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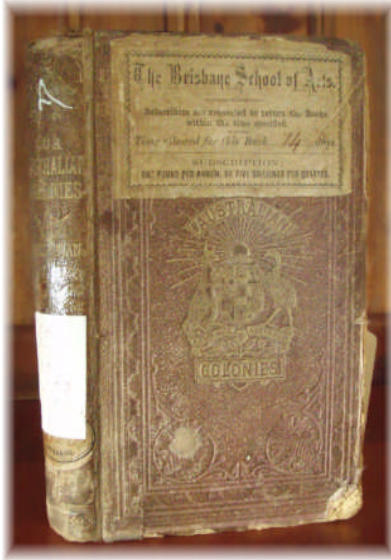
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OUR AUSTRALIAN COLONIES :

THEIR

Discovery, History, Resources & Prospects.

BY

SAMUEL MOSSMAN,

AUTHOR OF THE ARTICLES "AUSTRALIA" AND "AUSTRALASIA" IN THE
ENCYCLOPÆDIA BRITANNICA, ETC.

WITH MAP AND PLANS

LONDON :

THE RELIGIOUS TRACT SOCIETY.

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CHAPTER IV.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

Transportation to America in 1619—Cessation in 1783—Renewed from Great Britain to New South Wales in 1787—Arrival of the first fleet at Botany Bay in January, 1788, and abandoned for Port Jackson—La Perouse—Governor Phillip forms the Settlement of Sydney—First Census of Australia—First Sabbath Worship held—The Governor kind to the Natives—Depravity of the Convicts—Alleged Gold Discovery—Dearth of Provisions—Famine in 1790—Loss of the Cattle—Stray Convicts—Governor Grose, 1792—Macarthur imports Merino Sheep, 1797—Grain Stores in the Rocks—Road-making—Cultivation—General Progress begins, 1800—Sydney a Stone Quarry—Tyranny of Governor Bligh, 1806—Mildness of Governor Macquarie—Prosperity of the Colony due alone to the Settlers—Export of Wool in 1815—Pastoral Era—Prisoners assigned as Servants—Convict Shepherds—Export of Wool in 1835—Rapid increase of Pastoral Settlers—Fruit and Vegetables—The Grape Vine—Condition of the Colony in 1835—Emigration from England—Missions among the Aborigines—Religion and Education attended to—Statistics of 1850—Gold Discovery at Bathurst, 1851—Excitement and Confusion throughout the Colony—Desertion of flocks and herds in the Country, and avocations in Towns—Ships deserted in Harbour—Government alarmed at the anarchy—Proclamations and Licences to dig for Gold issued—Gold Fields tranquil—Favourable reaction in Trade and Pastoral Pursuits—Emigration from Europe—Providential period for the Gold Discovery—Disappointed Diggers return to old Occupations—Novelty of Gold-mining passes away—New South Wales overgrown, breaks up into four Colonies—Its present Area and Material Condition—Picturesque Beauties of Port Jackson and the City of Sydney.

FROM the contemplation of the wondrous works of the Great Creator, as manifested in the formation of this vast region of Australia, and in the organization of his creatures, so beautifully adapted to the country and clime, we must now turn to the arrival and settlement of civilized man upon its shores; but, alas! in his

CHAPTER V.

TASMANIA.

Formerly Van Diemen's Land—Suspicious of French occupation—First settlement under Bowen—Unexpected arrival of a large expedition—Settlement formed at Hobart Town—Death of Governor Collins—Topographical aspect of the Derwent and the Island generally—Land Regulations—Officers induced to become Settlers—Rapid occupation of Pasture Lands from increase of Sheep—Names of Localities curious—System of Bartering—Private Paper-currency—Colony dependent on Government—Social condition during Governor Sorell's time—Colonel Arthur succeeds—Subsidiary Penal Settlements established—Escaped Convicts become Bushrangers—Their exploits—Harsh treatment of Convict-servants—Cruel attack upon friendly Natives—Their number and physical appearance—Native Tiger—War of extermination—Quixotic expedition to capture Aborigines—Decrease and extinction—Suppression of Bushrangers—Sir John Franklin Governor—Sir Eardley Wilmot Governor—Sir William Denison Governor—Cessation of Transportation—Gold Discovery and exodus of Population, free and bond—Rewards offered—Colonel Brown arrives—Statistics for the year 1863.

