

THE HISTORY OF PILOT BOATMEN'S COTTAGES

NOBBYS ROAD, NEWCASTLE

by Dr J W Turner

18 October, 1992

Background to construction

In the 1890s the Harbours and Rivers Branch of the New South Wales Government employed 22 boatmen as crew for its pilot boats in the Port of Newcastle. These oarsmen also served on the lifeboat when it was required to assist ships in distress in and around the Port. As these men were required to live close to the Pilot Station and the lifeboat, accommodation was provided for them in cottages near the foreshores. At this time these cottages were in poor condition and replacements were badly needed.

Constructing the first group of cottages

In 1892 the Government Architect drew up plans for the first stage of construction, originally to be ten cottages, but only six or seven were proceeded with in 1893 because of insufficient funds. Tenders were called in December 1892 (*Government Gazette Advertisement*, 2 December 1892) and the tender of two local builders, Messrs Banks and Whitehead was accepted. Excavations began in March 1893 on land which had been in the hands of the Railway Commissioners and the *Newcastle Morning Herald* reported on 30 March 1893 that the foundations would be laid in the following week (see Appendix 1). Completion was expected within seven months.

According to the newspapers, the plans had been drawn by the Newcastle branch of the Government Architect's Department and 'each house will be two storeys high, built of brick and concrete, and containing six rooms:

When completed the houses will form a very nice block, being built in pairs in the usual terrace style. Owing to the formation of the ground each couple will be slightly lower than the other as the terrace goes northward. The present habitations used by the boatmen are a disgrace to the public service, and the sooner the men are given the new dwellings the better. (NMH 22/11/92)

The first stage of the terrace was in use in early 1894 and there was no extension until 1896, probably because of the depression of 1893.

Constructing the second stage

In November 1896 the NSW Government announced plans to spend £5000 to provide an extension of 'boatmens quarters' and this provoked an acrimonious debate in the Legislative Council, the upper house of the Parliament, where conservatives attacked the Government, accusing it of extravagance. D O'Connor, defending the proposal, called the boatmen heroes:

They risked their lives many times to save people from shipwrecks, and prevented homes being rendered desolate and widows and orphans being made. A hero was a hero whether born in a hut or a palace. The House should not quibble on such small items. The men deserved good accommodation. (NMH 12/11/96)

Despite this controversy, the Government called tenders for 'additional cottages, Boatmens' Quarters, Newcastle' on 5 January 1897 and on this occasion one of the original constructors, I Banks & Son, secured the contract. (*Government Gazette*, 16 February 1897) As these were merely additions to an existing facility, they attracted little attention from the newspapers, which did not report the date of completion. However, a photo dated 3 August 1897 shows them nearing completion and the *Federal Directory of Newcastle*, compiled in 1900 confirms that there were sixteen cottages, each one occupied by a boatman and his family (see Appendix 2 and Plate 1).

A third stage of construction?

Mysteriously, since there are now only sixteen cottages in the terrace, the *Government Gazette* of 24 March 1909 called tenders for an additional six 'Pilot Boatmens' Residences' and the plans of these have survived in the Newcastle Office of the Department of Public Works. Construction did not commence at that stage and fresh tenders were called in the following October.

Renovations of the 1960s

After the Maritime Services Board took over these cottages in 1961, their maintenance was managed by Mr John Younger who remembers them well and who recalls seeing in the Board's Newcastle Offices the plans of two separate stages of construction. He believes that timber walkways linked the footpath to the cottages and he recalls the original detached toilets. His team was responsible for renovating the original bathrooms which were lined with corrugated iron – the type with very narrow corrugations.

In 1983 the MSB was engaged in a long term part-time repainting of the terrace using labour when it was available from other jobs. The slowness of this process irritated local residents (Plate 2).

Methodology and Sources

In accordance with your instructions, a diligent search was made of Department of Public Works archives in Newcastle and in Sydney and enquiries were also made to several historians of the Port of Newcastle. Library records and collections of photos in Sydney and Newcastle were also searched for evidence of the design detail of the Boatmens' Terrace.

The search for plans and photographs is continuing in Newcastle and Sydney.

WILLIAM JOHN LYNE.

Supply of 175,000 tons of Steel Rails, to be manufactured in the Colony of New South Wales.	7 Dec., 1892	Offices of the Minister for Public Works, Sydney (or the Agent General for New South Wales, London).	See also Special Notice.
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TENDERS FOR PUBLIC WORKS—continued.

Description of Work or Supplies to be Tendered for.	Dates up to which Tenders will be received.	Where Plan, Specification, Special Conditions, General Conditions, and form of Tender may be seen.	Remarks.
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Government Architect's Branch—continued.

Repairs and Renovations, Police Station, Peat's Ferry.	5 April, 1909	Contractors' Room, Public Works Department, Sydney; and Police Station, Peat's Ferry.	
General Repairs, Military Buildings, Wollongong.	5 April, 1909	Contractors' Room, Public Works Department, Sydney; and Public Works Office, Wollongong.	
Additions and Alterations to Post and Telegraph Office, Broken Hill.	13 April, 1909	Contractors' Room, Public Works Department, Sydney; and District Works Office, Broken Hill.	
Additions, &c., to Public School, Molong ...	13 April, 1909	Contractors' Room, Public Works Department, Sydney; Public School, Molong; and District Works Office, Parkes.	Fresh Tenders.
Erection of New Building, Public School, George's Plains.	13 April, 1909	Contractors' Room, Public Works Department, Sydney; Public School, George's Plains; and District Works Office, Bathurst.	
Erection of Rifle Range, Yass... ..	13 April, 1909	Contractors' Room, Public Works Department, Sydney; Court-house, Yass; and District Works Office, Goulburn.	
Erection of Science and Manual Training Room, Public School, Tamworth.	13 April, 1909	Contractors' Room, Public Works Department, Sydney; and District Works Office, Tamworth.	
Erection of New Police Buildings and Court Room, Blackville.	13 April, 1909	Contractors' Room, Public Works Department, Sydney; Police Station, Blackville; and District Works Office, Tamworth.	Fresh Tenders.
Additions, Fencing, &c., Police Station, Cowra	13 April, 1909	Contractors' Room, Public Works Department, Sydney; Police Station, Cowra; and District Works Office, Bathurst.	
Erection of New Building and Teacher's Residence, Public School, Niubin.	19 April, 1909	Contractors' Room, Public Works Department, Sydney; Public School, Nimbin; and District Works Office, Lismore.	
Additions and Alterations to Police Buildings, Cooma.	19 April, 1909	Contractors' Room, Public Works Department, Sydney; and District Works Office, Cooma.	Plans altered.
Erection of Pilot Boatmen's Residences, Newcastle.	26 April, 1909	Contractors' Room, Public Works Department, Sydney; and Public Works Office, Newcastle.	

Roads and Bridges Branch.

Erection of Plain Beam Bridge over Balekah Creek, Road Wilcannia to Menindie.	5 April, 1909	Contractors' Room, Public Works Department, Sydney; Court-houses, Broken Hill and Wilcannia; and Police Station, Menindie.	Fresh Tenders.
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Rivers, Water Supply, and Drainage Branch.

