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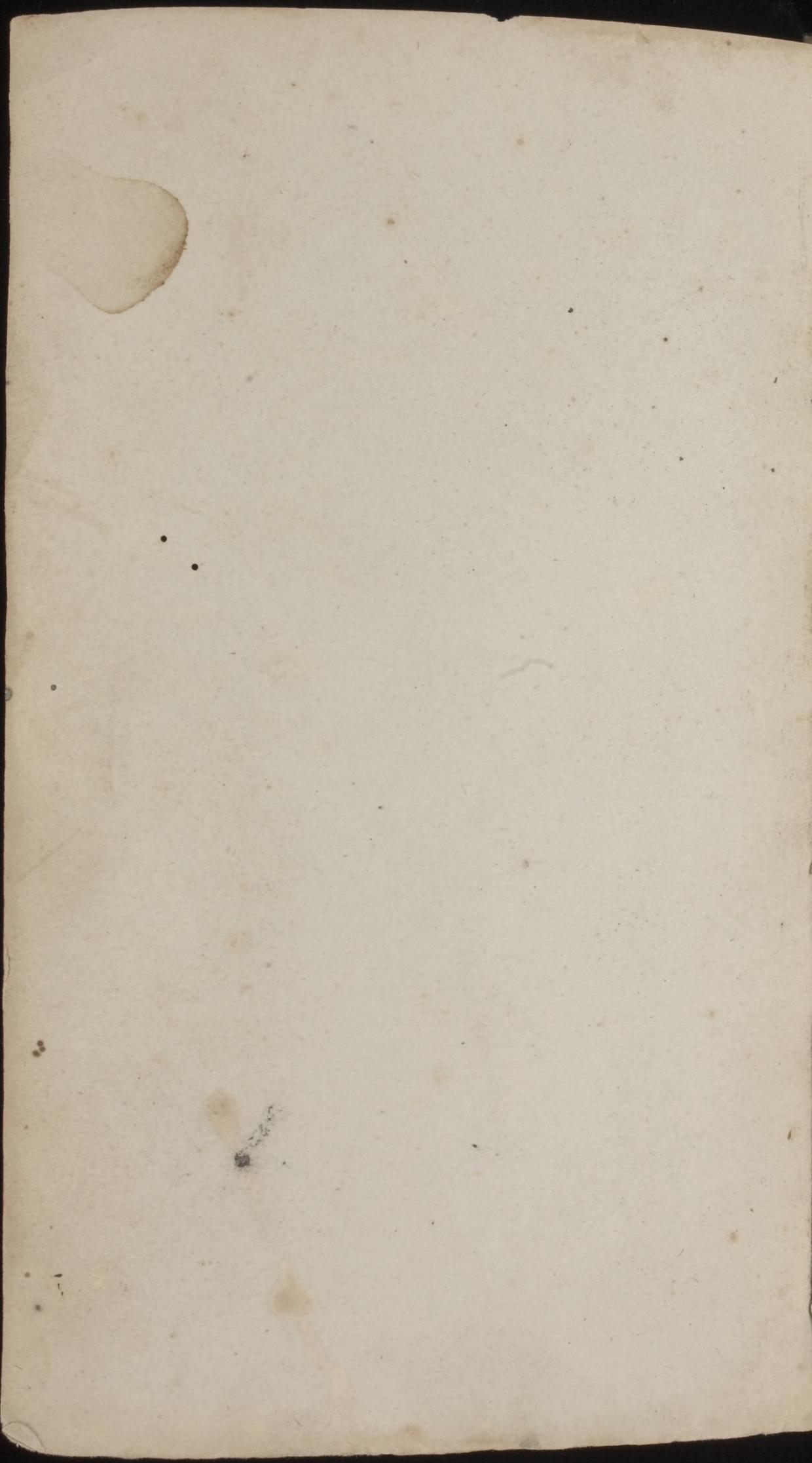
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Sept. 24 1853  
Jan. 21 1855.

Tuesday Sept Saturday Sep 24<sup>th</sup> 1853  
Very busy all day preparing our establishment  
much previous to being transferred to  
two young men who will probably make  
more of it than we have, as they are quite  
conversant with the business. - They came  
up in the evening and took possession  
after paying us 100 £ in Cash and 3 months  
bill for 50 £ for the Stock but good  
will &c. - As for the "good will" they  
had that as far as I am concerned to  
in every sense of the term, for I am heart  
sick of the fumes of the oven and dispensing  
lolly-sticks and comfit to the colonial  
small fry. - We celebrated the event with  
a glass and a song, and made the night  
of our party with the old tent as merry  
a one as any we had passed in it.

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Sunday Sep 25<sup>th</sup>

Andrew Martin and two of his friends  
paid us a visit.

Monday Sep 26<sup>th</sup>

Mr Web and Mr White went up the road to make enquiry about a piece of land a man had offered to us a day or two back. After they left we had a narrow escape of a serious accident with our mare. I was taking the bit out of her mouth to give her a feed of oats when she broke off her lead and away she dashed with the dray. Some children were playing in the direction she was galloping and I expected to see her knocked down and crushed to death - happily she dashed against the stumps of a tree before she reached them and knocked the dray completely over. When we reached her she was lying on her back kicking away with her feet in the air. With the assistance of some men who were fortunately at hand we extricated her before she had sustained any injury.

Tuesday Sep 27<sup>th</sup>

Jessy ran away again with George - but  
was stopped before she had done any damage.  
Mr. Welsh & Mr. White fix'd upon a spot  
for 7 miles up the road to erect a lemonade  
establishment <sup>upon</sup> on a similar scale to our  
Georges modest commencement.

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Wednesday Sep 28<sup>th</sup>

Finished our wood cutting operation

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Thursday Sep 29<sup>th</sup>

Departed 200 £ in the Bank.  
Put up a four stall stable.

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Friday Sep 30<sup>th</sup>

Lent Mr. ~~Wels~~ Welsh & White our horse  
& dray to convey their good & chattels  
to their future home in the bush.-

In the evening Mr. Welsh returned ~~in the evening~~  
with the horse & dray - and intends to stay all  
night with us. -

Saturday Oct 1-

We were all sitting round the fire this afternoon talking over our future operation, when a rap sounded at the door. George opened it and immediately uttered a wild exclamation of surprise - a few seconds more and as with a cry of amazement issued from me - for who should stand before me but our old friend George Morgan. - The delight of seeing a valued friend whom we thought many thousand of miles away suddenly appear before our eyes as though he had drop'd from the heavens was a pleasure equals to the surprise. He was of course bedecked right and left with a storm of questions, which would have left his lungs in a hospitall state if he had attempted to answer ~~them~~ <sup>the</sup> the whole of them. - When the sober reality of his presence among us became familiar to our senses - we gradually obtained news of our dear friends on the other side of the world. - He learnt with pleasure that

my Mother was better and that Jack and  
all our friends were in tolerable <sup>health</sup> — we were  
also relieved to find that the suspense  
and anxiety they must have felt had been  
about us had been ~~sustained~~ removed by  
the arrival of George's letter a very short time  
<sup>before</sup> George Morgan set sail. — While that arrived  
their anxiety must have been extreme — They having  
even given us up dead. — George's mind was  
inflamed with the usual fascination which takes  
possession of the brain of most new arrivals  
and was eager in his desire to try his luck  
at the gold fields. — I think however we have  
in part succeeded in turning his way in  
another channel & it is probable he will  
adopt a wiser course and take up his  
abode with us. —

Sunday Oct 2<sup>nd</sup>

Mr. Humphreys another Wellingtonian  
came up to see us.

Monday. Oct 3<sup>rd</sup>

All went to Shilbourne, - passed by  
the jail and <sup>saw</sup> the tightened ropes which sup-  
ported the lifeless bodies of three wretches who  
had been executed a ~~hr~~ of an hour before. -  
The bodies were hidden from view by a wooden  
erection, a contrivance which takes a little  
from the horror of the exhibition. - To have the  
last awful grapple with death set up like a  
curiosity for edification of a gaping multitude  
is a sickening contrivance unworthy of an  
advanced country. -

Went to Bear's sale yard & bought a very  
nice looking spring cart for 42 £. - This  
we intend employing in taking & bearing  
round various kinds of goods in which  
George Morgan (who by the bye has decided  
on taking our advice) is to join us - at the same  
time we offered less for ~~the~~ but ~~we~~ and were

fortunate as it afterward proved in not selling her, for on tryg her in our new spring cart we found she was just the best fit it. —

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Tuesday Oct 4<sup>th</sup> —

Felt quite disuster with horse daily, and almost in desperation and I struck a bargain for one <sup>with dray</sup> this afternoon for 135 £. He is an elephant in height and bone, and to look at him one would think he was able to pull a church. —

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Wednesday Oct 5<sup>th</sup>

Took the horse and dray down to the Wharf. The first load I had was from Raleigh's Wharf to a place about 3 miles on the Brandon road. The load was composed of long awkward pieces of timber. The roads were vile, in some places nearly to the axle in mud. — and my horse low in condition, so that altogether I had ~~at~~ a benefit which I did not altogether appreciate — owing to the wretchedness of the roads and perhaps more to my inexperience.

In dray driving I did not accomplish  
the journey before two o'clock, by which  
time my own appetite & that of my horse  
began to lay some claim on my attention.  
I therefore turned up a street to get some  
corn but was stopped upon by a young  
man who asked me to take 20 head  
cattle from for him. In passing with  
them over a deep gutter which separated  
two streets the shock loosened the rope they  
were bound with and down they came  
with a heavy smash to the ground. By  
happy fortune they were not stoned  
& I escaped a serious loss. - Immediately  
I had delivered them I was pursued  
upon again and it was late in the evening  
before I could give my horse a feed.

George Morgan met with a friend of his (Mr  
Ladbury) who has been in the colony about four  
years and does go on exceedingly well - he is  
owner of 4 or 5 rabbits and has an interest  
in a considerable ~~also~~ amount of property in  
various parts of the city.

Thursday Oct 6<sup>th</sup>

Took two more loads of timber to  
~~Brahan~~ Prahan. In taking the second I  
missed the proper road by some ac-  
cident and I had not gone far before  
my dray stuck fast axle deep in a  
hole. ~~It was~~ The horse pulled & strained  
at it but it was utterly <sup>wagles to try</sup> to get it out  
without unloading and I was obliged to  
hire a man to assist me. After con-  
siderable difficulty and labour the unloading  
got the dray out of and reloaded, but  
I had not proceeded more than a quarter  
of a mile, before smash went the dray in  
another hole again I had the same trouble  
over again the labour was great for the tim-  
ber was long and heavy and difficult to  
arrange and I felt myself by this time  
getting rather tired we got it up at last  
however and started once more, but fate  
and my own stupidity had guided me  
to the most horrible part of this horrible  
road and I had not gone far before

I saw my wheels sink heavily in a  
sand bog, I felt my spirits sink as heavily  
within me as my wheels sink in the  
sand and was almost tempted to throw half  
the load off, but I was persuaded to give  
one more trial and by good fortune reached  
the end of my journey without further ac-  
cident. - It was late in the day by this  
time and the poor beast had had nothing to  
eat or drink since breakfast time & there-  
fore drove to the nearest water, which was  
the Yarra. - As soon as the poor beast felt  
the water about his feet he rushed in dragging  
me & the dray after him - and but for the assis-  
tance of some men who were kind enough  
to offer their help he would probably have  
been drowned. -

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Sunday Oct 7.<sup>th</sup>

Attended a sale and bought various goods  
for George and George Thompson

Saturday Oct 8<sup>th</sup>

George and George Morgan had pretty  
profitable days. - In returning from  
Galbourne such man in woman clothes &  
handcuffed and guarded by an armed Police.  
them.

Sunday Oct 9<sup>th</sup>

George Morgan, George, and I started  
this morning to pay Wilson & White a visit.  
The roads were worse than our experience,  
even in Australian travel had led us to expect.  
I we were a considerable time in getting there.  
We found them tolerably comfortable, and  
full of hopes of making money which I hope  
they may find realized. We stayed with  
them two hours or two. Their establishment  
is a small ~~but~~ but by no means improbable  
foundation for a fortune. - It consists of a  
very good looking tent with a curtain lining  
a couple of planks with boards under for a  
table - two boxes for seats - a barrel of  
lemonade two glasses - and a few other

small et ceteras, - from which unpretentious  
source it is possible they in future  
years have to face an increasing stream  
of comfort & prosperity. - While we were  
here I learnt that the man I had seen  
yesterday in women's clothes had shot a  
man dead some short distance off the road.  
We stayed an hour or two and started  
back in a pelting rain which soaked us  
to the skin before we reached the house.

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Monday 6th 10<sup>th</sup>

Engaged a man ~~for~~ to attend to the  
horse & dray at 4 £ a week

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Tuesday 6th 11<sup>th</sup>

As I was returning from Melbourne this  
afternoon a respectable looking female came  
up to me and enquired the way to Port Fairy  
Stockade. - She told me she had come to  
Australia under very distressing circum-  
stances. - Her husband who had held a  
good position in England came out more

than 12 months ago and after a time wrote  
to her saying he was doing very well & desirous <sup>her</sup>  
to join him. When she arrived here she could  
hear no tidings, and those whom she expected would  
be able to give her intelligence of him seemed  
~~preserved~~ a mysterious silence which per-  
plexed and alarmed her. — At length some  
one ended her suspense & told her the painful  
truth. — He had become connected with a  
set of dissipated unprincipled characters  
had been induced to participate in a  
robbery — and was now under sentence of  
five years hard labour on the road). —

I pity the poor woman for some part of  
the dark shadow of the husband's crime is  
sure to fall upon the wife, but as for him  
his punishment is worthy more than a just  
retribution. — If a man cannot be content  
with getting money honestly in a country where  
industry finds so many openings to prosperity  
and often competence, he deserves a rigid  
punishment.

Wednesday Oct 12<sup>th</sup> -

The man came up to to-night in a state of excitement and told us he had just recovered from a fright which <sup>had</sup> put his master in jeopardy. He had left the dray for a few moments to seek after a load and to his surprise he found on his return that it was gone. After searching the wharfs & the streets, and making enquiry at the Police Stations, he met a man down it along Glindon Lane, and went up and demanded what he was doing with it. It turned out that Andrew Hartin had had a spare load, and seeing our dray stand near and no driver to avoid loosing it he loaded the dray and dispatched a man with it.

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Thursday. - Oct 13 -

We were amused to find this morning that White had had a narrow escape of being turned over to the tender mercies of the police by our man. It appears it was he that

took the horse off yesterday.—

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Friday Oct 14

Went to Melbourne to try to get a contract for the horse & dray but failed.

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Saturday Oct 15

Andrew Martin & I were walky along the wharf this afternoon when our attention was attracted by a sale of hay by auction. — We bid for it and had only one competitor and 8 tons of it was knocked down to us at a very low price I think we shall be able to make some little by it. — &

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Sunday Oct 16<sup>th</sup>

George & George Morgan went to the Wesleyan Chapel Melbourne this morning Before this I am ashamed to say neither of us had entered a place of worship since we have been in the colony. — Several things contributed to keep us away. Perhaps

One reason was the limited extent  
and humble character of our wardrobe.  
In every day transactions I find I have  
a most convenient disregard for per-  
sonal appearance, - but when I ~~brought~~  
of the well dressed congregation in a place  
of worship, and look at my cold trowsers,  
& well worn coat I felt something of the  
old feeling struggling within me which I  
could not conquer. I did not go  
with them as Andrew Martin had  
promised to come w<sup>s</sup>, I see no, but joined  
them in Shelburne at noon. - After din-  
ner we went to the Wharf & heard a  
latter day saint deliver a parcel of ~~which~~  
~~to a~~ absurd twaddle to a group of his  
gloomy disciples. - He was interrupted by  
an Itchman in the midst of his discourse  
~~at~~ when he utterly lost sight of the amiable  
christian charity he had been dwelling upon  
a few minutes before with such a fervour  
and earnestness. He wound up by offered <sup>for sale</sup>  
a number of books seeming by his account with

ortal interest. - It appeared to turn out  
an indifferent speculation, for with the  
exception of the chosen few immediately around  
him, they did not seem to be appreciated as  
he thought they deserved.

George Morgan & I went down to  
Carlton at night.

Monday Oct 17<sup>th</sup>

Sold two tons of the hay I bought on Saturday  
to Barfoot & Dillon for 32 £.

To my great delight George brought a  
letter from Mother with him this evening.  
It had come by "Great Britain". - She  
wrote cheerfully and in full hope of a joyful  
meeting. ~~I hope~~ trust the time may not  
be far distant when such a hope will be  
realized. Two other letters longer and more  
explicit are on the road it appears, whose  
arrival I shall anxiously expect.

