

The Moonta Herald

[Illustration of a ship – the 'Moonta?']

AND Northern Territory Gazette.

Vol 1, No 3

Saturday 16th, Jan 1869

Until the last three or four years the history of North Australia has not for a long period been brought very prominently before the public & as it is highly probable that our readers are unacquainted with the attempts that have previously been made to settle that Territory, we subjoin a short account of the various expeditions that have been dispatched for that purpose & the success attending them.

The first expedition of which we have any record was dispatched by the British Government from Sydney in August 1824 under charge of Cap^t. J.J. Bremer in H.M.S. Tamar and arrived at Port

Essington which is situated about 90 miles N.E. of Adam Bay, but failing to obtain a supply of fresh water, they proceeded at once to Melville Island exactly opposite Escape Cliffs distant about 20 miles and formed the settlement of Port Dundas in Apsley Straits.

This place was abandoned on 31st March 1829 after an existence of four years, for what reason is not clearly stated.

During this period it was resolved to form a settlement and on 17th June 1867[27?] a fresh expedition under command of Cap^t Stirling in H.M.S. 'Success' arrived at Raffles Bay and founded the new settlement of Fort Wellington but this was also abandoned 29th Aug^t 1829 under orders from the Home Gov^t just when there was every prospect of its proving a success.

The next and

most lasting effort was made by H.M.S. Alligator and Britomarte which sailed from Sydney for Port Essington in Sept 1837 and having made all the necessary arrangements forming a settlement the former vessel returned leaving Capt. M^cArthur R.M. with 40 marines in charge of the new settlement.

It is difficult to imagine whether the Government intended this to be a bona – fide settlement or simply a military station, if the former, its failure must have been absolutely certain, as the class of men were totally unsuited for the purpose, the locality was unhealthy - no inducements whatever were held out to persons to immigrate and the quantity of land in the neighbourhood suitable for cultivation was far too limited for any quantity of tropical productions being grown for export.

As a military station it was totally useless on account of its distance from any locality where there was any chance of a force being required.

This settlement however lasted longer than any of the rest, but was at length abandoned after an existence of several years.

We have thus seen how all previous pioneers have failed in their efforts to colonize this country, principally through bad management &

want of judgement, it remains to be seen whether Sth Australia will profit by the errors of her predecessors and bring to a successful issue that which has baffled them for so many years.

Latest Intelligence

{Per Aqua marine Telegraph}

Adelaide 11th January

Great preparations for the reception of Sir James Ferguson –
The Mayor had ordered a new coat!

The Town Council has voted 4/6 for the purchase of fireworks! There will be a royal salute of two guns & the sentry at Govt. House will present arms.

Adelaide 12th Jan

Sir James Fergusson has arrived! Immense excitement! all the small boys of Adelaide turned out 'en masse'! 10000 school children sang "Hey! diddle diddle" with grand effect! The new Governor seemed delighted with the Town Hall as soon as it was explained to him that the tower was not originally intended for a pepper-box.

Adelaide 13th Jan

The Governor visited the Exhibition of the Society of Arts and afterwards happily remarked 'that the South Australians were the most art-less people he had met with.

Mercantile Report

16th January 69

On Monday there was a forced sale of Cake and cheese

at nominal prices, as there is but
a small parcel left the holder
declines to part with
it at the same price

~ **Hay** ~

There has been an
average demand during the week.
No sales, but a good deal of
chaffing.

~ **Spirits** ~

Several attempts
have been made to effect sales.
There seems to
be an increasing demand for
the article but holders are fixed,
and will not part.

~ **Beer and Porter** ~

Several parcels
have changed hands during
the week. Some heavy
sales were effected on Wednesday.

~ **Sheep** ~

There is a slight
downward tendency but prime wethers
realize full prices.

Poetry

The Ocean

"Beautiful sublime and glorious
Mild majestic, foaming, free;
Over Time itself victorious
Image of eternity.

