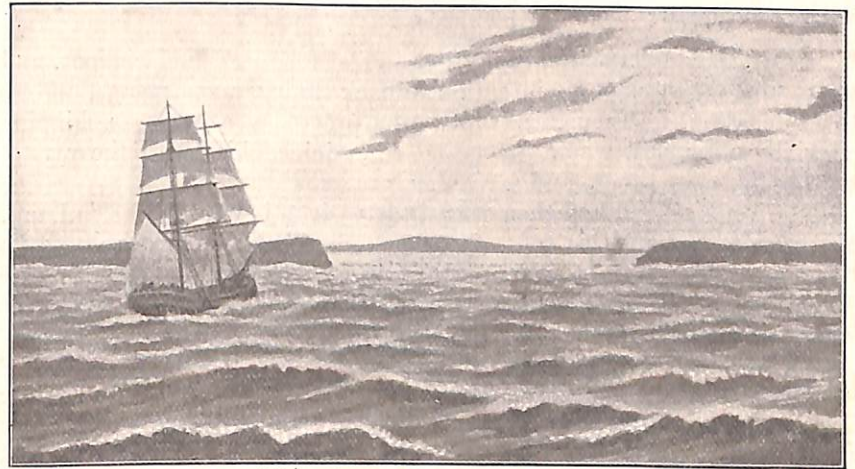


THE SCHOOL YEAR over Frank Henty with sheep,  
FOR GRADES VII. AND VIII. (1914).

No. 174. [Registered at the General Post Office, Melbourne, for transmission by post as a newspaper.] MELBOURNE. Price 1d. [APRIL 1, 1914.]

\* THE DISCOVERY OF PORT PHILLIP BAY.

1. Cook's voyage along the east coast of Australia in 1770 revealed the suitability of New South Wales for colonization, and the British Government caused a penal settlement to be founded on the shores of Port Jackson early in 1788.
2. In 1797-8, Bass traced the coast of Victoria westward from Cook's landfall (near Ram Head, Eastern Gippsland) to Western Port.
3. In December, 1800, Grant, on his way from London to Sydney in a surveying vessel, the *Lady Nelson*, named Cape Nelson, Portland Bay, Cape Otway, Cape Liptrap, and other coastal features.
4. Murray and Bowen, in the same vessel, saw the entrance to Port Phillip Bay on the 5th of January, 1802. From Western Port, where the vessel was detained owing to



With the permission of the publishers, Messrs. Whitcombe and Tombs, from a drawing by Mr. John Macfarlane in *Stories of Australian Exploration*, by C. R. Long.]

THE "LADY NELSON" ENTERING PORT PHILLIP BAY, 15TH FEBRUARY, 1802.

contrary winds, Bowen set out in the ship's launch, and entered the bay on the 1st of February, 1802. On the 15th of the same month, the ship itself was navigated through the Heads, and anchored off the site of Portsea. Only the southern part of the bay—from the vicinity of Swan Bay on the west to Arthur's Seat on the east—was explored by Murray and Bowen.

5. On the 26th of April, Flinders, in the *Investigator*, anchored nearly opposite the site of Sorrento, and, during the following week, surveyed the bay.

6. Surveyor-General Grimes, Lieut. Robbins, and Flemming, under instructions from Governor King, spent from the 20th of January to the 26th of February, 1803, in ascertaining the nature of the shores of the bay. They discovered the Freshwater River (now called the Yarra) on the 2nd of February.

## SETTLERS IN VICTORIA, 1834.

tion from a writing or discourse;  
 on.  
**A-ble**, proper; fitting.  
**Neigh-bor-hood**, vicinity; region or place near.  
**In-ci-dent**, that which happens or takes place;  
 event.  
**Lav-ish**, immoderate; unstinted.  
**Road-stead**, protected place where ships may  
 ride at anchor.  
**A-ban-don**, give up entirely; forsake absolutely.  
**De-ter-mi-na-tion**, decision settling some  
 doubt or dispute.  
**En-deav-or**, attempt; try.  
**Ven-ue** (a legal term), place mentioned in a  
 document relating to some charge or agree-  
 ment.

**Ac-qui-si-tion** ("s" as z), act or process of  
 acquiring or obtaining.  
**Ob-sta-cle**, hindrance; obstruction.  
**Im-ple-ment**, tool; utensil; instrument.  
**Ren-dez-vous'** (*ron(g)de-voos'*), meeting-place  
 agreed upon.  
**Per-sis-ten-cy**, perseverance; act or quality of  
 persisting.  
**De-ter**, hinder.  
**Or-gan-ize**, arrange for working.  
**Es-tab-lish**, set up; make stable or firm.  
**In-ves-ti-gate**, search or inquire into carefully.  
**Op-por-tu-ni-ty**, convenient time or occasion;  
 chance.  
**En-ter-pri-sing** ("s" as z), energetic and bold  
 in performing an undertaking.  
**In-hab-it-ant**, dweller in a place.

[The following extract is taken from *First Settlers in Victoria*, a pamphlet that gives a portion of a lecture delivered by Mr. Henry Henty at West Tarring, Sussex, England, in 1882. In the early pages, the reasons why his ancestors left that place are stated, and an interesting account of the voyage out and of the attempt to find suitable land in the neighborhood of Swan River,<sup>1</sup> Western Australia, is given. The lavish grants already made it impossible for the Hentys to find good grazing areas, so they soon decided to remove to Van Diemen's Land<sup>2</sup> (Tasmania).<sup>3</sup>

1. My father, therefore, could find no rest for the sole of his foot, and wrote home advices of his intention to pack up bag and baggage, and go to Launceston, in Tasmania (whither he proceeded as soon as shipping could be obtained), where my grandfather joined him with the rest of the family, more stock, and servants.

2. Grants of land had then ceased to be given in Van Diemen's Land. My grandfather and his sons, therefore, saw that this was only to be the base of future operations, not their final abode. The sons kept up an active look-out for a resting place. Stephen coasted down the whole length of the Australian coast in a half-decked boat. Edward explored several spots on the mainland in 1832, and, at length, reported favorably of Portland Bay, a fine roadstead with fair country around it. Before deciding upon this, however, my grandfather wished to look at the Swan River country himself. This they did together in the brig *Thistle*, and determined finally to abandon it. On the way back, having put into Portland to inspect it again, the determination was arrived at to begin a settlement there.