Mr. Carlton and his two daughters paid  
us a visit this evening. - They came to make  
enquiries about our Spring cart, as they

wish to ride down to town with us in  
the morning. — We seem to be getting more  
among the pretty faces every week. — The  
two young ladies who honored our humble  
dwelling with their company presence  
this evening are the finest girls in the place

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Tuesday Oct 18<sup>th</sup>

As I was walking along the Sandridge road  
this morning I heard a little fellow by the  
road side singing out at the top of his voice  
"Pies Pies Lemonade Lemonade". — I looked at him  
and found to my surprise that it was little  
Henry Hale. — The drabness of his appearance  
his hands thrust to the bottom of his pockets  
turning over his money — and his knowing bushy  
looks at first inclined me to laugh, but there  
was too much enough of evidence about him of  
trouble elsewhere to check merriment, and I  
stop him in time after customers & and enquired  
at about his mother & her family. — I followed  
his directions and found her living in a  
large square tent on General's Hill

I had some hope when they took their house in Bourke St. that they were approaching a better state of things and such indeed as she has told me today would have been the case had it not been for the disgraceful conduct of her unprincipled husband. His violent conduct and drunken habits ruined all her efforts to promote her family's welfare, and obliged them to leave the comforts of a house, for the misery of tenth ~~ten~~ life. Mr. Hale I can scarcely find patience to write his name, after having treated her with wanton cruelty & stark of this morning to the diggings. His departure although it was under circumstances exceedingly painful and trying to her feelings, is in my opinion the happiest & event that has happened to her since she ever has been in the colony.

Mr. Hale was about to advertise for us as she had received a letter from my Mother who had written to her in great anxiety begging of her to let her know if we were dead or alive. - My Mother's letter of latter date which we received by the Great Britain

had however set our mind at rest.

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Wednesday Oct 19.

Went to Putridge to make enquiry about a house or piece of ground for Mr. Hall, - but found on my return that George and George Morgan had seen her ~~away~~ the day and she had told them she had <sup>been</sup> recommended since she ~~had~~ saw me to take some place on the Sandridge River. —

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Thursday. Oct 20

George Morgan received a letter from his wife. — His friends were well & the letter was as a matter of course a great source of pleasure to him. — The man must have a cold worthless heart who does not feel it throb when a letter finds its way to him in his home among strangers from one of the warm cluster of friends thousands of miles distant. —

Friday. — Oct 21 —

To our surprise the horse came up this evening without the dray. — The man told us he had fallen down in Linden lane with a load and he had had the greatest difficulty to bring him home even without the dray. — We fetched the farrier to him & for an hour or two I was afraid we were going to lose him. —

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Saturday Oct 21 —

George Morgan & I went to Shelburne and called in at the Police Office. — The business of the court appears to me to be conducted in a very careless slovenly manner. — I heard of one of the prisoners like the Mayor when he was asked if he had anything to say to the witness to point the man on his oath — He said he had been forgotten to be administered.

Sunday Oct 22<sup>nd</sup>

Andrew Norton & Webb came up  
and dined with us - In the afternoon  
~~Humphrey~~ his brother George and Geo  
Morgan start off in the traps to  
see Mrs Hale's family - I did not  
go as I had a forenoon engagement  
- After they were gone Humphrey &  
his brother drop in and stayed till

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Monday Oct 23<sup>rd</sup>

A cataract of virtuous indignation  
rattled on my devoted ear at about 1 o'clock  
this morning from the effects of which my  
brain is hardly yet fit to jostle with the  
sober realities of every day life -

Last evening George and George Morgan were  
seized simultaneously with a severe writing  
fit, which malady unfortunately did not  
extend itself to me - I sat for some time  
like patience on a monument; a grim silence  
~~sighed~~ reigned through the extensive premises  
relieved only by the fidgety scratchings of their

per, — I could neither hear a word nor  
utter a word even to that beloved friend Charles  
Evans, and I presently began to feel the gloom  
creeping insidiously upon me, — I have a  
most potent hatred to the glooms so I very  
quietly retreated from their approach and strolled  
down to Carlton. — I remained there for some  
time enjoying myself with great success.  
There were two pretty girls to tease and  
be teased by — one of the necessaries of life rarely  
met with in this unaccommodating country.

Mrs Carlton had found out by one of the ac-  
cidents of conversation that I was a de-  
voted admirer of salads, and Mr. Carlton slipped  
quietly to the garden without saying knowing  
it for some green stuff, so there was an agree-  
able supper to discuss, and altogether old  
father Time glided along with such easy  
steps, that I quite lost sight of the fact that  
there was anything so dismal as midnight  
about him. — But alas! at this awful mid-  
night hour "when churchyard gawn" and a  
lot of other horrible et ceteras, a rap sounded

at the door. — I suspected who it was  
and hid myself behind one of the chairs  
and presently heard George exclaim with  
with nervous trepidation of I was here. — ~~They~~  
He was told at first in joke that I was not  
but an exclamation burst from them both which  
three full grown notes of admiration would not  
do justice to and I rose in surprise to see  
what was the matter. — But woe to my folly, —  
no sooner was my head visible than a volley  
of stormy words battered against it which left  
me almost hopelessly stupefied for a large number  
of seconds. — I recovered myself in time to hear  
their long indignant strides echoing fiercely on  
the punched earth. — After stumbling in the  
dark over deep ruts and dried up water-  
holes, and dodging round gloomy looking stumps  
which stood grimly in my path like grave-  
stones in a churchyard, I in due time reached  
the house and found my terrible assailants dis-  
robing in hot haste preparatory to re-  
tiring to their virtuous couches. — Here  
the fire of their indignation flared forth

afresh - and I was glad to scramble  
into bed & get my head under the  
blankets.

This evening I was surprised to  
see Barfoot ride our mare Jossy  
up to the door and soon after up  
came George and Gillispie in the  
~~trap~~ with a strange horse in the  
chaff. It turned out to be a horse  
Gillispie had bought & was desirous  
of trying in Larnac.

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Tuesday Oct 24<sup>th</sup>

Went to Thelborne. — Came back  
through Collingwood and called on  
Mr. Adams. — Judging from appearance  
I shant not think he has done anything  
very extraordinary — but appearances in  
this country are very deceptive.

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Wednesday Oct 25

Went to Thelborne & brought  
with me day George and George Morgan

and brought up some good George  
and George Morgan had bought  
yesterday at an Auction Room

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Thursday Oct 26<sup>th</sup>

Was told today that a poor fellow - a  
drayman had been murdered ~~a day~~  
up the road a day or two ago.

Murder is now so familiar to our ears  
in all its horrible forms that it almost  
fails to excite the same feelings which  
a similar tale call'd up in our breasts in  
England although there it was generally  
attended of half the savage cruelty  
which accompany's it here

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Friday Oct 27<sup>th</sup>

Took the horse to Halbourn to be  
fed. - At about 2 o'clock this morning  
a destructive fire broke out in Collin  
Street which has destroyed from £0  
to 80,000 £ worth of goods besides a  
considerable amount of building -

When I was there the ruins were yet hot and smoking. The ~~too~~ tardy arrival of the fire engines and the miserable supply of water caused one extension stone to be destroyed which might otherwise have been saved? It is thought that at one time the progress of the flames was so slow that a single bucket full of water well directed might have prevented their laying this stone in ruins. The engine belonging to the Worcester Police made its unseemly appearance without a supply of hose and with one solitary bucket and even that out of repair.

- Call'd Mr. Carton and found that Mr. Carton was about stark to Sheldon. - Walked down with her.

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Saturday Oct 28

Bought an ironmen tent for the digging from Mr. Blythe. - It was advertised to hold \$ 600 people.

Sunday Oct 29

~~G & George~~ George & Geo Morgan  
went to Catterills place about 15  
miles in the bush. Took the  
two horses out in the traps to the  
bush.

Monday Oct 30

Geo & Geo Morgan returned.  
While they were here they bought  
a team of bullocks which are to  
come up ~~tomorrow~~ on Thursday

Tuesday Oct 31

Took the horses to Beans sale  
yard. The horse was bid for at  
myh jas 98 £ when some fool of a  
an Irish woman bid 99 £ & I was  
knocked down to her. After she had  
paid 10 £ deposit she became disatis-  
fied with her bargain and wanted  
her deposit money back again. The game  
is a deal of trouble & annoyance and

The matter ended by our losing  
the sale of the house and the old  
fol losing her deposit.

Before we started this morning a  
magnificent horse ran with a bridle  
on his head & he bit out of his mouth  
ran up towards our stable - I caught  
him & tied him up I was glad to find  
on our return the owner had skined  
him. -

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Wednesday Nov 1 -

All went down to Bear again  
after awhile Geo Morgan & I left  
George at & came up & pitched a tent  
which we sold a quarter of an hour  
after putting it up. In the evening  
George came up and told us he had  
sold poor Jessy - I have never felt  
more regret in parting with an  
animal

Thursday Nov 2

George went to Beams again  
George Morgan & I went to Cotterville  
to see after the Bullock dray -

~~Sold the horse~~ The horse had been  
taken ill during the night and would  
not go through his trial and he  
was reluctantly sold for 45 £, by  
which we have incurred a loss  
of about 100 £. This is our first se-  
rious slip backward

Friday Nov 3

Went to Melbourn to engage a  
Bullock driver. On my return I  
saw white - I fear they are not  
doing very well. The charcoal burning  
seems a complete failure -

Saturday

Whitewashed down engine

Sunday Nov 5-

All went to Mr. Gillespie's  
dinner & spent a very pleasant  
day

Monday Nov 6

Lost one of the Bullocks and found  
him again by the River Creek.  
Mr. & Mrs. Gillespie drove up in a  
gig & surprised us in a horrible  
musp.

Tuesday Nov 7-

It frequently happens that one disappointment  
paves the way for the entrance of another.

We have had today an unpleasant  
proof of this. Two Germans had made arrangements  
to fill up our loading at the regular  
loading point but we of course took no other  
measures to secure it, but we found to our annoyance  
today that they had drawn back from their  
engagement on some trifling pretext and were  
not going. They had even the impudence to tell

George & Geo Morgan that they had not hired  
our dray at all - It is only the serious delay  
which as law proceeding would occasion us, that  
prevents our taking measures which would make  
~~them~~ heartily repent their shabby conduct.

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Wednesday Dec 8<sup>th</sup>. Early this morning we  
packed up our good chattels on our bullock  
dray - took leave of the few friends we have  
made in Brunswick & made a start to the  
Ballarat diggings on our new speculations. - Our  
~~intention~~, unless our observations when we reach  
there change it is to commence auctioneering in  
our large tent, with the addition of anything else  
by which we can make money which our  
experience there may gradually suggest.  
I hope we may soon begin to step forward  
again - a few more ships in the other  
unfortunate direction similar to those  
which have lately made such disastrous  
trips, at our present strength we should be thrown  
completely on our backs for the devil knows  
how long. -

I had occasion to go to Milbourne & after  
they had loaded Humphrey & I started home with  
the intention of overtaking them at Cleverington.

While I was standing in a druggist shop in  
Milbourne I ~~met~~<sup>met</sup> a touching instance of the deep  
seated hate which the love for a child has in the affection  
of the roughest natures. - A strong but built rough  
looking fellow came running in the shop crying till his  
utterance was almost incoherent & enquired in  
a tone of painful anxiety & grief for the doctor.

He said he was not in & the distressing look of  
the poor fellow was painful to contemplate.

He said his only child a poor beautiful little  
dear as he termed it was ill & not likely to live.

The clinging insinuating love for a child is one  
of the greatest happinesses which the labouring man  
is blessed with & it is a hard trial for him to con-  
template the sorrowful gap which the loss of one occasions.

We found our companions waiting for us  
at Cleverington & which we all left in a short  
time & pursued our way to the diggings.  
Our bullock driver was a sailor whom we  
had known previously and being quite <sup>satisfied</sup>

Thursday Mar 9<sup>th</sup>

with his straightforward integrity we  
preferred him to a professed hand altho'  
he has had but little experience in the  
delicate art of bullocks driving - we  
soon found however to our dismay that  
there were more difficulties to surmount  
and our coachman's ~~less~~ ability to overcome  
them than we had anticipated and the  
consequence was he lost control over  
the bullocks & the dray was soon in a  
muddy ditch - After a wort of coaxing  
threatening and thrashing they condescended  
to drag us out and their lazy locomotion  
in due time brought us to the verge of  
another one - here they seemed obsti-  
~~nately bent on committing suicide by~~  
This was at the Salt Water Punt by  
the aid of which we had to cross a deep  
river - here our rebellious cattle seemed  
obstinately bent on committing suicide  
and but for the timely aid of a gentleman  
who kindly lent his assistance it is

hand to say purpose whether they  
woud have effected their sanguinary pur-  
pose or not. - On the other side of the  
pass we mounted with infinite difficulty  
a steep hill or rather a precipice  
at the summit of which Tom our dri-  
ver had the satisfaction of seeing an  
immence level plain before him on which  
he could safely & conveniently practice  
himself in his new profession.

Our progress was unutterably lazy and  
snaillike, but the country we traveled  
through was new to us, and the hours  
glided slowly on with some degree of  
pleasure - before us and on our right  
were stretching as far as the eye could  
reach were immense grassy plains  
undulating in emerald folds like the  
swell of the ocean. and on our left the bay  
with its crowd of shipping glowed in the  
sunlight like a polished mirror. -

Disappointment had of late become  
so familiar to us that we were very

little surprised on being ~~left~~ coolly  
told after travelling 9 or 10 miles that  
our locomotive agents were gravely taking  
us to Geelong instead of Ballarat.

It appears we had taken the wrong course  
across the plains, but however the day  
was wearing away & we had no other re-  
source than to proceed a mile or two  
~~more~~ in the same direction and halt for  
the night by the side of a creek.

We were ~~were~~ all agreeably struck  
with the extreme beauty of a number of  
shrubs and flowers which were growing  
in rich luxuriance by the waterside. Some  
of them were delicately chase and beau-  
tiful and would <sup>have</sup> been valuable addition to  
any highly cultivated garden

---

Thursday Nov 9<sup>th</sup>

Struck across the plains in the  
hope of falling in with the right road.  
Tom has not yet got his horned charge  
into docile subjection and we had

considerable difficulty in keeping them in  
the road and making them sensible that  
they were not taking an excursion for  
their own pleasure. — In crossing a creek  
they got into horrible confusion and pulled  
all ways at the same time — Toms wits  
were scattered as much as the bullocks  
and in spite of a cataract of oaths and  
lashes, most of which latter fell either  
on the dray or on some of us — the  
wheels sunk in the bed of the creek  
up to the axle — we tried every  
method which the exigencies of the  
occasion suggested to us but without  
avail — and ~~then~~ we were compelled to  
unload and carry the goods to the top  
of a long steep hill. — The undertaking  
was far from pleasant for some of  
the goods were upwards of two ~~hundred~~  
hundred weight — and the suns heat was  
blazing — we had at length however  
the gratification to see the last of them  
at the top of the hill and after a rest

and the refreshing influence of a cup  
of tea - a beverage invaluable in the  
bush - we made another start, and tra-  
veled without further mishap until  
evening when we ~~halted~~ encamped near  
to an outstation. Here we ascertained  
that we had traveled at the amazing  
rapidity of 8 miles a day - and we  
began to entertain some feeble hopes  
of reaching our destination before old  
age commenced his insidious touches  
on our frames. - At the Station  
Humphrey was surprised at meeting  
with a fellow townsman - a young man  
who had been articled to an attorney  
and who was now following the ~~rural~~  
<sup>of a sheep and</sup> rural occupation. - Writers of Guide  
Books speak in glowing language of the  
delight of sheep and life in Australia  
but to my thinking it is among the most  
doleful and miserable occupations a  
man previously accustomed to active life  
could drag on existence in. -

While we were on the road Humphrey  
had a narrow escape of a serious ac-  
cident. He had loaded his pistol with shot  
and by some mishap it went off and the  
contents passed across his leg grazing  
the skin in several places

---

Friday Nov 10<sup>th</sup>.

Started early this morning and by a turnick  
took the right road. - About midday  
the immense green plain we had been  
traveling over began to be dotted with  
trees. The cooling refreshing sea breeze  
gradually left us and we began to  
feel the somewhat oppressive heat of  
the bush. - After traveling for some dis-  
tance over a country more like a beautif.  
park than the wild uncultivated face  
of nature - we came to the summit  
of a hill where we found to our alarm  
that we had one the most dangerous  
and precipitous roads to descend -  
which I ever saw attempted. - With a

competent driver I should not have felt  
any fear for the result, but Tom's in-  
experience made us all tremble for the  
safety of the bullock's necks. — By good  
fortune ~~two~~<sup>relief</sup> to the infinite of all bullocks  
included I expect — we reached the bottom  
without accident — although we had several  
narrow escapes. — Here we found a  
winding romantic valley abounding in  
rich pasture and we therefore turned  
out the bullocks and took up our abode  
in it for the night. — After night had  
closed upon us we heard shouts at the  
top of the hill and George and Geo Morgan  
went to see what it was about — They were  
away a considerable time and I began  
to fear something was wrong and I  
started after them and found them  
half way up the hill assisting two men  
to get a horse and cart down the same  
road we had descended. — By holding them  
with all our strength and blocking the wheels  
we succeeded in getting it down in safety.