Construction of Flood Banks and Cuttings, 4 miles east of Narandera, Murrumbidgee Northern Canal, Contract No. 844.	29 Mar., 1909	Contractors' Room, Public Works Department, Sydney; Court-houses, Narandera and Wagga Wagga; and Department of Public Works, Melbourne.	
Renewal of Platform, and Repairs to Jetty at Eden, Twofold Bay.	13 April, 1909	Contractors' Room, Public Works Department, Sydney; and Court-houses, Wollongong and Eden.	
Ventilation of First Division, Parramatta Sewerage.	19 April, 1909	Contractors' Room, Public Works Department, Sydney; and Court-house, Parramatta.	
Drainage of Grahamstown and Campvale Swamps, near Raymond Terrace.	26 April, 1909	Contractors' Room, Public Works Department, Sydney; Court-house, Raymond Terrace; and Public Works Office, Newcastle.	
Renewal and Repairs to Jetty, Norah Head...	26 April, 1909	Contractors' Room, Public Works Department, Sydney; and Public Works Office, Newcastle.	Alternative Tenders.

Copies of letters sent by Hermann to Newsc.

1874-

NM 20 31893
THE PILOT BOATMEN'S HOUSES.

THE erection of the much-talked-of new houses for the pilot boatmen is at last being actively proceeded with. A short time back the contract for building the terrace of houses was secured by Messrs. Banks and Whitehouse, contractors, who lost no time in starting the work. At first it was intended to erect ten houses, but the number has now been reduced to six. The site for the structures is situated at the corner of Parnell-place and Stephenson's-place on the Sandhills. The houses will face the fortifications, and will be three-story buildings. For some days past several gangs of men have been at work excavating for the foundations. This portion of the work is nearing completion, and it is expected that during next week the foundation stones will be laid. The terrace is to be completed within seven months from now.

6 houses ✓

To be completed
end of
1893

BANKS +
WHITEHOUSE

March 93
FOUNDATIONS

30 MARCH 1893

LADDER SETTLEMENTS IN NEWC

16/10/1894

Boatmen's houses 12/11/1896 15 ✓

PS

APPENDIX I

anyway to go to talk to the
I thought a sharp prod might get some results.
But by a curious coincidence the week I chose to
make my move was the same week the Trustees of
Church Phoenix had decided to make a move to a new
place. I was able to make a valuable contribution to the
cause of the Church Phoenix.

Newcomen st—EAST SIDE

- 19 O'Grady John
- Masonic Hall, Lodge Harmony
- 23 Wehler Fredk.
- 23 Watson Mrs. Chas.
- Watson Margaret
- 25 Christie R. D.
- 27 Brain Wm.
- 31 M'Kenzie Hannah
- 33 Alexander Mrs. Mary

OFF NEWCOMEN ST (East side)
35 Sainways Edwd.

- 37 Mitchell Miss
- 39
- 41 Hale J.
- 43 Collins Wm.
- 45 Beeston Dr. Jos. S.

OFF NEWCOMEN ST (East side)
Kohl John

- Lycium Hall, Mrs. E. Christie
- 49 Fry Mrs. Ada
 - 51 Cowan James
 - 53 Clark Mrs.
 - 55 Donahson Miss

Newcomen st—West side

- 2 Strand Meat Works, office
- 4 Love, J. R. and Co.
- 6 Waler Andrew
- 8 Withers Ernest
- 10 Muleady, J. G.
- 12 Minchen J.
- 14 Minchen Mrs.
- 16 M'Carthy Annie
- 18 Jeffery Wm. H.
- 20 Reid Mrs. J. H.
- 22 Ryan Michael
- 24 Laeb Walter
- 26 Harvey John
- 28 Watson Edwd.
- 30 Levy Septimus
- 32
- 34 Grime Rev. S. J.
- 36 M'Donald Alex.
- 38 Earp Hon. G. F.
- 40 Coyle Daniel
- 42 Mullins M.
- 44 Barrack Bridget
- 46 Davis H. G.
- 48 Edwards —
- 50 Monnock Michael
- 52 Weller Wm.
- 54 Carney Wm.
- 56 Morris Wm.
- 58 Gilliam Anne
- 60 Gilliam Arthur
- 62 Abbutt R.
- 64 Wilson Thomas
- 66 Lamburner J. M.
- 68 Lister T. G.
- 70 Duggan Wm.
- 72 Holmes Alfred
- 74 O'Grady Mrs.
- 76 Slater Wm.
- 78 Sullivan Jeremiah
- 80 Waddingham Annie

Nobbys rd—WEST SIDE

- 1 Zoppi Fernando *between*
- 2 Fraser George *between*
- 3 Henderson John *between*
- 4 M'Leod Kenneth *between*
- 5 Woods S. *between*
- 6 M'Kinnon Allan *between*
- 7 M'Leod Donald *between*
- 8 Olsen John G. *between*
- 9 Frazer Wm. *between*
- 10 Gow Robert *between*
- 11 Adams George W. *between*
- 12 Martyn Frank *between*
- 13 M'Grath Edwd. C. not listed
- 14 Reid W. *between*
- 15 Loscocco Vito *between*
- 16 Costa Wm. Ant. *between*

Nobbys rd—EAST SIDE

- 8 Wood W. D.
- 7 Stephenson Alex.
- 6 Warner Ernest
- 5 Cummings Fergus
- 4 Beale W. H.
- 3 Morris Jas. Edwd.
- 2 Hocking Alex.
- 1 Sweet John L.
- Cripps John
- Bates Maria
- Ross James
- Rees James
- Wiggins James
- M'Leod R.
- Benger Wm.
- Kuall Charles
- Monaghan Hugh
- Thompson Robert
- Cottrell Wm.

Nobbys LIGHTHOUSE

- Gardiner W.
Warran Leslie
Gow David

- Mason George H.
Reid Wm.
Watts Joseph
Schack Frank
Allen George H.
Cove Sarah
Oliver John
Tierman Margaret
Jamieson Robert
Hughes Richard
Butler Thomas
Levy Mark
Wilson James
Lies John
Rodgers Henry
Gow Ramsay
Pilot's Waiting Room

Ordinance st

- 2 Coleman Jas.
- 4 Lovett Richard
- 6
- 8 Rodgers Elizabeth
- 10 Tonson Wm.
- 11 Lackey —

Pacific st—WEST SIDE

- 6 Muller-Hansen Mrs.
- 8 Kennedy Mrs. Jane
- 10 Harper Thomas
- 12
- 14 Dowdale May
- 22 Day John
- 24 West Fredk. Temple

Off PACIFIC ST (West side)

- Wetham James
- 26 Corrigan John
 - 28 Vook Ah
 - 30 Kai Kee
 - 32 Hop Lee
 - 34 Smith Wm.
 - 36 Hooley Mrs.
 - 38 Pitt James
 - 40 Hickey Richard, son.
 - 42 Travers Edward
 - 44 M'Pherson Mrs.
 - 46 Gazzard Wm.
 - 48-50 Bankier Margaret
 - 52 Clark Joseph
 - 56 Egan Michael
 - 60 Scholer Bernard
 - 62 Hyde Robert

Pacific st—EAST SIDE

- Hospital
Reserve
66 Bonarius A. W.

Parnell Place

- 1 Hickey Thomas
- 3 Laing Wm.
- 5
- 7
- 9 Pogonoski Kaama T.
- 11 Chapman Albert F.
- 13 Hughes John L.
- 15 Hudson W.

OFF PARNELL PLACE

Hewitt R.

