You may have any amount of prosperous seasons, but your resources may be wasted. If you get men who have the courage to use those resources in such a way as to benefit the great mass of the people that country will be prosperous and continue to be prosperous. That is what is going on in Victoria and in other parts of Australia. We are all glad to know that there are statesmen there who are prepared to undertake what is one of the most necessary works which can be undertaken in such a country, viz. irrigation. We feel confident they will undertake that work with due care and prevision. If it is wisely done, I can have no doubt that the results will be far beyond what anyone can anticipate at the present time. The dam at Assouan has done wonders in Egypt, and the storage of water has been of immense benefit to India, and why should not Australia be benefited in the same way? We all know there are times when you get more rain and floods than you desire, and if some of the waters can be impounded and used at the right time science will be doing what nature has so often and so long asked it to do. In the course of his Paper Mr. Bent told us that he came here with three millions and a half of money, and that for six years he does not intend to trouble us any more. I could not see how Mr. Russell of the London and Westminster Bank took that last statement, but I presume he is very glad to know he is connected with a State which is so substantial and prosperous.

MR. BENT: I beg to return you my sincere thanks for the manner in which you listened to my address. I did not know Mr. Russell

(or Mr. Nivison) was here, but I fancy Mr. Russell cannot object to what I said. I have to thank the Council and the other gentlemen connected with this Institute. I have been asked to attend and speak at several places, but I gave a promise here first and have performed it. I will only add that I am not in this country as a bagman, I came for the purpose of ascertaining matters of importance to us. I have been received everywhere with great kindness, and have received an abundance of information, which will be most useful to us. I have now to ask you to give a vote of thanks to the Chairman, and I will only say that no words can express the pleasure with which I see him here to-night.

THIRTY-FOURTH ANNUAL CONVERSAZIONE.

THE Thirty-fourth Annual Conversazione was held at the Natural History Museum, by permission of the Trustees of the British Museum, on Tuesday, June 25, 1907, and was attended by a large number of guests, representing all parts of the British Empire. The string band of the Royal Marines (Portsmouth Division), conducted by Lieutenant George Miller, M.V.O., Mus. Bac. Cantab., played in the Central Hall; and the Meister Glee Singers performed in the Reptile Gallery.

The Central Hall was decorated with choice flowers and palms, and refreshments were served throughout the evening in various parts of the building. The guests were received in the Central Hall by the following Vice-Presidents and Councillors:—

Vice-Presidents: His Grace the Duke of Marlborough, K.G.; Lord Brassey, G.C.B.; Sir Henry Bulwer, G.C.M.G.; Sir Frederick Young, K.C.M.G. *Councillors:* Admiral Sir N. Bowden-Smith, K.C.B.; Mr. Allan Campbell; Sir George S. Clarke, G.C.M.G., F.R.S.; Mr. J. G. Colmer, C.M.G.; Mr. F. H. Dangar; Mr. Fred Dutton; Lieut.-General Sir J. Bevan Edwards, K.C.M.G., C.B.; Major-General Sir Henry Green, K.C.S.I., C.B.; Mr. Alfred P. Hillier, B.A., M.D.; Rt. Hon. Sir Albert H. Hime, K.C.M.G.; Sir George S. Mackenzie, K.C.M.G., C.B.; Sir E. Montague Nelson, K.C.M.G.; Sir Montagu Ommanney, G.C.M.G., K.C.B., I.S.O.; Dr. G. R. Parkin, C.M.G.; Major-General C. W. Robinson, C.B.

The presentation of a testimonial to Sir Frederick Young, K.C.M.G., in recognition of his long and zealous services to the Institute, took place in the Central Hall. His Grace the Duke of Marlborough, K.G., who presided in the unavoidable absence of the Right Hon. the Earl of Elgin, K.G., Secretary of State for the Colonies, called upon Sir Francis Lovell, Chairman of the Testimonial Committee, to read the following address:—

“The Council and Fellows of the Royal Colonial Institute desire to express their high appreciation of the zealous and indefatigable services rendered to the Institute, and thus to the Empire, by Sir Frederick Young, K.C.M.G., for a period of over thirty-seven years.

They therefore take the opportunity afforded them by the Annual Conversazione of the Royal Colonial Institute to offer for his acceptance a testimonial in recognition of those services.

As a Fellow of the Royal Colonial Institute, to which he was elected on December 20, 1869, as a Councillor, which he became on June 5, 1871, and as Honorary Secretary, in which capacity he served from November 24, 1874, to July 27, 1886, and since then as a Vice-President of the Royal Colonial Institute, Sir Frederick Young has been untiring in his efforts to promote the unity of the Empire and to bring the Institute to that position of importance which it now occupies.

In offering this testimonial to Sir Frederick Young the Council and Fellows trust that he may long be spared to see the benefit which must continue to accrue from his strenuous work on behalf of the Empire.

Dated this June 25, 1907 :

J. S. O'HALLORAN,

Secretary,

Royal Colonial Institute.

ALGERNON E. ASPINALL,

Hon. Sec.,

Testimonial Committee.

GEORGE P.,

President,

Royal Colonial Institute.

FRANCIS LOVELL,

Chairman,

Testimonial Committee.

His Grace the Duke of MARLBOROUGH, K.G., then said :—My lords, ladies, and gentlemen,—My first duty is to read to you a telegram which has just been received from the Earl of Elgin, Secretary of State for the Colonies, which is as follows : “I regret much that business in Parliament prevents me from assisting at presentation of testimonial to Sir Frederick Young in recognition of the great services rendered by him to the Institute. Please convey to him my sincere congratulations.” It was only some ten minutes ago that this telegram was placed in my hands, and I was asked by the Members of the Council if I would attempt to discharge the duties which the Earl of Elgin is unfortunately unable to perform. It is obvious in the circumstances that I could only discharge such duties in a very inadequate way, but I replied that I should have great pleasure in attempting in the best way in my power to express to the great company here assembled our recognition of the splendid services which Sir Frederick Young has rendered to this Institute. Before I turn to those particular services, let me remind you that in his capacity as a British citizen, Sir