- After supper I went out shooting by moonlight and shot two Oppossums

Saturday Nov 11<sup>th</sup>

The men we arrested last night were of valuable service to us in helping us over the deep creek & up a tremendous hill out of the valley, afeat which would have taken us a day to have accomplished. - We passed through a delightful valley call<sup>d</sup> Bachus's Marsh, the first cultivated land we have seen since we left Melbourne. - barley and oats were flourishing in the richest luxuriance - There was a steam flour mill - three good looking Inns - and a number of houses and stores. - Attached to one of the houses was the most beautiful garden I have seen since I have been the Colony. - We passed over Sandford Hill and encamped in a valley in the afternoon.

Sunday Nov 12.<sup>th</sup>

In order to get the assistance of our lake fellow travellers, ~~we put ourselves in motion~~ at a bad part of the road some 8 or 9 miles in advance we put ourselves in motion <sup>this morning</sup> with an arrangement that they were to overtake us at the next creek. — We had up hill travelling all morning through a fine verdant country called Portland Hills — ~~had~~ now and then an opportunity of viewing a magnificent ~~panorama~~ Scenery and at about midday came to the above Creek. — There was a good crossing just wide enough to admit the dray in safety over the creek, and for a moment we ~~were~~ entertained the ridiculous notion that our untractable quadruped would keep the ~~keep the~~ right track, — The folly of our hope was speedily proved by our wheel sinking in a bog to the axle which all our efforts and Jons thrashy and swearing could not get the dray

out of, and we were compell<sup>d</sup> to our  
intense mortification to unload? - The  
disagreeable process delayed us a con-  
siderable time so we decided upon re-  
maining for the remainder of the day.

After we had finished our camping  
arrangements, we had the delightful lux-  
ury of a bathe a pleasure we have  
seldom of late had an opportunity of  
indulging in. In the evening two men  
with a bullock dray came up and  
encamped near us

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Monday Nov 13<sup>th</sup>

Started this morning in company with the  
bullock dray that joined us last night.

After traveling for 7 miles we came  
to a creek worse than any we had  
hitherto crossed. - Our companion went  
in first and struck in the middle to  
the bed of the dray, and the water washed  
about their load which was composed of  
flour. - After infinite trouble and a

a complete tempest of oaths from the drivers. The beasts pull'd it out and dragg'd it up an almost perpendicular bank on the other side. — We all stood in amazement to see the dray run up a place more like a wall than anything else even the drivers accustomed as they are to Colonial roads were astounded. —

As a matter of course we struck fast too, so fast indeed that 14 bullocks pull'd at it in vain, and the drivers at last declared it was impossible to extricate it — so that we <sup>had</sup> no other resource than to resort to the old expedient and unload with this agreeable addition that in doing so half of our bodies were in mud & water. — The pleasant task lasted about an hour when we made a start once more up a long steep hill. The pull was heavy and laborious and the poor beasts were very much fatigued by the time they reached the top. Here we found that our companion

had met with an accident with one  
of their wheels - the whole of the spokes had  
broken and one of them had gone ahead  
to get another dray. - It was late when  
he returned so we all decided on remaining  
for the night. - Towards evening we  
discovered by the aid of our telescope - our late  
fellow travellers coming down the hill in  
the distance toward the creek, and Geo  
Morgan & and Humphrey walk'd down  
with the intention of assisting <sup>Humphrey</sup> them.  
By the time we reached however they  
had crossed the creek & were preparing  
to encamp. ~~We stopped a short time when~~  
After staying a short time Geo Morgan  
& I left Humphrey chatting with them  
& took a ramble over the range toward  
our encampment. - The scene from the  
hills was lovely beyond expression - the sun  
had set and a mellow twilight and the  
silvery rays of a full moon shed a  
soft light over the beautiful landscape.  
Below us stretching for miles was a

rich winding valley rising and falling  
in graceful undulations till it was lost  
in the distance. — Here & there were beau-  
tiful emerald mounds dotted with trees.—  
and at the bottom a picturesque stream  
overhung with the varied foliage of  
shrubs & trees & the sides sprinkled with  
delicate flowers — wound its serpentine  
course. — I cannot remember any scene  
in my own country beautiful as many  
of them are, to excel it — I was going to  
say, perhaps even to equal it.

— After ~~the~~ I reached the encampment  
Humphry came up & brought me an in-  
vitation from our to supper from our  
friend ~~to~~ in the valley. — I accordingly  
went down with him & enjoyed a very  
delightful supper which we found spread  
out for us. — While I was there I shot  
a singular looking bird call the ~~Native~~  
Mowpope. — George made a dum-  
per which I think if we eat much of  
will speedily put a sensible damper on

our internal gear

Tuesday Nov 14<sup>th</sup> -

Rested through a valley where a town was gradually springing up.

Our journey has gradually been increasing in difficulty and toil until today it reached its climax at a horrible place call<sup>d</sup> the black marshes. We were bogged three times within half an hour in a black slimy swamp. One of our companions in assisting us out of the third, broke one of his yokes which we of course paid for. This cost us 1 £ and on an anxious investigation into the state of our finances, we made the elevating discovery that we had the large sum of five shillings to regale ourselves with for the remainder of our journey.

- We encamped among the swamps where we divided our damper, - with a dampers of spirits which was somewhat luxuriously and put a slight check on the cravings.

1. no appetite. — Every thing was damp,  
considerably damp — The ground, our bed,  
our bodies, and our spirits. —

---

Wednesday Dec 15

Got up this morning in a miserable plight  
with an appetite like an ogre but nothing  
to eat. I could not help laughing as I con-  
templated the five of us discussing with &  
dolorous gravity a ghost of a breakfast  
composed solely of tea. It is fortunate  
for us that we are now within a day's journey  
of the diggings and or we may shortly probably  
have ~~had~~ to make our ~~the~~ miserable appear-  
ance on them under the gaunt escort of ja-  
mine. In ~~trudging~~ passing down a steep hill  
which appeared to me about as safe as tra-  
veling down the roof of a house our dray  
had a narrow escape of a capsize. about ~~the~~  
half way down one of the wheels sunk into  
a hole. If the dray ~~were~~ nearly lost its  
equilibrium. The other wheel lifted from  
the ground and but for our hanging on to

I & Pulley I down I must have file over  
the bullocks in all probability would have  
been kill'd. - We tramped toward evening through  
a dense forest of magnificent timber -  
twice we were stuck fast in bogs and pulled  
out by a double team of bullock, and at length  
to our relief our misery ended by our halting  
within five miles of the diggings. -

Thursday Nov 16<sup>th</sup>

- George Morgan George & I walked  
over to Ballarat leaving the bullock  
dray at the encampment. - We took a stroll  
through the diggings where we found con-  
trary to our expectations that ~~day~~  
there were several auctioneers carrying  
on business there. - We attended one of them  
and the difficulty we there appeared to be in  
effecting sales rather staggered the sanguine  
hope we had entertained of high working down  
profession. - In returning we had held a con-  
sultation on our future movements and at  
length decided on changing our former

purpose - selling our goods as quickly  
as possible, and opening a Restaurant  
in our large tent. - We were astonished  
to see the immense number of stores, - every  
~~fourth~~ fourth or fifth tent was either a  
store or a refreshment tent, and we were  
puzzled in no small degree to think how  
they could all get a living. - The soldi was  
in a great measure solved however on our  
ascertaining <sup>that</sup> the government officials winked  
at the infringement of the law and nearly all  
sold grog. - In returning to our encampment  
we saw a rare and beautiful species of  
parrot which we were afterward told was  
the "crimson Windsor." The wings were the  
color of the wing was a superb blue, and  
the body a gorgeous crimson the contrast  
was brilliant in the extreme. -

---

Friday Nov 17.<sup>th</sup> -

Started with our dray ~~for~~ this morning for  
the diggings and arrived there at about 10  
o'clock. After asking the advice of several

diggers as to the probable course of the diggings  
for the ensuing Summer we fix'd upon a  
spot on ~~Commissioners~~<sup>near</sup> Flat. - There is little  
to encourage us in the present appearance  
of the locality for there are very few tents on  
it now, but we are led to believe that it will  
soon be the busiest quarter on the diggings.  
We had unfortunately a strong ~~to~~ wind  
to contend against in pitching our tent and  
the undertaking was one of considerable  
difficulty. Some good-natured Yankees how-  
ever saw our dilemma and kindly lent us  
a hand. ~~and~~ After we had pitched it we  
were rather gratified to find that it was  
considerably larger than any other on  
Ballarat. - In the evening a man who  
is building an Inn in the Township seeing  
our bullock dray standing near offered us  
work for it ~~in case~~ <sup>It is to carry timber at the</sup> rate of \$15 shillings the hundred feet of which  
it appears the dray is capable of carrying  
800 or 900

Saturday Nov 18<sup>th</sup>

Went with Geo Morgan to cut timber in the bush. - We started with the vigorous intention of carrying 8 or 10 poles a distance of between 2 & 3 miles & sangam of success in carrying out our resolution we set to work and fell a number of young trees, but the drawback of our expectation was soon apparent on our trying the weight of four of them. - We may as well have attempted to pull down St Paul's Cathedral with our teeth as carry eight of them to our bank. - We made our appearance there with one each on our shoulders and even that was an undertaking no neither of us with the slightest inclination to repeat. - Our bank begins to attract considerable attention & during the ~~second~~ sun  
day we have been amused by overhearing numerous speculations ~~on~~ on the object for which it is intended. One is quite sure it is a Theatre - another as confident it is to be a Chapel - and a third tells his companion it is for the soldiers, but not one seems to hit the right mark.

In the evening George I and Humphrey took a portion of our good to Canadian Gully to be sold by Auction. One portion of our load was a rather heavy trunk full of good which we were obliged to carry on our shoulders, the friction of which we sustained under for a distance of about two miles. —

We were disappointed and dissatisfied with the Auctioneer, who seemed <sup>to be</sup> a confirmed soty & what was worse nearly drunk. —

---

Sunday Nov 12<sup>th</sup>.

We began to George & I went to Canadian Gully this morning with the intention of going to Chappel, but we heard enough outside to scare us away. The preacher was a complete ront. Our tent was in a most precarious state the greater part of day - one of the reach-poles got loose and at least fell, tearing the tent a hole 5 or 6 feet long in front of the I am returned this evening with the dray and took the bullock to the black swamp.

Monday Nov 13<sup>th</sup>

George & Geo Morgan went to the bush  
early this morning to fetch Tom and the  
bullocks. - They were a long time away  
& I started after them and found the dray  
but neither them nor ~~the~~ bullocks. -

After scouring the bush for two or three  
hours, I fell in with Tom who told me  
he had lost the bullocks. - We both started  
again and traveled a considerable distance  
through the bush and half round ~~and~~  
an immense swamp but without success  
& returned to the about no afternoon thoroughly  
tired and almost in despair about finding  
- When we reached the township however  
we found to our relief that George had  
~~not~~ discovered them after having lost him-<sup>near the swamp</sup>  
self in the bush, which he had considerable  
difficulty in tracing his way out of.

In the evening Geo Morgan & I went to  
Warren Heath's bush for the night and  
bring back saplings in the morning. -  
I running a horse I accidentally drove the

ox into a nest of black snakes and cut  
the head off one off.

Tuesday.— Returned about 12 o'clock - Went to see the  
beam for our tent. — George & George Thompson  
took the good in the dray through the  
digging to try to sell them. — They found the  
stones full and left them to be sold at the  
Auction Rooms. — A poor fellow was killed  
at the Canadian Gully to day. — It is gener-  
ally the practice to leave a spare rope from  
the extending from the top of the hole to the  
bottom, so that on any sudden emergency  
the man below may climb a distance up  
until there is time to lower the rope from  
the windlass. This precaution had been un-  
happily been neglected in this instance. — The man  
was undermining ~~the~~ <sup>the</sup> ~~stone~~ <sup>the</sup> stone at a depth  
of upward of a hundred feet ~~and~~ and drove  
into an old mine and in such a tremendous  
body of water. — The poor fellow sprang to the  
bottom of the shaft and cried for help to his

companions at the top who lowered the rope  
rope who with all possible speed by the time  
reached him the water was gathering so fast  
around him that he lost his presence of mind  
and only grasped the rope with his hands leaving  
his feet unsupported. It was a grasp for  
life, with death following ~~the~~ steadily behind  
him, & he held on with the strength of desper-  
ation - he was drawn to within a yard or two  
of the top, almost within reach of a saving hand  
when his strength fail him and he fell headlong  
into the water beneath him. The efforts of  
his companions to get out his dead body  
have been yet unsuccessful and as a last re-  
source they are going try a harpoon -

Wednesday Nov 15<sup>th</sup>

We had another long tedious walk after  
our bullocks which today which has de-  
layed us considerably. I shall heartily  
rejoice when we get rid of them -

Went in the afternoon to the Government  
butcher who had offered us his assistance

in procuring a license. - I found him in  
his tent cheating the government with the  
open effrontery a grog and porter was  
going round as freely as in a public  
house. - I sat down opposite to a rough  
dressed man & on looking at him I was  
surprised to find it was Mr Butcher one  
of our late fellow passengers. - He ap-  
pears worse off now than when he landed  
which from what I saw of him on board  
I am not at all surprised at. His brother  
he told me had died from the effects of  
drunkenness on the Bendigo. - It shocks one  
even on the diggings where the vice rages  
so fearfully to hear of a young man scarcely  
twenty drinking himself to death. - It is painful  
to contemplate the horribl havoc which  
drunkenness makes on the diggings - many  
a poor infatuated fool destroys in a few  
weeks the chance of placing himself in easy  
and happy circumstances for life. - even  
women feeling themselves released from the  
salutary checks which society in civilization

life lay, or them fall into a vice bad enough in men, but disgusting and repulsive beyond expression in women. —

Went to the Commissioners' Camp, and procured a form of application for a claim to be fill'd up & signed by four stone-keepers.

---

Thursday Nov 16<sup>th</sup>

Went to the Court House & gave in application for license. — A German band made its appearance on the diggings today. From the profitable account the evidently turned their notes to music seem to be pretty freely patronized by the diggers. —

---

Friday Nov 17 —

Stores are springing up very quickly around us, and the most of them anxious at a good flow of business in this locality. — Our speculation will either turn out very profitable or very indifferent. — Our success depends on the veins of gold running in or

certain direction - every known indication is in our favor but the experience & knowledge of the most forwarded diggers have been frequently baffled, and we must wait patiently for the month before we can expect even moderate success with any degree of confidence -

---

Saturday Nov 18<sup>th</sup> -

Took our tent down again and repainted it. - Took our bullock and dray to the Auction yard but to our annoyance they were not sold. -

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Sunday Nov 19<sup>th</sup> -

Tom left us this morning in a very unceremonious manner and started down to Helbourne. - We have had a taste of the inconvenience which his singular (but I suppose colonial) conduct is likely to occasion us. - George & I started off to see after the bullock toward the swamp. - We kept together for an hour or two, but at last in a dense part of the bush we lost sight of each other

I walked on a considerable distance without knowing where I was going to & at length fell in with a native who luckily could speak English. He pointed out the course I ought to take & in due time I reached the our tent - the shade of which after a four or five hours walk under a hot sun was very acceptable. George returned about an hour afterwards having found the bullocks in endeavouring to find his own way

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Monday Nov 20<sup>th</sup> —

To our great relief and satisfaction we bullock'd dray today - for 110 £.

Busy framing the tent - Engaged a black for 10 £ to assist us

---

Tuesday Nov 21<sup>st</sup> —

Engaged a black cook who is to come next Wednesday. It was arranged to day that George Morgan should start for Melbourne to-morrow morning to make the necessary purchases for <sup>our</sup> operations. — It was

suggested at first that there should be an  
host up for it, but George Morgan had heavy  
claims on our sympathy on account of his anxi-  
ety to receive letters from his family, and that  
popular contention was dispensed with. —

Wednesday Nov 22<sup>nd</sup>.

George Morgan started soon after sunrise  
this morning. — Almost the first thing we  
saw on getting out of bed was a great hole  
in the tent. It was at a part which it was  
impossible to get at without pulling it down  
altogether so we were obliged to swallow our  
resentment and lower it. — We repaired it after  
a good deal of difficulty — repitched it and  
stretched it on the frame for the first time.  
It was much admired by passers by and  
speculation was very busy as to its object  
— We had one or two offers during the day — A  
magician applied for it — and afterwards a  
comic singer offered his services. —

Thursday Nov 23<sup>rd</sup>

A neighbour of ours - a storekeeper - who has like hundreds around him formed too strong an attachment to the bottle was robbed today of 20 or 40 £. by a base villain whom he had taken into his store for the purpose of befriending. - I have seen the scoundrel and he owns one of the most ruffianly & repulsive faces I have seen for some time past.

---

Friday Nov 24<sup>th</sup>

Our tenth unfortunately faces the north a position I am afraid which will subject us to a very obnoxious amount of wind and dust. - To day we were visited with a violent storm which drove cloud after cloud of blinding dust direct into our tent. - I heard of 2 or 3 stores being blown down - one at the back of us I saw torn to rags. - but luckily stood the strain well.

