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M E L B O U R N E

G E O R G E R O B E R T S O N L I T T L E C O L L I N S S T R E E T W E S T

M D C C C L X X I I I .

QUEENSLAND.

CHAPTER II.

OCCUPATION OF LAND.

AFTER a few days spent in Melbourne, the great metropolis of our Australian empire, I went direct to Queensland, in order that I might see and hear what was to be seen and heard in that semi-tropical colony before the great heat commenced. I arrived there on the 11th August, 1871. The hot weather is supposed to begin in October and to last till the end of April. The subject of heat is one of extreme delicacy in Queensland, as indeed it is also in the other colonies. One does not allude to heat in a host's house any more than to a bad bottle of wine or an ill-cooked joint of meat. You may remark that it is very cool in your friend's verandah, your friend of the moment being present, and may hint that the whole of your absent friend's establishment is as hot as a furnace; but though you be constrained to keep your handkerchief to your brow, and hardly dare to walk to the garden gate, you must never complain of the heat then and there. You may call an inn hot, or a court-house, but not a gentleman's paddock or a lady's drawing-room. And you should never own to a mosquito. I once unfortunately stated to a Queensland gentleman that my coat had been bitten by cockroaches at his brother's house, which I had just left. "You must have brought them with you then," was the fraternal defence immediately set up. I was compelled at once to antedate the cockroaches to my previous resting-place, owned by a friend, not by a brother. "It is possible," said the squatter, "but I think you must have had them with you longer than that." I acquiesced in silence, and said no more about my coat till I could get it mended elsewhere. It was winter, so called, when I reached Queensland, but I found Brisbane very warm—warmer than when I left it two months later.

COUNTRY TOWNS.

CHAPTER XVI.

COUNTRY TOWNS, RAILWAYS, AND ROADS.

THE country towns of Australia, generally, are not attractive, and it is hardly to be expected that they should as yet be so. There are, of course, exceptional instances — Ballarat, Geelong, and Beechworth in Victoria, are exceptions, as are also Launceston in Tasmania, and Strathalbyn and Mount Gambier in South Australia, which, from peculiarity of situation, or the energy of individuals, have become either well-built cities or pleasant little towns. No doubt there are others which I was not able to visit. But, generally, there is a raw newness about these congregations of houses, an initiation of streets which as yet are no more than initiated, a deficiency in pavement and macadamization which leads either to dust or mud, an apparent mixture of pretension and failure which is indeed indispensable to towns founded with hopes of future greatness, but which creates a feeling of melancholy sadness in the mind of a stranger. It could hardly have been otherwise, and yet it grieves us to see that they who have diligently made their plans, intending to produce comfort, social neatness, and sometimes even urban magnificence, should as yet have succeeded in producing only discomfort, untidiness, and insignificance. In old countries, such as our own, towns have grown up almost without an intention on the part of any founder. Cities have formed themselves out of villages, because it has suited first this man and then that to earn his bread in this or that locality. Consequently our streets have been narrow and crooked, our spaces confined and often ill-arranged, and our supplies of water and air insufficient for an increasing population. We are daily compelled to pull down that we may rebuild—and are almost angry with ourselves or with those who went before us, in that there has been so little foresight among us as to the wants of mankind. But it has resulted from all this that we are not, as a rule, incomplete, pretentious, or unpicturesque. The new countries, however, have taken a lesson from the deficiencies of the old countries, and have commenced their towns on a certain plan, with wide streets, and large spaces, and straight long lines, so that coming generations of thronging men may be able to build their houses in spots properly prepared, and to move about without knotting themselves into inconvenient crowds