- 2 Palmer Ethelbert
- 4 Summers W.
- 6 Halbert George F.
- 8 M'Donnell E.
- 10 Anderson George
- 12 Hickey Michl. Jas.
- 14 Stapleton George
- 16 West Thomas
- 18 Davies John
- 20 Cross T. H.
- 22 Player George

Parry st—North Side

- 4 Nicol Mary
- 6 Jones A. S.
- 8 Robertson And.
- 10 Simons E.
- 12 Quinn J.
- 14 Griffith W.
- 16 Sanders George
- 18 Pringle Adam
- 20 Chandler Alfred
- 22 Doherty Henry
- 24 Hart Geo. W.
- 26 Stewart John
- 28 Gazzard Albert
- 30 Allen Mrs.
- 32 Grant Thomas
- 34 Foksett Wm. C.
- 36 Lander Herbert
- 38 Warburton G., jun.
- 40 Knowlson Thos. C.
- 42 Tribe Wm.
- 44 Craig Thomas G.
- 46 Cobb Walter
- 48 Warburton G., sen.
- 50 Smith Duncan
- 52 Moore —
- 54 Burgess James
- 56 Hughes Wm.
- 58 George R.
- 60 Sera Ernest
- 62 Coleman Thomas
- 64 Pring Arthur
- 66 Jones Henry
- 68 Walker R. J.
- 70 Brewer —
- 72 Haines John
- 74 Hawken J.
- 76 Noakes John
- 78 Anderson Peter
- 80 Arnott George
- 82 Morrison John

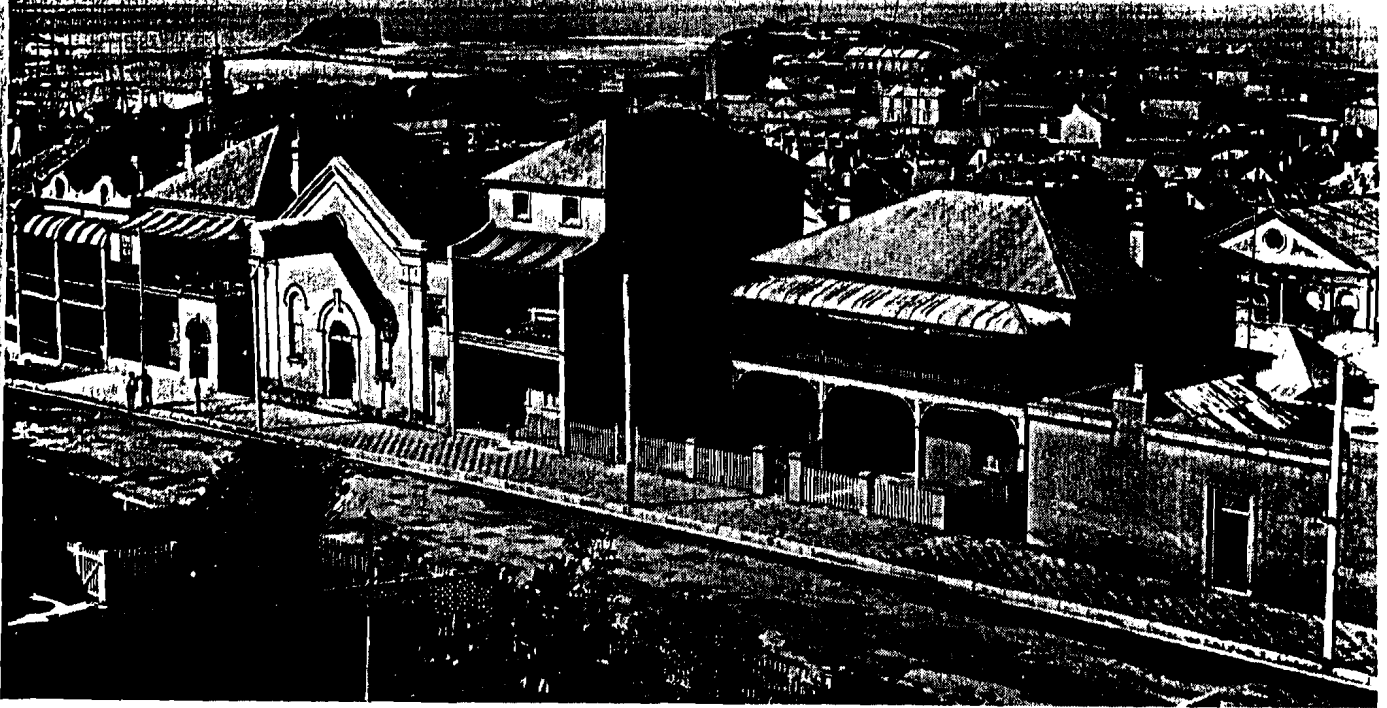
Parry st—South Side

- 31 Gilbert Thomas
- 33 Smith H.
- 35 Hutton R.
- 37 M'Auliffe Chas. R.
- 39 Doherty Martin
- 41 Sharp — Benevolent As. offices
- 43 Coleman —
- 45 Brown John
- 47 Farleigh J.
- 49 Little George K.
- 51 M'Intosh —
- 53 Dunstan S.
- 55 Moore Harrie M.
- 57 Wooden Wm. J.
- 59 Colgan Wm.
- 61 M'Crene Wm.
- 63 Oswald John

William Woodh. Pilot, Pilot Row — does not live —
Nobbys house

With CAMERA

If 2 to section
New 16 by 1897



Newcastle 1897

This view of Newcastle East from the tower of a house on the corner of Newcomen and Church streets was taken on August 3rd, 1897. It is 1.50pm by the Customs House clock and the time ball is down, having fallen at the customary 1pm. Many of the buildings in the photograph are still with us. At right centre can be seen what is today Steel's garage; it was once a skating rink. The Earp, Gillam bond store (above the three-storey house in the foreground) is now a crumbling wreck of a building and its neighbour, the former David Cohen and Co bond store, was reduced from its (pictured) six storeys to three after a fire in 1900. The row of terraced houses in Nobby's Road - Boatman's Terrace - are here nearing completion. The building in the left foreground with the unusual awning was the Lyceum Hall; it is now the ABC studio and offices.

'Paintathon' angers MLC

VIRGINIA Chadwick, MLC, has described as a 'paintathon' repair and maintenance work done on a row of 16 Maritime Services Board terrace cottages in Nobbys Rd, Newcastle East.

Mrs Chadwick asked for information on the repair work from the Minister for Public Works and Ports, Mr Ferguson, after being told by the Newcastle East Residents Group that painting of the houses had taken five workmen three years.

Mr Ferguson replied last week to Mrs Chadwick's questions and said the work had taken 18 months, had been completed by a maximum of five MSB workmen and had been interrupted because the workmen were needed to do higher priority work around the port.

So far the exterior of the terraces had been painted and the interior of five homes had been repaired and painted. The interiors of a further three cottages were being painted.

These eight cottages were all vacant.

Mrs Chadwick said the vacancy of the cottages seemed 'uncaring at a time of high unemployment and homelessness'.

Homes for boatmen

Mr Ferguson said that four of the cottages had been offered and accepted by the NSW Housing

Commission. A fifth would be offered shortly.

The 16 cottages were originally kept by the MSB as homes for boatmen whose employment required them to live near the port.

Later the cottages were made available to any MSB officers.

Mr Ferguson said any vacant cottages not required by the Housing Commission in the future would be made available to its own staff.

The interiors of the other eight houses would be refurbished as they became vacant.



The MSB cottages in Nobbys Rd.

THE BOATMEN'S HOUSES.

