

The Maitland Mercury

HUNTER RIVER GENERAL ADVERTISER.

Vol. I.

SATURDAY, JULY 1, 1843.

No. 26.

TO SUBSCRIBERS.

AS we are anxious to do business, as nearly as possible, upon the *cash system*, and as we are both unable and unwilling to give very long credit, we are under the necessity of announcing that we shall, at the close of the present quarter, be compelled to discontinue sending the Mercury to any of our subscribers who may be then *six months* in arrear. And in order to remind such subscribers both of the close of the quarter, and of our intention to discontinue sending them the paper until they have paid up, (the system we shall strictly adhere to,) the *three last numbers* of the Mercury which will be forwarded them will be in *green envelopes*.

We shall feel obliged to any of our subscribers in the country who may have paid their respective accounts to our agents, and who may receive papers so enveloped, if they would be kind enough to write to us immediately, and inform us to whom they have paid them.

We have also to request those of our agents who have not yet forwarded us their accounts to do so without further delay, in order that we may know exactly how our subscriptions stand in their respective districts.

TUCKER AND JONES.

Mercury Office, Maitland,
June 9, 1843.

Ten Pounds Reward.

STOLEN, from the undersigned, on Saturday night, the 15th instant, an Iron Grey MARE, branded JS on the near shoulder, rising four years old, white saddle marks, long square tail, a split on each fore leg, about 14 hands high. The above reward will be paid on conviction of the thief, if stolen; or, if strayed, five pounds will be paid to any person delivering her to me.

J. SOLOMON.
Maitland, April 17, 1843. 351

Newcastle.

TO BE SOLD OR LET, a HOUSE, containing 4 rooms and a good cellar, also a large verandah. There are attached a kitchen, laundry, and stable. This house commands a splendid view.

For terms apply to Mr. Pilcher, Maitland, or Mr. Kemp, Newcastle. 280

Clearing Leases.

SEVERAL small PLOTS of LAND, on the banks of the Hunter, to be LET for a term of Five Years.
Apply to Mr. Colley, Kennington Farm, or Mr. Hart, Raymond Terrace.
Raymond Terrace, June 8, 1843. 407

Two Boats for Sale.

TO BE SOLD, Two BOATS: one is a 7 ton boat, remarkably strong, and coppered nearly to deep water line, with sails and sweeps, &c.; the other is about 1 1/2 tons, and was built by Mr. Marshall, of William River. These boats will be sold cheap, and payment taken either in grain or sawn stuff.
Any party desirous of hiring the boats for any considerable time can be accommodated.

J. PORTUS.
Morpeth Mills, June 5, 1843. 458

Fruit Trees.

APPLES, Pears, Almonds, Peaches, Nectarines, Apricots, Oranges, Citrons, Lemons, Quinces, Loquats, and English Oaks, in varieties, with a great number of other Trees, for Sale.

Apply to William Mackin, at Mr. Pilcher's, Maitland.
The best months for transplanting deciduous trees are June and July. 282

A Choice Collection of FRUIT TREES for SALE, from T. BAKER'S Nursery, Dempsey's Isle, including many new varieties of Melting Peaches and Nectarines, with Orange and Loquat Trees, &c.

For the convenience of settlers, they will be removed to Mrs. Muir's Inn, East Maitland, and will be ready for delivery on and after the 1st of July next.
June 23, 1843. 488

Steam Mills, West Maitland.

WILLIAM NICHOLSON begs to apprise his friends and the public generally that he is now able to turn out every article in his business in *first rate style*. He has also appointed Agents at Scone, Murrumbidgee, Muswellbrook, Singleton, Newcastle, and Raymond Terrace, where he will be able to supply Flour at a small advance on the Maitland prices, which are as follows:—

Fine flour, cash 15s. per 100lbs., booked, 16s.
Second ditto, cash 13s. per 100 lbs., booked 14s.
Ration ditto, cash 11s. per 100 lbs., booked 12s.
Bran, 5s. per 100 lbs.