is too, generally, the case that the man who thus seeks new fortunes has to undergo some hardship before he can find his feet in the country of his adoption. I would not have any one believe that he can enter in upon the good things of the new world without trouble, without doubt, and without delay. Many a poor fellow burdened with wife and family, the best of whose strength has gone from him amidst the hardships of labour at home, has been tempted to go out, and when there has been unable to bear the roughness of beginning and has fallen in the struggle. But when the first struggle is over, and when the first battle has been won, the life of the artisan there is certainly a better life than he can find at home. He not only lives better, with more comfortable appurtenances around him, but he fills a higher position in reference to those around him, and has greater consideration paid to him than would have fallen to his lot at home. He gets a better education for his children than he can in England, and may have a more assured hope of seeing them rise above himself, and has less cause to fear that they shall fall infinitely lower. Therefore I would say to any young man whose courage is high and whose intelligence is not below par, that he should not be satisfied to remain at home; but should come out,—to Melbourne, if that destination will in other respects suit him; and try to win a higher lot and a better fortune than the old country can afford to give him.

But if he take my advice and then turn recreant,—if he become idle or self-indulgent, or take to drink and vicious courses of pleasure,—then will woe betide him. For the fate of such a one in the colonies is worse even than it is at home.

CHAPTER XXVI.

BALLARAT.

BALLARAT, the goldfield city, or Ballaarat as the conscientious orthographists of the district insist on spelling it,—deserves a separate chapter to itself. Not that the two towns of that name,—Ballarat and Ballarat East, with their vicinities,—comprise now,—A.D. 1873,—the most productive goldfields of Australia, as they are beaten by those of Sandhurst; but that the place has been more noticeable than any other in the history of Australian gold,

NEW ZEALAND.

still there, expecting golden days and future prosperity. "I do not quite see," said I, to one of the leaders among the citizens, who was kindly showing me the place, "how ordinary trade can hold its head up in a place so small and so remote." "It does," said he, "and we never have any bankrupts." I could not continue my ill-nature by remarking that there can be no bankruptcy without credit.

But there is the province, with its own little House of Commons, with its own Superintendent, and its own three members in the General Assembly at Wellington; and if it lives,—as it surely now will live,—till the Maories have melted, it will have scope for its energies, and land on which to grow its own corn.

CHAPTER LXI.

AUCKLAND.

AUCKLAND still considers herself to be, and certainly has been, the leading province of New Zealand. In the old days, before the colony had been divided into provinces,—before the colony was a colony,—the northern portion of the Northern Island was the only part of New Zealand with which Europeans were acquainted. It was here that the Pakeha Maoris settled themselves and dwelt with the natives. It was here that Governor Hobson fixed the seat of the government. It was here,—up at Kororareka, in the Bay of Islands,—that Heke cut down the flagstaff. It was here that Bishop Selwyn was settled when there was only one bishop in New Zealand, and it was here that all the governors have lived, and here the general parliament was held, till the seat of government was moved to Wellington in 1864. The province of Otago is now the most populous of the provinces, and its capital, Dunedin, the most populous of New Zealand cities. And as Otago is also the most southern province, and is therefore far removed from Auckland; and as Canterbury, also in the south, has grown in power and population; there came to be the same feeling in regard to Auckland that existed in Canada respecting Quebec,—and therefore the capital was removed to the central, but comparatively small town of Wellington.

Because of its age, and old history, and early dealings with the Maoris, I regard Auckland as being the representative city of New Zealand,—as Melbourne is of Victoria, or Sydney of New South

I N D E X.

QUEENSLAND.

Aborigines, 39
 Brisbane, 27
 Bunya-Bunya orgies, 43
 Canoona gold-field, 18
 Cattle-stealing, 67
 Coach-travelling—Maryborough to
 Gympie, 60
 Cunningham Gap, 74
 Customs Duties, International, 100
 Darling Downs, 72
 Emigration, 20
 Executive Council, 104
 Farming, 116
 Free-selectors, mode of selecting land,
 23, 117
 Gladstone, Town and district, 27
 Gold, 38, 53
 Government, form of, 101
 Gracemere sheep and cattle station, 38
 Gympie gold-fields, 53
 Homesteads, free-selected, 23
 Immigration, 20
 Ipswich Town, 73
 Jardine, Messrs., their expedition to
 Cape York, 49
 Labour, wages paid for, 108
 Land, purchase of, 66
 Legislative Assembly, 105
 Legislative Council, 104
 Maryborough Town, 39, 60
 Meat-preserving, 36
 Miners, their condition, 55
 Moreton Bay, 17
 Polynesian labour, 87
 Rations, amount allowed on sheep
 stations, 84

