

In his experience of the colony, he has noticed that all the bad seasons took place in the years ending with "5" and the good seasons with the "0"

Mr. Murray has seen all the political changes which have taken place in this colony from the first Governor and ministry to the present time. In his opinion the greatest blow this country ever received was when the land was parted with. The gold mining here caused the people to forget themselves. Everything was booming then, and money was tossed about with the utmost freedom. Men would ask for things with good prices whether they were worth the money or not.

The Government were equally extravagant. "What an opportunity" he says, "we present to any future Historian who may write our history. In about 50 years we have dug from the earth in this colony about £250,000,000 worth of gold and other minerals, and about half that quantity of other produce has been exported; nearly all our Crown Land consisting of 56,000,000 acres, has been parted with, mostly by dummyism and fraud, in large blocks of from 10 to 100,000 acres at a mere nominal price per acre, whilst the Government have now passed an act to re-purchase some of these Lands again for smaller