NOV 22 11 1892

THIS contract for the erection of the new houses for the pilot service boatmen will in a few weeks be let by tender. Some months ago the Government, after repeated applications, decided to give the men new quarters, and a piece of land near Fortification-road, on the Sandhills, was handed over by the Railway Commissioners for the purpose. The local branch of the Government Architect's Department have completed the plans and specifications for the houses. They will be 20 in number, but an attempt will be made to have four others erected. Each house will be two storeys high, built of brick and concrete, and containing six rooms. Owing to want of funds, it is not proposed to erect the whole of the houses at once, but 12 will probably be let by contract next week. When completed the houses will form a very nice block, being built in pairs in the usual terrace style. Owing to the formation of the ground each couple will be slightly lower than the other as the terrace goes northward. The present habitations used by the boatmen are a disgrace to the public service, and the sooner the men are given the new dwellings the better.

NOV. 22 11-92

~~MSB~~

next page.

COAL AND MINERS' ADVOCATE, THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 12.

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12 Nov 1996

WEDNESDAY.
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the Tapscott Water Supply Bill, the Electrical and Amendment Bill, the Public Service Superannuation Bill, and the Durrigan-Finlay Railway Bill.

THE MONTING CASE

Mr. SYDNEY SMITH, as a matter of privilege, stated, concerning the mining case referred to last night, that he had consulted the Crown Solicitor, upon whose opinion he acted. Afterwards the Attorney-General confirmed his action, which was taken simply to protect the prospectors.

**BATHURST CONVENTION.—FREE
PASSES.**

Mr. HUGHES moved the adjournment of the House in order to discuss the action of the Government in granting free railway passes to the delegates attending the Bathurst Federal Convention. He said that the convention was a privately run affair, being conducted by a few persons who were not known outside the proposed federal city. They had foisted the affair upon the public unasked, and had been very careful in the selection of delegates. He contended that the Premier had been made the tool of the Convention, "which was in no sense national. It could have no political significance, and represented no one in particular. The Labour Conference was more of a national event than the Bathurst Convention. The delegates to the Labour Conference should also receive free passes."

Mr. HAYNES thought that the Mines Department should be removed to Bathurst and called "The Smithsonian Institute," where there could be a branch for the encouragement of underground engineering. The whole affair was a shame.

Mr. REID said that he had been interviewed by the deputation on the matter, and had been asked by some of his bitterest political opponents to grant this concession. So strong a case was made out that he, on his personal responsibility, authorised the issue of the passes. It was understood that every shade of political thought in the colonies would be represented. He believed that the convention would do much good.

Mr. SYDNEY SMITH said he could assure all members that they would be welcomed to the convention. With regard to the passes, they were issued not to the Bantustan people, but to representative persons from all parts of the colonies. He had a telegram from the Queensland Provincial Labour League. He was sure that the convention would welcome all branches of labour.

Mr. HUGHES, replying, accepted the invitation on behalf of the Labour party, expressing the hope that they would receive better treatment than one Labour member who was the guest of the Government for six months at Rathfriland.

The motion was negatived.

THE NEW PARLIAMENT HOUSE.
Mr. YOUNG moved to refer the proposal

**NEWCASTLE BOATMEN'S
HOOKS.**

DISCUSSION IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

SIDNEY, Washington.

While the Loan Bill was under discussion in committee in the Legislative Council last night, Mr. H. C. Dawson drew attention to the item "New boatmen's quarters, Newcastle, £5000." He declared that this sum appeared to him to be enormous for the purpose indicated. Were the Government going to erect a palace for these boatmen? Were they going to build it of cut stone? He considered plain brick and mortar would be quite sufficient. He did not know anything of the work or of their duties, but it seemed to him that the item was exorbitant.

Mr. Warr: Put them in bark huts.

Mr. Cox also took exception to the item. It was, however, only a continuation of lavish expenditure at Newcastle.

MR. BLANKSBY, defining the term, explained that the boatmen had very arduous duties to perform, and they had to be on the spot when required. He did not know anything of the plans and specifications of the new buildings, but, doubtless, they would be in agreement with the other buildings in the vicinity.

Mr. W. R. CAMPBELL also defended the item. Why should not these men, who were liable to be called upon at all hours, be comfortably housed? It would be very poor economy for the Government to erect a lath and plaster building, when, by a decent expenditure, they could build premises that would last for many years. Discussion of this kind lowered the dignity of a high legislative chamber to the level of the smallest municipality in the country.

Mr. D. O'Connor said the boatmen were heroes. They risked their lives many times to save people from shipwrecks, and prevented homes being rendered desolate and widows and orphans being made. A hero was a hero whether born in a hut or a palace. The House should not quibble on such small items. The men deserved good accommodation.

Dr. Gorman said he was not aware what sort of building was proposed, but the Government would take care that due economy was observed. They should, however, have a building suitable to the locality as well as the purpose for which it was designed.

Mr. WANT: You would not have a bark
but on Circular Quay, would you?

The discussion of the item then closed.

SHARE MARKET.

DNE

**NEWCASTLE NEWS
SOCIETY**

PROPOSED GARDEN

A number of ladies conven-
ed at the above society
Movement Council Chamber
noon, to consider the best
at the opening of the new
and Lying-In Hospital, new
Waratah. The Mayor (Ald.)
presided, and there were—
Arnett, Holland, Ald., Hon.
Watt, G. Hall, Macpherson,
Lyons, Lamer, and Mary, and
Swain.

The Mayor stated that at committee, held on 31st inst. that, with a view to assist in meet the large liabilities in the erection of the new Waratah, an opening garden held in the new premises. Municipality in the district space allotted it for the sale & further decided that the Municipality should invite all the ladies within their ensure the sale being a success. Mayor) knew that the ladies Benevolent Society had done work at much personal sacrifice entered upon a contract of a It would take \$5000 to pay the new buildings, and all the in hand, including the Government was \$2000. It could be seen there was a necessity for raising as would, with the Government for £, wipe out the debt balance.

Mrs. Annott suggested present should form themselves into a committee for the carrying out of the same, and that canvassers should go round the city and solicit donations to the building fund.

This suggestion was embodied in a motion, which Miss Hay and several mem-

It was decided that the Smith) should be the presid

members of the Benevolent Society. Mrs. H. and Mrs. G. H.

joint honorary secretaries.
MacKenzie was appointed to
On the motion of Mr. H.

by Mrs. HENDERSON, it was decided that committee meetings should

Arnett's residence, and the clothing and other articles for the family should also be