" " " " "

Such art thou stupendous Ocean
But, if overwhelmed by thee,
Can we think without emotion,
What must thy Creator be?"

Barton.

Correspondence

To the editor of the Moonta
Herald and N.T. Gazette.

Sir

Finding we have many
musicians on board both Vocal
and Instrumental, I would suggest
that after a few Concerts be
arranged, consisting of Vocal and
Instrumental pieces

I have M^r Goyder's
kind permission by which ar-
rangements can be made for
the majority of the Party to be
present at these entertainments.

So far as the vocal
part is concerned I am willing
to do what I can and I think
if the different Instrumentalists
were to meet and consider the
subject a good Band might be
organized which might have for
its title 'The Northern Territory
Philharmonic Society'.

By the first mail
to Adelaide music suitable to
each voice & instrument could
be procured and by return mail
forwarded to the Northern
Territory.

If any of your readers
can make any suggestions to
forward the object I have
named; I trust they will do
so.

I am Sir etc
Robt. Peel

Answers to correspondents

W.W.H} It was certainly
very wrong to draw the likeness
of you without your permis-
sion, but it is the penalty
we must all pay for being
good looking.

D. B. } No! Studding-sails are pronounced "stun-sails" not, "stunning sails" so can't make a pun out of it.

W. M. H. } A pudding without plums is not necessarily a duffer.

Problems etc.

The solutions will be published in our next with the Initials of those answering correctly.

Answers must be sent to the Editor by the Thursday following publication.

No.1 } Find a point within a triangle from which the three sides shall subtend equal angles ~

No 2 } A snail commences to climb up a pole 2^{ft} 7ⁱⁿ in height and in the night he climbs 16 inches, but in the day the heat causes him to slip down 15 inches.

How long will he be getting to the top?

Original Conundrums

Answers received up to Thursday

No 1 Why was Paul Hapoo like a gun?

No 2 What fowls if sick on board this vessel are like shell-fish?

No 3 Why is the journey to the Northern Territory like a carrot?

No 4 Why are clever Surveyors like half-starved dogs?

No 5 Why is water in a ship's hold like a man in

prison?

No 6. Why was M^r

Spriggs on Sunday last like a dead man at sea?

Memoranda of Ship's Course

Sat. 9 th Jan	{	Lat. 36° 20' S Long 116°.1'.45"
		Course N 60° W - 109 miles
Sun. 10 th	{	Lat 34.32. Long 113.45.15
		Course N 39 W. 159 miles
Tues. 11	{	Lat 32.8 - Long 111°.44'.45".
[Mon?]		Course N.N.W. ½ W. 174 miles.
Tues 12	{	Lat 29°. 27' Long 111°.1'
		Distance 160 miles.
Wednesday 13	{	Lat 26°.36' Long 110°.25'
		Course N ½ W 167 miles.
Thursday 14	{	Lat 23°.36' Long 110°. 47'
		Course N ½ E 170 miles
Friday 15 th	{	Lat 21°.39' Long 111°.35'
		Course N 21°.E 124 miles.

Fistiana

- From Bell's Life on the Moonta.

The revival of the 'noble art of self-defence' will be hailed with delight by the patrons of the P.R.

During the last week some very pretty mills have taken place in which an amount of science was displayed that was very creditable to novices.

A game battle between the 'Northern Musquito' and the 'Moonta Giraffe' caused considerable excitement, but the disadvantages of size the former laboured under rendered the result a certainty.