3. In 1834, then, my father was dispatched to England to endeavor to obtain a change of venue for their grant of land. The Government of that day was much opposed to the acquisition of additional territory, so, not only was land refused, but every obstacle was thrown in the way of the settlement being made at all. The Hentys, however, had some pluck in them: Edward was dispatched in the *Thistle* with laborers, cattle, farming implements, fruit trees, vines, potatoes, and seeds, and, as the journal states, landed at Portland Bay, at 8 a.m. on the 19th of

November, 1834. The following voyage brought over Frank Henty with the merino sheep.

4. For two years, this vessel was kept running, bringing over sheep, horses, cattle, and provisions; and, by her, other members of the family were conveyed to the rendezvous. The undertaking was looked upon, by others in the island, as a dangerous one, and it caused much excitement; but, noting the persistency with which it was carried on, and the frequent trips of the *Thistle*, others were encouraged to try their luck, crossing the straits to the eastward. Here they were found by my Uncle Frank, who, driven in by stress of weather, answered their signals of distress (they had selected a waterless region), and conveyed them to

the present site of Melbourne, where, with his own hands, he assisted in the erection of Batman's tent.

5. The Hentys did not proceed more than fifteen or sixteen miles into the interior, finding occupation on the coast, and being deterred from their advance partly by reason of a belt of poor, thickly-wooded country, and, again, through fear of the natives, who harbored therein, and from whom they had very narrow escapes.

6. During this time (something under three years), the bay being frequented by the black whale at certain seasons, boats were built in

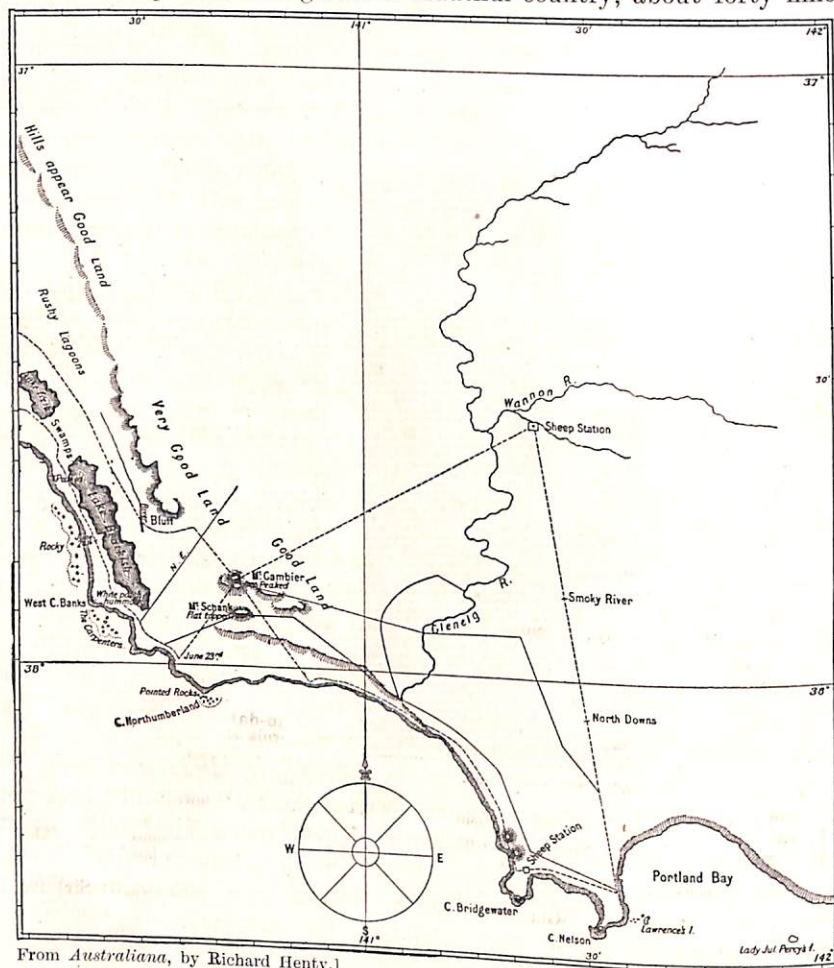


EDWARD HENTY (1809-78).

Van Diemen's Land, and crews organized. A constant look-out was kept, a signal station being established on a high bluff overlooking the bay, whence the signal, "There she spouts," was made with such frequency that, during one season, no fewer than 1,100 barrels of oil were shipped. Casks grew scarce; and, at length, the oil had to be stored in holes dug in the sand above high-water mark.

7. The Government had been informed of the actual settlement at Portland, and, at length, an official was sent from Sydney, partly with a view to dislodge the intruders, partly to see their manner of life, and partly to investigate their claims. As to dislodging, my uncle took the first opportunity of pointing out a four-pounder, which he had mounted in a commanding position.

8. In the year 1836, an exploring expedition visited Portland. Sir Thomas (then Major) Mitchell, the head of the expedition, was quite unaware of the Portland settlement, and took my uncle's party for bushrangers. They took the expedition for a similar lot, and the advance guards were nearly firing upon each other. Mitchell informed my uncles that he had passed through some beautiful country, about forty miles



From *Australiana*, by Richard Henty.]

PORTION OF A MAP DRAWN BY MR. STEPHEN HENTY IN 1839, SHOWING THE ROUTES TAKEN BY HIM AND HIS BROTHER EDWARD WHEN EXPLORING THE COUNTRY.

inland, well adapted for sheep. It consisted of swelling, well-grassed hills and sheltered vales, so beautiful as to merit the name, *Australia Felix* ("Australia the Happy" or "Fortunate"), which he bestowed upon it.

9. Edward Henty immediately set out for Launceston to consult his father, and received orders to occupy the country at once. He

returned in August, 1837, with my father, the eldest of the family and their general adviser; and I, not then of very mature years, was included in the party. We had a rough passage of twelve days, and, through stress of weather, had to put into the newly-settled port of Melbourne.

10. On our arrival at Portland, it was found that Stephen, always bold and enterprising, had ventured up to look at the new country, and having made arrangements for directing the sheep thither, the five brothers started off to divide the land amongst them. When they caught sight of the country, "Why, here is Sussex!" they exclaimed, "Sussex without a building, Sussex without inhabitants, Sussex all our own." They galloped their horses for joy, cheering and throwing up their hats, and tearing over the plain, which seemed so admirably adapted for their sheep.