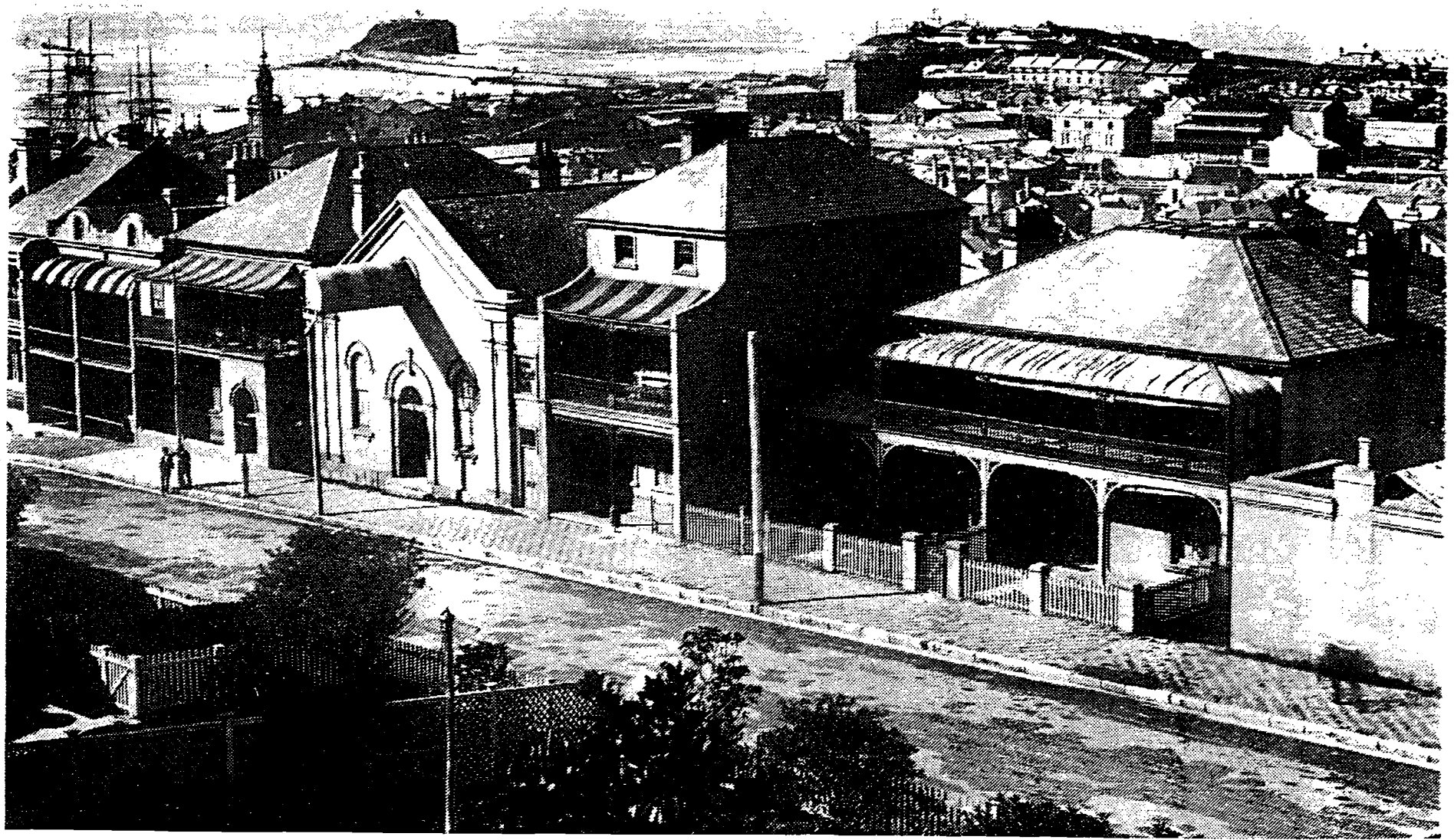
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Visitors and soldiers at the gates of Fort Scratchley in 1903, above, and below is the Volunteer Artillery on parade at the fort at Easter, 1900. Note their "unmilitary" stance and the unkempt nature of their uniforms. In 1899 they were commanded by Captain Grant and Lieutenant Newton.

(NEWCASTLE PUBLIC LIBRARY COLLECTION)





WITH CAMERA, HORSE AND WAGGONETTE

THE NEWCASTLE AND LAKE MACQUARIE
PHOTOGRAPHS OF

Ralph Snowball

This view of Newcastle East from the tower of a house on the corner of Newcomen and Church streets was taken on August 3rd, 1897. It is 1.50pm by the Customs House clock and the time ball is down, having fallen at the customary 1pm. Many of the buildings in the photograph are still with us. At right centre can be seen what is today Steel's garage; it was once a skating rink. The Earp, Gillam bond store (above the three-storey house in the foreground) is now a crumbling wreck of a building and its neighbour, the former David Cohen and Co bond store, was reduced from its (pictured) six storeys to three after a fire in 1900. The row of terraced houses in Nobby's Road - Boatman's Terrace - are here nearing completion.

PLATE I

Nobbys rd—WEST SIDE

Zoppi Fernando
2 Fraser George
3 Henderson John
4 M'Leod Kenneth
5 Woods S.
6 M'Kinnon Allan
7 M'Leod Donald
8 Olsen John G.
9 Frazer Wm.
10 Gow Robert
11 Adams George W.
12 Martyn Frank
13 M'Grath Edwd. C.
14 Reid W.
15 Loscocco Vito
16 Costa Wm. Ant.

ALL THESE ARE LISTED ELSEWHERE
AS BOATMEN

THE
FEDERAL DIRECTORY
OF
NEWCASTLE AND DISTRICT,
FOR
1901.

STREET, COMMERCIAL, TRADE AND PROFESSIONAL
LISTS, LOCAL, GOVERNMENTAL, PARLIAMENTARY
AND MISCELLANEOUS INFORMATION.

FIRST YEAR OF PUBLICATION

PRICE TWO SHILLINGS AND SIXPENCE

Appendix 2

Copies of letter sent by the committee to the Hon.

1872-

WMH 20 31593
THE PILOT BOATMEN'S HOUSES.

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seemed to me
le waste to
ily valuable,

anyway, to go to the
I thought a sharp prod might get some results.
But by a curious coincidence the week I chose to
make my move was the week the Trustees of

Boat Builder

Fraser G., Corporation Wharf, W. End

Booksellers

Asser Henry, 17 Hunter st
Critt Fredrick, 7 Hunter st W
Fairless Brothers, 42 Pitt st
Noble and Miller, 11 Hunter st
SPROULL & Co., W. H., Hunter st
Thowell and Boyd, 15 Hunter st

Boot Importers

McARTHUR, W. & A. Limited,
73 York st, Sydney, Representatives,
J. Wagh, 18 Perkin st

Boot and Shoe Shops

Alison John, 9 Perkin st
Allardie F., 213 Hunter st W
Antony W. A., 25 King st
Broadbent Samuel, 58 Hunter st W
Clinton T., 13 Darby st
Cunningham John, 8 Hunter st W
Dalby Adl., 96 Hunter st
Dalby James, 97 Hunter st
Domokus W., 127 Hunter st W and 1
Hunter st W
Goldsmith Frank, 108 Hunter st
Greenwood and Hood, 183 Hunter st W
Hunter John and Son, Limited, 87 and
89 Hunter st
Levey Wm., 22 Scott st
McGlen James M., 125 Hunter st W
Miyhew Henry, 37 King st
Pavon A. R., 135 Hunter st W
Pike Walter A., 153 and 155 Hunter st
Shirlow Wm., 121 Hunter st
Smith Felicia, 30 Hunter st

STRIKE E. G., 240 Hunter st W

Taylor J., 81 Carlton st

Thomas Charles, 341 Hunter st W

Webber Frederick, 24 Newcomen st

FORSYTH & SONS, Leather and
Travellers' Accessories, 27 to 31 George
st West, Sydney

Bootmakers (Journeymen)

Aderton Jonathan J. W., 6 Corlette st
Allison John, 31 Perkin st
Annes Edward E. Post, 147 King st
Antony Geo., Daniel, 40 Tyrrell st
Bear Wm., senr., 56 Bruce st
Carroll Robert, 66 Sydney st
Casey Robert, 19 Bull st
Clinton Thomas, 64 Darby st
Cook John, Macquarie st
Cockick Harry, Hunter st W
Cunningham John, 84 Hunter st W
Hall Henry, 40 Sydney st
Greenwood Ernest, 103 Hunter st W
Hardy G. O., Charles, 101 Railway st
Kelliegar James Thos., 9 Newcomen st
McGlyn John, 125 Church st W
Mason Harry, 127 Scott st
Miyhew Henry James, 57 King st
Naughton Edward Geo., 66 Darby st
Pestell John, 341 Hunter st W
Russell Geo., Oliver, 4 Union Lane
Wallace Robert, Church st W
Whaler John, 52 King st
Whitle Benjamin, 11 Sydney st

Breweries.