Saturday Nov 25<sup>th</sup>

Was very much surprised to see Harot passing by as I was standing at the door of the tent. - He stayed till with us and gave us an account of his and Duke Paine's operations since we last saw them last.

I was sorry to find that they had gone through so small amount of hardships without receiving any benefit by them.

They are now connected with a party near to us and appear to be sanguine of a better aspect of affairs turning up soon.

Their perseverance will deserve such a reward for their labour

---

Saturday Nov 25<sup>th</sup> - Sunday

This morning we found to our annoy-ance that the slack pole of our tent had got loose from the middle pole & our canvas was in danger of being in the same predicament I was in before. - I climbed the pole & fortunately was able to secure it with lashing just in time.

I have it for shortly afterward the  
wind rose to a complete tempest - and  
it must otherwise have been rent to  
pieces - Hush! I dare plane said  
was a visit

Monday

I witnessed a charming instance of the  
joy of matrimonial life to-day -  
A butcher who had picked up one of  
those delightful specimens of female oxen  
which to the wants of bachelors are plentifully  
scattered in this country - had a violent  
brawl with his lovin' helpmate. - The  
latter face & hand smeared with blood from  
the man's brutality & the coarse language of  
both was most disgusting  
A concert room opened opposite -

Tuesday  
Hard day's work. - Are now nearly ready  
for opening and begin to look anxiously  
for Geo Morgan's return. - A foolish practice  
of firing guns & pistols still prevails to a mis-  
chief extent on the diggings. - A man was shot  
in the side last night by a pistol  
ball and this evening a number of shots rat-  
ted on our canvas

---

Wednesday  
Busy carpentry & leveling the floor of  
the tent. - Our cook, a white-headed old  
negro came this evening. He seems to possess  
an amount of intelligence which is seldom  
expected to be met with in the unfortunate  
of his class.

---

Thursday  
Hired a bullock dray & went out to  
fetch gravel for our floor.  
A most impudent robbery was committed.

Yesterday. - A man was at the Windlass Dairies  
with his companion when a daring Scoundrel  
went up to him for the purpose of robbing him.  
The man was afraid of injuring his mate & of  
course could offer no resistance to the villain  
who rifled his pockets & got clear off.  
Another party were working at night when  
a gang of villains came up & presented pistols  
to their heads & robbed them of all the money  
& got away before them. - Late last  
night I heard a composition a short distance  
away & on going out heard the diggers in hot  
chase after a thief. I cannot tell whether  
they caught him or not but I cordially hope  
they did. - There is a nest of degraded  
villains in this immediate neighbourhood  
which I should be very glad to see broken up.

---

Friday

A disgraceful foul row occurred  
today at the back of our tent. —

A party of drunken had jumped on  
the which in justice belonged to an

English party, & the result was a quarrel  
and fight. - As is generally the case the  
Irish soon grew tired of fair fighting and  
picked up sticks and stones. - The English  
and Yankees followed them up with the same  
weapons. A general melee ensued. -  
One Irishman struck an old man a stinging  
blow with a stone and as the poor fellow  
was falling another savage struck him a  
brutal blow on the back of the head with the  
handle of a pick and the old man fell  
down insensible. - A

Saturday As I was standing at  
the entrance to the tent this evening  
I was surprised to see Jim ~~Gloster~~  
passing by. In the evening Mr George  
paid him a visit & found him with  
a partner in possession of a well  
stocked store <sup>with</sup> and a fair prospect  
before him of getting on in the world.

Saturday. —

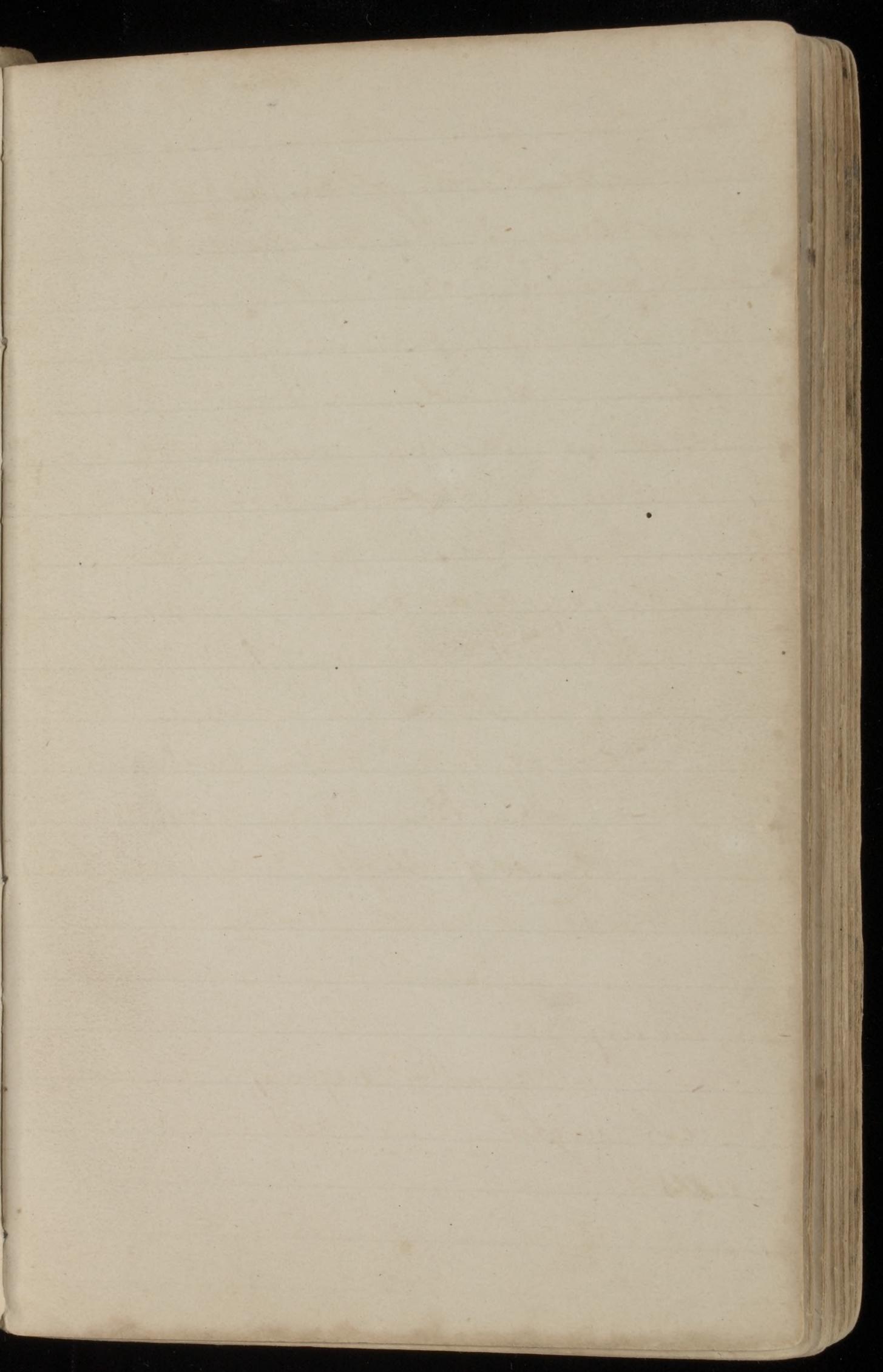
Another row took place today in the same place as the one yesterday. The police were call'd out and it was generally thought that it would not end without bloodshed. A party of men ~~to be~~ living near us bought ~~so so~~ 4 or 5 swords & life preservers from us in order to be prepared for the worst.

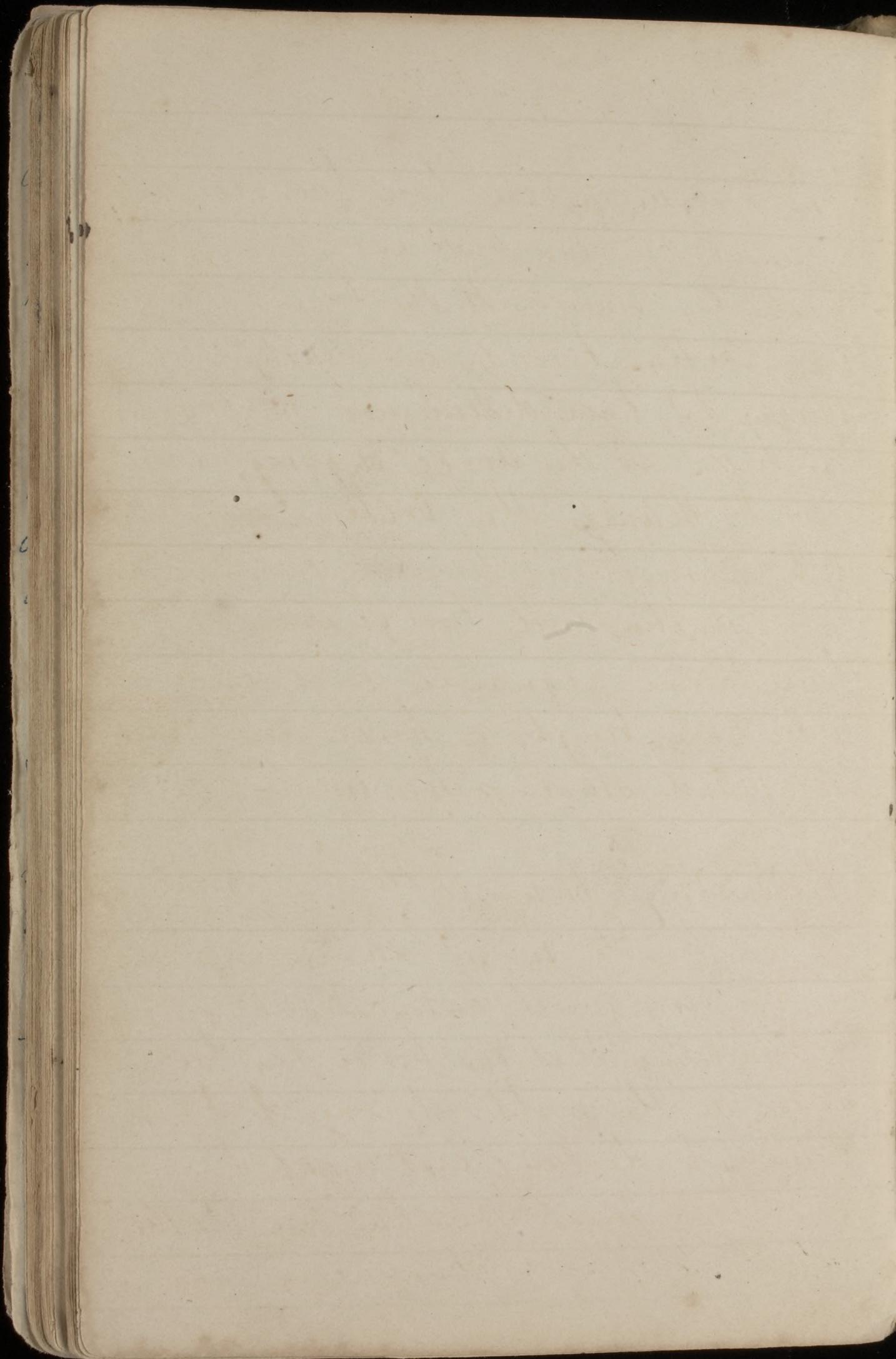
The greedy avarice of a digger has caused his death today. He was drawing at the supports at the bottom of the hole in opposition to the caution of his mate when ~~the~~ it gave way and a heavy mass of earth fell upon him and crushed him to death. —

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Sunday

Was kept awake nearly the whole of last night by a babel of horribl noises





Thursday. May. 9<sup>th</sup> 1854

Our expences of late have been seriously increasing and our business sensibly diminishing and with the hope of bettering our position two of our party - Mr Morgan & I, have determined on trying our luck at the Avoca diggings, leaving to-morrow to manage the Bittern and carry out a project we have in contemplation in conjunction with two gentlemen we have become acquainted with at Burke. - We have bought a horse and dray and intend starting tomorrow.

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Wednesday. May 10<sup>th</sup>

I was troubled in no small degree but not very much astonished to find this morning that our horse had been stolen in the night. George & I were call'd up to the camp last night to give bail for a friend who had been taken into custody on a charge originating

in a mistake which was soon rectified  
and while we were away Geo Morgan and  
a neighbour who had an interest in the  
horse ~~had~~ imprudently paid for it and  
left it in an Auctioneers yard. The  
neighbourhood is a nest of Thieves, but  
as the Auctioneer gave his word that  
the horse would be perfectly safe they  
did not scruple to leave it. The loss  
is especially unfortunate to us at the  
present time for our exchequer is  
in anything but a flourishing state.  
We have every reason to believe that  
the fellow we bought the horse from  
is closely implicated in the robbery.

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Thursday May 18<sup>th</sup>

George and I went this evening to Mr.  
Lewis' Store where we passed a  
most agreeable evening. To meet on the  
diggings with a young lady like Mr  
Lewis' sister was a treat as un-  
expected as it was delightful. —

It seems altogether too bad though to be introduced to a charming girl only to have an opportunity of saying "good-bye" to her. - It is like offering a man a goblet of delicious wine and after he has but barely moistened his lips with it, upsetting the remainder.

---

Friday May 12<sup>th</sup>

The most insidious robberies are now of daily and nightly occurrence around us. - Three ~~men~~ <sup>men</sup> were struck up last evening, & 3 tents at night. - A man also was shot at but escaped with a slight wound in the head. - Hired a dray with the intention of starting to Avoca tomorrow morning. -

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Saturday May 13

Started. Started early this morning. One or two other parties had swags on the dray so that altogether we numbered about 10 or a dozen. - A mile or two

out in the bush we missed each other  
- A few of were fortunate enough to over-  
take the ~~day~~ day before dust, the rest  
have not yet made their appearance  
so that they stand a very good chance  
of passing the night under a gum tree  
which considering it is rainy is not the  
most desirable lodging in the world. -

- We have encamped near a large  
swamp. - The ground is as wet as a sponge  
& the rain is drizzling down like a soft  
mist, so that our prospect for the night  
is not particularly cheering. -

---

Sunday May 14  
Heard of <sup>our late</sup> companions being seen in a  
state of semi-starvation eight or ten  
miles ahead. - We passed a number of  
hills call'd the Bald Hills, not a tree  
on them & covered with grass to their  
summits. - We lathered for dinner beside  
an extensive lake on which we saw  
several black swans swimming about.

In passing over a plain one of our party kicked aside a dead sheep and found a bundle under it, - on opening it we found a pocket book - ~~and~~ a letter & naturalization paper belonging to an American. - It is probable the owner of them has been rob'd & murdered,

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Monday Aug 15<sup>th</sup>

On <sup>our</sup> getting 15 or 20 miles from Ballarat today we came into a totally different climate. - Instead of the dull cloudy atmosphere & almost incessant rain of Ballarat we had here a clear blue sky & a temperature like some of the pleasant summer days of England. - Immense flocks of white Cockatoos Paroquets & other birds ~~were~~ fill'd the air - if not with their music - with their noise.

About midday we arrived at Burn Bank - the village or town or whatever the call it looks exceedingly pretty & picturesquen from the road. - It is situated in a

rich pleasant valley - possess two  
Inns - two stores & about a ~~dozen~~ dozen houses  
- We found our missing friend at the  
Inn waiting in hungry impatience for  
the announcement of dinner - It appears  
that the only food they have had since they  
left us was a loaf which a samaritan  
in a dray diverted worth them - Their  
appetites were therefore were a source  
of no small wonder & admiration to the  
landlord

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Tuesday - May 16  
Arrived at Avoca & toward evening  
and pitched our tent on an elevated  
piece of ground. -

---

Wednesday May 17  
Started early this morning to the diggings  
and marked out two claims. Duke  
& I worked at one & Geo Morgan &  
Lick at the other. They clay we went  
through was unusually hard and it

being my first day at digging over  
leaving the ovens, my hands as a  
matter of course were pretty well  
blistered by the time we left off work.  
The work did not impair our appetite  
however for the quantity of bread and  
mutton we put out of sight during the  
day was somewhat startling. —

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Thursday - May 18<sup>th</sup>. -  
Hard day's work - Got down about  
14 feet. -

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Friday - May 19  
Nearly bottomed our holes. - Went through  
a few feet of quartz stone as hard as  
flint. —

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Saturday May 20  
Bottomed our holes and found  
them complete slices. —

Sunday - May 21 - VI.

A good deal of the scenery about Lourdes is exceedingly beautiful. The spot we have chosen to encamp on is delightful. - It is a small hill sloping down in gentle & beautiful modulations, to a winding creek - for miles beyond the fine green land dotted with shrubs and trees and rising and falling in graceful swells spread like a verdant lawn until the view is bounded by the Pyrenees - a chain of wooded hills, stretching as far as the eye can reach. -

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Monday - May 22  
Commenced two other holes

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Tuesday May 23

Met with young Hunter Butcher. Hunter told me he had been here three or four months and had done tolerably well. - Butcher has given his brother another start in life in

in profession of a doctor has hopes  
of reclaiming him from his drunken  
habits -

Wednesday - May 24<sup>th</sup>

The situation of our tents in reference  
to the diggings is by no means desirable.  
To walk a mile & half over the  
ranger, - in some parts forcing our  
way through briars as high as one's  
head & after laboring worked land and  
steamed all day in a close hole, - is  
an occupation far from agreeable.