NOTE.—It is proposed to erect at Portland a worthy memorial to the Hentys; and a demonstration in connexion with the effort is to be held in the town on the 30th of April.

1. **Swan Riv-er**, in Western Australia. It rises under the name of the Avon, flows N. and W., and enters the Indian Ocean. It gave its name to the first colonial settlement in Western Australia, founded in 1829. The capital city, Perth, is situated some miles from the mouth of the river.

2. **Mau-ri-ti-us** (*mo-rish-i-us*), an island colony of Great Britain, 1,500 miles east of the coast of Africa. It was first settled by the Dutch in 1638, and abandoned in 1710. The French then took possession (whence its name of Isle of France), but, in 1810, it was captured by the British.

3. **Van Die-men's Land** was discovered, in 1642, by the Dutch navigator, Tasman, who named it after the Dutch Governor of the East Indies. The first settlement in the island was made at Risdon, on the Derwent, in 1803, but it was soon afterwards removed to Hobart. The name, Van Diemen's Land, was changed to Tasmania on the 1st January, 1856.

### MAJOR MITCHELL'S VISIT TO PORTLAND BAY, 1836.

**Cas-u-a-ri-næ**, oaks; she-oaks.

**Par-al-lel**, side by side and equally distant at all points.

**A-bun-dant-ly**, plentifully; copiously.

**Plac-id**, calm; unruffled.

**Com-pre-hen-sive**, including much; wide.

**Ob-vi-ous**, clearly seen; manifest.

**Car-cass**, dead body; corpse.

**Com-par-a-tive-ly**, relatively.

**Ap-pre-hen-sive**, afraid; fearful.

**Awk-ward**, here, which might have serious consequences.

**Es-tab-lish-ment**, residence; place of business.

**Ra-tion** (*rash-un*), the "a" either as in *ale* or as in *cat*, the second being the military usage), fixed allowance of provisions.

**Ad-di-tion-al**, supplementary; more.

**Mag-ni-tude**, size; extent.

**Sub-stan-tial**, firmly made or built; solid.

**Re-sort-ed to**, visited; made a usual place of call.

**Com-mu-ni-ca-tion**, intercourse by words, letters, or messages.

**Nu-mer-ous**, great number.

**Ac-com-mo-dat-ed** (the "a" as in *ale*), supplied; furnished.

**Har-poon-er**, man who uses a harpoon, a spear, with rope attached, for killing whales.

**Pur-suit**, act of following or going after.

**Hump-back**, kind of whale which has teeth (The right whale (the most valuable kind) has whalebone in the upper jaw.)

[In 1836, the Surveyor-General of New South Wales, Major (afterwards Sir) Thomas Mitchell, led an exploring expedition to determine whether the Darling flowed into the Murray or not. As he was returning along the Murray, he rode across to Mt. Hope (about 60 miles north of Bendigo); and the view from its summit caused him to alter his plans and make a detour to the south and west. He discovered the Wimmera River, and, then, going south, the Glenelg. During an excursion from the main party, he came to the sea at Portland Bay (29th August, 1836), and, as the following extract from his book will show, was surprised to find settlers there.]

1. Continuing through a thick wood, we came out, at length, on the shore of Portland Bay, at about four miles beyond the little river.<sup>1</sup>

Straight before us lay Lawrence's Island, or rather, islands, there being two small islets of rock in that situation; and, some way to the eastward, I perceived a much larger island, which I concluded was Lady Julia Percy's Isle.<sup>2</sup> At a quarter of a mile back from the beach, broad broom-topped casuarinæ were the only trees we could see; these grew on long ridges, parallel to the beach, resembling those long breakers, which, aided by the winds, had probably thrown such ridges up. They were abundantly covered with excellent grass; and, as it wanted about an hour of noon, I halted that the cattle might feed while I took some angles, and endeavored to obtain the sun's altitude during the intervals between heavy squalls, some of which were accompanied by hail and thunder.

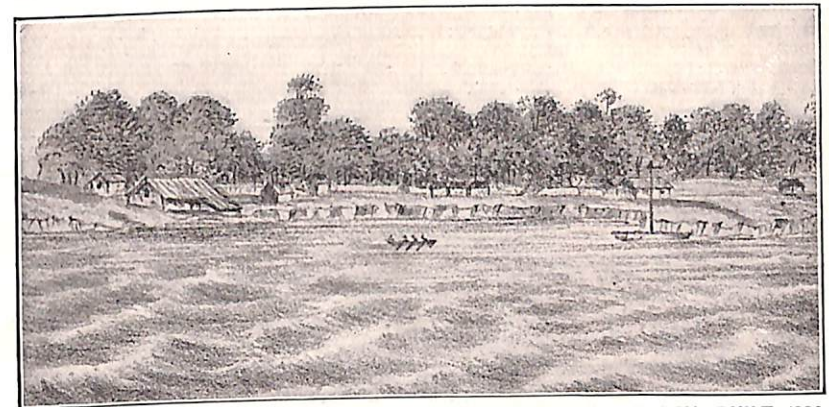
2. On reaching the seashore at this beach, I turned to observe the face of Tommy Came-last, one of my followers, who, being a native from the interior, had never before seen the sea. I could not discover, in the face of this young savage, even on his first view of the ocean, any expression of surprise; on the contrary, the placid and comprehensive gaze he cast over it seemed fully to embrace the grand expanse then for the first time opened to him. I was much more astonished when he, soon after, came to tell me of the fresh tracks of cattle that he had found on the shore, and the shoe marks of a white man. He also brought me portions of tobacco pipes, and a glass bottle without a neck. That whaling vessels occasionally touched here I was aware, as was indeed obvious from the carcasses and bones of whales on the beach; but, how cattle could have been brought there, I did not understand.

3. Proceeding round the bay with the intention of examining the head of an inlet, and continuing along shore as far as Cape Bridgewater, I was struck with the resemblance to houses that some supposed grey rocks under the grassy cliff presented; and, while I directed my glass toward them, my servant, Brown, said he saw a brig at anchor—a fact of which I was soon convinced—and also that the grey rocks were, in reality, wooden houses. The most northern part of the shore of this bay was comparatively low, but the western consisted of bold cliffs rising to the height of 180 feet.