The above is always of a very superior quality.

N. B. Extensive supplies always on hand.
ADVANCE AUSTRALIA! 381

Blankets, Flannels, and Counterpanes.

THE undersigned have received, ex *Templar*, Ten Bales of the above, which they are now offering at unprecedented low prices at their Stores at Maitland and Morpeth, for cash only.

D. & J. DICKSON.

Reduced Prices, in accordance with the times.

LAWRENCE POTTS & CO., having taken to the STORES lately carried on by Captain CASWELL, at Raymond Terrace, beg to acquaint the inhabitants of the surrounding district, that they are determined not only to sell articles of the very best quality, but at prices which, on comparison with any other house, will be sure to give satisfaction, and ensure to them a fair share of public patronage, which they will endeavour to merit.

They will have constantly on sale the under-mentioned:—

Groceries of all description
Drapery and Haberdashery
Wines and Beer
Ironmongery of every description.

Raymond Terrace, May 15, 1843. 404

Important Arrivals, ex 'Statesman,' 'Victoria,' 'Templar,' and 'Clarendon.'

D. & J. DICKSON beg to inform their numerous friends and the public that by the above late arrivals they have received upwards of One Hundred cases and bales of DRAPERY GOODS, comprising every article suitable for the colony and season.

Having been all selected by competent judges and purchased for cash, during the late unparalleled depression in the manufacturing districts of England and Scotland, they are enabled to offer them at prices much under the regular rates.

As the whole must be sold off within a limited time, in consequence of their being about to remove to their new stores, as well as to make room for other importations daily expected, the public will find it much to their advantage, previous to making their winter purchases, to inspect the stock.

Terms, cash only. 378

Notice.

MRS. FOARD, of the "GLOBE INN," Morpeth, begs to inform the public, particularly the inhabitants of and visitors to the Hunter River district, that she has considerably enlarged her premises, and made extensive purchases of choice WINES, SPIRITS, ALES, &c., which she can confidently recommend, having been selected by competent judges, and with great care.

E. F., in returning her sincere thanks for past favours, trusts that the patronage so extensively and liberally bestowed by a discerning public on her deceased husband, will be continued to herself, and which it will ever be her study to merit.

N. B.—Good Stabling, adjoining the Hunter River Steam Navigation Company's Wharf.
Morpeth, June 10. 481

Muswellbrook Stores.

P. HEGARTY begs to inform the inhabitants of Muswellbrook and the surrounding districts he has received a fresh assortment of GOODS from Sydney, which, having bought very low, in consequence of the glut there, he will be able to sell much cheaper than any Store on the Hunter; they consist of all kinds of Groceries, Ironmongery, Molekines, Tweed and Cloth Trowsers, striped, regatta, and white Shirts, Hosiery, Calicos, Haberdashery, Crockeryware, and everything requisite for a General Store.

N. B.—Up-country Storekeepers and Dealers will find it to their advantage to purchase at the above Store, where they will find as good an assortment, and the prices as reasonable for cash, as any Store in Singleton or Maitland. 482

JAMES WELSH, SHOEMAKER, Singleton, Patrick's Plains, in returning thanks for the liberal patronage bestowed upon him since his commencement in business, by the inhabitants of Singleton, Jerry's Plains, and the Upper Hunter, begs to inform them that he has recently lowered his rate of prices—in accordance with the times—and has now entered into arrangements with Messrs. ROUTKE & CO., of West Maitland, to supply him with the best KIP, SOLE, and KANGAROO LEATHER. J. W. can therefore furnish the trade with the same at Maitland Prices, with the addition only of carriage.

J. W. begs to submit a list of his charges, viz.:

	£	s.	d.
Wellington Boots	2	0	0
Ditto ditto, footing	1	0	0
Cosack ditto	0	17	0
Gen's ditto, Winter Kip	0	12	6
Contract Boots, warranted	0	9	0
Women's Shoes	0	7	0

P. S.—The best price given for Hides and Sheep Skins.

N. B.—As JOHN CRAWFORD and MARIA, his Wife, have absconded from my hired service, I hereby caution the public from employing or harbouring the said parties; as any person found doing so will be prosecuted as the law directs. 470

Fire Wood.