Frederick Young had much to do with the movement by which Victoria Park, situated in this great metropolis, became a park in the possession of the public for ever. I believe I am also right in saying that through his efforts, or partly through his efforts, Epping Forest also became a public possession in perpetuity. It is, however, in regard to this Institute in particular that you wish to-night to express your recognition of the great services Sir Frederick Young has rendered. It is some thirty-seven years ago that he first undertook the great labour of helping forward to the best of his power the aims, the objects, and the welfare of this Institute. Those who know him, those who have had the opportunity of serving with him through those long years, are able to testify to the unflinching character of his labours, his unswerving loyalty to the Institute, and his sustained efforts to promote its welfare and prosperity. Those who have been associated with him know better than many of us here can possibly know how much this Institute owes to the work he has done—how much its prosperity and future will depend on the work he has accomplished during those thirty-seven years. It is not for me on this occasion to point out to you the great service which not only Sir Frederick Young but this Institute has rendered to the country and to the various parts of this great Empire. You know as well as I do the enormous advantage it is to those in the Colonies as well as to those at home that there should be opportunities of discussing, examining, and threshing out those many and varied problems which continually confront us in the government of a great empire such as that to which we belong. This Institute, begun on a small scale—its beginnings were indeed almost insignificant—has during the thirty-nine years of its history developed, enlarged, and become very wide-reaching in its influence, and I think I am guilty of no exaggeration in saying that many of our Colonial problems owe their solution in part at least to the fact that they have been discussed and considered by competent authorities within the walls of the Royal Colonial Institute. My lords, ladies, and gentlemen, I have now the great pleasure of presenting this address to Sir Frederick Young, and also a cheque for £1,000, subscribed by members of the Institute, in recognition of one who has ever been a warm and true friend, one whom we all recognise as a trusted and a good citizen of this Empire, and one who has done so much in his life towards cementing good will and good feeling between the mother land and the outlying parts of the Empire.

Sir FREDERICK YOUNG, K.C.M.G.: There are times in our lives when the heart is so overpowered with emotion that it seems

impossible for us to give utterance to the thoughts we feel. Such is my case to-night. My first impulse in this embarrassment is to take refuge in the simplest language I can command, by saying I deeply thank you. But I feel that on this supreme occasion something more than this is required of me. By an "inspiration" implanted in me in early life, and probably fostered by a close personal association with the great founder of New Zealand, Edward Gibbon Wakefield, I was induced to take a deep interest in the then rapidly developing British Colonies. This interest constantly ripened in me, and increased from that time to the present day. My ardent desire has always been to endeavour by every means in my power to bind the Mother Country and her Colonies together in one united Empire, politically, commercially, and socially, as long as it remained under one Flag and one King. Patriotism has ever been my motive. I have had no personal or private object to serve. If in the course of a long life of strenuous endeavour I have succeeded in any measure in infusing a spark of my own enthusiasm for this great and noble object among my countrymen and countrywomen at Home and beyond the seas, I shall have attained my utmost reward. But I should be indeed unworthy of receiving the great compliment which has been conferred upon me to-night by so large a number of my kind and warm-hearted friends of both sexes at Home and in the Colonies, in presenting for my acceptance the handsome testimonial you have given me, without feeling deeply touched and gratified at their generosity towards me. My especial thanks are due to the Duke of Marlborough for so kindly undertaking the presentation of the testimonial to me, and who has performed the duty in so complimentary and eloquent a way. Your Grace's distinguished position adds immensely to the value to me personally of your goodness in making this presentation. I would add also my appreciation of the great kindness shown to me by the large number of the Fellows of the Royal Colonial Institute, under whose generous auspices this testimonial originated, and particularly to the Committee and to Mr. Algernon Aspinall, the Honorary Secretary, for the great kindness and the trouble they have taken, and which I so highly appreciate. Once more, my lords, ladies, and gentlemen, I heartily thank you. As long as I live, your kindness can never be obliterated from my heart.

Miss Ada Crossley then sang the patriotic song, "The Motherland is calling," the words of which are written by Mr. Wilfred Mills and the music by Mr. Francis Böhr.

REVIEWS OF NEW BOOKS RELATING TO THE COLONIES AND INDIA.

(By JAMES R. BOOSE, Librarian R.C.I.)

Fountain, Paul.—*Rambles of an Australian Naturalist.* 8vo.
Pp. viii-343. London: John Murray. 1907. (Price 10s. 6d.)

Although the name of Mr. Paul Fountain appears as the author of this work, the information contained in it has been gathered together by Mr. Thomas Ward, a Queensland stock farmer, who placed his notes and journals in the hands of Mr. Fountain for production in book form. Mr. Ward has amused himself in the intervals of a roughly laborious life by studying Nature in the wild and prying into the wonders of her works, and as a field naturalist has evinced great powers of observation, combined with an enthusiasm seldom found in the uninitiated. The task undertaken by Mr. Fountain has been to reduce the notes to readable form, collect the scattered information on specific subjects, and identify and supply the scientific names of species, &c. At the same time he has not interfered with the facts and opinions of Mr. Ward, though some of the latter are, he explains, in conflict with his own. The result is the production of a work which is full of information, not only regarding the natural history of Australia, but of the physical features and characteristics of the country. The opening chapter sets forth the charm and beauty of the Blue Mountains and a description of the little known passes, one of which it took five days to reach, when the supply of both food and water was exhausted, and Mr. Ward had his first experience of the suffering and hardship of Australian travel. The narrative abounds in notes and details which will prove invaluable to students of natural history, whilst the anecdotes and experiences of travel are full of interest for the general reader. Of mammals, the great kangaroo is by far the most important found in Australia, but is now scarce in the settled districts; and of birds, parrots and cockatoos are in great variety and distributed over the whole of the island continent. It is not possible to deal with the many questions affecting the natural history of the country referred to in this work, nor would the limited amount of space available prove in any way adequate in order to point out the many attractive chapters contained in it. It is sufficient to refer the reader to the pages of the book itself, which are both entertaining and most instructive. The references to the native blackfellow, however, should be separately mentioned, as Mr. Ward has

had many opportunities of studying his habits and characteristics; and whilst he does not attempt to paint an original portrait of him, he is able to correct many errors concerning him which have from time to time been made by less experienced writers. A chapter upon the fossil remains of the Australian continent will be of interest to scientific naturalists, as it clearly shows that there is still much to be learned concerning the Australian genera of mammals. Considerable praise is due to Mr. Paul Fountain for the admirable manner in which he has utilised the mass of splendid material placed in his hands, and which he has put before the reader in so able and scholarly a manner.

