

which characterized the "fayre" recently held in Melbourne will be omitted other improvements will be introduced in order to make the festival attractive, and therefore a greater source of profit.

10/2/1882

We have to chronicle another local industry, which is under the superintendence of a few native-born tradespeople. Yesterday afternoon, on the eastern shore of Lake Wendouree an interesting sight was observable. Some half-a-dozen boys were busily engaged, knee-deep in water, overturning the quartz boulders apparently in search of some fresh-water "animal" or other. It did not seem that cray-fish would quarter in that particular spot, and judging from the display of bare feet and legs, leeches were not dreaded. The little fellows patiently labored in hope of success. On enquiry we were informed that they were gathering a curious-looking insect, of blackish appearance, technically known as "mud-eyes." It appears that these delicate morsels are the most tempting bait for perch, and furthermore, the creatures are sold at 6d per dozen. Doubtless if the finny inhabitants of the lake had voices, with which to protest against this novel industry, they would quite drown the harsh croaking of the frogs. Information on the subject was denied us by the little fishers themselves, who seemed to constitute a guild somewhat approaching trade unions in its character, and are desirous of having the "tricks of the trade" in their own keeping.

The Chemical and Electrical Industry Society met again on Wednesday evening last, at the School of Mines, and a very enjoyable and instructive lecture was given by Professor Mica Smith on "Applied Chemistry." The Professor started by explaining that the earth was composed of 64 separate matters, and that all these compositions but one had been procured and separated from each other. He then went on to show that although we had all the material for building, something else was essential, namely, the manner in which to build, and that, we could not find out, and consequently had to leave alone. He then proceeded to show how sulphuric acid, the basis of all chemical manufactures, was made, and succeeded in making a quantity in exactly the same manner in which it is made on a very large scale in England. The audience showed their appreciation of this very successful experiment by hearty applause. After stating that the subject would be further dealt with at the

therefore not of a very exhausting nature.

The two lads who last effected their escape from the Reformatory at Lake Wendouree, have not been able to elude capture for any length of time. The young urchins, we learn, were taken yesterday at Ballan, and will be brought to Ballarat this morning. There are yet four boys who have been enabled so far to make their escape good.

Mr. S. H. Walker, a candidate for the Smythes' Creek division of the Mining Board, will address the miners of Carngham, at Hall's Greyhound hotel, Snake Valley, on Saturday, 11th instant, at 8 p.m.

The Ballarat shareholders of the Trustees, Executors, and Agency Company, Limited, are notified by advertisement elsewhere that the second dividend is now due, and can be received by application to the company's Ballarat agent, Mr Wm. Little.

BALLARAT FIRE BRIGADE.

The monthly meeting of the members was held on Monday evening, Captain Morris in the chair. The secretary reported that the brigade had been called out to three fires during the past month, and that it had been represented at the anniversary celebration of the Ballarat City Brigade.—Received. Correspondence.—From secretary B.C.F. Brigade, requesting payment of rent of telegraph wire.—It was resolved that the moiety of rent due by this brigade be paid to the Telegraph Department. From city and town drum and fife band, requesting patronage to a concert.—Request declined. From Murtoa V.F. Brigade, requesting the attendance of a representative to a festival on the 8th March.—Received. The treasurer reported a debit balance of £43 12s 5d.—Received. Accounts amounting to £31 9s 10d were passed for payment. The remainder of the evening was devoted to the discussion of matters relating to the annual demonstration.

The latest development of Ritualism is the pause of the priest in the marriage ceremony to bless the ring before it is placed on the finger of the bride.

"You see," said the colonel, "old Deacon Jenks is one of those men who are always ready to rob Peter to pay Paul." "Yes," sighed the colonel's wife, "but somehow the deacon, after robbing Peter, always forgets to pay Paul."