TENDERS for Six Months Supply of BILLET WOOD, at about 3 tons per week, at per ton, will be received at Mr. Cox's Soap and Candle Manufactory, West Maitland, where particulars may be ascertained.
June 16, 1843. 466

MAITLAND MERCURY GENERAL PRINTING OFFICE.

EVERY DESCRIPTION OF

JOB PRINTING,

Including Posting and Hand Bills, Pamphlets, Catalogues, Circulars, Cards, Billheads, Cheques, Labels, Law and other Forms, &c., &c., executed with despatch, in a neat and accurate manner, and at reasonable prices.

Hats and Caps.

THE undersigned have received, ex *Victoria*, Five cases of Silk and Beaver HATS, and One case of Naval and Military Cloth CAPS, manufactured expressly for themselves, and now on sale at their Stores at Maitland and Morpeth, for cash only.

D. & J. DICKSON.
376

Sale by Auction.

Important Sale of Town Property, East Maitland.—By order of the Mortgagee.

M. R. A. DODDS has received instructions to sell without reserve, at the Union Hotel, on MONDAY, the 3rd day of July, The whole of the PROPERTY belonging to the Estate of the late James Cochrane, Esq., Surgeon, divided into five lots, or the whole in one lot, viz.:

LOT 1, comprising a substantial brick-built COTTAGE, with cellar and out offices, stores, kitchen, &c.

The remaining four lots have a double frontage of 60 x 90 feet to William-street, being the main street in the township, and adjacent to the new Court House, Gaol, &c.

East Maitland, it must be remembered, is the capital of the Hunter River districts, and landed property must therefore always be of considerable value. In the immediate vicinity of this property a considerable government expenditure has taken place, and a new Court House is to be erected near it, which must enhance its value.

Plans of the property may be seen, and full particulars ascertained upon application to the auctioneer.

Terms at sale. 492

MAITLAND PRICE CURRENT.