IN the first chapter, treating of maritime discovery in Australia, it is mentioned that Captain Abel Jansen Tasman, sailing on a voyage of discovery from Batavia, rounded the southern coast of this island in December 1642, and concluding that it was part of the southern continent, he named it Van Diemen's Land, in honour of his master, the Governor-general of the Dutch East Indies, Anthony Van Diemen. Further, it has been related how Mr. Bass, the surgeon of H.M.S. *Reliance*, discovered, in 1798, that it was an island, divided from the mainland by a strait 130 miles wide, which Governor King named after him. On that occasion

CHAPTER VI.

VICTORIA.

Grant's Survey—Port Phillip—Arrival of Collins—Hume travels overland to its shores—Whaling Station established—Batman and Fawkner contract with natives to colonize the Country—Repudiated by Government—Buckley becomes a savage—The Aborigines friendly—Influx of Settlers—Physical Geography—Sheep-farming—Arrival of Capitalists—A Pastoral Mania—High Cost of Living—Land Speculations—Government Neglect—Superintendent Latrobe—His system of Government superseded—Increase of Live Stock—Climate Peculiarities—Sheep Runs—Rich Agricultural Lands—Prosperity of the Colony previous to Gold Discovery—Statistics in 1851—Plethora of Food—Banking—Separation of Port Phillip—Statistics of Prosperity—Effects of Gold Discovery—Discovery of Gold at Ballarat, &c.—Latrobe's Dispatches—Extraordinary increase in amount of Gold—Re-emigration of Miners—List of Ships laid on from England—Melbourne—Crowded state of the City—Canvas Town—Destitution—Anarchy and crime—Statistics of Arrivals—Governor Latrobe leaves—Sir Charles Hotham succeeds—Convicts prohibited from landing—Licence-fee on gold fields obnoxious, and Export duty substituted—Squatters' Land claims—Gipps Land—Governor Hotham dies—Macarthur assumes office—New Constitution proclaimed—Statistics of Progress—Sir Henry Barkly—Responsible Government—Ministers from all classes—State Aid to Religion—Increase of Revenue—Expenditure on Roads—Railways and Telegraphs constructed—Gold resources of Ballarat—Melbourne and Suburbs.

WHEN the account of the discovery of Bass Strait reached England, and the want of a proper boat for surveying purposes and making further discoveries was made known through the representations of Governor King, the chief Lord of the Admiralty, the Duke of Portland, directed Lieutenant James Grant to proceed in the *Lady Nelson*, an armed surveying vessel of sixty tons, to New South Wales. Much interest was excited

CHAPTER VII.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

Wakefield Theory of Colonization—South Australian Association formed—Colony founded—Site of Adelaide—Hindmarsh quarrels with the Surveyor-General and Commissioner—Distress among Immigrants—Governor Gawler—State of the Colony in 1839—Lands Surveyed—Expenditure on Public Works—Scarcity of Bread-stuffs—Recall of Gawler, succeeded by Grey—Able Administration—Labouring Class murmurs—Prosperity of Country Settlers—Progress in 1843—Discovery of Copper Ore—German Settlers—Mines—Statistics of 1850—Effects of the Gold Discovery—Cultivation of the Vine—Cultivation of Wheat—Flour largely exported—Statistical Returns—Government Immigration—The Aborigines—Governor Daly's despatch—Mission Stations—Religious Instruction without State Aid—Statistics—Schools and Scholars—South Australia free from evils of a Convict Colony—System of Land Conveyance by Mr. Torrens—Real Property Act of 1862—Exploration of North Australia by Stuart—Occupation at Van Diemen's Gulf—New Settlement under South Australian Government—General Progress.