- After arriving at our tent tonight  
we were surprised to see a number  
of immense bonfires lit up on  
the hills around us and it was not  
until we heard a group of men strike  
up the National Anthem that we re-  
collected it was the Queen's birthday.

We lost no time in tearing down branches  
however & soon had a blaze about 15'  
feet high -

Thursday May 25

In our hole today we came upon a hard bed of quartz and ironstone which wore down the points of two picks before we could get through it. It has been a hard day's work as I have experienced for some time. The hole was so close & hot at the bottom that the perspiration poured from me in streams.

---

Friday - May 26

Bottomed our hole at about 20 or 21 feet and sunk a foot or two into the pipeclay to prepare of one drive. We intend driving it round the steep a foot or two although we have little hope of it from the appearance of the washing stuff at the bottom.

The principal article of food with which we regale ourselves after the work of the day is a somewhat singular composition. It is a damper about three feet in circumference and three inches

thick. — one inch top & bottom is burnt  
black & is as hard as a brick — the  
other inch inside is a dingy brown  
tough substance & bends about like a  
piece of Indian rubber. —

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Saturday May 27.

A party working near Carrell (a neigh-  
bour of ours) told him they had worked  
down to their last sixpence and the  
hole they were then in was their last  
recourse. — They bottomed it about  
midday & it turned out a shaver. — It  
then came out that they had gone to work  
that morning without tasting a mouthful.  
Carrell gave the poor fellows half his dinner.

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Sunday May 28 —

Funday

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Monday May 29

Drove our hole a foot or two but without  
success and abandoned it. —

Tuesday May 30

A number of men who had marked out claims on a cant track <sup>by the Commissioner</sup> were compelled under a penalty of two pounds to mark out a new road today. It is certainly necessary to preserve a sufficient number of roads on the diggings, but in this case the measures taken were somewhat arbitrary for what the Commissioner was pleased to designate a road was nothing more than a few wheel marks on the sod.

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Wednesday - May 31-

Went with Geo Morgan to assist him in driving his hole.

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Thursday June 1-

Saw young Walker - one of my fellow passengers by steamer -

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Friday July 2

Woke up this morning Late perhaps

with cold. - We found ice in our water buckets and for an hour or two the air was ~~perpetually~~ freezing cold. - However now however there was a complete change in the temperature. The heat was as oppressive as the hottest day in summer midsummer day in England.

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Saturday June 3<sup>rd</sup>

finished driving the hole George Morgan commanded as far as we thought sufficient to give it a fair trial, - We intend working the stuff on Monday. I have very little hope of it.

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Sunday June 4<sup>th</sup>

One of us started early this morning to the Pyrenees. - After trudging seven or eight miles along a fine level country rich in verdure & shaded with trees & shrubs we arrived at the base of the hills. - As we were going up one of them we caught sight of 4 or 5 large Kangaroos bounding along the summit, but

They were too few off for the dogs to chase them. — Dick & I mounted the highest hill in the neighbourhood, where we saw a magnificent display of forest scenery. George & Godkin lost ourselves in returning and did not reach our tent until it was nearly dark. —

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Monday June 5<sup>th</sup>.

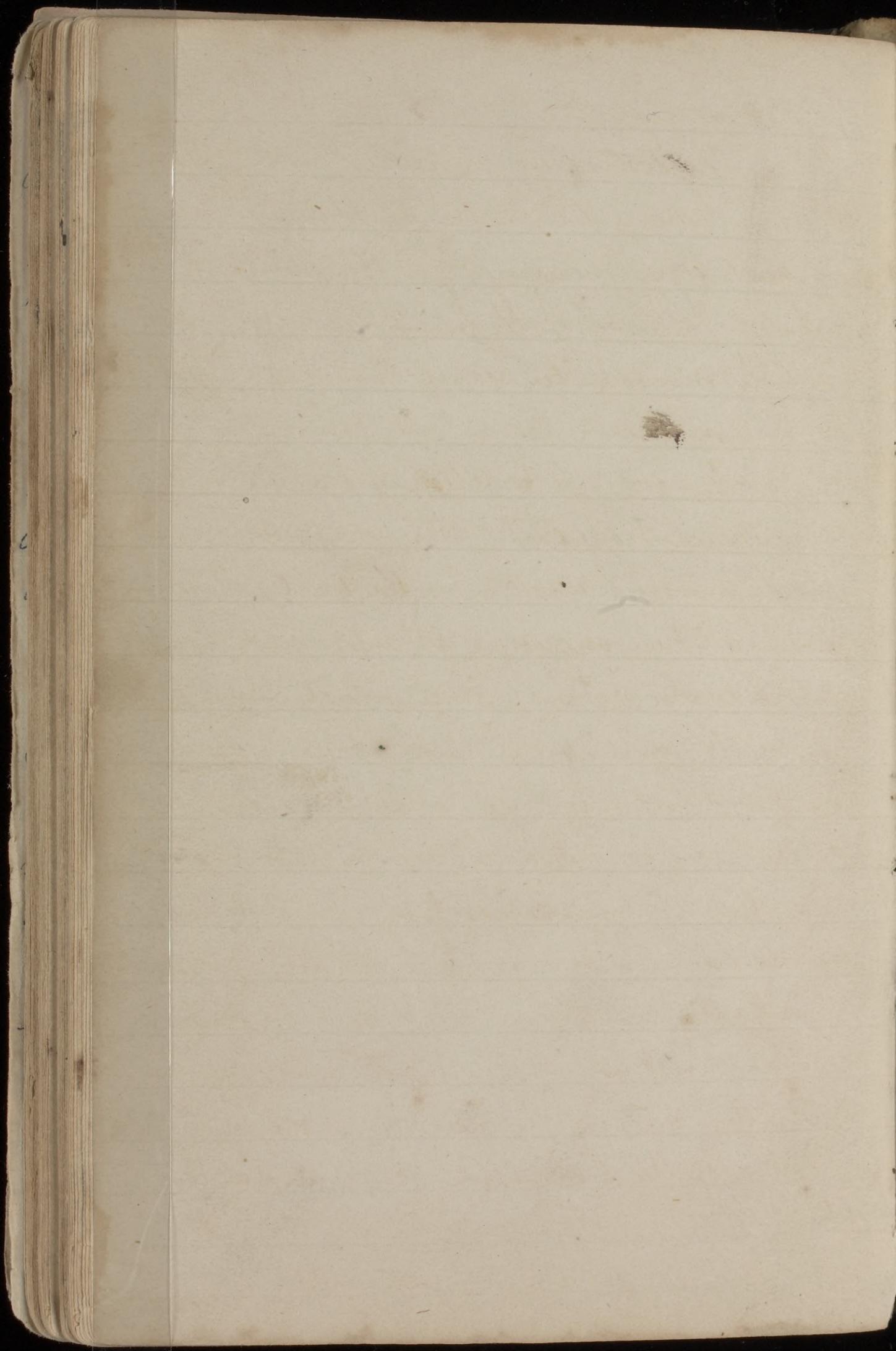
George & Dick carted down a load of washing stuff & after cradling and paddling a greater part of the day they washed out about a dozen grains and left the rest in disgust. Carroll & Godkin washed a load of theirs which yielded them upward of an ounce independent of a dozen or so of small nuggets.

We commenced another hole tent harder than any we have yet had. It positively broke the points of our picks.

We were recommended before leaving it to light a roaring fire at the bottom in the hope of cracking it by the heat.

Tuesday June 6<sup>th</sup>

The fire we lit in the hole last night  
proved a great inconvenience to us and  
no benefit. - It was black round the  
sides as a chimney - as hot as an oven  
& what was worse than all it caused  
a choking dust which was almost in-  
sufferable. - Our picks were of little  
service in breaking down the cement  
today for it was like beating on iron, and



Wednesday Oct 25- 154

Having neglected my journal lately I am  
obliged to take note of the exciting events of the  
last month from memory. — An act of the basest  
injustice on the part of the Camp Officials has in-  
flamed the minds of the people to a pitch which  
will be remembered for a life time. —

A few weeks ago a poor fellow of the name of A  
Scobie much respected by all who knew him was  
barberously murdered near the Eureka Hotel. There was  
a base & for a time successful attempt made at the  
Inquest to smother certain evidence which seemed to point  
to Bentley the landlord of the Eureka Hotel as the mur-  
derer, but sufficient came to light to compel the  
reluctant authorities to order him into custody.  
On the bench at his examination sat a magistrate  
who was known to be a friend of Bentley, & to have  
a considerable interest in the Hotel. — The examination  
under his direction was conducted with the grossest  
partiality and in the face of evidence, which  
in spite of the shameful manner in which  
which it was suppressed the Attorney  
General has since said was enough

to hang or man - the murderer was  
honorabley aquitted - The diggers in the  
deepest indignation calle<sup>d</sup> a meeting on  
Tuesday Oct 17<sup>th</sup> on the spot where poor  
Scobie fell to take measures to avenge his  
savage murder and the gross insult they  
had received from the authorities - At the  
Meeting it was proposed to raze a fund  
to offer a reward for the discovery of the mur-  
derer and to defray the expences of investi-  
gation - Several resolutions to this effect  
were moved and carried and the meeting  
broke up - At this time the whole force  
of the Camp with the exception of the  
soldiers was on the spot making a very  
injudicious display of their numbers.  
The diggers irritated by the presence  
of the very authors of the & injustice they  
had sustained moved slowly & sternly  
toward the Hotel - Commissioner Rede  
in alarm sent for the foot soldiers, but  
the diggers to show the contempt in which  
they held the authorities waited until

They arrived and then deliberately set  
fire to the house. - There was so much  
cool stern determination on the part  
of the diggers that the officials were  
almost paralyzed and nothing worth  
calling an effort was made to check  
them. - A short time before the house  
was set on fire Bentley sprang on a  
horse and galloped away without coat  
or hat. - He was seen almost imme-  
diately and with a yell of rage the diggers  
pursued him. - He rushed past me  
in his flight and I think I never saw  
such a look of terror on a man's face.  
Thank to the splendid animal he was  
upon he got clear of his pursuers and  
reached the camp in safety. - About  
an hour after this all that remained  
of the Eureka Hotel, one of the most  
spacious and costly on the diggings,  
and its fine Bowling Saloon was a  
black heap of smoking ashes. -  
An attempt was made an hour or

so, afterwards to take one or two of the most conspicuous into custody but they were rescued as soon as taken. The police laughed at an express was despatched to the seat of Government, and on Friday reinforcement began to arrive at the Camp from Melbourne and it was currently reported that numerous arrests were in contemplation. —

On the Saturday following George & Jack were taking a stroll early in the morning through the diggings when we met Fletcher and stop<sup>d</sup> to speak with him. — I had observed five or six troopers walking their horses along the road but took no particular notice of them. — I was puzzled however to see them all halt the instant Fletcher stop<sup>d</sup> and the puzzle was increased to astonishment by Fletcher telling us that he was in custody on a charge

of being concerned in the late  
riot - Fletcher is about the last man  
I should have thought likely to take  
part in such a proceeding and be-  
sides this I knew from several cir-  
cumstances that he was like myself  
nothing more than a passive spec-  
tator - We were all therefore pretty  
easy about the result. -

I went up to the Court to hear the  
examination. - The first case which  
was a painfully interesting one, was  
that of Mr. Lang Manager of the  
Bank of New South Wales, one of the  
most highly respectable & gentlemanly  
young men on Ballarat, for  
defraud to the amount of £25,000  
Great sympathy is manifested for  
him & he is universally believed to  
be innocent. - Public suspicion is  
pointed in another quarter and it  
is to be hoped that the punishment  
will fall ~~#~~ on the right shoulders.

which  
His case was handled with all  
possible delicacy by the Council  
for the prosecution was postponed  
for 8 days. - Next came Fletcher  
and a fellow sufferer (the Jutype)  
& who were placed together at the  
bar for examination. - The Jutype  
was examined first and the over-  
whelming evidence of eight or nine  
policemen fully committed for trial.  
The first witness ~~that~~ was in Fletcher's  
case manufactured a startling case  
against him, but the second, - a thin  
cadaverous sickly looking wretch, (useful  
only for such vile purposes) almost har-  
alized. He went on as fluently as tho'  
he were reading from a book, charging  
him with destroying property - arson  
and even inciting to murder. - Poor  
Fletcher grew pale as death as the  
wretch proceeded in his diabolical  
evidence and seemed as though he could  
hardly support himself at the bar.

The examination following immediately  
the arrest - another act of wanton  
tyranny on the part of the authorities,  
no evidence for the defence could be  
brought into court, and consequently  
he was committed to take his trial  
on the above charge. - Immediately  
after his committal & just before he  
was removed from the bar. - a  
cowardly mean spirited scoundrel - who  
had for some time entertained and  
expressed a deep enmity towards  
him - walked in, and seating himself  
near to the doorway he snatched pass  
through - actually gloated on his  
misfortunes. - This last stroke adding  
a cowardly insult to injury was perhaps  
the most galling & I think poor  
Hatcher felt it. - A few minutes  
after he was removed I and a friend  
went to the lockup and requested per-  
mission to see him - we were gruffly &  
insultingly refused and threatened

with the petty vengeance of some  
beavish understrapper if we made  
the attempt again. — Shortly after-  
wards Harrington & I met with  
Captain Green & requested him to gain  
us an interview, — he did so at once  
and the same contemptable brute, who  
had so abused his petty authority  
before, but who was now all out  
civility opened the door for us — To  
our regret we were not allowed a  
private interview & all we could do  
was to express our sympathy and  
effect a few arrangements for his  
comfort. — The poor fellow was utterly  
cast down, even shed tears. Of course  
we assured him no means would be  
left untried to get him out of his painful  
dilemma.

As Bentley, the supposed murderer  
had been released on bail we con-  
siderably expected that the same in-  
dulgence would be granted to

letter & his partner in misfortune  
but our surprise it was refused.  
The news got wind - a monster meeting  
was call'd at once and an universal  
determination express'd to have them  
out in spite of everything. - After  
some little deliberation it was agreed  
to send a deputation of about thirty  
resolute fellows to go to the Commissioners  
and demand the prisoners out on bail  
and to tell them at the same time that  
of their demand was not complied  
with they would take them out by force.  
The deputation was received with a  
good deal of ostentation and military  
display, but the men who composed  
it were not to be cow'd by naked  
swords and bayonets & they delivered  
the whole of their determined demands  
pearlily. - In the mean time the  
diggers impatient of delay & suspicious  
of the treatment the men in their  
power would sustain from them

had crowded on the road leading to  
the Camp and now presented a  
formidable mass of five or six  
thous and determined men ready  
to push their bold threat into im-  
mediate execution. — The authorities  
saw their dilemma and wisely  
consented to yield to their demand  
and by about five or six o'clock  
poor Fletcher & McIntyre were borne  
in triumph from the Camp — They  
were released at \$1000 bail each.

Strong sympathy was manifested  
for the two unfortunate, a committee  
was formed at once and subscriptions  
got up to defray the expences of trial.  
Mrs. Hammer gave up her Theatre for  
their benefit and the Stranger was  
performed to a crowded house, and  
in fact throughout the diggings there  
seemed to be but one feeling, a warm  
sympathy for Fletcher & McIntyre and  
deep indignation at the conduct of

the Authorities - The trial is to take  
place in Shelburne about the 15<sup>th</sup> or  
18<sup>th</sup>.

