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according to one of James' descendants his three sons and five daughters and their friends often gathered to sing and dance to the music of violin and concertina. One can hear those Irish tunes and the laughter and jigging of youthful feet. The house was later enlarged to six rooms and a veranda to make a comfortable home.

Separate from the house for safety stood the washhouse (the word has almost disappeared from the language). It still contains the large brick copper where doubtless thousands of garments were washed over the years.

Of James' three sons, James the second remained on the property, Richard settled in Mackie Road, Bentleigh and William in South Road, Moorabbin. All were market gardeners. The five daughters married and with their brothers have many descendants in the area. One of them is Miss B. Prendergast of Gray Street, Bentleigh whose father had for about fifty years a drapery and men's wear shop in Centre Road, opposite the East Bentleigh State School, still known as Prendergast's shop. It is another building which is being considred by the Council for use as a museum.

AN IMPRESSIVE EXHIBITION

Congratulations to Frankston Historical Society for its most interesting exhibition of old silver and pewter staged at their headquarters, "Ballam Park", a mile or two from Frankston, during Queen's Birthday weekend. Here in two rooms was a beautiful display of objects varying greatly in size and purpose, gathered by the Society from private homes through the Peninsula and Western Port. Graceful tea and coffee pots, trays, bowls, vases and spoons were well worth looking at but perhaps the most interesting were those pieces which would not be used today and mark the changes time has brought to our dinner tables. Some of these were sugar tongs, carver rests (when father had finished carving the roast or the bird for the family he rested the points of the knife and fork on the fine silver bar fixed at each end to a lively-looking rooster) biscuit barrels, vegetable dishes, gravy boats and candle-snuffers.

Visitors to the exhibition must have found its setting almost as interesting as the silver. Here in 1854 a property of three hundred and sixty acres was bought by Frederick Liardet; he built the house and named it "Ballam Park". It changed hands

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