company which built the new motor hotel, South Side Six.

## AND THE CLAYTONS

Samuel Clayton, the man after whom the suburb, and the road are named was born in Yorkshire, England. With his wife Ann he migrated to Australia in 1949 in the sailing ship, "Merchant Prince". After a voyage of three months they disembarked at Williamstown. Clayton decided to settle in Moorabbin, then called South Brighton, and bought a property in the Dane Road area. Here he settled down as a market gardener and here grew up nine of his ten children. (One daughter, Charlotte, remained in England). The sons were Richard, William, Samuel, Sydney and George, the daughters Elizabeth, Storrie, Ellen and Sarah Jane. Four of the five sons became market gardeners and in time their properties extended to fill an area bounded by the Highway, Dane, Exley, Spring and Wickham Roads. One son, George, became a teacher. Two of the sisters, Elizabeth and Ellen, married brothers, Thomas and Ben Chandler who had come from England with their parents in 1863 and settled in Chesterville Road, Cheltenham.

The Claytons were from their coming to Moorabbin associated with the Methodist Church in Wickham Road. Samuel Senior laid the bricks for the church; they were probably made at Ethell's brick works in Jasper Road. (There for many years was a large hole from which the clay was dug out; it filled with water and became a popular swimming pool, though there were, alas, several drownings.).

William Clayton was for many years superintendent of the church and the Sunday School. His home, the original Clayton home, is still standing in good order, as is his brother Samuel's home in Dane Road. A plaque in memory of William is in the church.

The family were musical and several sang in the choir of the Wickham Road Church. William was for long the organist there; George, son of Sydney, sang tenor and played the cornet in several bands. Six generations of Claytons have attended the Moorabbin State School No.1111.

Besides being a market gardener Samuel Clayton was also the first rate collector appointed by the Brighton Council; he was also one of the two first rate collectors (the other was a man called Jamieson) to be appointed in 1862 by the Moorabbin Roads Board. He spent his last years living with his wife — perhaps as caretaker — at the Drill Room (Hall) in Middle Crescent, Brighton.

(Information from Miss Clara Clay of Moorabbin, daughter of John B. Clay and Mrs. R. E. Nimmo of Sandringham, granddaughter of Samuel Clayton).