Voyages of the Elizabethan Seamen: Select Narratives from the "Principal Navigations" of Hakluyt. Edited by Edward John Payne. 8vo. Pp. lxxii-415. Oxford: Clarendon Press. London: Henry Frowde. 1907. (Price 4s. 6d.)

The two volumes of the late Mr. Payne's original selection have, in the work under notice, been condensed into one, and have been revised and amplified by Mr. C. Raymond Beazley. Too much praise cannot be bestowed upon the compilers of the work for the manner in which they have selected and sifted the material gathered together from the "Principal Navigations of Hakluyt," which every student of maritime history is aware contain episodes which are integral parts of our national history, episodes to which the English reader cannot but recur again and again with an emotion akin to that which a Greek may be supposed to have felt while listening to the exploits of the Homeric heroes. The oversea movement led by Drake and Hawkins, by Frobisher and Gilbert, by Raleigh, Cavendish, and Lancaster, is ably set forth in these pages, and shows the sacrifices and the courage, the energy and the patriotic spirit, of those great men who laid the foundations of the great British Empire, and enabled it to occupy the proud position which it does at the present time. The work is one which should be closely studied, not only by the young and growing generations in all parts of the Empire, but by the older generations as well, who are unfortunately in many cases all too ignorant of the noble deeds performed under great disadvantages by these representatives of "the spacious times of Great Elizabeth."

Selous, F. C.—*Recent Hunting Trips in British North America.* 8vo. Pp. 400. London: Witherby & Co. 1907. (Price 16s.)

The name of Mr. Selous has been so closely associated with big game hunting in Africa that a book upon sport in any other part of the world by the same author will be a novelty to readers generally. It must at the outset, however, be granted that this intrepid hunter is as much at home in the wild regions of North America as he was in the vast areas of British Africa, and that his latest narrative of his hunting trips in

the former country is as full of instructive notes and experiences as any of his previously published works. It appears to have been the ambition of Mr. Selous to visit some district of the North American continent, where moose are still to be found, and to hunt this giant deer in its native haunts. The results attending his efforts were highly successful, as readers of his book will find; for in it he gives a description of his first moose hunt in Central Canada, together with accounts of caribou hunting off the beaten tracks in Newfoundland, and the pursuit of moose, wild sheep, and caribou in the almost virgin hunting grounds of the Yukon Territory of North-Western Canada. He penetrated into unknown districts of both Newfoundland and the Yukon, and gives most detailed information regarding sport in those territories and incidents of travel which are written by an experienced hand and an enthusiast in everything appertaining to hunting. He gives many suggestions as to armament and equipment for an expedition which will prove invaluable to those who have not yet had much experience of big game shooting, and whose thoughts turn towards British North America as a field for the exercise of their energies.

Penfield, Frederic Courtland.—*Wanderings East of Suez in Ceylon, India, China, and Japan.* 8vo. Pp. xvii-349. London: George Bell & Sons. 1907. (Price 10s. 6d.)

The author's wanderings east of Suez took him to Ceylon, India, China, and Japan, and in each instance he gives an up-to-date account of the present condition and prospects of those countries. Mr. Penfield is already well known as the writer of a book on "Present-day Egypt," and so exact and true was his description of the condition and prospects of that country that his opinions upon the more eastern territories will prove equally attractive, more especially as he treats his subjects from a very general point of view, and refers in detail to the trade developments now going on in the East. Regarding the future development of trade relations between the United States and the East, Mr. Penfield, who is an American citizen, deplors the fact that, so far, the United States have made no determined effort to secure a greater share of the trade, and states that America's real opportunity is in Asia, for the possibilities of commerce with the rich East exceed those of South America tenfold. In his opening chapter Mr. Penfield deals at length with the importance of the Suez Canal, and compares its volume of trade with what may be expected from the Panama Canal. He recognises that the only way to make the latter waterway pay is to make it incidental to the development of a mighty commercial marine which will carry American products to present foreign markets, as well as to new markets. Proceeding eastward to Ceylon, the author gives a graphic description of that island, and refers to its various industries which have placed it in its present prosperous condition. He describes the Ceylon pearl fishery as the

most gigantic gamble compared with which any State lottery pales into insignificance. In his references to India, Mr. Penfield is both happy and diffuse. His powers of observation and the fluency of his pen have enabled him to give a highly entertaining account of his visit to the chief centres of attraction in that interesting country. Agra's Taj Mahal comes in for special treatment, and is described as the most exquisite building ever erected by the hands of man; whilst the city of Benares, the sacred capital on the Ganges, is referred to in glowing terms. After making a brief reference to the British possessions in the Straits Settlements and Hong Kong, Mr. Penfield gives his views upon the present position and future prospects of China and Japan, and so completes a narrative which is both instructive and full of valuable details from beginning to end.

Mercer, W. H. (C.M.G.), and Collins, A. E.—*Records of Colonial Officers extracted from the Colonial Office List, 1907.* 8vo. Pp. 166. London: Waterlow & Sons. (Price 2s. 6d.)

The records of the services of Colonial officials, which have long been one of the features of the Colonial Office List, have been issued in separate form, and will doubtless attract that attention which is necessary in extending and improving this section of the larger work. The co-operation of Colonial officials is absolutely essential, however, in order to make the book of use as a work of reference, and the editors invite assistance in the direction indicated. It is hoped in this way eventually to produce a guide which will prove of biographical interest to those connected with the Civil Services of the whole Colonial Empire.

Bradshaw's Through Routes to the Chief Cities of the World.—

Edited by Professor A. H. Keane and Stanley Reed. 12mo. Pp. xlviij-656. London: Henry Blacklock & Co. 1907. (Price 5s.)