Rockhampton, 30
 Separation of Queensland, North from
 South, 32
 Shearing of sheep, 82
 Squatters, their condition, 61
 Sugar, 99
 Tiaro, Town and district, 62
 Vagrants, 70
 Warwick, Town, 75
 Washing of sheep, 79

NEW SOUTH WALES.

Albury, 213
 Australian Alps, 204
 Bathurst, 162
 Birds, 123
 Bishop of Sydney, 144
 Bligh, Governor, 132
 Blue Mountains, 133
 Border Duties, 162, 166
 Bourke, Governor, 134
 Cattle, number of, in Australia, 178
 Church attendance, 148
 Church of England, 144
 Church of Rome, 144
 Cinnabar, 192
 Coal, 190
 Cook, Captain, 128
 Copper, 182, 192
 Country Life at M——, 193
 Currajong gold-field, 189
 Customs Unions, 152, 157
 Darling, Governor, 134
 Deniliquin, capital of the Riverina, 216
 Denison, Governor, 134
 Diamonds, 192
 Early history, 128

INDEX.

- Echuca, 215
 Emus, 124
 Farming, 175
 Fishes, 124
 Floots of all nations, 135
 Fort-street school, 149
 Fortifications, 141
 Free-selectors, 173
 Gipps, Governor, 134
 Gold, 182
 Govat's Leap, 206
 Gulgong gold-field, rush to, 184
 Hartley coal used for gas, 192
 Hawkesbury River, scenery, 207
 Heat, not excessive, 121
 Hunter, Governor, 132
 Hunter River, 191
 Iguana, large Australian lizard, 122
 Illawarra, 192
 Kangaroos, 123
 Kerosene, qualities of Australian, 192
 King, Governor, 182
 Kosciusko, Mount, 205
 Land, occupation and alienation of, 171
 Lavender Bay, 139
 Macarthur, Captain, 133, 172
 Martin, Sir James, 161
 Meat, frozen, 181
 Meat, preserved, 180
 Miners' wages, 188
 Mort, Mr. Thomas, 181
 Newcastle, 165, 191
 New Zealand, 133
 Norfolk, Island, 130
 North Shore, 142
 Nuyts, Peter, and other early Australian discoverers, 128
 Oranges, excellence of, 165
 Parkes, Mr., 151
 Parramatta, 162, 165
 Pastoral rents, 177
 Phillip, Governor, 130
 Presbyterians, 145
 Public gardens, 139
 Rabbits, 124
 Railways, 165
 Reptiles, 122
 Riverina, 212
 Riverina, annexation to Victoria, 221
 Roads, 167
 Robertson, Mr. John, 151, 174
 Rusden, Mr., his account of the discovery of Port Phillip, 130
 Schools, 148
 Sheep, number of, in Australia, 178
 Snakes, 122
 Sofala gold-field, 185
 Steamboats, 125
 Sydney, 135
 Sydney Harbour, 136
 Tambaroora gold-fields, 183
 Tin, 183
 University of Sydney, 149
 Wagga Wagga, 213
 Wesleyans, 145
 Wild Horses, 124
 Windsor, 208
 Wollongong coal, 192
 Woolloomooloo, 142
- VICTORIA.
- Argus*, Victorian newspaper, 315
Australasian, Victorian newspaper, 315
 Ballarat, 243, 260
 Band of Hope and Albion Consols, 268
 Batman, John, applies for land at Port Phillip, 236
 Baudin, Captain, French explorer, 234
 Beechworth, 322
 Bendigo or Sandhurst, 270
 Benevolent Asylum, Melbourne, 255
 Campbell, Mr. William, 289
 Chinese quarters at Ballarat, 269
 Clubs in Melbourne, 257
 Clunes gold-field, 261
 Coaches, Victorian, 321
 Collingwood, suburb of Melbourne, 252
 Country gentlemen, 304
 Country houses, 301
 Country life, 305
 Cutting out cattle, 281
 Darling, Governor, 236, 239
 Diggers' licenses, 262
 Edwards' Reef, 285
 Emerald Hill, suburb of Melbourne, 253
 Esmond, discoverer of gold in Victoria, 261
 Fawkner, Mr., early settler, 240
 Flinders, Captain, explorer, 234, 238