There were several circumstances con-  
nected with our business at this time  
which were far from satisfactory to  
me and George Morgan, and he having  
occasions to go to town shortly before  
Fletcher was taken into custody I remained  
to carry out certain arrangements which  
we considered necessary. - Shortly after  
he left I went through the books and  
a display of dishonourable and swindling  
transactions on the part of Harrington  
<sup>was</sup> revealed ~~to me~~ which made me feel very  
mad. - Instead of entering on equal terms  
of capital &c according to the understanding  
under which George Morgan and I left, he  
had entered the firm without a shilling and what  
was worse had brought into it with his own swin-  
dling person private debts to the amount of  
about £80 or £140 - he had entered into  
arrangements at his own pleasure without

consulting George - suppressed George, name  
and paraded his own about, and in fact acted  
throughout a part - the reverse of a honest man and  
a gentleman. As soon as I was acquainted with the  
matter I showed the account, and demanded a proper  
adjustment of them. - I charged him with his dis-  
honest conduct, - he got frightened at the course I  
began to take against him and tried to compromise the  
matter, but vainly word naturally ensuing I spoke  
my mind freely and ended by disputing George's author-  
ity to make fresh arrangements without consulting George  
Morgan & myself. - George agreed with me in thinking that  
this was the only course left to us. - Finding it necessary  
that we should all be together I determined to go down to  
town at once for Geo Morgan & on Thursday Nov 9. I started  
by Conveyance for Geelong & went on by Steamer next morning  
to Melbourne. - Geo Morgan was of course greatly surprised  
to see me but his surprise was considerably increased when  
I explained to him the reason of my coming. - As he took the  
same view of the matter ~~that~~<sup>as</sup> I did we came to the de-  
termination to turn Harrington if possible out of the  
concern altogether, & we of course felt impatient to  
be back for that purpose. An unpleasant circumstance  
however detained us a week longer than we an-

ticipated. — I had ~~stog~~ only about 10 £ in my pocket on starting making sure that George Morgan would leave cash in hand but on arriving I found to my disappointment that he had bought good to the full extent of his purse and had only a few shillings left. — Traveling is slightly different to English traveling and by the time I reached Melbourne I had only about 3 £ so as a matter of course we were obliged to wait until George sent us down a remittance. I found Melbourne considerably improved in appearance but trade was fearfully bad — confidence seems wholly destroyed — goods were selling at ruinous rates in many instances below home price, — in some for only freight and all for cash, — I went up to Brunswick which was so altered that I did not know it again I found a turnpike close to ~~where~~ the old tents 4 or 5 Hotels and quite a flourishing young township I call'd at Cartons and passed several pleasant evenings there and also at Mrs. Halls. — I was sorry to find for the sake of poor Mrs. Hale & her family that Mr. Hale had returned to be once more a troubler & incumbrance to them. — We had been down 12 or 10 days when George send a young friend of ~~our~~ ours on horseback with funds for our journey and a summons to come up immediately. — We reached Ballarat next evening Nov 20<sup>th</sup> I found that Harrington encouraged by our protracted absence had been endeavouring to add to his dishonorable practices, so we resolved at once to act decisively. — The next morning we knocked down the sign and took possession. Harrington came up while I was knocking out the last nail & with evident astonishment asked me what it all meant. — I told him it meant we had that Geo Morgan & I had taken possession & that he no longer any right there. — He made a few feeble attempts at swagger, but finding them not only useless but ridiculous he went away completely crest fallen.

Solely to save a serious loss of time & not from a shadow of dread of what he could do for he is utterly powerless.) we offered him £ 50 to go quietly out of the firm. - He made a counter proposition ridiculous & extravagant under the circumstances, which we laughed at, and in a little time he fell in with our offer, and after the necessary formal forms had been gone thro' the whole of the business was turned over to us. - It was one of the most gratifying events I have experienced since I have been <sup>in</sup> the Colony - seeing the bulk of the plausible scamp.

It will be hard fighting for some time, for owing to Harrington's wild speculations our liabilities are exceedingly heavy, but we are in hopes thro' the influence of our friends that our creditors will wait when the whole matter is explained to them. — Our worldly effects & business engagements are as follows. — A large Auction Mart call'd the Criterion call'd he lived with druggit, in one of the best situations on the diggings with Stock & an extensive Stock Yard strongly fenced all round to weatherboard & show stable, for 14 horses. In addition to this we have an equal share in a Printing Establishment with Fletcher. — Our present liabilities are considerably more than our effects, but I have hopes that we shall be able to fight safely through & if we do I believe we shall get on well.

Saturday Nov. 18<sup>th</sup> 1854

To day to our infinite relief  
the arrangements were necessary to free  
us from our discreditable association  
with Harrington were completed and  
duly signed. I never felt so complete  
satisfaction in ~~being~~ being able to turn my  
back on a man I utterly despise than  
I have in this instance. His character  
is contemptible in the extreme. It is a  
mixture of deceit, insolence & cowardice.  
He deemed George by his plausible  
hypocrisy, and because <sup>he</sup> was quiet with  
him pushed himself prominently  
forward on every occasion with the  
most impudent assurance, and  
shoved George entirely up the background.  
And now that he has been stripped  
of his mask and told honestly of his  
unprincipled acts his cowardly nature  
has shown itself in its true light. I  
hope this ~~leads~~ <sup>leads</sup> us out of our present dilemma.

will be a sufficient lesson to us for  
the future. It will be a hard

Sunday Nov 19<sup>th</sup>

struggle to fight our way through  
the host of shippers which our  
disastrous connection with that  
paltry rascal has drawn around  
us, but I hope by steady per-  
severance & the ready help of our  
numerous friends that we shall  
in a little time work ourselves -  
Once more into a hopeful position

Sunday Nov 19.<sup>th</sup>

Took a ride into the bush about  
a dozen miles. - It was - as is usual  
with our attempts at enjoyment on the  
digging - more toil than pleasure.  
The sun was blazing hot - the air  
close & sultry and the dust half  
blinding. - If it is ever my happy  
fate to reach old England again

how the memory of such days as  
these will stoke the enjoyment of  
pleasure, then. — It is not so much  
the climate I quarrel with as its so-  
cial visitors, for there are times  
(the evenings especially) when the  
heart could scarce with wish for  
anything more beautiful than the air  
and sky and the rich varied glow  
on the earth. — But as for comfort  
(that haly English word) it is hardly  
known. —

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Monday Nov 20<sup>th</sup>.

We have made arrangements today  
to take our meals with a lady, a  
neighbour of ours) for which we are  
to pay ~~#~~ rather less than the usual  
sum — 9 £ a week. — Our living lately  
has put me actively in want of English  
pigs and it has cost us nearly as much  
as what we have arranged to pay,  
so I consider that the little extra

we say a ample compensation for  
by the absence of all the perplexing  
abominations of cooking - a well  
spread table with more of an air  
of comfort about it than is generally  
met with on the diggings and last  
but decidedly not least - the society  
of an agreeable woman.

Another part of the mask has fallen  
from the rascal Harrington & laid bare  
another ugly trait in his despicable cha-  
racter - Colonial physicians are not  
generally considered a very respectable body  
but it is only the lowest and most despri-  
cable of this despised class who will stoop  
to the degrading meanness which he has prac-  
ticed today.

During the last month he has run up  
a score with our immediate neighbour  
for sundry glasses of grog and today because  
he asked him for ~~the~~ payment in a rather  
abrupt manner he has taken one of the  
most cowardly advantages one man

could possibly take over another, by  
laying an information against him for  
selling grog.

- He came in this evening boasting of  
his notorious exploit, but I gave him  
the benefit of my thought on the subject  
in such plain terms that I think for  
once he was ashamed of himself. - for he  
laboured very hard to convince me it was  
not his intention to push the case. - I know  
he will not push the case, but I know  
also that <sup>his</sup> cowardice alone restrains  
him.

- George Morgan saw him afterward  
in the Stables. - He was ~~etcetera~~ with  
a few glasses of ale & ~~was~~ Harry  
was near recency or horsewhipping as  
he ever was in his life.

Tuesday - Nov 21. <sup>st</sup>

A Party of us had ~~tickets~~ given  
us for the Queen's Theatre. - The  
performance was as miserable as  
any I ever sat under. -

Harrington came in & had a very  
narrow escape of being hussled & pitched  
out again. - The news of his yesterdays  
rascality had spread & ~~but~~ but a word from  
Darby (who was present) would have clapped  
the full & expression of contempt which  
were general around <sup>on</sup> into <sup>an</sup> open manifesto  
of public scorn. -

Darby openly tax'd him with  
the vile act in the Rutherford Room  
& with such effect on those around that  
the poor scamp - hastened to allay  
his resentment by giving him a  
few pounds on account. -

Wednesday Nov 22<sup>nd</sup>

Rode over to Greenvale Creek on horseback  
about ~~way~~ half way there the mare  
set her foot in a crab hole & fell rolling  
over me in the mud. The softness of the  
mud probably saved me from a broken  
leg - as it was I escaped with a trifling  
bruise on the hip & a complete ploughing  
of mud. - I persuaded Mr Wood to  
return with me & pay Mr Gonzalez a  
visit for a day or two. -

The first news I heard on my return to  
Ballarat was as much a source of regret  
to me as it was unexpected. It was  
that poor Fletcher had been sentenced  
to 4 months imprisonment.

Considering he was found guilty the sen-  
tence is certainly a lenient one, but all  
who knew <sup>him</sup> were so thoroughly convinced of  
his innocence that his friends had but one  
opinion & that was that he would be ac-  
quitted.

Thursday Nov 23

Took the management of the printing office. - A few of our friends came down this evening to congratulate us on our separation from Harrington. - It is gratifying to us to find so many of our friends expressing pleasure & approbation at the measures we have taken to get rid of him.

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Friday Nov 24 -

Mr Wood returned to Brewarups Creek

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Saturday Nov 25<sup>th</sup> -

A German of the name of Brem, called inquired for Harrington - He told us Harrington had borrowed 15 £ from him while he was in Geelong & had not paid him back.  
Harrington ~~sick~~ was <sup>dorming</sup> for two days only  
all his expenses both travel & at the Hotel,  
yet he managed to spend nearly 40 £ during  
the two days he was down. - What aggravated  
the ~~at~~ selfishness & dishonesty of the expenditure  
was the fact that he knew his master at least

~~This~~ moment was struggling to meet several  
pressing & perplexing demands -

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Sunday Nov 26. -

I have heard to day that two delegates  
perhaps the two worst that could have been  
appointed for such a purpose - have gone  
to Town to demand the release of the  
prisoners. - I never heard of anything more  
ridiculously absurd ~~than the wording of the~~  
~~petition~~. No man in his senses can believe  
for a moment that the Governor will recognize  
the word demands in a petition. - It is easy  
to guess the result of it. -

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Monday Nov 27.

Very unwell. - A good deal of apprehension  
prevails about the result of the  
meeting on Wednesday. - Rumours of all sorts  
are flying about, and many are of opinion  
that we are approaching a crisis.

Tuesday Nov 28<sup>th</sup>

Made in bed. - A large body of soldiers & John  
came in this afternoon. - I was alone in the  
store about 8 or 9 tonight when I heard a number  
of troopers gallop up the road followed by a large  
body of soldiers. - I went out and found that  
a line of baggage & ammunition wagons had  
been attacked. The contractor beaten severely & a  
little drummer boy wounded by the mob. ~~Three~~ of  
the wagons were destroyed, the rest were saved by  
the prompt arrival of the soldiers. After the wagons  
had passed the excited mob began to pelt the soldiers  
& troopers, while the more desperate ran to their tents for  
firearms. - It was a lovely moonlight night & the soft  
placid beauty of the sky was strangely at variance with  
the scene below where hooting groans curses the clatter  
of horse feet & the rattle of sword made up a horrible din  
which it would be difficult to describe. It is some relief to  
the feelings of Englishmen to know that the row was commenced  
& principally carried on by the worst portion of the digging  
community - old convicts & Tipperary men, for no man  
however well disposed toward the diggers interests can disguise  
the fact from himself that it was a cowardly affair.

Wednesday Nov 29.

The monster meeting so long talked of I expect by some so much dreaded was held today. It was thought by many that the authorities at the camp would attempt to disperse it at the point of the bayonet, & ~~there~~ It was a general feeling from the stern determination of the diggers that such a measure would be but the signal of bloodshed and open riot. Fear or ~~wanted~~ ~~it is diff~~ policy however (it is difficult to tell which) withheld them and the meeting was suffered to go on without interruption. Mr. Hayes a shipmate of mine was in the chair. The delegates from Melbourne (Humphrey among the number) arrived at an early stage in the proceedings and gave an account of their reception by the Governor. It appears they were received in a

very satisfactory manner, and it  
was their opinion that but for the  
ridiculous wording of their memorial  
their protest in reference to Fletcher  
and his fellow victims would have  
been successful. — Humphrey attended  
the meeting but from some reason or  
other he seemed in bad odor with  
the Committee and was frequently  
interrupted. — He was so much an-  
noyed at last that he gave notice  
that he intended resigning his office.  
— The better portion of the meeting  
were I believe well disposed toward  
him, and it was only from some petty  
feeling of jealousy among some of  
the members of the committee that  
he was subjected to interruption and  
annoyance.

The aspect of the men at the meeting  
was quiet but evidently determined. Some  
of the speakers were as usual violent  
in their language and advice, but

the general feeling seemed a wish  
to get their wrongs redressed by  
moral and constitutional means, but  
at the same time a determination to  
have them redressed. One of the  
proclamations was to burn ~~the~~ all li-  
cences, which I believe was acted  
upon to a certain extent. Another  
was to call a meeting at the  
Haaren Theatre to organize a Dijon  
League of 4000 men.

Thursday Nov 30<sup>th</sup>

Among the many false steps our Author-  
ities have taken ~~&~~ recently none I think  
have reached in reckles. foolhardines the  
one they took this morning. - On a day im-  
mediately following an important demonstra-  
tion, while the people's mind were inflamed  
to an ominous degree with a deep sense  
of the wrongs & insults they are chafing under  
the Authorities, came out with a strong armed  
body to enforce the abnoxious license tax  
at the point of the bayonet. - The  
scene when they made their appearance  
~~is~~ beyond description - Groans &  
excruciations assailed them on all  
sides. - Commissioner Redc began  
to read the riot act but before he had  
got a quarter through it he was glad  
to retreat from the shower of stones that  
assailed him. - Every moment I expected  
to hear the order given to fire but for  
some reason best known to the Authorities  
it was not given & the whole force was

withdrawn again to the Camp, - and the  
only casualties were one man shot  
by a trooper, two or three wounded, &  
about half a dozen taken prisoners.

One instance will show the daring  
and determination of the diggers. -

A young fellow (a digger) was ordered  
by Capt<sup>n</sup>. Evans to show his licence.  
He said he had not one & did not intend  
to have one - a trooper was instantly -  
ordered to seize him but the young fellow  
springing boldly on the horse & grappling  
with the trooper pitched him to the ground  
headlong - Two foot-policemen then pressed upon  
him - He knock'd down one & wrested the staff  
from the other. - Capt<sup>n</sup>. Evans now drew a  
revolver fired at him & missed him two  
other shots were fired at him but happily  
for the poor fellow they missed also and  
he made his escape among the holes. -

It is a subject of almost universal  
gratification that the Camp Authorities  
came upon the diggers with their military

display while they were unprepared  
for if they had been armed a fearful scene  
of carnage & confusion would have been  
inevitable. — There is something repugnant  
& revolting to the feelings of a true Englishman  
in such a strife & nothing but the last extre-  
mity will drive him to it. — A little  
forebearance on the part of the authorities  
and I believe all would have been well, but  
this mornings disastrous policy has raised  
feelings of bitter animosity in the breast  
of many who I little while ago ~~were~~ were  
eager that the difficulty should be settled  
by moral means, and all now look forward  
with apprehension to the consequences. —

It is evident how seriously matters are viewed  
at the camp for Commissioner Johnston openly  
stated that in the event of any outbreak  
the whole of the tents & stores on the flat would  
be burnt to the ground by the soldiers, — a  
piece of comfortable intelligence in which I  
am sorry to say are largely shewn, for  
our Stone Printing Office & Stable are imme-

directly under the Camp & we should necessarily be the first victims. - I trust for our own sake & that of our neighbours that such a dire calamity will be averted.

The remainder of the day was a series of anxieties of excitement. - The Camp was carefully fortified to the full extent of its resources.

The diggers were earnestly at work buying revolvers & ammunition - making long pikes, fixing large knives on sticks, - rubbing up old swords muskets & bayonets & in fact making every preparation for a determined struggle. - Bodies of armed men visited the stores demanding arms. - I was in the Riffl Gallery when two men appointed by the main body came for their rifles & guns. It was useless to resist so they gave up at once what they had in the gallery, the rest they had previously sent to the township. Soon afterward 7 or 8 others armed with sword & gun revolvers came in & made a second demand, and would not believe that they had been given up already. - They began to be violent, and

had it not fortunately happened that  
one of their party knew Steele it is  
hard to say what the consequence  
would have been. - They left at last with  
a patronizing promise (which we did not  
altogether appreciate) to call for us all  
at daybreak to join in an attack on the  
Camp.

It was a horrible night altogether.  
The hasty & eager preparations for a  
bloody struggle, - and such a struggle  
almost brother against brother, the deadly  
hates which the most violent manifested  
towards the Camp officials, the incessant -  
fire of guns & pistols, the rattle of arms  
and to crown all, a fearful thunder storm  
the most violent I have witnessed since  
I have been on the digging bank over our head.  
The lightning was truly awful, but scarcely  
more awful than the objects its light revealed  
a flash dazzlingly vivid would sweep across  
the diggings & for a moment the eye would  
rest on groups of armed men talking in

low earnest tone. When all was darkness  
— We are now waiting in darkness and  
uncertainty for some fearful crisis —  
every hour is expected to usher in a  
scam of blood and calamity. — If there  
is a struggle it must be on the flat  
where we are situated — The thought of  
a work of bloodshed & death going on among  
hundreds of women & children is dreadful  
to contemplate

✓

Friday. - Dec 1.

We all lay down last night ~~sawd~~  
less without undressing and what with  
the constant firing of guns & pistols and  
anxiety for what the morning was to bring  
both we passed an almost sleepless  
night. - I was dozing off just before the  
daybreak when I heard the measured  
tramp of disciplined men & a cry  
of huzzah opposite our bridge. - We  
all heard it & made up our minds we  
were come for to join in an attack on  
the Camp. - After a few minutes of un-  
wearable suspense an order was given  
to march & to our relief they all  
passed on without troubling us.