It is some five years since the last edition of this comprehensive travel guide was published, and the many changes which have occurred during that period warrant the issue of a new and corrected volume. The name of "Bradshaw" is a household word amongst the travelling public of the United Kingdom, and in like manner will it become known to those indulging in more extended journeys to all parts of the world by means of this guide, which has been well compiled, and includes just the information which is required by tourists and others visiting all parts of the civilised world. The compilers have arranged their notes in the form of routes which number fifty or more, and include the recognised tracks to all quarters of the globe, with ample notes upon the localities traversed. Information is given for a simple Continental journey, as well as for an expedition to some far distant land. Two hundred pages are devoted to

India, and the Colonial sections are full of valuable and reliable information. The work, which contains an ample supply of maps and plans, has been edited by Professor Keane and Mr. Stanley Reed.

Manucci, Niccolao.—*Storia do Mogor or Mogul, India, 1653-1708.*
Translated, with Introduction and Notes, by William Irvine.
2 Vols. 8vo. Pp. lxxxviii-386, 471. London: John Murray.
1907. (Price 24s.)

Owing to the combined efforts of the Government of India and the Royal Asiatic Society, a scheme for the publication of a series of books of reference on the history of India, consisting of annotated editions or translations or abstracts of the works of Indian writers, has been framed in many respects upon similar lines to the historical documents known as the Rolls Series, except that they will deal with times prior to British rule in India. The two volumes which introduce the series are devoted to the elaborate "Storia do Mogor" sent to Europe by Niccolao Manucci more than two hundred years ago, which now reaches the public as he wrote it (allowing for the change from Portuguese and French and Italian into English). Previous to the appearance of this complete edition the work was only known by the references based upon a book published in 1705 in Paris by François Catrou, who obtained Manucci's manuscript for perusal from M. Deslandes, a Pondicherry official who had brought it to Europe in 1701 or 1702. The present edition of Manucci has been translated by Mr. William Irvine, formerly of the Bengal Civil Service, who contributes a valuable introduction in which he sets forth a full explanation of the writings of Manucci and gives a good account of the reasons which have for many years made the question of Manucci and his history a curious literary problem. As regards the work itself the first part consists of a personal narrative of the author's journey from Venice to Dilli and a short chronicle of the Mogul kings. In Part II. is given the reign of Aurangzeb, interspersed with the author's personal history, his journeys, and adventures during the same period. This is followed by a treatise on the Mogul Court, with its system of government and statistics of its revenues, and an account of current events in the Mogul camp. The researches of Mr. Irvine point to the fact that, with rare exceptions, Manucci's statements, where they can be verified, are historically accurate, and that the work is one which is both useful and valuable, and is worthy of reproduction and preservation in its present form.

The Lone Hand.—*An Illustrated Monthly.* Vol. I., No. 1. May 1907. Sydney: The Bulletin Newspaper Co. (Price 1s.)

The issue of a well-conducted magazine such as "The Lone Hand" will not only be welcomed in literary circles in Australia, but will prove of

interest to many in this country interested in Australian affairs, as it appeals to readers of all classes, and includes articles of permanent value, as well as those of only present-time interest. The contributors to the first issue include many of the leading Australian journalists and prose writers. The chief articles comprise a biographical sketch of William Bede Dalley ; a review of Australian poetry ; a sketch of French literature of to-day ; the genesis of "The Bulletin," by Mr. J. F. Archibald, who has been connected with the paper for twenty-six years ; an account of Sydney of to-day ; and an article entitled "Prolific Australia," in which the writer sets forth the prospects of the intending settler. There are many short stories—humorous and otherwise—and a sprinkling of verse by well-known Australian writers. The style and general appearance of the initial number give every promise of a successful career for the magazine.

Wilson, Captain C. Holmes.—*Offence, not Defence, or Armies and Fleets.* 12mo. Pp. x-169. London: George Allen. 1907. (Price 3s. 6d.)

The object of this work is to advocate the formation of a national army on a large scale and to educate the people of the United Kingdom as to the danger in which they stand at the present time. Captain Wilson is a strong supporter of compulsory service as well as of rifle clubs and all forms of drill. His views are briefly stated in the following paragraph: The composition of the army required should be (1) a national or emergency force of at least half a million men liable to service abroad in time of danger ; (2) a national army for home defence composed of men in the later periods of their service ; (3) a reserve for the above ; and (4) a regular long-service army for service in India and the Colonies until such places can be trusted to take care of themselves. He upholds that the work of the fleet can only be effectually carried out in combination with the existence of a large and efficient military force, and that naval supremacy can only be maintained by means of a well-trained national army. Consequently if the Empire is to keep its place amongst the nations, and have its voice respected in the councils of the world, it must face the need for effecting some great change in its military system, which is evidently out of date when compared with those of other Powers.

The Colonial Office Journal.—Edited by W. H. Mercer and R. V. Vernon. Vol. I., No. 1. June 1907. London: Waterlow & Sons. (Price 1s. 6d.)

This publication is intended to be a medium for the discussion of various Colonial subjects, and an organ for the expression of views by

Colonial officials and others upon questions in which they are concerned. Its institution has been approved by the Secretary of State for the Colonies, but it is stated to be unofficial in character. The main purposes of the journal are to review recent books and reports relating to the Colonies and to discuss administrative questions, as well as to set forth the systems of Government offices; the products and trade requirements of the Colonies and the regulations and practices by which Colonial officers are governed. Its scope is therefore wide enough to embrace a general review of the official and unofficial conditions of the whole Colonial Empire. The initial number contains articles on the Transvaal Constitution, the administration of Northern Nigeria, the administration of the Territory of Papua, and Transvaal native affairs, all of which are unsigned. Special sections are devoted to railway notes, medical notes, and reviews of new books. That referring to "recent appointments" is of very little value, as the appointments dealt with are matters of ancient history; but the list of Colonial officers on leave will prove of service, and is one of the most useful features of the journal, which is edited by Mr. W. H. Mercer, C.M.G., one of the Crown Agents for the Colonies, and Mr. R. V. Vernon, of the Colonial Office.