4. We ascended these cliffs near the wooden houses, which proved to be some deserted sheds of the whalers. One shot was heard as we drew near them, and another on our ascending the rocks. I then became somewhat apprehensive that the parties might either be, or suppose us to be, bushrangers, and, to prevent if possible some such awkward mistake, I ordered a man to fire a gun, and a bugle to be sounded; but, on reaching the higher ground, we discovered not only a beaten path, but the track of two carts; and, while we were following the latter, a man came towards us from the face of the cliffs. He informed me, in answer to my questions, that the vessel at anchor was the *Elizabeth*, of Launceston, and that, just round the point, there was a considerable farming establishment belonging to Messrs. Henty, who were then at the house. It occurred to

me that I might there procure a small additional supply of provisions, especially of flour, as my men were on very reduced rations.

5. I, therefore, approached the house, and was kindly received and entertained by the Messrs. Henty, who, as I learnt, had been established there during upwards of two years. It was very obvious indeed, from the magnitude and extent of the buildings and the substantial fencing erected, that both time and labor had been expended in their construction. A good garden, stocked with abundance of vegetables, already smiled on Portland Bay; the soil was very rich on the overhanging cliffs, and the potatoes and turnips produced there surpassed in magnitude and quality any I had ever seen elsewhere. I learnt that the bay was much resorted to by vessels engaged in the whale fishery, and that upwards of 700 tons of oil had been shipped that season. I was likewise informed that, only a few days before my arrival, five vessels lay at anchor together in the bay, and that communication was regularly kept up with Van Diemen's



THE HENTY BROTHERS' WHALING ESTABLISHMENT, PORTLAND BAY BUILT 1834.

Land by means of vessels from Launceston. Messrs. Henty were importing sheep and cattle as fast as vessels could be found to bring them over, and the numerous whalers touching at, or fishing on, the coast were found to be good customers for farm produce, and whatever else could be spared from the establishment.

6. I was accommodated with a small supply of flour by the Messrs. Henty, who, having been themselves on short allowance, were awaiting the arrival of a vessel due two weeks before. They also supplied us with as many vegetables as the men could carry away on their horses.

7. Just as I was about to leave the place, a whale was announced, and, instantly, three boats well manned were seen cutting through the water, a harpooner standing up in the stern of each with oar in hand, and assisting the rowers by a forward movement at each stroke. It was not the least interesting scene in these my Australian travels, thus, on a beautiful afternoon, to witness, from a veranda at Portland Bay, the

humors of the whale fishery, and all those wondrous perils of harpooners and whaleboats, of which I had delighted to read as scenes of "the stormy north." The object of the present pursuit was a "humpback," and, the chase being likely to occupy the boats for some time, I proceeded homewards.

1. **Lit-tle riv-er.** This was afterwards named the Surry by Mitchell, at Edward Henty's request.
2. **La-dy Jul-ia Per-cy Is-land,** situated near Portland, was named by Lieutenant James Grant, while exploring the coast of Victoria, in the *Lady Nelson*, December, 1800.

\*

### JOHN BATMAN'S "VILLAGE,"

**Can-vas,** coarse cloth used for sails, &c.

**Reef,** line of rocks lying at or near the surface of the water; shoal.

**Treach'er-ous,** deceiving; untrustworthy.

**Blithe,** sprightly.

**Bar,** sandbank at the entrance to a bay, &c.

**Sooth,** truth.

**Ra-di-ant,** full of happiness and hope.

**Al-ien** (*al-ien*, the "a" as in *ale*), belonging to another country; foreign.

**Pri-me-val** (the "a" as in *am*), original; primitive.

**Ar-gent,** silver.

**Mute,** making no sound.

**Tas-sel,** head of flowers hanging down.

["The boat went up the large river I spoke of; and, I am glad to state, about six miles up, I found the water good and deep." *Batman's Diary*, June 8, 1835.]

1. They sailed across the shining strait<sup>1</sup>

When keen May winds were blowing;

They pierced Port Phillip's rocky gate<sup>2</sup>

With canvas boldly flowing.

Past hidden reef and rugged scar,

Green isle and treacherous shallow,

(How near that May and yet how far!)

The blithe *Rebecca* o'er the bar  
Came skimming like a swallow.

2. Till, lo! like a wide inland sea,  
The noble bay extended!

The setting sun on wave and tree

Blue, gold, and green had blended.

**Som-bre,** dark in color; gloomy.

**Weird,** strange; uncanny.

**Trow** (the "o" as in *old*), believe; fancy.

**Sculp-tured,** carved; engraved.

**Tar-ried,** stayed in a place; lingered.

**Fore-run-ner,** predecessor; precursor.

**Por-tal,** gate or entrance.

**Stur-dy,** not easily made to yield; hardy.

**Pi-o-neer,** one who prepares the way for others; forerunner.

**An-nals,** records; narratives.

**Stout,** resolute; dauntless.

**Jar-rah,** hard, durable timber, obtained from a kind of eucalyptus that grows in the southwest of Western Australia.

This will be the place for a village."

That night, as neath the gums  
he slept,

He dreamt of white flocks  
gleaming

'Mid fair green vales, till  
dawning crept

Below his eyelids, and he  
leapt

Upright, but still half-  
dreaming.

3. And, sooth, a land for radiant  
dreams

The winter sunrise light-  
ened!

No lovelier scene the morning  
beams

For alien eye e'er bright-  
ened.

Where curleth now the home-  
stead smoke,

Where cottage vines are  
clinging,

Their voices first the silence  
broke,  
In the great speech that  
Shakespeare spoke,  
Through woods primeval  
ringing.

The waving wattles wooed the  
sun,  
Nor mourned their yellow  
tassels;  
Dark-green the sombre gum-  
trees shone;

High up, the clouds  
had built (like  
John)

A thousand airy  
castles.

5. Came mocking  
from the weird  
she-oak

The quaint king-  
fisher's laugh-  
ter;

The magpie's note  
of sweetness  
broke

Through every  
forest rafter.

