

## The Newcastle Fortifications.

ON Saturday, Colonels Scratchley, R.E., and Roberts visited Newcastle from Sydney, and made a preliminary inspection of the fortification works now going on at Flagstaff Hill. The object of their visit was to examine the old coal workings under the base of the hill, with reference, to the probable subsequent dangers to which reference has of late been made. Accompanied by Mr. Campbell, the Government Civil Engineer in charge, Mr. Russell, the contractor, and others, an inspection was made. Nothing definite was arrived at, however, the inspecting officers deeming it advisable to pay a second visit during the current week; which will probably be made on Thursday next. In the meantime the operation of opening out the old deserted drives is being proceeded with, and a careful survey is being made, so that a specific plan of their courses and intersections can be placed before the authorities on Thursday. Colonel Scratchley, we understand, clearly holds that the various tunnels will require thorough and substantial building up in order to safely bear the superincumbent weight.

---

1881, May 24th. *Newcastle Morning Herald & Miners Advocate*, p.2

Colonels Scratchley and Roberts accompanied by Mr Campbell, Government Civil Engineer in charge, inspect the fortification works on Flagstaff Hill and examine old coal workings at base of hill.

### **The Newcastle Fortifications**

On Saturday, Colonels Scratchley, R.E., and Roberts visited Newcastle from Sydney, and made a preliminary inspection of the fortification works now going on at Flagstaff Hill. The object of their visit was to examine the old coal workings under the base of the hill, with reference, to the probable subsequent dangers to which reference has of late been made. Accompanied by Mr Campbell, the Government Civil Engineer in charge, Mr. Russell, the contractor, and others, an inspection was made. Nothing definite was arrived at, however, the inspecting officers deeming it advisable to pay a second visit during the current week; which will probably be made on Thursday next. In the meantime the operation of opening out the old deserted drives is being proceeded with, and a careful survey is being made, so that a specific plan of their courses and intersections can be placed before the authorities on Thursday. Colonel Scratchley, we understand, clearly holds that the various tunnels will require thorough and substantial building in order to safely bear the superincumbent weight.