	£	s.	d.
Ale and Porter, per hogshead	6	10	0
Dumbar's, per dozen	0	15	0
Annatto, per lb	0	8	0
Beer, Hunter brewery, per hogshead	2	5	0
Bread, per loaf of 4 lbs	0	0	7
Bricks, per 1000	17	0	0
Butcher's Meat: Beef, per lb 1 1/2	0	0	2
Mutton, ditto	1	0	2
Pork, ditto	0	0	4
Veal, ditto	0	0	4
Butter, fresh, per lb	0	1	0
Calf Skins, each	0	2	6
Candles, mould, per lb	0	0	7
Dip, per lb	0	0	0
Cheese, per lb	0	0	0
Coal, per ton	0	13	0
Coffee, per lb	0	1	0
Currants, Zante, per lb	0	1	0
Eggs, per dozen	0	1	0
Firewood, per load	0	3	0
Flour: (Nicholson's Mills, for cash)			
First quality, per 100 lbs	0	15	0
Second, ditto	0	13	0
Ration, ditto	0	11	0
Bran, ditto	0	5	0
(At Portus's Mills, for cash)			
First quality, per 100 lbs	0	15	0
Second, ditto	0	13	0
Ration, ditto	0	12	0
Bran, ditto	0	5	0
Fruit: Oranges, per dozen	0	2	0
Lemons, per dozen	0	0	6
Grain: Wheat, per bushel	3	3	0
Maize, ditto	2	3	0
Oats, Derwent, ditto	0	0	0
Barley, ditto	3	0	0
Hay, per ton	8	0	0
Hides, green, each	0	7	0
Dried, per lb	0	0	1 1/2
Hops, per lb	0	2	0
Lemon Syrup, per dozen	1	4	0
Lime, per bushel	0	2	0
Milk, per quart	0	0	3
Mustard, per 1 lb bottle	0	2	0
Per 1/2 lb ditto	0	1	0
Nails, three-inch, per 1000	0	12	6
Batten, ditto	0	6	0
Shingle, ditto	0	4	0
Flooring brads, ditto	0	6	0
Spoke, per lb	0	0	6
Oil, boiled and raw, per gallon	0	10	6
Paints, per cwt.	£2	2	0
Poultry: Ducks, per couple	0	3	0
Fowls, ditto	0	2	0
Turkeys, each	0	4	0
Risins, Cape, per lb	0	0	8
Rice, per lb	0	0	2
Sisal Oil, per bottle	0	3	0
Salt, Liverpool, per cwt	0	8	0
Per basket	0	1	0
Sheepskins, per lb	0	1	0
With wool, each	0	3	0
Soap, Colonial, per lb	0	0	7
English, ditto	0	0	0
Spirits: Brandy, per gallon	1	2	0
Gin, per case	4	6	0
Ruin, per gallon	1	3	0
Stock: Bullocks, fat, per cwt.	8	0	0
Ditto, working, each	£3	10	0
Cows, good milk	£3	10	0
Sheep, ewes, each	3	0	0
Ditto, wethers, ditto	0	7	0
Horses, each	£10	30	0
Sugar, per ton	£18	21	0
Mauritius, per lb	0	0	2 1/2
Fine, ditto	0	0	4 1/2
Loaf, English, ditto	0	0	8
Colonial, ditto	0	0	6 1/2
Tea, per lb	0	2	0
Timber: Cedar, cut, per foot, retail	0	0	3
Hard wood, per 100 feet	0	10	0
Shingles, per 1000	0	10	0
Tobacco, Negrohead, per lb	0	4	0
Colonial	0	1	0
Cigars, best, per 1000	3	10	0
Treacle, Canterbury, per lb	0	0	4
Turpentine, per gallon	0	10	0
Vegetables: Potatoes, cwt.	2	3	0
Cabbages, each	0	0	1 1/2
Onions, per lb	0	0	3
Pumpkins, each	0	0	6
Wines: Port, Wardell's, per dozen	2	2	0
Other brands	2	1	0
Sherry, ditto	2	4	0
Champagne, ditto	3	10	0

ORIGINAL CORRESPONDENCE.

To the Editors of the Maitland Mercury.

GENTLEMEN—A report having been circulated within the last few days, to the detriment of my character and influence as a minister of the gospel, I beg leave, through the medium of your columns, to meet it with a public and positive denial. It has been stated, that, on the day on which the poll was taken for the two candidates for the Northumberland Boroughs, I was seen cheering Mr. Wentworth, by violently shaking my hat, and tumultuously joining my voice with the shouts of the crowd. As such a statement has been made public, I feel it necessary to say that, for the sake of peace, I kept myself perfectly neutral, from the commencement to the close of the contest. I would not think the above report worthy of my notice, were it not that I am satisfied that it is inconsistent with the character of a minister of the gospel of peace, to take any public part or interest on those occasions in which party strife and clamour prevail.—I am, yours, &c.

JONATHAN INNES.

West Maitland, June 28.

THE NEW AUSTRALIAN STAPLE.

(From the Sydney Morning Herald, June 24.)

As the quotations of tallow have now become a question of standard importance to the colony, we have taken pains to collect the average prices in the British market, for several years past; and we are enabled to state, on authority that may be relied upon, the following facts:—

AVERAGE PRICE OF OX TALLOW, IN THE LONDON MARKET, FOR THE LAST SIX YEARS.

Year 1837	41s. 3d. per cwt.
" 1838	52s. "
" 1839	49s. 7d. "
" 1840	60s. 1d. "
" 1841	47s. 7 1/2d. "
" 1842	48s. 2d. "

Average of six years 48s. 1 1/2d. "

This average is rather more than 5d. per lb. In Mr. O'Brien's estimate the price was taken at 3 1/2d., which, as we stated in our leading article of Monday, was full thirty per cent. below the mark. The above quotations, however, relate to ox tallow, which is of less value than mutton tallow.