Castlemaine Brewery and Wood Bros.
and Co., Offices, Bolton st
Maitland Brewery Co., R. Wood, repre-
sentative, 31 King st
Tooth and Co., M. J. Morowcy, repre-
sentative, 4 Bolton st
Tooley J. T. and J. A. Fenwick,
manager, 45 Scott st

Bricklayers

Banks Sydney, 31 Watt st
Burr David, Macquarie st, Junction
Burrert John, 12 Council st
Bear Charles, 56 Bruce st
Bowrey Frederick, 4 of Tyrrell st
Bridges John, 27 Newcomen st
Chandler Wm., Wallace, 14 Zara st
Cook Thomas, 10 Corlette st
Davies John, 18 Percell st
Deakin Samuel James, Commonage
Dobell Robert, 108 Bull st
Edwards Ernest A., 148 Darby st
Edwards Wm., Moses, 148 Darby st
Hawke George, 140 York, 88 Laman st
Hiddle Alfred, Swampy
Hutcherson Henry, 48 Dunmureque st
Kierulds John, 50 Bruce st
Leathan Aaron, Laidford st
Moat Joseph, Church st W
Munro-Step Abraham Hugh, 27 Perkin st
Pattinid Wm., 170 Darby st
Sneeshy Sydney Herbert, 120 Bruce st
Towson Henry, 31 Perkin st
Wilshay Joseph, 9 Alford st
Wentland Walter, 113 Railway st

Brokers

Also see Auctioneers

GILLAM & CO., W. Scott st
King Rand R., Pier 4111 Pags, Watt st
LANG, H. H., Wood's Chambers,
Scott st

Broom and Brush Factory

Glover E. and F. H. Mousnckle Point
Rees and Dark, Hunter st W

Building Co's and Societies

Newcastle and County Building Society,
Hon J. Banksby, man., 30 Bolton st
Newcastle Building and Investment Co.,
J. Wakeland, Sec., 18 Bolton st
Northumberland D. B. L. & Co., Ltd.,
W. T. Donohue, manager, Hunter st W

Builders

Banks and Son, Watt st
Cook Andrew, 37 Bull st
Dunbrell E., Watt st
Froley J., Wickham
Gazzard Wm. F., 15 Pacific st
Greaves Wm., Parramatta st, Junction
Whithead John, 37 Charles st
Woolen and Frost, 39 Parry st
Woods J., Hamilton

Building Material Importers

Ash Fred., Ltd., Brown st
BRECKENRIDGE, ROBT., 31
Hunter st W
Fuller and Co., Hunter st W
Hewitt Bros., Hunter st
Sorby and Co., Hunter st

Butchers (Masters)

Aulrey Thos., Borough Markets
Elphick W., 13 Charlton st
Farthing W. P., 9 Hunter st
Field Samuel, 25 to 29 Watt st
Lucerne H. Thos., 125 Hunter st
Lucy P. J., 75 Laman st
McGregor, Alex., 91 Bull st
McMichael Oliver, 24 Scott st
McMichael Wm., 35 Darby st
Seadon John, 156 Darby st
Thomas Bros., 233 and 235 Hunter st W
Wilson Edw., 1 Charlton st

Butchers (Journeymen)

Back Anders, 72 Darby st
Box Edwd., 15 Zara st
Brieton Geo., 275 Hunter st W
Brieton John, 275 Hunter st W
Burns Wm., Melville st, Junction
Cabill Thos., 69 Charles st
Cameron Ungald, 275 Hunter st W
Cheuney Wm. H., 19 Perkin st
Collins Wm. John, 41 Newcomen st
Culprit Walter, 69 Brown st
Elphick Richard, 351 Hunter st W
Elphick Wm., Thos., 351 Hunter st W
Fox John Wm., 125 Hunter st
Fraser, Edw. John, 19 Perkin st
Grant Jos., Christopher, 32 Parry st
Green Bertram, 10 Union st
Hennessy Isaac C., 50 of Bruce st
Johns Nicholas, 157 Darby st
Johns Nicholas J. W., 157 Darby st
Johnston Hugh, 34 Corlette st
Kinzeff Edw., 114 Bull st
Lamb Arthur John, 44 Bruce st
Lauer John L. C., 120 Church st W
Lewis Thos., 17 Kenrick st, Junction
Lynch, Thos., Jas., 21 Watt st
McDonnott Martin, Jubilee Lane
McGregor, Alex., jun., 28 Corlette st
McGregor (W. Francis), 28 Corlette st
McGregor Wm., 28 Corlette st
May Edward, 15 Watt st
Parsons Robt., 15 Council st
Pike Chas., Brien st, Junction
Pressland Alfred, 28 Corlette st
Sharpley Wm., 25 Watt st
Smaun-Greene Aug. Pks., 125 Hunter st
Thompson Abr. John, off Church st
Wallford Andrew, 353 Hunter st W
Ward Joseph Hy., 15 Perkin st

Buttermakers

Field James, 38 Railway st
Hamilton, David John, 32 Laman st
Moxey Wm. H. H., 24 Brook st

Butter Dealers

C. L. S. John Thos., 111 Railway st

Cabinetmakers

(See Furniture Workshops.)

MURRAY, D., 51 Hunter st

Journymen

Cotterill Isaac, 72 Laman st
Hutchins, Alfred Charles, Parramatta st,
Junction
Nesbit John, 8 Church st W
Seal Wm., August, 20 King st
Slarks George, 2 of Watt st
Wilson Thomas, off Bolton st

Cab Proprietors

(Licensed.)

Antney E. W.
Callaghan J., Duncan st
Callaghan J., Dawson st
Elliott Thomas, Tooke st
Grothan Wm., Kemp st
Herbert A.
Herbert Charles, Carrington
Herbert George
Owen Eliza
Pankhurst Charles, Newcastle
Pankhurst Charles, Bolton st
Probert Wm., Dawson st
Scott M., Watt st
Scott Charles, Bruce st
Scott Margaret
Smith Samuel, Charlton
Warne J.

Arrangement: Chronological

Location: 4/3882-90

<u>Shelf List:</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Dates</u>
	4/3882	12 Dec 1831 - 22 Sept 1832
	4/3883	24 Sept 1832 - 10 Dec 1835
	4/3884	14 Dec 1835 - 6 Oct 1838
	4/3885	7 Oct 1838 - 13 May 1844
	4/3886	17 May 1844 - 11 May 1847
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	4/3888	4 June 1849 - 14 Oct 1852
	4/3889	16 Oct 1852 - 16 Mar 1855
	4/3890	19 Mar 1855 - 10 Oct 1856

- b) Copies of Letters from the Colonial Secretary to the Surveyor General, 1833-1834

1 vol.

Letters to the Colonial Architect as a subordinate of the Surveyor General, April 1833 - December 1834.