At sunrise we were aroused a second  
time by the rattle of arm & the tramp  
of a large body of military. - We  
looked out & saw the whole camp force  
marching past. - They marched up  
Bakery Hill and along the road a  
few hundred yards & returned past

the back of our Store to the Camp.—  
It was evidently their intent to have  
dispersed the meeting that was held before  
daybreak this morning, but fortunately  
they had dispersed before they reached the  
spot.—

As we were going to dinner we saw a  
long line of men coming down the Black Hole.  
We learnt afterward that they were Crowsfoot Creek  
men come to attend a large meeting ~~to~~ held to-  
night.—

The meeting was attended by about 3000  
men 1500 of whom were armed. The  
greatest order prevailed ~~not~~ scarcely  
a sound except the speaker's voice interrupting  
the dead silence while the leader addressed <sup>them</sup> them  
in low earnest tone. The crisis seems  
now hourly approaching, — Another and  
all are waiting with a good deal of  
dread for the result.—

Saturday Dec 2<sup>nd</sup>

I had no sleep on Thursday night & to night every moment was expected to usher in some division movement - Anxiety kept us awake until a late hour - At midnight however I could stand it no longer & fell asleep - I slept soundly until 8 o'clock the next morning when I awoke & found all quiet -

The day throughout has been one of excitement & suspense - A barricade has been thrown up at Bunker for the diggers head quarters & a flag called the Southern Cross hoisted with some ceremony - Armed men in ranks have been marching up & down the road - A notice has been issued from the Camp for all lights to be extinguished within musket shot on pain of being fired at - the tents being fired into - Reports of all kinds were flying

abroad. - The Governor was coming up  
with his Troop, & a park of Artillery,  
The diggers had were going out  
in strong force to intercept them  
The Camp was to be stormed. -  
and many other rumours equally  
~~vague~~ alarming. -

-- Buornp is temporarily suspended  
but one topic of conversation engrosses  
the attention of diggers & storekeepers.  
Those whose ~~own~~ aff means enable  
them one sending their families  
away, ~~and~~ while others whom poverty  
compels to keep their wives & families  
amidst the scum of threatener dangers  
are awaiting the approach of events  
with fating bachelors may bless their  
happy fortune in not being troubled  
with. -

Sunday. Lee 3<sup>rd</sup>.

Woke this morning with a confused impression that I had been dreaming of volleys of musketry. Immediately afterward I heard the rattle of a horse galloping on the metal road. - I jumped up at once and saw a ~~horseman~~ galloping at the top of his horse open toward the Camp. - He stopped but a moment there and came harrying back again followed by a trooper with a naked sword. - I dressed at once and went out, and the first thing I saw was a melancholy spectacle. A large body of soldiers were entering the gully leading to the Camp with three drag loads of dead and wounded. - Before <sup>I had</sup> walked a hundred yards I met another body of soldiers coming down Bakery Hill driving before them a large number prisoners at the point of the bayonet - a few hundred yards behind

Then again came a detachment of troopers  
with more prisoners - and the diggers  
flag. - I guessed at once that the Indians  
had made an attack on the Eureka  
Stockade but I did not guess that ~~an~~  
~~Englishman~~ in Authority had made such  
a savage use and cowardly use  
of their power as unhappily proved  
to be the case. -

I hope the calamity of witnessing such  
another sight as met my eye this  
morning may never fall upon me  
again. - anxious to know the worth  
that had happened I walked on until  
I came to the Eureka line. - Immediately  
on the other side of this was a Stockade  
between one & two hundred yards in circum-  
ference made of slab log of wood dry  
etc. - I entered it and a ghastly scene  
lay before me which it is vain to attempt  
to describe - my blood crept as I looked  
upon it - Stretched on the ground in all  
the horrors of a bloody death lay 18 or

+

20 bodies, and mutilated bodies. — Some  
shot in the face, others literally riddled  
with wounds. — one with a ghastly wound  
in the temple, and one side of his body  
absolutely roasted by the flame of his  
tent. — another the most horrible of  
these appalling spectacles, with a ~~large~~  
frightful gaping wound in his head  
through which the brain protruded  
lay ~~out~~ with his chest feebly leaving in  
the last agony of death. — One body pierced  
with 16 or 17 wounds I recognized as that of  
a poor German whom I have often joked  
with. —

By the time I had gone round I fell sick  
and it was no small relief to me to turn  
from the revolting scene and retrace my  
steps. — I am told the scene a short  
time before I reached there was harrowing.  
Newly made widows recognizing the bloody  
remains of a slaughtered husband — children  
screaming and crying round a dead  
father. — Surely the man that polli-

ted the early dawn of a Sabbath morning with such a deed of blood ~~and~~  
and suffering must have a stony heart if he does not think with keen remorse on the desolation of many a widowed heart his merciful work has left.

During the day the horrible particulars of the cruel butchery came out. - It appears some government spies had been drilling in the ranks of the diggers from the commencement of the disturbance. One of these had decoyed a large body of men from the Stockade last night or some foretner or other, leaving only about 150 in it and they imperfectly armed. - Another had watched his opportunity while a greater part of the remainder feeling themselves secure from interruption on the coming Sunday had either laid down for a few hours sleep or were enjoying themselves with the bottle when he slipped away to the camp and

reported how matters were. —

Orders were at once given for the whole force to be under arms, and about an hour before sunrise they marched stealthily to the Eureka Stockade.

The first notice the poor fellows had of their approach was the blast of a trumpet. At the moment it sounded a few diggers placed as outposts caught sight of the soldiers and fired their piece. This was answered by a murderous volley on the Stockade followed by an unsparring charge with the bayonet — while at the same time the mounted 40<sup>th</sup> leap<sup>d</sup> the barricade & cut and slaughtered right and left without mercy. —

But this sanguinary carnage revolting as it is to the mind is not half so sickening as the savage wanton barbarity of the troopers. — They brave noble hearts! did not turn their swords on armed men, but galloped courageously among the tents, shooting at women, &c and cutting

down defenceless men. - A few instances  
of their bloody deeds in this horrid messa-  
ge is enough. -

Some distance from the scene of slaughter  
two or three of these wretches fell on a  
poor defenceless man and cut and slashed  
with their swords on his head and body  
until he fell. - This was near Dr Leman's  
tent & Mrs Leman hearing the cry of  
the poor wretch went outside her tent. -  
The cruel sight drew an expression of  
horror from her which reaching the ears of  
one of the butchers he turned round and  
deliberately fired at her. - The base villain  
happily missed his aim and she escaped  
inside her tent where another ball was  
sent after her. -

Another trooper galloped up to Mr. Haslam  
(reporter for one of the papers) and ordered  
him to join the government force. - He alledged  
as an excuse (which was strictly true) that  
he was unwell, when the wretch at once leveled  
his carbine and shot him in the side. - Not

content with his wanton barbarity, he handcuffed him and left him on the ground weltering in his blood, where his friends afterward found him half dead.

Another man, a considerable distance from the Stockade, awoke by the firing went out of his tent in his shirt and drawers, and seeing the savage butchery going on, cried out in terror to a trooper galloping up "for God sake don't kill my wife & children", - his prayer may as well have been addressed to a devil. He was shot dead on his own threshold.

Bowdly and monstrous cruelties such as these made up the bloody tragedy of this morning. - It is a dark indelible stain on a British Government, - a deed which can be fitly placed side by side with the treacheries and cold blooded cruelties of Austria & Prussia.

A universal shock has passed through the diggings, - a feeling of horror seems to possess almost every mind - instead

of the noisy mirth which usually  
characterizes Sunday levee, an uncon-  
fortable stillness prevails, & many seem  
to think it is the lull before the tempest.

Hayes

Monday Dec 4<sup>th</sup> -

I have tormented today I think  
some of the most melancholy spec-  
tacles, with the exception of yesterday,  
horrid display it has ever been my  
misfortune to see. - A number  
of the poor brave fellows who fell  
in yesterday, cowardly ~~mashere~~  
were buried. - ✓ One of the coffins trim'd  
with white & followed by a respectable  
and sorrowing group was the body of  
a woman who was mercifully butchered  
by a mounted trooper while she was  
pleading for the life of her husband.  
The mind recoils with horror & disgust from  
the thought that an Englishman can be  
found capable of an act so monstrous  
& inhuman! - Poor Ross the Canadian  
who died this morning after suffering great  
agony from his wounds was buried among  
the rest - His funeral was attended by about  
300 of his fellow diggers. - There were

circumstance, connected with his death,  
so foul enough to stir up feelings  
of bitter resentment in the breast of  
the firmest lover of peace. ✓ He  
stood at the front of his men bravely  
fighting for the cause he had advocated  
until he was left alone, - some of  
his men were kill'd, others wounded, the  
rest fled. - Finding himself alone he  
approached a trooper & offering his sword  
said he surrendered. Instead of taking  
him prisoner the monster drew a pistol  
and shot him. - If ever a man had a  
cold blooded murder on his soul that  
wretch has. -

It is vain to use expressions of detesta-  
tion at such acts, - words fail to convey  
the intense loathing which must swell the  
mind of every honest man when he hears of  
and witnesses deeds like these.

✓ An affecting circumstance was con-  
nected with another funeral. Yesterday  
morning a little terrier was found howling

over the dead body of his master - The corpse was lifted into a dray among others & the faithful dog jumped up &  
~~sat~~<sup>lay</sup> on it whining until it reached the Camp. - It must have howled about the hospital all night for today he was seen following his dead master to the grave perhaps the deepest mourner in the procession.

About 8 o'clock this evening we were sitting in the room at the back of the Stone talking over some business matters when we were startled by the report of muskets at the Camp - We did not take a great deal of notice of it at first but presently an alarming succession of reports and the ominous whistling of a shower of bullets over the Stone brought us to our feet in an instant. We went out and found the people in wonder & consternation asking what was the cause of it. - After some ten minutes of unendurable suspense a detachment of troopers galloped down from the Camp and stationed

themselves on the bridge - As they halted  
the leader cried out "get into your  
houses or you'll be shot" - The houses  
which with very few exceptions are made  
of thin canvas offered so little hope of their  
being ball proof that the sage advice was  
rejected & the people clustered together outside  
waiting in no little anxiety for the next notable  
exploit of our considerate & merciful rulers.

It came out that a shot had been fired  
into the camp, & for this solatory misdemeanor  
50 or 60 musket shots had been fired indiscriminately among the tents. Tomorrow morning  
will show the result of this wanton & tyrannical  
use of power. I hear many disastrous reports  
tonight but hope there is no foundation  
for them. — After the blood stained lesson  
which was offered on Sunday morning (not a very  
fit day for such teaching) - the people will bear  
a great deal before they will risk a repetition  
but there are some deeds which will goad men  
beyond the power of endurance and this seems  
very like one of them. —

Tuesday - Dec 5<sup>th</sup>

Among the victims of last night's impardonable recklessness were a woman and her infant. - The same ball which murdered the Mother (for that is the term for it) passed through the child as it lay sleeping in her arms. -

Another sufferer ~~was~~ is a highly respectable Storekeeper who had his thigh bone shattered by a ball as he was walking toward the township. - He now lies in extreme agony & danger at the Clarendon Hotel.

A young woman had a miraculous escape. Hearing the report of musketry & the dread whiz of bullet around her, she ran out of her tent to seek shelter. - She had just got outside when a ball whistled immediately before her eyes passing through both sides of her bonnet.

Disasters like these, the consequences of such reckless contempt of human life as was exhibited last night & following so closely on Sunday morning's butchery serve in no

small degree to rekindle the smothered fire  
of popular feeling. - It is to be hoped for the  
sake of the peace & prosperity of the Colony that  
a repetition of the horrors of last week will  
be averted, but if monstrous acts like these -  
soiluting the soil with the innocent blood of  
men women & children are to follow on the heels of  
each other, no man having a manly spirit  
will regret a struggle for the overthrow of  
the authors of it. -

Started early this morning by the Conveyance  
to Greenvale Creek. - Before we reached the  
Township we were turned off the road by a  
stretcher & obliged to scramble up an almost  
perpendicular bank. - We passed several out-  
posts in the bush beyond the Township.

Everything seems quiet at the Creek, but most of  
the diggers here think the men of Ballarat have  
submitted too quietly. - I found Mrs Guyader  
with Mr & Mrs Wood. - She told me she had  
left her husband in disgust. - It is a great pity to see  
a young girl accustomed to good society at home - tyed to  
such a low fellow as her husband has proved himself  
to be. -

Wednesday Dec 6<sup>th</sup>

The first news I heard this morning was certainly comforting intelligence - It was, that an attack had been made on the Camp at Ballarat, & all the stores on the flat (ours of course included) burnt to the ground. - On my return however I found I had still a roof to cover my head. - During the day a large body of troops, about 900 in number, and 5 pieces of Cannon under the command of Sir Robt Nichol had arrived. - Martial law also had been proclaimed at 12 o'clock at noon. - Sir Robt. Nichol I am told bid fair to be far more popular than our present authority. - He stepped out of his carriage as the troops were on their way to the Camp & addressed them in very sensible & forcible, he seemed to deplore the late sacrifice of life & expressed his anxious to do all in his power to restore confidence & tranquility. -

The Melbourne <sup>& Evelyn</sup> Papers state the sympathies of the townspeople are strongly in favor of the diggers.

Thursday - Dec 7

Sir Robert Nicoll has taken the reins  
of power at the Camp. - Already there is  
a sensible and gratifying difference in  
it appears. All the late ostentatious  
military display so offensive to a liberty-  
loving people has disappeared, - and the  
force although augmented three fold appears  
less than it was a day or two ago. -

The old General went round in attend-  
ance to several tents early this morning  
& made enquiry from the diggers relative  
to the cause of the outbreak. - It is  
very probable from the humane & temper-  
ate course he is taking that he will esta-  
blish himself in the goodwill of the people.  
It was anticipated that the extension  
of martial law would effect the supplies  
& speculators looked forward to a tolerable  
pickings. The rules came out today and  
I expect a good many were disappointed  
to find that arms & ammunition only  
were prohibited. -

News arrived during the day of a glorious victory gained by the Allies in the East. The whole of the troops were reviewed & the news read to them, & it was gratifying to find old ammosites cast aside & the boys joining in a hearty cheer ~~in honour of~~  
~~them~~ for the honour & glory of old England.

It is sincerely to be hoped the government will take ~~as~~ into consideration the great wrongs of the diggers & ~~take~~ adopt lenient measures to secure tranquility, and not drive them by insult & oppression to take up arms to redress grievances they would much rather have adjusted by moral means -

Sunday Dec 8.

The temperate attitude assumed by Sir Robt. Nicoll, has given a good deal towards restoring confidence, & the majority seem earnestly desirous of peace.-

The late lamentable occurrences have been most disastrous to both diggers and storekeepers - trade has been all but suspended, and among the diggers many good lives have been lost through neglect.

A reward of 500 £ has been offered by the Government for poor Ben dear or alive. - I sincerely hope he will <sup>not</sup> get into their clutches

Saturday Dec 9<sup>th</sup>

A boorish rotund from the Township last night (perhaps a little under the influence of noblesse) had a narrow escape of being shot in consequence of refusing to answer the sentinel. — It appear the sentinel challenged him three times and receiving no answer fired his musket at him — the ball missed the man it was aimed at & slightly grazed Dr. Carr who was walking with him. —

The unsettled state of Ballarat has attracted a horde of devils of wretches among us which I am afraid we shall be some time in getting rid from. — Last night a man was knocked down not a hundred yards from our door and not of a considerable amount.

Sunday Dec 10<sup>th</sup>

- Not a sultry day -  
- Bought an Illustrated London News for 4/- - It is a great treat to get hold of a English paper even the advertisements possess an interest which was unknown to us at home. - The present number of the Illustrated London News is a very good one - One engraving taken ~~take~~ from a painting of Shylock representing Shylock delivering his keys to Jessica and charging her not to show herself at the windows is very well executed. -

Monday. 11<sup>th</sup>. Dec<sup>r</sup>.

Early this morning we had the pleasure and honour of receiving a visit from the Hon<sup>r</sup> Mr. Officer. He was placed in the stone for a debt which George Morgan and I had nothing in the world to do with. - Harrington by whom in a great measure the debt had been contracted and certainly throughout whose sounding it had not been paid, had been poisoning his mind, and when he first came in he seemed disposed to do everything in his power to injure and annoy us. — A little explanation & exposure of Harrington's rascality however — (for his husband the Officer seem a decent fellow at least) served to change him from a rather formidable enemy to a valuable friend. — He promised to do all in his power to assist us and as a first step withdrew the man /

had placed in possession -

Duke Paine found out today that Harrington had received a letter of his & kept it. I went with Duke to the Post Office to make enquiry and as we were returning met Harrington coming along the road on horseback. I stopped him and asked him what he had done with it, when he had the impudence to deny all knowledge of it. I called Duke (whom he had not observed) forward however and with considerable confusion he stammered out that he had forgotten for the moment but he had sent it by post to Brewster Creek thinking Mr Paine was there. We had previously ascertained that no such letter had been posted for Brewster Creek so I advised Duke to compel the scoundrel to produce it or punish him if he does not.