INDEX.

- Fitzroy, suburb of Melbourne, 252
 Free-selectors, mode of selecting land, 298, 299
 Gambling in gold-fields, 275
 Geelong, 248
 Gipps Land, 278
 Government House, Melbourne, 257
 Great Extended Hustler's Tributemine, 272
 Grimes, Mr., Surveyor-General of New South Wales, 234
 Hargreaves, discoverer of gold in New South Wales, 261
 Henty, Mr., first colonist in Victoria, 237
 Hovell, Mr., explorer, 235
 Hume, Mr., explorer, 235
 Imports and Exports, 333
 Land laws in Victoria, 287
 La Trobe, Mr., Governor, 289
 Legislative Assembly, 329
 Legislative Council, 328
 Lewis, Mr. R., mayor of Ballarat, 267
 Literature, colonial, 318
 Long Tunnel Mine, Walhalla, 284
 Lonedale, Captain, Vice-Governor, 241
 Lowc, Mr., his opinion as to the land laws, 294
 Lunatic Asylums, Melbourne, 256
 Manners of the people, 308
 Matlock, gold town, 286
 Melbourne banks, magnificence of, 252
 Melbourne, foundation of, 247
 Menzies' hotel, 258
 Miners' habits, 276
 Mining companies, number and names, 273
 Mount Useful, Gipps Land, 285
 Mueller, Dr. Von, botanist, 254
 Murray, Lieutenant, first discovered Port Phillip, 234
 Newspapers, Australian, 315
 Oxley, Mr., Surveyor-General in New South Wales, 235
 Palmer, Mr. Roundell, his opinion of the land laws, 293
 Patronage, misuse of, 330
 Port Phillip, early history of, 233
 Railway System, 318
 Rama Yuck, 224
 Rent, pastoral, 300
 Revenue, 332
 Richmond, suburb of Melbourne, 252
 Rusden, Mr. G. W., of Melbourne, 227, 233
 Sale, capital of Gipps Land, 282
 Sandhurst or Bendigo, 270
 Separation of the colonies from Great Britain, 227
Sydney Morning Herald, Sydney newspaper, 315
 Trinity Colloge, Melbourne, 254
 University of Melbourne, 253
 Verandah, the, 256, 271
 Walhalla, gold town, 282
 Wine, Australian, 322
 "Winter's Freehold" gold mine, 267
 Withers', Mr., history of Ballarat, 263
 Woods Point gold-field, 286
 Wool, staple of the colony, 333
 Women, 309
 Yan Yean water, 258
 Yarra Yarra River, 243
 Yering, manufacture of wine, 287
 Young men, 311
- TASMANIA.
- Allport, Mr., as to river fish, 370
 Annexation to Victoria, 384
 Barron, a convict, 355
 Brady, a convict, 343
 Campbelltown, 367
 Cash, a convict, 343
 Change of name of the colony, 336
 Chudleigh Caves, 364
 Collins, Colonel, Lieutenant-Governor, 339
 Convict labour, 347
 Convicts, numbers of, 352
 Convict system, 240, 349
 Customs Duties, International, 379, 383
 Decrease of trade, 376
 Deloraine Railway, 361
 Denison, Sir William, Governor, 337
 Doherty, a convict, 354
 Dogs used to guard convicts, 350
 Dunn, a convict, 357
 Eagle-hawk Nest, 350

INDEX.