The most prominent event of the week was the mill between the 'Trigonometrical Swell' and the 'Queensland

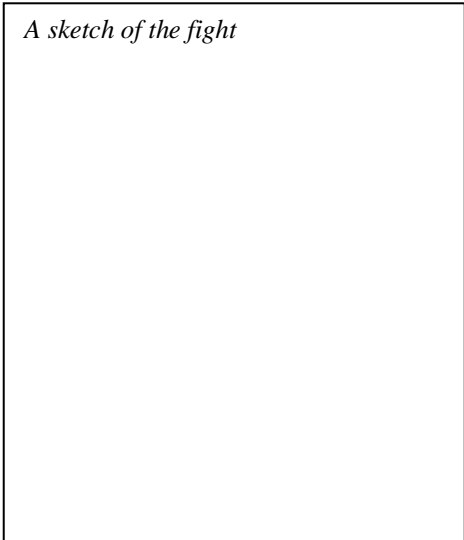
Slasher' which came off on Wednesday.

There was a considerable amount of betting which commenced slightly in favor of the 'Slasher'

On peeling the Swell evidently seemed in best condition and well up to his work, the Slasher being too fleshy & shewing want of training.

On coming to the scratch the Slasher lost no time in going in and delivered his left well on the 'Konk', the

A sketch of the fight



Swell countered, but struck short.

Some very pretty sparring now took place, the Slasher exhibiting more science and pluck than his friends gave him credit for

The Slasher again succeeded in planting his left on the dexter ogle, the Swell retaliating on the cheek, some severe punishment was now interchanged and the Swell eventually striking his opponent on the back of the

head a claim of foul was made but disallowed by the referee.

Several more – rounds of a similar character having taken, the Slasher succeeded in drawing blood and claimed the belt.

Startling Occurrences

On Wednesday morning a young gentleman, famed in Adelaide for the accuracy & neatness of his attire, but latterly deficient in those respects was observed to wash himself!!!!

Another young gentleman after undergoing the same process appeared in a clean shirt!!!

It was evident this betokened something unusual and much curiosity was evinced as to the result, We are happy to hear that neither of the gentlemen have suffered from their unwonted exertions.

On Sunday morning a gentleman fancied he saw land on the starboard quarter, but as no one else could see it he was taken to the doctor who, after a careful examination, gave it as his opinion that it was an optical delusion caused by a piece of dirt in the gentleman's eye, it was therefore suggested that it was probably an eye-land!

~ Lost ~

A Lett's Diary

J.M. Lambell.

Lost con^d

A Black leather Shoulder Bag
containing Purse Watch and
Papers

Alex Ringwood

A Meerschaum Pipe & Case.
North Smith

Baker etc

A Towel containing a piece of Marine
Soap and a large Nail Brush
N^o 14 Cadet Square

A Brown Silk Net

G. Richards
N^o 3 Mess.

A sheath knife W.S. on handle
and two notches on each side
W. Stanborough.

A Felt Hat with leather belt.
J. Ewart.

A Two-bladed Pen-knife
J.F. Roberts

A New Flannel Shirt
Edw. Ryan

A Plaid Rug
Jas. Aldridge

A Gold Ring
Jno. Nottage

A Brush & Comb and two eye-shades
D.L. Beetson

A sheath-knife, Mappin's make
W.F. on handle
W. Farrant
N^o 6 Mess.

Found

A one pound note, owner can
have the same by applying
to the Surveyor General & giving
a proper description.

A Yankee Hat and Veil
W.M. Hardy

An Empty Tobacco Pouch
N^o 14 Cadet Square

Wanted

Wanted, to purchase a Pen-knife
J.F. Roberts

To purchase a Pilot Coat, new or
second-hand.
No 17
Port Side, Fore-hatch.

To purchase some Calico
A.T. Woods

Wanted to purchase a sheath knife
& sheath
J. Ewart.

Sale by Auction

~ **W, Fisher** ~

Is favoured with
instructions to sell at his
Mart, Forecastle, on Monday
18th January
Splendid silver Hunting Watch
by Dent.
2 or 3 Packets of Marine
Soap (particularly suited for
Cadets.)
A large Piece of Mosquito
Curtain.
And a variety of Articles
too numerous to mention.
Terms Cash } 2 o'clock Sharp!

*Printed and Published for the Proprietors at
the Office abaft the Main-mast Ship
'Moonta' every Saturday morning.*