Jamaican Song and Story: Annancy Stories, Digging Songs, Ring Tunes and Dancing Tunes.—Collected and Edited by Walter Jekyll. 8vo. Pp. xxxviii-288. London: David Nutt. 1907. (Price 10s. 6d.)

One of the most interesting as well as entertaining works which have been issued by the Folk-lore Society is this "Jamaican Song and Story," which has been written by Mr. Walter Jekyll, and contains an introduction by Miss Alice Werner. As the latter points out, the tales and songs collected by Mr. Jekyll suggest many interesting problems, among which is a network of interwoven strands of European and African origin. Miss Werner deals at length with the origin of these stories and songs, and traces the African elements in these imported tales as distinct from those which are merely derived from West Indian surroundings. Without detracting in any way from the value of the stories themselves, it cannot be denied that Miss Werner's thoughtful and charming introduction is the most interesting portion of the work. She writes with that experience and ease gained by a long study of African customs and folk-lore, and has imparted into her essay a large amount of useful information which she has gathered together after many years of diligent research. As regards the stories themselves, Mr. Jekyll states that they have been taken from the mouths of men and boys in his own employ in Jamaica, and are excellent examples of the stories told at the present time among the native population. The work is in every way admirable, and a useful contribution to the folk-lore of the West Indies.

Eden, Guy.—*Bush Ballads, and other Verses.* 12mo. Pp. viii-152. London: Sisley's, Limited. 1907. (Price 3s. 6d.)

The pictures afforded of life in the back blocks of Australia in this excellent collection of poems are fresh and wholesome. They possess variety of theme, and are the kind of descriptive writing which is wanted by readers in England; many of the short pieces are very complete and thoroughly racy of the soil. "The Old Grey Mare" is a really good poem, and shows the abilities of the author in his true colours, whilst "A Brush with the Blacks" gives another aspect of life in the northern portion of Australia, and one which fortunately can now be reckoned a thing of the past. The author gives a graphic impression of life in the bush of Australia, and has produced a really entertaining volume.

Epigraphia Zeylanica, being Lithic and other Inscriptions of Ceylon.—Edited and Translated by Don Martino de Silva Wickremasinghe. Vol. I., Parts ii. and iii. 4to. Pp. 41-74. London: Henry Frowde. 1907. (Price 5s. each.)

In this work the compiler has gathered together a large amount of useful information relating to the lithic and other inscriptions of Ceylon. Great strides have recently been made in our knowledge of the ancient records and documents of the Colony, as well as in the method of treating them for publication, more especially owing to the energy of Mr. H. C. P. Bell, the Archæological Commissioner, and of Mr. Wickremasinghe, who was appointed Epigraphist to the Archæological Survey in 1899, and who was directed to edit the texts for publication. The various inscriptions have been reproduced by purely mechanical means, and in his account of the inscriptions Mr. Wickremasinghe has avoided any generalisation based on insufficient data, but has kept in view the more useful task of putting before the reader all the material he has been able to get together bearing on each subject under discussion. The work, of which three parts have now appeared, is of great interest to archæological students, and of considerable scientific value.

The Imperial Gazetteer of India.—Vols. I., III., and IV. 8vo. Pp. xxxi-568, xxxvi-520, xxx-552. Oxford: Clarendon Press. London: Henry Frowde. 1907. (Price 6s. each vol.)

The first edition of the "Imperial Gazetteer of India" was published in nine volumes in the year 1881. A second edition, augmented to fourteen volumes, was issued during the years 1885-87. These were edited by the late Sir William Wilson Hunter, who formed the original plan of the work as far back as 1869. His untimely death in 1900 has deprived

the present edition of the advantage of his ripe experience and literary skill. The second edition having been long out of print, the Government of India has had a new edition prepared, which will consist of twenty-six volumes instead of fourteen, and will be based upon the census of 1901. The changes that have been introduced, both in the general scheme and in the methods of compilation, fully justify its being considered as a new work rather than a new edition. For instance, the single volume entitled "The Indian Empire" has been expanded into four volumes, entitled respectively "Descriptive," "Historical," "Economic," and "Administrative." The principle adopted has been to entrust each subject to an author best qualified to deal with it, either by special study or official experience. The names of the authors are in most instances appended to the various chapters. The articles that make up the body of the Gazetteer have likewise been rewritten for the most part by officials who have already acquired local experience as census superintendents of their provinces or States in 1901. Comparative statistics are given for the three census years 1881, 1891, and 1901, but later figures are also supplied. The task of editorial supervision has been shared between India and England, but Mr. J. S. Cotton, who was closely associated with Sir William Hunter in both the former editions, has had the responsibility of the final form of the work; and the duty of seeing the whole through the press. So far volumes i., iii., and iv., dealing with the Indian Empire, have been issued, and are splendid examples of diligent research and literary skill. The material has been well selected and ably condensed, and the work is in every way a good example of what a gazetteer should be.

South African Commerce and Manufacturers' Record.—No. 1.
May 1907. Cape Town: William James Laite. (Price 6d.)

The first issue of this journal is a creditable production, and appears to fill a gap in South African journalism. Its chief aims are to advocate and support a legitimate and reasonable policy of industrial development in South Africa; to bring the numerous business communities throughout the country into close and friendly touch with each other by providing an effective medium wherein their interests and aims may be intelligently discussed; to record each month events which are of interest and necessary to the business man; and to discuss commercial topics and policies, moderately and without partisanship, from the standpoint of sound business experience. In addition, a series of special articles, contributed by representative leaders in the manufacturing, mercantile, mining, and farming industries, will appear from time to time. The work is the official organ of the South African Manufacturers' Association.

Stigand, Captain C. H. (F.R.G.S., F.Z.S.).—*Scouting and Reconnaissance in Savage Countries.* 12mo. Pp. viii-143. London: Hugh Rees, Limited. 1907. (Price 5s.)