Early history, 335-40
 Farming, 361
 Fingal gold-field, 372
 Fish in Tasmanian rivers, 369
 Fisher, a convict, 356
 Fruit in Tasmania, 371
 Future prospects of the colony, 375
 Gold, 372
 Government House, Tasmania, 368
 Hobart Town, capital of the colony, 367
 Hops, 370
 Howe, a convict, 343
 Launceston, Town so named, 360
 Loyalty in Tasmania, 360
 Markham, a convict, 343
 Maria Van Diemen, Island so called, 339
 Melton, Town of, so named, 367
 Population, 363
 Port Arthur, 348
 Rabbits, 348
 Revenue, 374
 Tasman, Abel Jan, 339
 Tasman's Arch, 351
 Tasman's Peninsula, 350
 Van Diemen's Land, Island so called, 339
 Victorian Tariffs, 370
 Wages of convicts, 345
 Wages of labourers, 361
 Wilson, Mr., Premier, 372
 Wool, 377

WESTERN AUSTRALIA.

Aborigines, 389
 Albany, town of, 416
 Cathedrals, 418
 Certificate needed on leaving the colony, 409
 Coal, 394
 Convicts, condition of, 395, 398, 405, 408
 Convicts, effect of, 397
 Convicts, native, 403
 Convicts, petitions that they may be sent out, 393
 Corrobooree, native dance, 405
 Emigrants, allowance to, in land, 430
 Emigrants cannot be sent out by Government, 425

Byro, Mr., explorer, 393
 Farming badly carried on, 401, 420
 Freemantle, Captain, of the "Challenger," 388
 Fremantle, Town of, 405
 Free selectors, 427
 Future prospects of colony, 422
 Gas, 394
 Gold, 398, 423
 Government, form of, 414
 Grapes, 392, 417
 Hargreaves, Mr., searches for gold, 398
 Jarrah-Wood, 401
 Journey to Perth, 417
 King George's Sound, 387, 394, 416
 Knight, Mr., his book on the colony 410
 Land, grants of, 410
 Land, modes of sale, 411, 427
 Land selected for special occupation, 429
 Lockyer, Major, 387
 New Norcia, Roman Catholic Establishment for native children, 390
 Newcastle, 420
 Nickol Bay, 400
 Nuyt, Peter, afraid of frogs, 418
 Pearls, fishery, 400
 Perth, capital of the colony, 407, 418
 Poisonous shrub, 401
 Population, 410, 431
 Provisions, price of, 424
 Rottnest, 402
 Sandal-Wood, 401
 Schools of the colony, 421
 Sheep, number of, 400
 Stirling, Governor, 388, 392
 Squatters, 420
 Ticket-of-leave men, 419
 Toodyay districts, 394, 420
 Wages, rate of, 421
 Weld, Governor, 402, 413
 Wine, 433
 Wool, staple of the colony, 400, 420

SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

Aborigines at work, 485
 Acres under cultivation for various crops, 485

INDEX.

