

the first day of the diggings, - Mr. and Mrs. Bath arrived at Golden Point, Ballarat. Mr. James Oddie accompanied them from Hiscock's Gully. Mrs. Bath was the first lady to arrive here. Mr. Bath commenced a butchery on his arrival, and subsequently he visited the diggings Fryer's Creek, Colac and Bendigo, where he saw the initial stages of the Eaglehawk diggings. Then he went to Little Bendigo near Ballarat East, and finally at the end of 1852 he returned to Ballarat and having bought land, he built an hotel which he opened in 1853. This hotel was called "The Ballarat". It was re-named "Bath's" in 1854 and the present structure which has risen Phoenix like on the site of its pre-decessors is now called "Craig's Royal Hotel" - Ballarat's leading hostelry.

Whilst conducting the hotel, in 1855-56, Mr. Bath ran two four-horse coaches to Magpie etc. The state of the roads would only permit him to run them for six months and seven days, but in that time he took £2119/14/- in fares. The fare was 5/- each way. At the present time (1898) the tram takes passengers nearly the whole distance for 3d. But although the momentary receipts were large, the expenditure was correspondingly heavy. Eight horses had to be kept and the drivers were paid £1 a day. Besides this there was the initial expense of coaches, horses, harness, stabling etc.,. The receipts frequently amounted to £15 a day - the largest amount taken in a single day being £24/15/- which was

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