This is a useful guide for the officer whose duties take him into comparatively unknown countries, and has been compiled by Captain Stigand, who is the author of a work recently published upon "Central African Game and its Spoor." The writer has had considerable experience in tracking and scouting in tropical countries, and has adapted the practical knowledge thus gained to military scouting and reconnaissance. He enters very fully into minor details which in many cases are not thought worth noting, and shows how neglect of the most simple rules may lead to inestimable trouble. The work is full of valuable information and advice, which is based upon the experiences of one who has studied the subject in a most thorough and practical manner, and has gained his knowledge after much hard and tedious practice.

Lord Curzon's Farewell Speeches in India, September-November 1905, with the Speech at the Pilgrims' Club, London, April 1906. Edited, with Introduction, Notes, and Essays, by R. P. Karkaria. 8vo. Pp. xii-99. Bombay: Thacker & Co. 1907.

A large amount of information regarding the work of the Government of India is embodied in this excellent selection of the speeches of Lord Curzon, delivered during the last few months of his term of service as Viceroy. The collection has been gathered together by Mr. R. P. Karkaria, who has not only given the Indian speeches in their entirety, but has added the one delivered in London on Lord Curzon's return to England at the Pilgrims' dinner, and which summed up the work that he had done in India and the lessons which his high office had given him. These speeches are worthy of being preserved in permanent form, and Mr. Karkaria has placed students of Indian history under a debt of gratitude to him for his public-spirited action. Not the least useful portion of the work is that in which is reprinted a selection of Mr. Karkaria's articles which have appeared from time to time in the leading Indian newspapers, and which throw a considerable amount of light upon the administration of India, not only under Lord Curzon, but under many of his predecessors in the high office of Viceroy.

Morris, Henry.—*The Governors-General of India.* Vol. I. 12mo. Pp. xii-189. London: Christian Literature Society for India. 1907. (Price 1s.)

The history of the conquest of British India and the records of the lives of those who took part in that great work is a subject both

fascinating and romantic, and Mr. Morris is performing a useful task in drawing attention to the great services of those eminent men who have in days gone by held the important position of Governor-General. By this biographical method information of a useful kind can be imparted to those who know little of the history of that beautiful land. In the first volume of the series Mr. Morris gives a brief account of the lives of Warren Hastings, Lord Cornwallis, Sir John Shore, the Marquis Wellesley, the Earl of Minto, and the Marquis of Hastings. He has embodied all the chief events in the lives of these great men, who so effectually laid the foundation of British rule in India, which has conferred inestimable blessings upon the country and so led up to its present prosperity. In a very limited amount of space he has effectually separated the wheat from the chaff, and has given us a work which should assist in promoting amongst readers of Indian history a further study of those questions which it has only been possible for him to lightly deal with.

The Right Honourable Sir James Stephen.—*Letters, with Biographical Notes by his Daughter, Caroline Emelia Stephen.* 8vo. Pp. ix-298. Cambridge: W. Heffer & Sons. 1906. (Price 6s.)

The interest in this work, so far as the British Colonies are concerned, arises from the fact that Sir James Stephen occupied the position of Permanent Under-Secretary for the Colonies, and was connected with the Colonial Office in various capacities for twenty-two years. Sir Henry Taylor, who was a close and intimate friend of Sir James Stephen, has stated that for many years he literally ruled the Colonial Empire, and was frequently made the scapegoat for real and supposed errors of the Colonial Office. It fell to his lot to assist in two of the most remarkable transactions of the last century. The first was the abolition of slavery, and the second the establishment of responsible government in Canada. With each of these he was connected in the same way. He prepared the measures which others advocated, and furnished many of the arguments and much of the information which they employed. Sir James Stephen after his retirement from the Colonial Office became Professor of Modern History at Cambridge, and many of his letters written during his residence there are highly interesting and instructive. The work has been compiled by his daughter, who has based her biographical sketch (which is the first that has ever been attempted) upon the letters of her father and other documents which have remained in the possession of the family. The absence of an index detracts from the general usefulness of the book.

Selous, Frederick Courteney.—*A Hunter's Wanderings in Africa, being a Narrative of Nine Years spent amongst the Game of the far Interior of South Africa.* 8vo. Pp. xix-504. London: Macmillan & Co. 1907. (Price 7s. 6d.)

The issue of a new edition of Mr. Selous' popular work will be welcomed by a large circle of readers. The author's writings are always interesting and entertaining; but more than ordinary interest was attached to this work, which was first published in 1881, and has already gone through five editions. Its popularity has therefore been more than proved, as is evidenced by its continued demand. The work has been issued in its original form, and contains all the illustrations which were embodied in the first edition. All that Mr. Selous has to say upon the game of the interior of South Africa is just as applicable to-day as it was some twenty-five years ago. Changes have taken place in the map of Africa, and many of the hunting companions of the author have passed away; but the haunts of much of the game referred to still remain. Again, where Mr. Selous was compelled to trek for long distances and undergo certain trials, the railway now carries the traveller in comparative luxury to points which in 1881 were considered somewhat inaccessible. The contrast of "then and now" forms one of the most entertaining features of the work. Few men know more of the interior of South Africa than Mr. Selous, who not only lived in the country, but closely studied the habits and customs of the various native tribes.

Wright, Herbert (Ass. R.C.S., F.L.S.).—*Rubber Cultivation in the British Empire.* 12mo. Pp. vii-100. London: Maclaren & Sons. 1907. (Price 2s. 6d.)

At the present time considerable attention is being devoted to rubber-yielding plants in various parts of the British dominions, more especially in Ceylon, Southern India, the Federated Malay States, and British East Africa; and in the work which has recently been issued by Mr. Herbert Wright, who has just retired from the position of Controller of the Government Experiment Station, Ceylon, there is a full and comprehensive account of the potentialities of this prominent industry, and its present and future importance from the producers' standpoint. Mr. Wright points out the various sources of rubber supply and the distribution of plants, and shows the yields on small and large properties for a series of years. His long and practical experience of rubber cultivation has enabled him to embody in his book a great deal of information and instruction regarding all points connected with the industry.

Parkin, George R. (C.M.G., LL.D.)—*Round the Empire, for the use of Schools.* 12mo. Pp. viii-272. London: Cassell & Co. 1907. (Price 1s. 6d.)