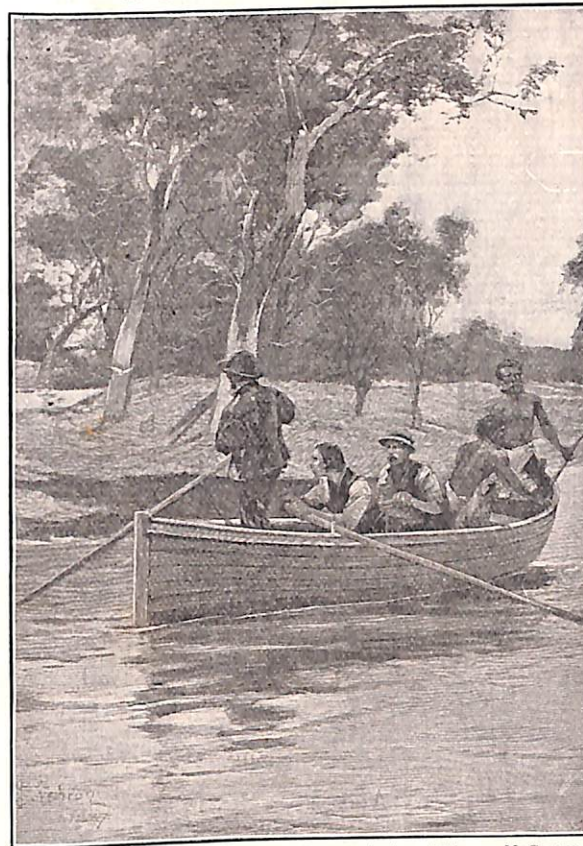
To north and south,  
he turned his  
gaze—

"For pasture or  
for tillage,

I trow earth shows  
no fairer space;

This gentle slope  
will be the  
place

To raise a  
charming vil-  
lage!"



From *Victoria and its Metropolis*, by permission of Messrs. McCarron, Bird, and Co.]

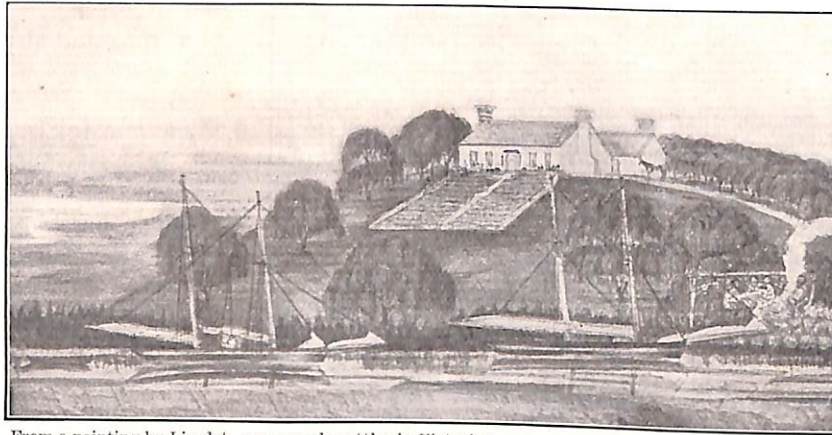
JOHN BATMAN ON THE YARRA, 1835. "THIS WILL BE THE PLACE FOR A VILLAGE."

4. He stood beside an argente  
stream,  
By hill and hollow steal-  
ing,  
Mute as the river of a dream  
When sleep the eyes is  
sealing.

6. On Flagstaff Hill,<sup>3</sup> 'neath  
sculptured stone,  
Brave John has long been  
sleeping;  
He lived to see the good seed  
sown,  
But tarried not for reaping.

E'en though the founder's  
fame denied,  
He was the bold forerunner  
Who threw for all the portal  
wide ;  
Therefore we name his name  
with pride,  
And hold it high in honor.

7. God rest the sturdy pio-  
neers,  
The fathers of the old  
time,  
Whose simple annals light the  
years  
That went before the gold  
time !



From a painting by Liardet, a very early settler in Victoria.]

BATMAN'S HOUSE, OVERLOOKING THE YARRA, ON THE SOUTH SLOPE OF  
BATMAN'S HILL.

Their hearts were stout, their  
souls were free,  
Their arms like western  
jarrah ;

Their lives are tales of  
Arcadie<sup>4</sup> ;  
They left a stainless memory  
Upon the banks of Yarra !

—From *The Ivory Gate*, a Book of Poems, by EDWARD BOOTH LOUGHRAN  
(*lock'-ran*), a living Victorian poet.

1. **Shin'ing strait**, Bass Strait, between Tasmania and Australia, discovered by Bass in 1797.
2. **Rock'y gate**. The entrance to Port Phillip Bay is somewhat dangerous owing to a ledge of rocks that runs across it. It is less than a mile wide.
3. **Flag-staff Hill** was originally known as Burial Hill, because of a small cemetery established there. In September, 1840, a flagstaff was erected on the hill, and the arrival of various classes of ships indicated to the townspeople by the hoisting of different flags. This area is now occupied by the Flagstaff Gardens, West Melbourne. Batman did not live to enjoy the fruits of his energy ; he died in 1839.
4. **Ar-ca-die**, Arcadia (*ar-ca'di-a*), district in ancient Greece. Its inhabitants, who long remained in a state of barbarism, were passionately fond of music and dancing. Arcadia became, both for ancient and modern poets, the land of peace, innocence, and patriarchal manners.

### \* THE PROBLEM SOLVED.

In last month's number appeared an article by Lewis Carroll under the heading "A Problem in Arithmetic." The following is the solution :—A level mile takes  $\frac{1}{4}$  of an hour ; up hill,  $\frac{1}{3}$  ; down hill,  $\frac{1}{5}$ . Hence, to go and return over the same mile, whether on the level or on the hill-side, takes  $\frac{1}{2}$  an hour. Hence, in 6 hours, they went 12 miles out and 12 back, 24 miles in all. If the 12 miles out had been nearly all level, they would have taken a little over 3 hours ; if nearly all up hill, a little under 4. Hence,  $3\frac{1}{2}$  hours must be within  $\frac{1}{2}$  an hour of the time taken in reaching the peak ; thus, as they started at 3, they got there within  $\frac{1}{2}$  an hour of half-past six.

## THE FOUNDING OF MELBOURNE.

**Fa'vor-a-ble**, here, showing favor or liking.  
**Suf-fi'cient-ly** (*suf-fish'ent-lee*), enough.  
**Per-mis'sion**, leave to do a thing.  
**Oc-cu-py**, settle upon.  
**As-so'ci-a'tion**, body of people joined together for a common object.  
**So-lic-i-tor** (*lis*), one who looks after the business of another in a court of law.  
**En'er-get'ic** (*jet*), full of vigor.  
**Ac-com'pan-ied** (*eum*), attended.  
**Ab'o-rig'in-es** (*rij*), earliest inhabitants of a land.  
**Ex-am'in-ing**, looking at carefully.  
**Men'tioned**, spoke about.  
**Pos-sessed**, owned.  
**Ex'pla-na'tion**, showing of the meaning.

