

check this evil, and resolved that steps should be taken to have the locality proclaimed a rabbit district.

Now that the dry season has nearly reached its pitch the residents of Doveton street north, near the New Cemetery, are suffering greatly through the scarcity of water. The locality named has not yet been reticulated by the Water Commission, though a promise was made some eight years ago that the water mains would be laid on. The residents of a whole block are, we understand, without the necessary fluid, and were it not for the kindness of Mr Cummins, of the Miller's Arms hotel, who possesses a large tank, the unfortunate ratepayers would be compelled to cart their water from the city. It is to be hoped the Water Commission will remedy the grievance.

The great inconvenience that has been experienced for a long time past for want of telegraphic communication between Ballarat and the Smeaton district, as also between Smeaton and Creswick, has now been obviated by the opening of telegraphic offices at Allandale and Smeaton. The just claims of the localities in question in that respect have been frequently advocated in the *Star*, and we are glad to find them acknowledged by the department. Referring to the subject, the *Creswick Advertiser* says:—"We are glad to be able to congratulate those who worked energetically and well towards securing the progress of the district, that the telegraph offices at Allandale and Smeaton are now open for business, Miss Inzanielli having taken charge of the former on Saturday, and Miss Williams of the latter to-day. At both offices a good business was done on Saturday, with the prospect of making it lively for the Creswick office in future. A money order and savings bank will shortly be available in connection with the office at Allandale."

We hear that several petty robberies occurred on Saturday at the Eastern Oval. A player named Fogg has sustained the loss of a new gold watch and chain, and another named Duffy missed a silk handkerchief. Other thefts are also reported, and it is to be hoped that the guilty individual will be punished for the acts.

A little commotion was caused at the Eastern lock-up yesterday morning, and the circumstances connected with it were the means of creating a flutter among some of the members of "the force." It will be remembered that a few days ago two Mongolians were arrested on a charge of stealing a shovel, and prior to being locked up they were searched in the usual way. Nothing of importance, however, was found in their possession. Yesterday they were further remanded, and admitted to bail. After leaving the court they proceeded to the lock-up, and made a complaint to the effect that when arrested they had a quantity of gold in their

his left shoulder and elbow. The accident occurred on Wednesday last, but up to Sunday the sufferer was of opinion that nothing serious had taken place. On the last-mentioned day, however, symptoms of swelling presented themselves, when he decided to seek medical aid at the Hospital. The patient is progressing favorably. 24/2/1882

Mr Ivey, the enterprising steamboat proprietor of Lake Wendouree, is about to make some valuable additions to his fleet. In about three week's time he will have completed a new steamer of good burthen, which will be fitted with all the latest appliances. The most important addition, we think, will be the enlarging and remodelling of the steamer Prince Consort. The present length of this vessel is 70 feet, but when the alterations have been completed her length will be 110 feet, with proportionate width, and will be capable of affording accommodation for 400 passengers. Mr Ivey has imported a new paddle-shaft for the Prince Consort, which will be placed in position when she assumes her new appearance. The shaft is 21 feet long, 3½ inches in diameter, and is of 24 inches stroke. It is composed of cast steel equal in strength to the best iron of double its weight, which is 7 cwt. A new boiler, capable of working up to 150 lb to the square inch, is also to be provided for the Prince Consort, and will be on the locomotive principle. We are informed that the boiler will be composed of the best Lowmoor iron, with brass tubes, and the fire-boxes will be of copper. It is also the intention of Mr Ivey to construct a double hull steamboat for the lake traffic, with feathering paddles, which will work between the hulls. The vessel will be a "double-decker," the upper one of which is to have an awning and will be devoted solely to the use of passengers. We may state that all the work in connection with Mr Ivey's new ventures is to be executed in Ballarat.

The first ordinary half-yearly general meeting of the proprietors of the Joint Stock Bank of Victoria, Limited, was held yesterday afternoon at the banking house, Lydiard street. There were present about 30 shareholders; Mr James Williamson, chairman of directors, presiding. The reports and balance-sheet were adopted, and the thanks of the meeting given to the directors, officers, and chairman.

Mr Goodburn, who was so severely burnt by ignited phosphorus, still suffers a large degree of pain. However, his physician, Dr Pincock, considers his condition, in view of the nature of his injuries, to be most satisfactory.

The progress that is being made in the Smeaton district is quite surprising. A new branch erected by the National Bank of Australasia, Messrs Perry and Oakden, of Melbourne, architects, was opened in March last, under the able management of Mr Dyke, and we hear that the Bank of Australasia is about to let a contract for the erection of a new brick bank on the opposite corner to Sheehan's

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