
McLAREN, David

PRO 790
Series List

David McLaren, son of a Glasgow Manufacturer, was born in Perth in 1785 and was appointed second manager of the South Australian Company, arriving in Kingscote aboard the South Australian in April 1837. He moved the Company's office to Adelaide and concentrated activities on grazing and banking, successfully steering the company against the 1840's depression. In his approach to both business and personal relations he was governed by a strict evangelical Protestantism and acted as lay pastor to the Baptist community. He left South Australia in 1841 to become the competent manager of the South Australian Company's London office, its headquarters/and died in London on 22 June 1850. Of his six children Alexander (1826-1910) became a highly notable Baptist minister in Manchester.

Source: Australian Dictionary of Biography, Douglas Pike (Ed).
Melbourne University Press, 1967.

R.N.A. January, 1988

- Bible 1
1835-1836. 1 volume.
[University Press, Oxford 1835, inscribed
"to my dear son Alexander with warmest prayers for his everlasting
happiness David McLaren (22nd October 1836".]
- Journal 2
1836-1837. 1 volume + 2 photoprint copies.
[Original held in RESERVE. Comprises journal kept by David
McLaren during his voyage aboard the barque South Australian from
Plymouth to Kingscote 26 November 1836 to 23 April 1837 together
with notes of a conversation with Aborigines at Adelaide on 1
October 1837 "to ascertain the extent of their knowledge as to
a Supreme Being and their consciousness of moral responsibility".
Copy one formerly accession D3908L.]
- South Australia: facts illustrative of its state and 3
prospects. By David McLaren.
1842. 4p. Printed.
["Submitted to the consideration of the public generally and of
capitalists, farmers and intending emigrants particularly". Printed by
J.W. Maddox, Bermondsey, Southwark. Formerly Accession A897.]
- Historical extracts. 4
1837-50. 24 p. photoprint copies.