**Cor-rob'o-ree**, sham-fight and war-dance of the Australian blacks.  
**Trip-li-cates**, threefold copies.  
**Prin-ci-pal**, most important.  
**En-chant'ing**, charming.  
**In-tru'der**, one who enters in uninvited, or is unwelcome.  
**Hin'drance**, obstacle or impediment.  
**Mo-men'tous**, very important or serious.  
**A-ban'don**, forsake ; desert.  
**Pro-pi'tious** (*pro-pish'us*), favorable.  
**Lib'er-al-ly**, generously ; unselfishly.  
**Knoll** (the "k" silent, and the "o" as in *note*), small, round-topped hill.  
**In-nu'mer-a-ble**, countless.  
**U-ten'sil**, vessel used for domestic purposes.  
**Man'u-script** (*adj.*), written by hand.

1. John Batman was born at Parramatta, near Sydney, in the year 1800. When he grew up to manhood, he left the land of his birth for Tasmania, where he settled down near Mount Ben Lomond<sup>1</sup> as a sheep-farmer.

2. Owing to the favorable account Hume and Hovell gave of the country through which they had passed in going from Lake George<sup>2</sup> to Port Phillip Bay in 1824, Batman and other Tasmanians, who felt that their grazing areas were not sufficiently extensive, were desirous of trying their fortunes on the north side of Bass Strait, but Governor Darling,<sup>3</sup> of New South Wales, whose rule extended from Cape York to the southern limit of the continent, refused them permission to occupy any land there. The desire to do so did not, however, die out ; and, when the Hentys (recent arrivals in Tasmania from England) boldly formed a settlement, in 1834, on the shores of Portland Bay, an association was formed, of which a solicitor, named Gellibrand,<sup>4</sup> and the energetic Batman were the leading members.

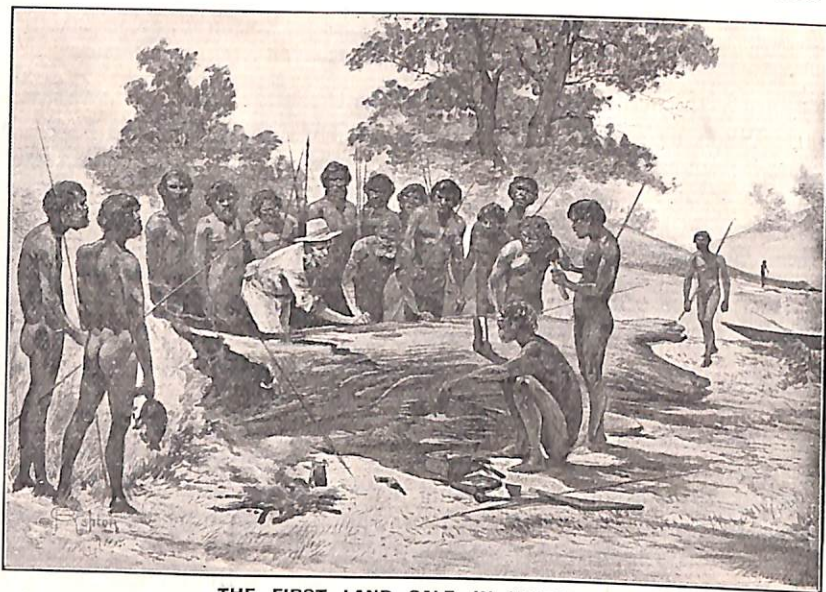
3. Preparations were made, and Batman, accompanied by three white men and seven aborigines belonging to a tribe whose hunting-ground was near Sydney, sailed from Launceston<sup>5</sup> in a little vessel, the *Rebecca* (which had a crew of four in addition to the master and the mate), and landed, on the 29th of May, 1835, near St. Leonards on the Bellarine Peninsula.<sup>6</sup>

4. A day or two were spent in examining the country in the neighborhood of Geelong, and, then, the crew of the *Rebecca* took her to the mouth of the Yarra, of whose existence Batman was aware, as he had with him a map (one of many in a big atlas of Australia compiled by Flinders, and published in 1814), which showed two rivers (un-named) at the head of Port Phillip Bay.<sup>7</sup>

5. The next day, for the first few miles in a boat, and, afterwards, on foot, Batman and most of his party, fully armed, traced the Saltwater River upwards to a spot that is now supposed to be in

the neighborhood of Sunbury.<sup>8</sup> Wishing to communicate with the aborigines, and seeing fires to the eastward, he went in that direction, and came upon a tribe. He thus tells, with close attention to details (for he considered the matter to be one of great importance), what took place in regard to the purchase of a large area of land from them:—

6. "We started this morning at eight a.m. to find the natives. We had walked about eight miles when we fell in with their tracks, and, shortly after, came up with a family—one chief, his wife, and three children. I gave the chief a pair of blankets, some handkerchiefs and beads, and three knives. He then went on with us and crossed a



THE FIRST LAND SALE IN VICTORIA.

(Batman and the aboriginal chiefs signing the title deeds of 600,000 acres of land lying to the north and west of Port Phillip Bay, 6th June, 1835.)

freshwater creek. He took us on, saying he would bring us to the tribe, and mentioned the names of chiefs.

7. "We had walked about eight miles, when, to our great surprise, we heard several voices calling after us. On looking back, we saw eight men, all armed with spears, &c. When we stopped, they threw aside their weapons and came up to us in a most friendly manner. After shaking hands, and my giving them tomahawks, knives, &c., they took us with them about a mile back, where we found huts, women, and children. After some time and full explanation, I found eight chiefs amongst them, who possessed the whole of the country near Port Phillip.

8. "Three brothers, all of the same name, are the principal chiefs, two of them men six feet high, and very good looking; the other not so

tall, but stouter. The other five chiefs are fine men also. After a full explanation of what my object was, I purchased two large tracts of land from them—about 600,000 acres more or less,—and delivered over to them blankets, knives, looking-glasses, tomahawks, beads, scissors, flour, &c., as payment for the land, and also agreed to give them a tribute, or rent, yearly. The parchment, the eight chiefs signed this afternoon, delivering to me some of the soil of each of them, and giving me full possession of the tracts of land. This took place alongside a beautiful stream of water, whence my land commences, and where a tree is marked four ways to show the corner boundary.