- Act of Parliament, under which the colony was formed, 439
 Adelaide capital of the colony, 447, 449, 451
 Albert Lake, 437
 Alexandrina Lake, 437
 Angus, Mr., 442
 Ballot, 494
 Barker, Captain, Mountain named after him, 438
 Burra Burra copper-mines, 480
 Church of England, 451
 Cockatoo farmers, 457
 Constitution given to the colony, 446
 Coorong River, 437
 Copper, 478
 Darling River, 436
 Debates in Parliament, 496
 Droughts, prevalent, 462, 468
 Early history of the colony, 435
 Farming badly done, 457
 Gambier Town, 476
 Gawler, Colonel, second Governor, 443
 Gold, 479
 Gordon, A. L., the poet, 478
 Goyder's line of rainfall, 463
 Great Northern Railway through the colony, 490
 Grey, Captain, Governor, 443
 Hindmarsh, Captain, first Governor, 442
 Hutt, Sir William, 442
 Kapunda copper-mines, 480
 Koorunga-Town, 480
 Land, price of, as regards the colonies generally, 461
 Land, sale of, 461
 Legislature, 492
 Light, Colonel, Surveyor-General, 442
 Mail Coach "Bushed," 486
 Meat, price of, and exportation, 474
 Moonta copper-mine, 480
 Mount Gambier, 476
 Murray River, 436
 Murrumbidgee River, 436
 Nepean Bay, 442
 Nobs and Snobs, 480
 Northern Territory, 487
 Pastoral rents, 475
 Population, 447
 Portalloch cattle station, 476
 Port Darwin, 492
 Port Wallaroo, 482
 Religious sects, 451
 Revenue, 497
 Robe, Colonel, Governor, 444
 Salt-bush, pasture for sheep, 473
 Sheep, loss of, for want of rain, 469
 Sinnett, Mr., his account of the colony, 442
 Smelting-works at Wallaroo, 485
 Strathalbyn-Town, 477
 Sturt, Captain, his discoveries, 436
 Telegraph wire from Adelaide to Port Darwin, 488
 Torrens, Colonel, 442
 Torrens, River, 453
 Victoria, re-emigration to, from South Australia, 443
 Vineyards, 465
 Wakefield, Mr. Gibbon, 439, 462
 Wallaroo copper-mine, 481, 484
 Water supply, 453
 Wheat, staple of the colony, 456
 Wine, 466
 Wool, 467, 470
- AUSTRALIAN INSTITUTIONS.
- Armistice, 504
 Benevolent Asylums, 502
 Churches, 505
 Horse-racing, 522
 Hospitals, 502
 Hunting, 523
 Kangaroo hunting, 527
 Mechanics' Institutes, 502
 Parliamentary practice, 513
 Parliament, payment of members, 511
 Poorhouse, 502
 Public Libraries, 502
 Schools, 500
- NEW ZEALAND.
- Adderley, Mr. Godley's letter to, 570
 Arewa Tribe, 604, 644
 Auckland, capital of the colony, 541
 Auckland gold-fields, 632
 Auckland Harbour, 638
 Auckland, a province, 630
 Baring, Francis, 534

INDEX.