Indexes: In front of volume.

Arrangement: Chronological

Location: 4/3914-6

<u>Shelf List:</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Dates</u>
	4/3914	16 Feb 1833 - 31 July 1833
	4/3915	1 Aug 1833 - 11 April 1834
	4/3916	12 April 1834 - 31 Dec 1834

(2) RECORDS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

- a) Special bundles, 1850-1963

18 boxes

Buildings and public works files, comprising reports, memos, letters, newscuttings, plans, arranged by subject.

Location: 2/882-96, 4/6262-3, 3/3183, 7/60-2, 7/61-2, 7/62, 9/2660

See: The Concise Guide, pp. 360-367 for a listing of bundles, and supplement vol. 5, no. 4, p.309.

- b) Architectural Competitions (Public Buildings) and Reorganization of Government Architect's Office, 1890-1.

(Special Bundle)

1 vol. part.

Location: 2/889

- c) Plans drawn up by Henry Ginn, Clerk of Works, Port Phillip, 1846-47

5 Plans in 1 vol.

of Lands and Public Works. During this period the Colonial Architect's Department came under the control of the Secretary for Lands and Public Works and these records include Letters from the Colonial Architect concerning the erection and repair of public buildings.

Arrangement: Chronological

Location: 3562-3711

- b) Copies of Letters sent to the Department of Public Works and the Colonial Architect, 1859-66.

1 vol.

Letters relating to the furnishing of Lands Department offices, selection of sites and the erection and repair of buildings, roads, bridges etc.

Arrangement: Chronological

Indexes: In front of volume

Location: 2/1801

- c) Ministerial Branch

Copies of Letters sent to minor officials, 1867-72.

1 vol.

Letters requesting the erection and repair of Lands Department offices, and requisitions for furniture.

Arrangement: Chronological

Index: In front of volume

Location: 4/1434

- d) Sketches of Crown Lands Offices, 1898-1916.

1 vol.

This volume comprises sketches of Crown Land offices most of which are dated 1898 and 1916. Some of the sketches bear the annotation "Vide Ministerial 15/7748" which refers to the correspondence of the Ministerial Branch, Lands Department. The entry in the Register of Letters Received (7/4632) is "H. Phillips, re plans of Crown Lands Offices", however this particular letter has not survived in the series of Letters Received, 1915, held in the Archives Office of New South Wales.

Location: 3/2489 (Kingswood)

- e) Lithographs, 1856-1930.

734 maps and 493 bundles

Lithographic plans printed by the Lands Department. The date refers to the month they were sent to the printer. The earlier plans are very varied and include architectural plans (e.g. lunatic asylums at Tarban Creek and Parramatta). A card index to the processed lithographs has been compiled in the Archives Office.

673 1788

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*Penrith
and of
Long
Tyrell
20/11/20*

Discharge of Ballast.

On this subject for a considerable period controversy prevailed in local shipping circles, and owing to the stringent regulations of the Board of Health the majority of vessels from foreign ports had to send their ballast in lighters to sea. After repeated efforts on the part of the Newcastle Chamber of Commerce the Board of Health amended their regulations regarding the disposal of ballast, which is a matter of great importance to shipowners. Arrangements were made by the Harbor authorities which now enable the discharge of ballast within the harbor under low water mark, thus obviating the expense and delay of sending the ballast to sea, as under the old regulations. The committee received a letter from the Sailing Shipowners' Committee of London, thanking the Newcastle Chamber for the success attendant upon their efforts.

Cattle Shipping.

The Shipment of Cattle having increased of late years the Government, at the request of the Newcastle Chamber of Commerce, erected cattle pens at the northern end of the Dyke wharf, where consignments from the interior by rail are unloaded from the trucks with ease. A large portable enclosed gangway connects the stockyards with the vessels alongside of the wharf, and the cattle are driven on board with comparative ease, and devoid of that brutality which heretofore invariably attended the shipment of stock. Horses in heavy consignments for India, cattle and sheep for New Caledonia form the chief transactions in this branch of trade. With the appliances at hand vessels for this class of freight now experience but little delay in loading.

The Newcastle Bar.

The depth of water on the Bar at low water spring tides is 22ft. 6in. With the object of further deepening the water at that point the Government some few years ago imported the powerful rock excavator Poseidon, which vessel has done good service in the removal of rocks in the harbour, but has not yet caused any material difference to the depth of the Bar. A number of dredges, of the bucket, grab, and sand-pump descriptions are kept constantly at work in the harbor. In some instances vessels of very heavy draft have had to leave considerably above the Plimsoll mark owing to the want of deeper water on the Bar, but with the extensive harbor improvements, and breakwater extensions it is anticipated that ere long there will be a sufficiency of water to enable vessels of the heaviest draft to load up to and leave comfortably with their full carrying capacity.

Frozen Meat Loading.

With the strong demand in England and South Africa for frozen meats the Aberdeen Freezing and Chilling Company some few years ago established their works at Aberdeen (N.S.W.), and have gradually increased the output till the trade has assumed considerable proportions. Consignments from these works find their way to the London, Liverpool, Manchester, and South African markets, at each of which satisfactory prices have been realised. Indeed, in some instances, it has been stated that the Aberdeen meat has been actually sold by purveyors in London as English meat, and consequently realised the higher rates. The shipments from the Aberdeen Chilling Factory are made at Newcastle. Consignments are brought down in huge refrigerator cars, which run alongside of the wharf, and are with little handling transferred from the cars to the cool air chambers of the steamers along-side. Large canvas sheets are brought into requisition for the purpose of transfer, and the work is carried out with cleanliness and despatch. During the season regular lines of steamers call for this class of freight at convenient intervals, so that there can be little difficulty in frozen meat carriers receiving quick despatch.

Newcastle Lifeboat.

The new Lifeboat, Victoria II., is now under the control of the Navigation Department, of which Captain Newton is Deputy Superintendent. The boat, which is manned from the Harbor Department's boatmen, is housed at the rear of the pilot boat-shed. A. McKinnon is the coxswain, and looks after the boat, which is always kept in readiness, and can be launched in a few seconds. In boisterous weather the crew stand by in readiness (night and day) to proceed if necessary to vessels in distress.

Rocket Apparatus.

The Newcastle Rocket Brigade has a station at Stockton, which is fitted up with rocket life-saving apparatus. The members are enrolled from the Harbors and Rivers Department, who spare no trouble or pains in studying the manipulation of the apparatus. In boisterous weather the men are continuously on duty, and have done good service when called upon. On the city side a set is also kept in readiness in case of vessels being in trouble to the southward of Nobbys.

TRICT NEWS.

(VARIOUS CORRESPONDENTS.)

STOCKTON.