9. "The country about here exceeds anything I ever saw, both for grass and for richness of soil. The timber is light, and consists of she-oaks and small gums, with a few wattles. My natives gave the chiefs and their tribe a grand corroboree to-night. They seemed quite delighted with it. Each of the principal chiefs has two wives and several children. In all, the tribe consists of forty-five—men, women, and children.

10. "Sunday, June 7, 1835.—Detained this morning some time drawing up triplicates of the deeds of the land I purchased, and delivering over more property on the banks of the river, which I have named Batman's Creek after my good self. Just before leaving, the two principal chiefs came and brought their cloaks, or royal mantles, and laid them at my feet, wishing me to accept the same. On my consenting to take them, they placed them round my neck and even my shoulders, and seemed quite pleased to see me walk about with them on. I asked them to accompany me to the vessel. They very properly pointed to the number of young children, and, then, at their feet, meaning that they could not walk, but said they would come down in a few days.

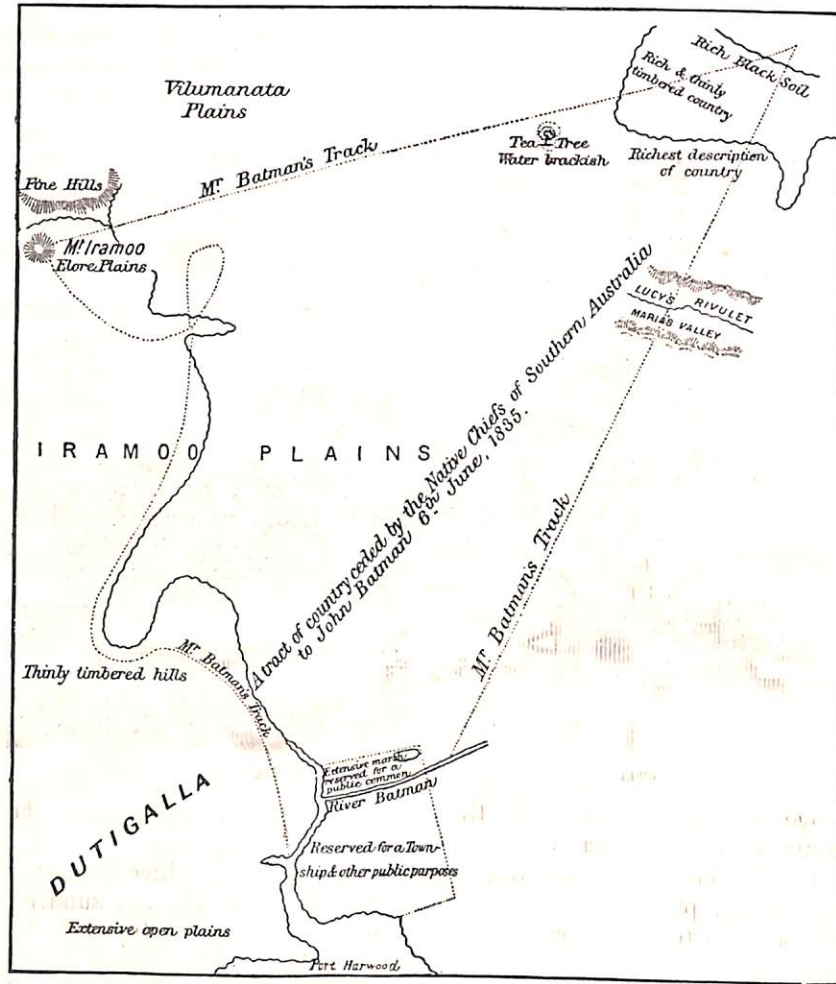
11. "About ten a.m., I took my departure from these interesting people. I crossed Batman's Creek,<sup>9</sup> and walked over country thinly timbered with box, gum, she-oak, and wattle, but thickly covered with excellent grass. Most of the land was as rich as any I have seen in my life. We walked over it about twelve miles down my side line, in a south-west direction, when we came to another creek of good water in a most beautiful valley, which I named Lucy's Creek and Maria's Valley.

12. "After leaving this, we crossed some plains of good land, and then came to a forest, thinly timbered with gum, wattle, and she-oak. We then made the river I had gone up a few days before, intending to come on the opposite side of the river and hail the vessel. I crossed, on the banks of the river, a large marsh, about one mile and a-half wide by three or four miles long, of the richest description of soil and without a tree. After crossing this marsh, we passed through a tea-tree scrub.

13. "We expected, on getting through this, to make the vessel in an hour or two, but, to our great surprise, when we got through the

scrub, we found ourselves on a much larger river than the one we went up and had just come down.

14. "Monday, June 8, 1835.—The boat went up the large river I spoke of; and, I am glad to state, about six miles up, I found the water good and deep. This will be the place for a village."



From Bonwick's Port Phillip Settlement ]

THE UPPER PART OF BATMAN'S MAP OF PORT PHILLIP, JUNE, 1835.

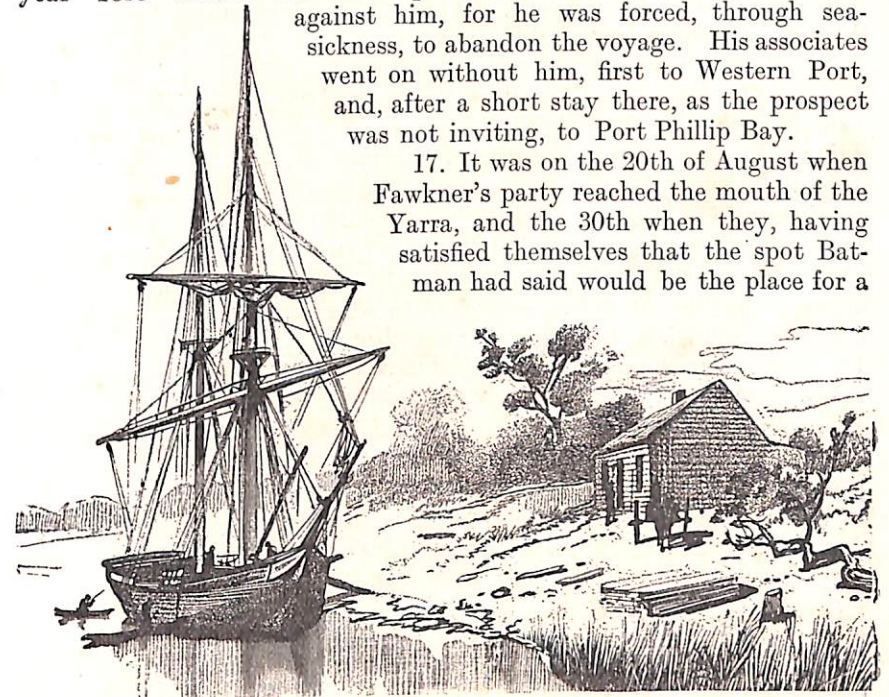
15. After felling a tree by way of taking possession, Batman turned the boat's bow down stream, with the intention of returning to Tasmania as speedily as possible, to report to his partners in the association the excellent result of his mission. Before leaving the bay, however, he landed most of his party at Indented Head,<sup>10</sup> and gave them instructions