- Bay of Islands, 594
 Blenheim, Town, 583
 Bosby, Mr., 533
 Cambridge, Town, 653
 Cameron, General, 598
 Cannibalism, 531
 Canterbury, land, price of, 573
 Canterbury, Parliament, 577
 Canterbury Pilgrims, 572
 Canterbury Plains, 573
 Canterbury Provincial Council, 577
 Canterbury Settlement, 563
 Canterbury wheat, 575
 Captain Cook, 531
 Christchurch Cathedral, 570, 577
 Christchurch Town, 576
 Church of England, 635
 Colonial expenditure, 620
 Colonial National Debt, 622
 Confiscation of land, 637
 Constitution first declared, 541
 Constitution of New Zealand, 615
 Debates in Parliament, 626
 De Thierry, Baron, 533
 Dunedin, Bishop of, 556
 Dunedin, capital of Otago, 553, 555
 Durham, Lord, 534
 Early history, 529
 Earnshaw, Mount, 550
 Education, 636
 Ellice, Russell, 535
 Fitzroy, Governor, 592, 594
 Fox, Mr., his actions as Premier, 613, 625
 Fox, Mr., his History of the War, 538, 591
 General Assembly, 619
 Gladstone, Mr. Godley's letter to, 568
 Godley, John Robert, 562, 569
 Grasses, English, 654
 Grey, Sir George, Governor, 591, 594, 598
 Guns and gunpowder, 593
 Haast, Dr., Curator of the Museum, 579
 Harper, Dr., Primate of New Zealand, 570
 Hau-Haus, 636
 Hawaiki, whence the New Zealanders came, 529
 Hawke Bay, a province, 627
 Hector, Dr., 550
 Heke, Maori Chieftain, 594
 Hobson, Captain, Lieutenant-Governor, 536
 Hokitika, 581
 Hongi's army, 531
 Horokiwi Valley, 610
 Hot wells and springs, 639
 Hutt, Sir William, 535
 Invercargill, capital of Southland, 543
 Jewish Colony, suggestions of, 566
 Kaiteriria, barracks for Maori soldiers, 644
 Kauri forest, 634
 Kauri gum, 633
 Kawan, escape of Maori prisoners, 600
 King chosen in New Zealand, 539, 593
 Kingstown, 548
 Kororeka flagstaff, 594
 Land Leaguo, 539, 596
 Land, price of, 573
 Language, same as that spoken in the Sandwich Islands, 529
 Legislative Council, 619
 Lyttelton, Lord, 562, 571
 Lyttelton, Port, 580
 Maid-servants, 579
 Maketu, 640
 Manipori, Lake, 550
 Maoris, 530, 589, 602.
 Maoris, Members of Parliament, 627
 Maori population, 608
 Maori superstition, 606
 Marlborough Province, 582
 Marsden, Mr., 533
 Martin's Bay, 550
 Matutaera, King Tawhiao, 606
 Missionaries, 533, 602
 Moas, extinct birds, 543
 Mokoia Island, 642
 Molesworth, Sir William, 535
 Morality of the Women, 508
 Mount Cook, 581
 Nelson, Bishop of, 585
 Nelson, Province, 586
 Nelson, Town, 588
 New Plymouth, Town, 539, 592, 601, 628
 New Zealand Association, 534, 562

INDEX.

- New Zealand, first claimed by English, 532
 New Zealand Land Company, 534, 592
 New Zealanders, description of, 530
 Ngatimaniapoto Tribe, 596, 664
 Ngatihau Tribe, 603
 Oamaru Town, 561
 Ohinemutu Hot Baths, 642
 Okaikau Pah, 594
 Otago, Province, 541
 Otago travelling, 545
 Otago Settlement, 544
 Pah, description of, 595
 Pai Marire religion, 603
 Pakeha Maoris, 590
 Parliament, creation of, 540
 Petre, Lord, 535
 Picton, Town, 582
 Provincial Assembly, 616
 Provincial Government, 554
 Provincial Legislators, payment made to them, 557
 Queenstown gold-fields, 548
 Queenstown, travelling from, to Dunc-
 din, 551
 Railways, 559, 575, 583, 610, 626
 Rakaiā River, 572
 Rangariri Pah, 655, 600
 Rangitata River, 572
 Rauparaha, Maori Chieftain, 584, 610
 Representation, system of, 618
 Representative Government, 567
 Revenue, 620
 Roto Iti Lake, 642
 Roto Kakika Lake, 644
 Roto Mahana Hot Lake, 645
 Roto Rua Lake, 642
 Ruapekapeka Pah, 595
 Selwyn, first Bishop, 537, 634
 Selwyn, Town, 576
 Simeon, Sir John, 562
 Smith, John Abel, 535, 562
 Soldiers, withdrawal of, 611
 Southland, formerly a Province, 542
 Stafford, Mr., 624
 Stewart Island, 541
 Supreme Court, 637
 Taranaki Province, 539, 592, 597, 601,
 628
 Tarawera, Lake, 646
 Tasman, Van, first discovery of New
 Zealand, 531
 Taupo, Lake, 650
 Tauranga-gate Pah, 600
 Tauranga, starting point for the Hot
 Springs, 639
 Teanau, Lake, 650
 Te Kooti, rebel Maori, 604
 Terraces under the Hot Lakes, 647
 To Whero Whero, King Potatau, 593
 Thomson, Dr., his history, 585, 591
 Tuapika Town, 552
 Volkner, Mr., murdered, 604
 Vogel, Mr., 576, 625
 Waikato River, 598, 650
 Waikato tribe, 595
 Waikato Valley, 652
 Waikonaite, coach breakfast, 560
 Wairau massacre, 584, 591
 Waitangi, Treaty of, 536
 Waitaki River, 561, 572
 Waitera lands, 598
 Wakarewarewa Geysers, 644
 Wakatip Lake, 644, 548
 Wakefield, Edward Gibbon, 535, 562,
 570
 War of 1863, 599
 War, beginning of, 592
 Wellington, capital of the colony, 537,
 609
 Wellington, Province, 595
 Woolner, his statue of Godley, 671
 Wiramu, Maori ordained clergyman,
 635