This is a new and revised edition of Dr. Parkin's most instructive historical geography of the British Empire, which has been compiled for the use of schools, and more especially for the elementary scholar. Its popularity has been so great that it has already passed through many editions, and is in every way well suited for a text-book in the schools of the United Kingdom.

Budge, E. A. Wallis (M.A., Litt. D., Lit. D.).—*The Egyptian Sûdân, its History and Monuments.* 2 Vols. Roy. 8vo. Pp. xxviii-652, 618. London: Kegan Paul, Trench, Trübner & Co. 1907. (Price 42s.)

Dr. Wallis Budge has been engaged for many years in examining the archaeological remains which are scattered throughout Egypt and the Sûdân, and in collecting antiquities. He has from time to time carried out investigations which have had far-reaching results, and his researches have been dealt with in several interesting works which have appeared during recent years. In the work under notice he has combined the scientific side of Egyptology with the historical, and the result is all that could be desired. That the book is well written goes without saying. The enthusiasm for his subject and the clear insight he possesses of everything appertaining to the history of the country have enabled him to compile a work which is full of instructive information and entertaining references to its general administration. In the first volume will be found a narrative of the results of the author's four missions and a description of the temples, pyramids, &c., which he has visited, examined, and partly excavated. He gives a summary of the work accomplished in the Sûdân by modern travellers and of those who visited or passed through Nubia and the Sûdân in the eighteenth century and earlier. The second volume is devoted mainly to a general history of the country and its development under British administration; a development which is truly marvellous in view of the many difficulties which have had to be overcome. The results achieved are set forth with considerable ability by Dr. Budge, who shows that the Sûdân is now ruled and administered with due regard to the welfare of the country, and that never before has it been ruled with such patience, justice, and humanity, and with such true regard for the beliefs and customs of its peoples, nor with such whole-hearted devotion and integrity, as it is to-day. A large number of illustrations and a very full bibliography of the Sûdân lend additional value to a work which is of both scientific and practical value.

Björling, Philip R., and Gissing, Frederick T.—*Peat: its Use and Manufacture.* 12mo. Pp. xii-178. London: Charles Griffin & Co. 1907. (Price 6s.)

This is a description of the principal methods and classes of machinery that have been adopted for utilising peat, reference being made not only to the successful or partially successful methods, but also to several failures, with a view to preventing future investigators from working on similar lines. In dealing with the formation, growth, and distribution of peat the authors refer to those districts of Canada where there are large areas of excellent peat, the largest and most easily accessible being on the line of the Canadian Pacific Railway in the Province of Quebec. Beds are also found in New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island, the product being of good quality and possessing many advantages over coal for generating steam.

Burge's Commentaries on Colonial and Foreign Laws generally and in their Conflict with each other and with the Law of England. New edition, under the general editorship of Alexander Wood Renton and George Grenville Phillimore. Vol. I. Royal 8vo. Pp. xxxviii-420. London: Sweet & Maxwell. 1907.

The reprint of Burge's "Commentaries on Colonial and Foreign Laws," the original edition of which appeared in the year 1838, marks an important point in the system of jurisprudence which prevails in the British Colonial Empire. Since the publication of the first edition, legal changes of the most far-reaching character have passed over the British Empire and the world. Within the Empire itself there has been the transfer to the Crown of the Government of British India and of all rights incidental thereto which had previously been exercised by the East India Company in trust for the Crown, the growth of the self-governing Colonies, the federation of Canada and Australia, and an enormous extension of ex-territorial jurisdiction and of the system of protectorates. For these reasons the first volume, which has recently been issued, has been rewritten; but care has been taken to preserve all passages expressing Mr. Burge's personal opinions where these have not been superseded or rejected by judicial decisions. The present volume, which is one of five, is intended as a general introduction to the whole, and describes generally the character of the different systems that underlie the jurisprudence of the legal world, and their relations to the present laws of the British dominions. It traces the outlines of the existing juridical constitutions of those dominions exclusive of the United Kingdom, and considers the position of tribunals which have been established in lands not forming an integral part of His Majesty's dominions in the exercise of ex-territorial jurisdiction or otherwise.

A tabulated statement is appended showing the conditions of appeal to the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council from British courts of justice in all places in the King's dominions beyond the United Kingdom and also in places not included therein where powers and jurisdiction have been acquired by the Crown whether by treaty, grant, usage, sufferance, or other lawful means and are regulated under the Foreign Jurisdiction Act or otherwise. A special chapter on Roman-Dutch law is contributed by Dr. W. R. Bisschop and sets forth the introduction of the civil law into Holland, its fusion with the native German law, and their development into the Roman-Dutch system which forms the basis of the law throughout South Africa, Ceylon, and British Guiana. A large number of legal experts representing all parts of the Empire^s have been engaged in the preparation of the work, which has been ably edited by Mr. Justice A. Wood Renton, of the Supreme Court of Ceylon, and Mr. G. G. Phillimore, of the Middle Temple. It is impossible to overestimate the value of the work, which is the only legal one which attempts to deal comparatively with the main divisions of the law of persons and property in the systems of the British dominions and those of foreign countries.

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- The Admiralty*.—Africa Pilot, Part i. ; North Atlantic Islands and Cape Spartel to River Cameroon, 1907 ; Admiralty Charts, No. 3,641, South Australia, Kangaroo Island, North Coast, Nepean Bay ; No. 593, North America (West Coast), Alaska, Yukon River to Point Barrow, including Behring Strait.
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- The Commissioner, Wei-Hai-Wei*.—Ordinances, 1906.
- Department of Agriculture, Ontario*.—Annual Report, 1905.
- Department of Militia and Defence, Canada*.—Annual Report, 1906 ; Quarterly Militia List, January 1907.
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 also Annual Report of the Commerce of Montreal. 1874 to date
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- China Review, or Notes and Queries on the Far East. From Vol. XIX.,
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General—