OF MR. JOHN PARKINSON.
pendent contradicts, with very
re, a report he sent us some
the effect that Mr. John Par-
and well known in Stockton, had
era Australia. Our correspon-
ay received a letter from Mr.
a which he states that he is in
lth, and weighs a stone more
he left Stockton last January.
mour of Mr. Parkinson's death
rong hold in the place in a few
greatest mystery. On the day
ort was circulated a good dozen
uld be encountered who had
adone who had been told of Mr.
death by one who had received
ion from a certain other one
olved, a letter direct from Mrs.
conveying the sad news. Mr.
very many friends will
lately over his resuscitation
n is located, with his wife and
21 mile, Black Flag-road, a
distance from Coolgardie, where
e or six companies putting up
Should good gold be found it
a great place. The place is
a dry lake bed. There is water
he surface, but this contains
There are three reefs running
lake. None of the companies
ank more than from 60 to 100
so far been working only to
fr. Eventually deeper sinking
be undertaken. Mr. Parkinson
eking continuously since last
ad his son also is working.
er, is very uncertain, because
tion conditions being so fre-
a advantage of, and he holds
so far been exceptionally for-
re are thousands of men out of
there, and will be till after
s, and he cannot understand
ing over there, as it is a very
them to go. He says the
is very trying, and that those
to look after them are very apt
It is a horrid place for women
those who have it must have
fume. Dust storms there are
wing everything, and the wind
to carry away the buildings
is very terrible indeed. Mr.
eds warm messages to all old
ladies before so very long to
gains to the Stockton School of

THE BY ALDERMAN NEWS.
News, the Mayor, on Wednes-
delivered one of his popular lec-
ures, in the Congregational
church, to a large and very
enthusiastic audience. Aldermen W. W.
and the choir. The lecture was
attended by a number of visitors, ex-
J. F. Mann.

WILL AND FURNITURE
on the 'Imperious Hall' a most

PILOT BOATMEN'S HOUSES.

Their Present Condition.

DURING the discussion in committee on the
Loan Bill in the Legislative Council on Wed-
nesday night exception was taken to the
amount of £5000 set apart for the erection of
boatmen's cottages at Newcastle; but had
the gentlemen who objected to the item been
fully seized of the question under discussion,
it is more than probable that the remarks
made by them would not have been uttered.
As it is, the remarks made by Mr. H. C.
Dangar betray that gentleman's ignorance
of the whole matter. There are at present
twenty-two boatmen employed in connection
with Newcastle pilot staff, including one man
on Signal Hill. It has been a practice all
through Australia to provide men in such-
like occupation with dwellings erected by
the State, and in the present instance the
same system obtains. The cottages now
in use were erected between 25 and 30 years
ago, and some two years back the department
erected seven brick cottages, all of which are
now occupied by boatmen, but the remainder
of the men are still occupying the old cot-
tages, which are in a terribly bad state of re-
pair. Originally lathed and plastered cot-
tages, with wooden exterior and shingled
roofs, the whole block of buildings now pre-
sent a most dilapidated appearance. In most
of them the plaster work has fallen away,
while the roofs are by no means rain-proof.
During the last heavy gun practice at Fort
Scratchley it was impossible for the occupants
of the cottages to sit down to a meal com-
fortably, as the sand carried on to the shingles
in large quantities by the strong winds was
disturbed by the concussion caused by the
continual firing, and found its way through
the roof, smothering the occupants
with sand, in addition to which the
plaster was continually falling down.
The houses are in such bad repair that the
insurance companies have actually refused to
insure the furniture of the boatmen, who in
several instances made application to do so.
In wet weather the places are miserable, and
in addition to the buildings being sadly out
of repair the site on which they stand is fre-
quently like a duck pond, owing to the
accumulation of surface water.

The men pay at the rate of £ 8 per year
for the houses, and are compelled to live on
the stallies, viz, in the houses provided by
the department. The nature of their work is
such that no regular hours can be observed,
and it frequently happens that a rush occurs,
when only a few minutes can be spared for
meals. This being so, and remembering that
the men have no choice of dwelling, it is only
reasonable to expect that the Government
should provide comfortable quarters for the
men, whose life is by no means an easy one,
and who are not paid in accordance with the
 risks they run. It is pleasant to note that
even in a conservative place like the Upper
Chamber the men found champions, and
equally agreeable to find that the erection of
new cottages has at last come within men-
surable distance.

THE WRECK OF THE HELENA
LANCASTER.

Maitland District.

(FROM OUR SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE.)

A PRESENTATION.

A young man named Frank Dunlop, who
recently displayed considerable presence of
mind and bravery in rescuing a child who was
sitting in a cart drawn by a runaway horse,
was yesterday presented with £5 as a token
of appreciation of his action. The money
was the result of a number of voluntary sub-
scriptions given by residents of the district.
During the afternoon young Dunlop gave
another exhibition of his pluck by catching
the rein of a runaway horse attached to a van,
and bringing the animal to a standstill with-
out any damage ensuing.

POLICE COURT.

Mr. G. F. Scott, P. M., and Mr. H. Cro-
thers, J. P., occupied the bench at the West
Maitland Police Court yesterday.
Henry Evans was charged with stealing,
in a dwelling, a pair of trousers and a pair of
braces, valued at 2s, the property of Richard
Osborne. It was shown that prosecutor had
missed the articles from his room attached to
a dwelling in Regent-street. The ac-
cused was arrested by Sergeant Oxley in
an empty house at Homeville, and was
wearing the trousers which had been stolen.
Evans pleaded guilty, and was fined 20s, with
an alternative of 21 days' gaol.
Ernest Knight, John Green, and Joseph
Ternes were each fined 1s, with 2s 6d costs,
for having suffered horses to stray in Bourke-
street; and William Richardson was fined 2s,
with 2s 6d costs, on a charge of having suf-
fered two horses to stray in the same
thoroughfare. Thomas Watkins was fined
6s, with 2s 6d costs, for having permitted his
buggy to stand in High-street after sunset
without sufficient lights. Mr. Crothers did
not adjudicate in the cases brought by the
borough inspector.

A NOVEL CASE.

At the West Maitland Police Court yester-
day, Corpeilius Brasell proceeded against
Constable John McGill to recover possession
of a horse which had been the subject of a
charge of felony. The animal in question
was stolen from Brasell some time ago,
and was afterwards sold to Mr.
Watson, of Newcastle, by some person
unknown. The horse was subsequently
handed over by Watson to Brasell, the latter
entering into a bond for the production of the
horse at court. Watson afterwards reported
to the Minister for Justice, and the matter
was referred to the police. Constable M'Gill,
acting under instructions, took possession of
the beast in order to give Watson an oppor-
tunity of laying an information for the re-
covery. Watson, in the meantime, was asked
by the police to take proceedings against
Constable M'Gill, but neglected to do so.
Brasell was then asked to take proceedings
against the constable for recovery, and the
case referred to was the outcome. Sergeant
Oxley explained the circumstances to the
Bench, and the magistrates ordered that the



Newcastle East with the sandhills in the middleground. Much of this land was owned by the Lambton Coal Mining Company which decided in 1874 to level the dunes and stabilize the surface of the sand with chitter from its mine. Within two years the first buildings began to appear and by the early 1880s, the area was being filled with substantial "villa" residences so rapidly that the local newspaper forecast that the "aristocratic end of the city" would soon be completely built up. This was fortunate for it had been something of a "no man's land" as this report from the *Newcastle Chronicle* in 1874 shows.

THE FORTY THIEVES OF NEWCASTLE

One of the most dastardly robberies ever enacted in Newcastle took place on Thursday evening last, on the Sand Hills.

A young lad was going home to Captain Allen's hill, and when about halfway over the hill was beset by about 20 of the Newcastle city arabs. They knocked the lad down, and he was robbed of a purse, some buttons and marbles.

The arabs then commenced kicking the unfortunate lad in a most cowardly and brutal manner. The lad who was so ill-treated was very ill after the rough usage sustained.

This is not the first complaint that has been brought to our notice, and it is time something was done to prevent these everyday atrocities. Most of the offenders vary from the age of 12 to about 14 years.