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Optical Character Recognition (OCR) technology has been developing over the years as a useful mechanism to convert images (as Archive CD Books pages are) into text which can be searched. The quality of the OCR can still vary, and hence the searchability can vary. Around 95% or 99% of the words in books with good type are searchable—or even higher with very good type.

*OCR is now a wonderful searching aid in many instances
but there is still no substitute for reading the book!*

Different Versions of Adobe Acrobat Reader

Adobe Acrobat Reader 4 or later should be used. Adobe Reader 6 (as it is now named) in fact has considerably better searching options and is recommended.

- **Acrobat Reader v4** has both a “Find” and a “Search” tool. Those tools are two **totally** different things. Our CDs (that are searchable) work with the **FIND** tool
- **Acrobat Reader v5** has only a “Find” tool (not a “search” tool). Our CDs (that are searchable) work with the **FIND** tool.
- **Adobe Reader v6** has only a “Search” tool (not a tool labelled “Find”). HOWEVER — what is called “Search” is the same as the tool that used to be called “Find” Our CDs (that are searchable) work with the **SEARCH** tool

Tips For Searching and Getting More From the CD Books

- update to Adobe Reader 6 for more versatile searching options, including the ability to bring up a list of all instances of the word you are searching for — across multiple files on a single CD in a single search request.
- enter the **MINIMUM** number of characters needed to bring up the search results required.
- use Adobe Reader 6 to do some trial searches to try to identify the characters that may be misread. These can show up in the extra text in the search results list (Adobe 6 only). A few minutes trial will help you to avoid using characters that are more prone to being misread, e.g. try entering “rederi” if you want “Frederick”, but find that the letters “F” “c” and “k” are sometimes misread.
- use the “Match whole word” option to eliminate unnecessary items in your results list, e.g. to eliminate all the blacksmiths and tinsmiths etc when you only want the name Smith.
- use the “Match case” option to eliminate all the occupations “smith” if you only want the name “Smith”.
- don’t just search for names. Search the book for other names, places and subjects of interest:
 - › look for others of the same name
 - › look for others who lived in the same place or street
 - › who was the postmaster or police officer in the town?
 - › how often and at what time did the coach arrive in town?
 - › what churches were there and what time were services held?
 - › what other activities were there in the community?
 - › look for others who had the same occupation or other interests
- all of this and more may be available in a seemingly mundane book such as a directory. You can learn much of the background of life at the time, even if your ancestor is not listed there.
- Many CDs have only one file, but some have the book content spread over several files. Adobe Reader normally searches in the file that is open at the time. If you wish to search ALL files at once choose the “All PDF documents in” option and select the CD drive or directory the files are in—Adobe Reader 6 only.

ADOBE ACROBAT SEARCHING IS A WONDERFUL FIRST FINDING AID.
BUT DO NOT RELY ON IT TO PICK UP ALL THE INFORMATION YOU WANT