- Zoology of the Voyage of Captain F. W. Beechey. Compiled from the
 Collections and Notes made by Captain Beechey, the Officers and
 Naturalist of the Expedition, by J. Richardson, N. A. Vigors, G. T. Lay,
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 Sowerby. 4to. 1839
 The Botany of Captain Beechey's Voyage, comprising an account of the
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 the command of Captain F. W. Beechey, 1825-1828. By Sir W. J.
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- East India Association, Journal of. Vol. II. Nos. 2 and 3. Vol. IV. No. 4
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 ings of the Members. Vol. VI.
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 II. Parts 2 and 3, 1839. Vol. III. Parts 1, 2, and 3, 1840. Vol. IV.
 Part 4, 1841. Vol. VI. Parts 1 and 4, 1843. Vol. XIV. Part 1, 1851,
 and Vols. XXI. to XXXVI. 1858-1873
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 1869-72

Societies (Colonial)—

- New South Wales**—Royal Society of New South Wales. Transactions and Proceedings. Vols. I. to VII. (1866-73)
 Philosophical Society of New South Wales. Transactions. Previous to 1862
 Australian Philosophical Society. Proceedings. 1850-56
- Victoria**—Royal Society of Victoria. Vol. VII. Part 1. Vol. VIII. Part 1. (1868). Vols. X. to XVII. and Vol. XXI.
 Zoological and Acclimatisation Society of Victoria. Previous to Vol. IV. (of 1875), and from Vol. V.
 Philosophical Institute of Victoria. Vol. I. (1856)
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- South Australia**—Royal Society of South Australia. Transactions and Proceedings of the late Adelaide Philosophical Society. All previous to 1877-78, and Vol. XI., 1887-88
 Royal Agricultural and Horticultural Society of South Australia. Proceedings. Previous to 1868
- Tasmania**—Royal Society of. Papers and Proceedings. 1860, 1861, 1862, 1863, 1870, 1871
 Launceston Mechanics' Institute. Annual Reports. Previous to 1882
- British North America**—Nova Scotia Institute of Natural Science. Vols. I. to IV. 1876-82
 Papers and Records of the Ontario Historical Society. Vol. I.
 Transactions of the Literary and Historical Society of Quebec. Vols. I. to IV.
- Ceylon**—Planters' Association of Ceylon (Kandy). Proceedings. 1861-62; 1862-63, 1865-66, 1866-67, 1868-69, 1874-75
 Royal Asiatic Society (Ceylon Branch). Journals and Proceedings, Vol. VI. No. 21, 1880. Vol. VII. No. 23, 1881

PARLIAMENTARY PUBLICATIONS.

- New Zealand**—Journals of the Legislative Council. Previous to 1854, and 1857, 1859, 1861, 1862, and 1884
- South Australia**—Government Gazette. Vol. II. (1887), Nos. 1 to 47
- Cape of Good Hope**—Votes and Proceedings of Parliament, and Appendices. All previous to 1862
- Ceylon**—Sessional Papers. 1886, 1887
 Blue Books. 1870, 1872, 1879
- Barbados**—Official Gazette. No. 3000. 1893. No. 8, 1898; No. 27, 1899

British Guiana—Minutes of the Court of Policy. Previous to 1860, and January to March 1861

Manitoba—Manitoba Gazette. Nos. 10 and 24 of Vol. XVII. 1889

Nova Scotia—Journals and Proceedings of the House of Assembly. 1873–1874, 1879–1880, and 1883

Journals and Proceedings of the Legislative Council. 1868–70, 1875, 1877
Statutes of Nova Scotia. 1853, 1855, 1861–62, 1869, 1870

Debates and Proceedings of the House of Assembly, 1880, 1881, 1883,
1885–86, 1891

Debates and Proceedings of the Legislative Council. 1880–82

British Columbia—Sessions Papers. 1882

Journals of the Legislative Assembly. 1874, 1875

Newfoundland—Journal of the House of Assembly. 1854, 1855, 1856, 1857,
1860 to 1870, and 1884

Journal of the Legislative Council. 1874 and 1876

Census of Newfoundland and Labrador. 1891

Sierra Leone—Sierra Leone Royal Gazette. Nos. 139, 140 (1881). No. 146
(1882). No. 225 (1888)

CLOSE OF THE SESSION.

The Session of 1906–1907 being now closed, the next number of the Institute Journal will be issued on December 1.

The Annual Volume of Proceedings will be ready for transmission to Fellows during the present month.

APPOINTMENT OF A COUNCILLOR.

Subject to confirmation at the next Annual General Meeting of Fellows, Lieut.-Colonel Sir Donald Robertson, K.C.S.I., has been appointed a member of the Council in succession to Mr. S. Vaughan Morgan, who has resigned after many years' service.

APPOINTMENT OF HONORARY CORRESPONDING SECRETARY.

Mr. Cecil E. Hawes has been appointed Honorary Corresponding Secretary at Pretoria, Transvaal, in succession to the Hon. J. Richard Stopford, who has resigned on leaving the Colony for England.

NEWSPAPERS FOR SALE.

Newspapers for sale at half-price, including postage :—

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"Economist"	1	0	10		1	7	0	
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HOURS OF OPENING INSTITUTE.

The Institute is open to Fellows from 10 A.M. to 8 P.M. on week-days, with the exception of the usual public holidays. *During August and September it will close at 6 P.M.*, as the majority of Members are then out of town, and the annual cleaning and repairs are most conveniently done during those months.

PHOTOGRAPHS OF COLONIAL TOWNS, SCENERY, &c.

As it is desired to form a collection of photographs of the chief towns and scenery of the various Colonies for reference purposes, donations are invited from Fellows and others.

TELEGRAPHIC ADDRESS.

In reply to inquiries, Fellows are informed that the words "Recital, London," have been registered as the abbreviated address of the Royal Colonial Institute in the United Kingdom and over the whole of the Eastern Telegraph and Eastern Extension Telegraph Companies' lines. Telegrams for any individual Fellow should be addressed to such Fellow by name, "c/o Recital, London."

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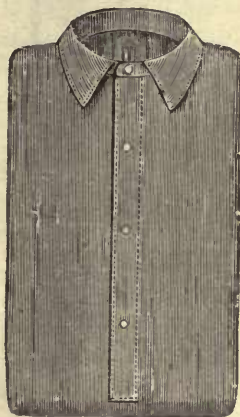
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