ABOUT the same period that the Tasmanian settlers were engaged in colonizing Port Phillip, and the pioneer associations were bargaining with the aborigines for the possession of their land, considerable agitation was going on in England among a body of theoretical colonizers, who were bargaining with the British Government for the colonization of SOUTH AUSTRALIA on a new and untried principle. These gentlemen had been impressed with the unexpected success attending the penal colonies of New South Wales and Tasmania, and with the opening which Australia presented for the employment of capital and labour. They calculated that if so much could be done under a demoralizing

CHAPTER VIII.

WEST AUSTRALIA.

Intentions of the French—Free Settlement projected—Stirling arrives with Emigrants at Swan River—Delay in Surveying Land—Distress—Poor Pasture Land—Address to Governor—Absurd system of computing Capital—Destruction of Property for lack of Store-room—Preferential Land-claims held by Military and Naval Officers—Fertile Country not available to Farmers—Stirling leaves—Successive Governors to Fitzgerald in 1849—Condition of Colony in 1834, 1839, and 1848—Memorial to the Home Government to send over Convicts—Religious Denominations—Occupations of the Colonists—Aborigines well cared for—Wesleyan Native Mission—Government accedes to Memorial—Prosperity ensues from Imperial Expenditure—Public Works constructed—Reformatory System—Effects of Gold Discovery—Statistics, 1850—Departure of Expires to Gold Colonies—Victoria suffers—Anti-Convict Agitation—Petition for discontinuance of Transportation—Governor Hampton—Free Settlers leave—Exploration of North Territory—Squatters from Eastern Colonies bring Stock—Copper Mines—Timber—Statistics up to 1864—Martin's Description of Perth and Swan River Country.

EASTERN AUSTRALIA having been successfully colonized by the British, other European nations began to cast an eye upon the western territory of this great south land. One moiety of the continent, designated New Holland by the Dutch, having been abandoned by its discoverers, was open for any European power to occupy, that was bold enough to plant its flag upon the shores, and form a settlement. Some years after the peace of 1815, when France had recovered from her desolating wars, her ambitious sons finding themselves shut out from territorial acquisitions in Europe and America, thought it desirable to look for new possessions

CHAPTER IX.

QUEENSLAND.

Moreton Bay District—Brisbane—Tropical Climate—Rich Pasture Land in the Interior—Colony opened to Free Settlers in 1812—Neglect by Sydney Government—Petition for separation—Proclaimed Queensland in 1859—Governor Sir George Bowen arrives—Statistical Statement after separation—Progress up to 1861—Extensive Immigration—Land Grants to Unassisted Immigrants—Assisted Emigration from the United Kingdom—Distress at Brisbane among Educated Immigrants—Climate not suitable for growing Wheat—Statistics to 1864—Cotton grown and exported—Maize chiefly cultivated—Municipalities—Condition of Public Worship—Educational Institutions—Small percentage of serious crimes—Large proportion of misdemeanor cases—Aboriginal Population most independent in Australia—Abundance of Fish and Indigenous Animals—Sea-cow Fishery—Pine Timber of superior quality—Prospects of Queensland favourable.

FROM the circumstance of this colony having been proclaimed Queensland, in honour of Her Majesty Queen Victoria, on the 3rd June, 1859, an impression prevails that it was then first colonized by British subjects. Instead of being one of the youngest colonies in Australia, as this would imply, it is one of the oldest settlements. Under the name of the Moreton Bay District, the southern section, where it forms the boundary with New South Wales, was flourishing as a pastoral region, after a progress of twenty-five years; while the middle section, with Port Curtis as a central point, had been established as a gold region for eleven years before that date. And if the first penal settlement at Brisbane be taken into account, its foundation

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