An Inquest was held today on the body of a man who was cruelly slaughtered yesterday week and a verdict of wilful murder ~~sc~~.

~~Tuesday Dec 12<sup>th</sup>~~

returned against Hayhurst, the  
Magistrate Clerk. It came out in the evidence  
that the poor victim was a considerable distance  
from the stockade when the cowardly supply rode up  
to him & ask'd him what he did there. He replied  
he had nothing to do with the disturber, but Hayhurst  
scarcely waiting for his answer push'd his horse forward  
& struck him a savage blow on the head with his sabre.  
Several troopers, brachied the most horrible barbarity  
on him - some hacked him with their swords brutally  
while another friend barbarously shot him while he was  
lying on the ground. This was the poor fellow  
whom Mrs. Lemon saw mistaking when she was  
fired at because human nature & womanly pity  
could not repress a cry of horror at the scene.  
No expression is required to assist the mind in forming  
a just opinion on these cruelties. - The simple facts  
speak as strongly as volumes. -

Tuesday Dec 12<sup>th</sup>

Wright & Steele record their rifle from the  
Camp. -

Saturday - Dec 16<sup>th</sup> -

From Monday last until today has been a time of anxiety suspense & trouble to us. - We have all learnt the bitter lesson that a man can boast of but few real friends in the hour of adversity - A week ago we all thought we had many friends who required but the test to prove the reality & sincerity of their friendship but now that troubles have thickened ~~and~~ ominously over us many of them have fallen off - their chief anxiety being the success of their excuses. - A few of the sterling stuff have offered us a ready helping hand however & to them our obligation is as great as the sense of it will be lasting. -

Sunday - Dec<sup>r</sup> 17<sup>th</sup> -

Dull showery day -

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Monday - Dec<sup>r</sup> 18<sup>th</sup>

The country seems fast sinking back again into the half barbarous state it was in two or three years ago. - Robberies, Murders & scenes of violence are now of daily occurrence. - This morning I saw a poor fellow in the government hospital to all appearance at the point of death. - It was a pitiable sight. He was on the floor, - half of his body ~~knifed~~? up by two men - a stream of blood gushing from his mouth - his body & head covered with bruises & bearing evidence of the most vindictive cruelty. - He had been struck up in the night on the road near our store, not? & I fear from the hopeless appearance of the poor fellow - murdered. - About the same time too a man was struck up on

The Brunswick Creek road I got off some gold. — Not a night passes but tents are broken into & people rob'd. Two or three days ago a storekeeper was struck up on his road from the Swan to Ballarat & rob'd of 1200£ It is no wonder the diggers rise up in open revolt when they see the enormous expenditure of public money at the Camp & the little protection they receive from it. —

George Morgan made his debut as Auctioneer today. — We were quite prepared to expect a poor attendance on the first day & therefore were not disappointed. —

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Tuesday - Dec 19<sup>th</sup>.

Engaged Humphrey's brother this morning in the printing office. — I like him much better than any others we have had here. Drunkenness seems almost inseparable from the calling of a Printer in this country, but he is certainly a decided exception from the

general rule. —

A meeting was held today to receive the commission appointed by the government to enquire into the causes of the late distressing occurrences. — Every man having it in his power to throw light on the subject was invited to send in his statement to a committee appointed for that purpose, and it is to be hoped that every honest man having such power will do his duty & use it. —

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Wednesday Dec 20<sup>th</sup>

Told a Golden Rule this morning for 150 £. — One of the party told me they had made 2000 £ a man out of it already. —

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Thursday - Dec 21<sup>st</sup>

The Commission of Enquiry began their sitting this morning. - There seems every disposition on the part of the gentlemen who compose it to offer every facility for a fair & thorough investigation into the causes of the late sacrifice of human life - Already many facts have come to light which reflect serious blame on the local authorities. -

Friday - Dec 22<sup>nd</sup>

- Captain Wise of the 40<sup>th</sup> was buried today with military honours. -

It was an ignoble cause for a British Officer to fall in, and there is no doubt the recollection of the horrible scene added some bitterness to his dying moments. - He was highly respected by his brother officers & almost idolized by his men.

Saturday Dec 23 -

- I saw two or three delightful specimens of the fair set today - very fair samples of a numerous class in this country. -

- One ~~woman~~ well dressed young woman I saw staggering along the road suffoy rather severely from an overflow of spirits. Opposite our Drury Office she was met unexpectedly by her husband & a very pretty matrimonial scene ensued.

- The husband seemed to think that sheency demanded that she should be put out of sight as quickly as possible & to put her edes on the subject he seized her wrist and tried to pull her along the road. - she resisted and an interesting struggle took place much to the entertainment of a group of boys who were standing by. - I believe he eventually succeeded in coaxing or dragging his invaluable

better half to her home. —  
Another ~~so~~ a coarse looking wretch  
~~I hearing~~ heard address her father  
in the gentle language of the fair  
daughter of Billingsgate & threats  
to break the paternal nose with  
a cudgel. —

George was introduced to night at  
Robinson's to a gentleman whom he  
discovered in the course of conversation  
to be Mr. Walton of Manchester. —

He brought out a considerable amount  
of capital but like with him but ~~like~~  
like many others he is now worse off  
than when he first landed in the Colony.

Sunday Dec 24<sup>th</sup>

Went over to Greenwich Creek today  
by conveyance. — There seems some  
fatality to attend my visits there —  
last time my horse fell with me  
& today a half drunken driver  
drove the conveyance over a fallen

tree and roll'd all - Convoy and  
horses & passengers in the dust.  
Providentially we are escaped with a  
trifling bruise or two.

---

~~Monday~~ Breowicks Creek seems to  
rival Ballarat in Murder & Robbery  
& Accident. - There have been about  
30 deaths from these causes within  
the last month. - Those bodies are now  
lying at the Camp waiting the funeral.  
They are those of a man who was  
murdered by his mate, & his wife &  
child who were afterward poisoned  
by the murderer -

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~~Monday~~ - ~~Tuesday~~ day -  
I was awoken at midnight last night  
at the Hotel by the Christmas Wreath  
They were all professing belonging to  
the Concert Rooms ~~that~~ of  
tolerable ability, & their voices &  
voices rising in the still night air.

was a treat as pleasant as it was unexpected. —

I return to Ballarat early this morning & with the rest spent the day at Parsons. —

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Tuesday Dec 26 —

Spent a very agreeable evening at Parsons, the nearest approach to the delightful Christmas night of England I have spent since I have been in the colony. — Mrs Parsons is an excellent singer & a few songs from her served very much to increase the enjoyment of the evening.

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Wednesday — 27<sup>th</sup>

The chickens up here had a very prolific harvest ~~last~~ last night. — The road past our store was infested with thieves who committed their robberies with the most impudent and audacity. Keartow after leaving us last night had a narrow escape. He was accosted

at the bend of the road by a man —  
It was so dark that he could not distinguish  
the man's face, but there was an evil sound  
in the voice he did not approve of, and  
he slip behind some trees & got out of the  
way. As he turned off he heard a groan  
as a man fall heavily, so he made the  
best of his way home thankful to have  
escaped the brutality of the scoundrels in  
wait for him. —

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Thursday Dec<sup>r</sup>. 18<sup>th</sup> —

I saw Mr. & Mrs. Waller at the Adelphi  
Theatre in the Stranger. —

I was very much pleased with Mr.  
Waller acting. — Some touches were given  
with very good effect. — Waller too took  
his part pretty well ~~to~~ but the subordinate  
characters were wretchedly sustained.

It is almost painful to see ~~a~~ ~~but~~  
the effect of a beautiful play & good  
acting ruined by a parcel of blockheads  
— to see the finest touches of human nature

in one side the stage & burlesques  
on the other

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Tuesday - Dec<sup>r</sup> 29.

We sold the lower part of our  
Stockyard a day or two ago to a  
Timber Merchant, and to day & a heavy  
fall of rain - the first since the winter, has  
laid it a foot under water.

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Saturday - Dec<sup>r</sup> 30

Saw Mr. J. W. Waller in the Lady of  
Lyons. - Mr. Hammer was announced  
but a quarrel with the owners  
of the Theatre prevented his appearing

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Sunday - Dec 31 -

Very hot day

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Monday - Jan 1 1835

Monday Jan 1<sup>st</sup> 1835

Another New Year day finds us  
in a position but little more promising  
than it was last year. — Our late  
losses we attribute to the consummate  
ignorance of Farmington — Past experience  
will teach us to avoid a repetition this  
year. — The scoundrel is now beginning  
to smart under the punishment of his  
own folly tricks. — I do not think he has  
a single friend. —

---

Tuesday Jan 2<sup>nd</sup> 1835

We have the whole of the Party  
from the Theatre, & it is policy for me  
to show myself there occasionally. —  
To night Dryden's was performed  
I had never seen it before, neither had  
I much opportunity of judging of the merit  
of it tonight for with the exception of  
the two principal characters taken by  
Walter & his wife the performance was

disgraceful. One scene, between  
Ingonish & Inogene, - where the haughty  
savage was subdued to ~~the~~ <sup>honor</sup> soft persu-  
asion lone by the eloquence & beauty of the fair  
capture, was worth all the rest. —

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Wednesday, Jan 3.

Told the remainder of our Stock Yard  
Habbing &c for 55 £. The sum is con-  
siderably lower than we expected to get  
for it, but in the present state of our  
business & finances 58 £ is more ac-  
ceptable to us now than 100 would pro-  
bably be a month or two hence. —

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Thursday, Jan 4<sup>th</sup>

A stifling hot wind - a blazing sun - &  
blinding cloud of dust have made this  
day as uncomfortable as human patience can  
well stand against. I trust my father  
will not very much longer have to withstand  
the manifold miseries of colonial life. —

Friday Jan 5. —  
Notary public

Saturday Jan 6<sup>th</sup>

— A meeting was held today on the famous Bokeny site - to receive the report of the committee appointed by the diggers - to sit with the Commission of Enquiry - Humphrey was the leading man among them. —

Sunday - Jan - 14

have been too busily engaged  
during the last few days to make  
duly entries in my journal - I must  
therefore write the a few of the prin-  
cipal incidents from memory. -  
About the the most important was  
a notice ~~that was issued from~~ from  
the Camp, that the discontinued digger  
hunt would be resumed again on  
Thursday. - The reekle, measure was  
as a matter of course productive of  
the greatest discontent and irritation.  
A monster meeting was held on Bakery  
Hill & a universal determination expressed  
to take out no more licences. - Thursday  
came & many anxious fears were entertained  
about the course the authorities meant  
to pursue. Happily however ~~had~~ the  
good sense of the New Commission prevailed  
& no steps were taken further than what  
what was barely necessary to obey order.

from head quarters. — The trifling show  
that was made in carrying out their  
tyrannical instructions proved that  
the whole proceeding was ~~too~~ highly  
repugnant to their feelings, and  
secured for them the approbation of  
a large portion of the digging com-  
munity. — Shortly after the peaceable  
termination of this insane act, reports  
appeared in the papers that Sir Charles  
Hotham was determined to ~~put~~ hang  
the poor unfortunate fellows in his power  
who were found guilty. If such a hor-  
rible scheme is carried into effect there  
will <sup>be</sup> such a universal rising up for  
vengeance that Sir Charles Hotham  
& his satellites with all their military  
force will not stand against. — The  
people of Melton & Galley — the diggs  
& the press <sup>are</sup> all united in one cry for  
a general amnesty, & it will be well  
for the government if they reflect before  
they turn a deaf ear to the public voice.

The deaths resulting from the  
horrible massacre at Eureka have  
been ascertained to be about fifty.  
Surely such a wholesale butchery  
should be enough to satisfy the  
~~huge~~ taste for vengeance of any  
government however malignant.

If the Government had been  
wholly free from blame in the first  
instance, the affair would have been  
slightly different, but when it is known  
that the sole cause of it was the  
outbreak was a foul & insulting  
wrong offered by the authorities to  
the whole community - the lamen-  
table result shows blackly against  
the authors of it. - It is to be hoped  
that the report is without foundation.  
The frank liberal speeches of  
Sir Charles Not�am on his first appearance  
in the colony gained for him the good  
will of ~~the~~ the people, but his late acts  
so strangely at variance with his pro-

position have doubt his cause &  
then to doubt his sincerity.—  
Dr Lang, father of the young man  
who was sentenced to the road for  
defrauding the bank of New South  
Wales) has made an appeal to the  
people through the papers on behalf of  
his unfortunate son.— There seems  
something cruelly unjust throughout  
the whole affair.— It was unfair and  
heartless to place a mere boy in a posi-  
tion of such responsibility & then punish  
him to & with such relentless severity  
when the deficiency was discovered. It  
is almost beyond a moral doubt that  
he has been the victim of a designing  
villain & some mercy should have been  
extended to him, but instead of that  
the Judge himself even, forgetting the dig-  
nity of his position shew the weight of  
his influence against him.—

— Another victim of the late melancholy  
affair died in the early part of

the week. - It was the Shrike keeper  
who was shot on the night of the ~~night~~  
~~undescribable~~ firing among the huts.  
His thigh had been amputated but the  
agonizing operation was in vain and he  
died from mortification after great suf-  
fering. -

- George Morgan heard from home

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Sunday Jan 21 -

The overland mail has arrived bring  
important news of the war. - From the  
lastest accounts, it appears that Sebachpoor  
is in a state of vigorous seize, and  
no doubt the next mail will trait  
will bring news of the overthrow of one  
of the strong-holds of the Russian despot.  
It is gratifying to find that the ~~late~~  
bitter animosity which is daily increasing  
against the Governor & his satellites,  
instead of lessening the loyal attachment  
of the people of Victoria to the Queen.

develop-

has served neither to ~~develop~~ it. - At  
a meeting held in Melbourne attended  
by about 5000 people it was distinctly  
stated and universal shout of applause  
that the loyal devotion of the colonists  
to our good Queen was as firm & steadfast  
as it ever was, - but toward our faith-  
less Governor the general feeling expressed  
is - "send him home". - At the close  
of the meeting a deafening cheer for the  
Queen rose up heartily from the throng  
followed by three prolonged ~~roars~~ and  
as hearty groans for Sir Charles  
Hotham.

- It has been the general impression  
that <sup>no</sup> jury could be found in Melbourne  
~~willing to~~ who would not lend their aid in  
thwarting the tyrannical designs of the  
Governor, - & a like trial of some men for a  
so call' political offence, <sup>committed</sup> a short time before  
the Eureka affair seems to support the  
idea - the whole of them were acquitted  
after ten minutes deliberation - This should

be a significant hint to Sir Chas. Hotham  
The Eureka prisoners were placed at  
the bar, and remanded for ten days on  
account of some information in the  
prosecution. -

Dr. Lang was arrested early in the  
week ~~on a charge~~ for writing a letter  
in one of the papers calculated to bring  
the law into contempt. - He has been  
released on bail & is now delivering lec-  
tures to crowded audiences on the present  
condition of the Colony. -

A man made an awkward mistake  
the other night in the tent, ~~sacrificing~~ to Mr.  
Rendellson. - The Dr. and his wife were  
asleep in their tent, when he was awoken  
up by a noise & saw a man creeping  
under the canvas - he <sup>remained</sup> quietly watching  
the rascal, but his wife who was awake also  
seeing him approach the bed was so terrified  
that she could not suppress a cry of  
alarm & the scoundrel <sup>had</sup> himself  
discovered tried to make his escape.

The owner of the tent however was too quick for him and secured him, but by his begging heart for mercy he let him off with a caution. — The next night the wife was out of bed looking for match or something of the sort, when the husband suddenly awoke & seeing an object moving about in the uncertain light took it for granted that it was his late midnight visitor & springing up in a rage dealt his unfortunate wife a shower of tremendous blows on the head. The poor woman screamed & fell down insensible. — The poor fellow when he discovered his unfortunate mistake was half frantic.

The Police Inspector has been actively engaged in putting out disorderly frog tents during the week. — In one case he has conferred a material benefit on the community by breaking up a den of infamy — a convenient resort for characters of the worst description will

uated a short distance from our home  
It is to be hoped they will not relax  
their philanthropic efforts until a large  
portion of the hordes of villains who  
infest Ballarat are scattered out

Places of amusement are growing as  
plentiful as in Melbourne, but the ma-  
jority of them are still of a very low  
character - a vulgar song seems to be  
the more appreciated than a clasic per-  
former. This was ~~not~~ exemplified  
last Thursday night, when a concert  
given by two of the most talented instru-  
mental performers in the Colony was  
attended by an audience of about 30 peo-  
ple, - while the Doctor Johnson, a place  
where low song, badly sung makes up  
the intellectual bill of fare, was crowded  
to excess. - I think however it is to be  
accounted for by the fact of there having  
been no opportunity until very lately  
for a man to gratify a higher taste. -  
There are many men of refinement on

The diggings & I feel convinced that  
a better & more intellectual kind of  
amusement will conduct - than we  
have at present woud be supported.