To show that in the British market the supply of tallow does not, at all events, exceed the demand, we mention the fact that, according to a parliamentary document before us, the *entire quantity imported* in the year 1841, amounting to 1,241,278 cwt., was kept for *home consumption*. And that the demand for home consumption is increasing, and likely to increase, not only from the increase of population, but also from its extended application, in combined forms, to the purposes of light, was clearly shown by our able correspondent, *Civis Australiensis*, in Wednesday's Herald.

It may therefore be safely assumed, that for all the tallow we can produce, whether from oxen or from sheep, we shall find in England a sure and steady market, and remunerative prices.

We shall hereafter indulge in some of those useful reflections and delightful anticipations which this new resource so plentifully suggests. For the present, we shall confine ourselves to two observations, which we commend to the best consideration of our flockmasters.

The first is, that they should encourage the laudable enterprise of the persons who are sinking capital in the formation of establishments for sheep-boiling on a large scale. This is important, because upon the quality and condition of our first consignments of tallow to England, will depend its character and value for many years to come. The article should be divided into two, if not three classes—that produced from the caul and kidney, for example, being carefully separated from that extracted from the meat. This and other precautions for producing a commodity that shall at once establish the reputation of *Australian tallow*, can of course be more effectually adopted by persons who make it their business, who employ experienced hands, and provide all mechanical requisites, than by individuals who have neither practical knowledge nor suitable equipment. We would therefore earnestly advise all persons who are within reach of a wholesale boiling establishment to send their sheep thither, and thus make sure of a good article, rather than, by trusting to their own inexperienced bungling, run the risk of injuring both themselves and the colony. The work will be done *better*, and at a much *less cost*, by the wholesale than by the private establishment.

Our second observation is, that sheep-owners should be cautious not to "overdo" this undeniable "good thing." Our shrewd correspondent F. E., who well understands what he writes about, has admonished them as to the discriminating judgment they should exercise in "culling their flocks." The butchers are already crying shame upon what they call this wanton destruction of human food; but so long as the destruction is strictly confined to *surplus stock*, the reproach will be unjust. There is more mutton in the country than the population requires: it is therefore a perfectly legitimate application of the overplus, to extract from it that useful substance with which the Almighty has endowed it, and which, when the flesh is not wanted for the sustenance of man, constitutes the only value that remains to the carcass. But if the destruction be pushed beyond this limit, it will become improvident, wasteful, and even sinful, and must bring about a reaction not less painful than the depression from which we are now emerging. We would say to the settlers, then, use the golden opportunity of bettering your circumstances which was so miraculously turned up—use it thankfully—use it promptly—but use it *wisely*, and with *moderation*. A sheep shorn may live to be shorn again; but a sheep boiled is *gone* forever.

The following letter on this interesting subject appeared in the Sydney Morning Herald of Monday last:—

GENTLEMEN—In carrying out the boiling down of sheep on a large scale, there is an item

that I omitted to mention, which in itself would pay the whole expense of rendering down. With respect to tallow, the error of price that I fell into, on the 22nd May, arose from knowing that mutton tallow was worth £5 per ton more than common Russia; and having casually taken up an old price current of 12th October, 1840, when it was selling at £54 to £55 per ton, concluded that to be the price now. It would be advisable to send it from this country sweet and well rendered, and to reach London previous to the winter, when it is generally at the highest quotations.