to build a hut, and to warn off any intruders from the land he had purchased.

16. In the meantime, another association had been formed by John Pascoe Fawcner, who kept an hotel, edited a newspaper, and conducted cases in the law court, at Launceston. But he had met with many hindrances; and it was not till near the end of July of the same momentous year—1835—that he was able to put to sea. Even then, the fates were

against him, for he was forced, through seasickness, to abandon the voyage. His associates went on without him, first to Western Port, and, after a short stay there, as the prospect was not inviting, to Port Phillip Bay.

17. It was on the 20th of August when Fawcner's party reached the mouth of the Yarra, and the 30th when they, having satisfied themselves that the spot Batman had said would be the place for a



FAWKNER'S "ENTERPRISE" ON THE YARRA, TOWARDS THE END OF 1835.

village was really suitable for the purpose, worked their ship up the stream to the foot of the falls.

18. The landing of the cargo—two horses, two pigs, three kangaroo dogs, a cat, plows, seeds, fruit trees, household utensils, and sundries—among the tea-trees, on the north bank of the river in front of the present Custom-house, occupied but a few hours, and the party rested for the remainder of the day, which was Sunday.

19. Every one was at work early next morning; and Mr. George Evans began the construction of a hut of sods—the first house in Melbourne, if such a name can be correctly applied to the structure.

20. Two days afterwards, to the surprise, no doubt, of both himself and the settlers, Mr. J. H. Wedge, with another white man and an escort of blacks from Indented Head, came upon the scene. Wedge,



a surveyor, was a member of Batman's association, and had come over to Port Phillip to examine for himself its agent's purchase. He pointed out to the Fawknerites that they were trespassers on land claimed by his association; but they made no move to give up possession. After handing to one of them a written protest, he left for Indented Head, and lost no time in shifting his party to the settlement beside the Yarra Yarra, which, by good fortune, owes its name (the aboriginal term for a waterfall) to him, in spite of Batman and Fawkner, who each bestowed his own name on it.

21. When, some months afterwards, Batman brought his wife and family from Tasmania, he built a house and opened a general store on a hill that has been levelled to make room for the Spencer-street Railway Station. His transaction with the natives was declared by the British Government to be null and void, but the association was allowed to take up, free of charge, land to the value of £7,000.

22. Fawkner reached the settlement in October, 1835, bringing with him timber for the erection of a house. It was not long before he opened an hotel close to the corner of Collins and Market Streets; and, on New Year's Day, 1836, he published a manuscript newspaper, which developed into a printed one—*The Melbourne Advertiser*—in April, 1838.

23. Governor Bourke from Sydney visited the settlement in March, 1837; and the streets were then laid out by Mr. Robert Hoddle, and named by the Governor, who, also, in honor of the Prime Minister of Great Britain, bestowed that nobleman's name—Melbourne—upon the settlement. Its growth had been rapid. At the time of the Governor's visit, its inhabitants had increased to 500, and they owned 140,000 sheep, 2,500 head of cattle, and 150 horses.

1. **Mt. Ben Lo-mond**, mountain, 5,160 feet high, in the north-east of Tasmania.
2. **Lake George**, in New South Wales, 25 miles south-west of the town of Goulburn.
3. **Gov-er-nor Dar-ling**, Sir Ralph Darling, Governor of New South Wales from 1825-1831.
4. **Gel-li-brand** (*jel*). He visited Port Phillip in 1836. With Mr. Hesse (*hes-se*, the second "e" as in *summer*), he set out to explore the interior; they missed their way, and were never heard of again.
5. **Laun-cas-ton**, large town in the north of Tasmania, on the River Tamar.
6. **St. Leon-ards** (*len-ards*) on the **Bel-lar-ine Pen-in-su-la**, a small fishing town seven miles south of Portarlington. The Bellarine Peninsula lies between Corio Bay and King Bay (the bight outside the entrance to Port Phillip Bay, so named by Captain Grant in 1800).
7. **Two rivers . . . Bay**. These rivers were the Saltwater and Yarra. The Yarra was discovered by Grimes, Robbins, and Flemming (a survey party from Sydney) on the 2nd February, 1803. In their report, they refer to it as the Freshwater River, owing to the fact that there was (where Queen's Bridge now stands) a ridge of rocks above which the water was fresh.
8. **Sun-bur-y**, town 24 miles northward of Melbourne, on the railway to Echuca.
9. **Bat-man's Creek**. The name of the stream has been changed, and there has been a considerable amount of discussion as to its identity. In a paper read before the Historical Society of Australasia, in 1885, Mr. James Blackburn, a surveyor, reviewed the evidence and came to the following conclusion:—"Batman made his notable treaty with the natives on the east side of the River Plenty, to the north-west of the township of Eltham, and about three miles above the junction of the Plenty and the River Yarra." He identifies "Lucy's Creek" on Batman's map as the present Merri Creek. "River Batman" on the map is the present River Yarra.
10. **In-dent-ed Head**. The name has disappeared from the maps. In 1802, Flinders entered Port Phillip Bay, and, on the 27th April, climbed to the top of Arthur's Seat. He looked across to the western shore which seemed to end in a bluff some twelve miles northward from the entrance. From its appearance, he named it Indented Head. What he really saw were the You Yang Mountains (the highest of which he afterwards climbed and named Station Peak—now Flinders Peak) in the distance.