I would recommend that care be taken in getting the wool off the skin. A good plan is, for the skin to be washed before it gets dry, and allowed to soak for twelve hours in water; then taken out and piled together, and the wool rotted off; this gives it a slight smell, but is decidedly preferable to liming the skins. The plan I propose I think far preferable to either mode, and is, that the skins and wool be well washed, and the flesh part of the skin scalded, by being held over the steam of the pot for about five or ten minutes; the fleece will then come off whole, and be perfectly free from any bad smell. Care should be taken in well opening, and frequently turning over, the wool while drying, to prevent its caking together; and particular attention should be paid to the condition, that none be packed unless perfectly dry; all the course belly pieces and locks should be packed separately. Skin wool sold in the last sales at 1s. 5d. per lb., which brings the value of a good skin to 2s. or 2s. 6d. in this market. I now come to the proposition I started with, of saving the whole expense of labour, and will take 1000 sheep. I propose that the pelt, horns, hoofs, sinews, and gut, after being cleansed, and the fat taken off (not by boiling), should be subjected to the same plan by themselves, and together would average 4 lbs. of glue—35 2/24 at 40s. makes £71—against an expense of one extra man, firing, and freight home; for which, allowing £21, leaves £50, which will be about the cost of boiling down that number.

In January last the prices were—
London glue 50s. to 54s. per cwt.
Country ditto 38s. to 40s. "
Graves 13s. to 14s. "
Graves for manure 6s. 6d. per quarter
Bone dust 23s. "
Half in bones 21s. "

I think, therefore, we might easily make an article equal to the country glue, while the graves and bones ought to be worth the above quotations in this country, when applied to the same purposes as used in England.—I am, gentlemen, your obedient servant,

FRED. ENSWORTH.

Pitt-street, June 23.

ENGLISH NEWS.

By the *Amiga*, from Liverpool the 10th of February, arrived at Melbourne, English intelligence has been received up to that date. We glean the following extracts from the Port Phillip papers:—

In the House of Lords, on the 14th February, on the motion of the Duke of Wellington, a vote of thanks to the army and navy engaged in the Chinese war was carried unanimously.

In the House of Commons Lord E. Lenborough's celebrated Sonmuth proclamation formed the main topic of discussion, Mr. Vernon Smith moving for copies of the despatch containing it, and any answer to it the court of directors might have thought proper to transmit. Mr. Smith ridiculed, and Sir Robert Inglis condemned, the proclamation. Sir Robert Peel did not attempt to defend it, but pleaded that one instance of indiscretion on the part of the Governor General ought not to be allowed to outweigh all the acts of wisdom and energy which had marked his Lordship's Indian government. Lord John Russell said the proclamation under debate was not the only act of Lord Ellenborough which he thought censurable; he had behaved with blameable discourtesy to several persons of high desert, and had published another proclamation containing a foolish insult on Lord Auckland, his predecessor.—Mr. Roebuck moved "That an address be presented to her Majesty, praying that pardon may be extended to all persons transported from Upper and Lower Canada to our penal colonies, for political offences committed during the late unhappy disturbances in those provinces;" but, after some debate, he withdrew his motion.—Mr. Manners Sutton obtained leave to bring in a bill affecting transported convicts, with respect to pardons and tickets of leave.—Mr. Aglionby had given notice of moving for returns showing the revenue and expenditure of New Zealand.

MR. DRUMMOND.—A coroner's inquest was held on the body of Mr. Edward Drummond on Thursday, the 26th January, before Mr. Gill, coroner for Westminster. The jury returned a verdict of wilful murder against Daniel M'Naughten. Mr. Drummond was in the 57th year of his age.

A meeting of gentlemen interested in the woollen manufacture took place at Leeds on the 10th February, when it was resolved that a memorial should be prepared, to be presented to the government, praying for the repeal of the duty on foreign wool.

Sir Charles Metcalfe the new Governor General of the Canadas, was to leave England on the 4th March.

YORKSHIRE AGRICULTURAL AND COMMERCIAL BANK.—This bank, one of the most respectable establishments of the kind in England, is to be wound up, a committee being appointed to assist the directors in doing this.

A murderous conspiracy to massacre the officers and civilians on board the *Eliza*, government transport, with convicts for Australia, about the line, appears in the London Times. One of the convicts had been a sergeant in the army, and sent the information of the danger to the