

St Ann's Church
SYDNEY MORNING HERALD
21 APRIL, 1843

The Church of St. Ann, Paterson, in connexion with the established Church of Scotland, has now been fully completed, and the Colonial Architect has surveyed it for the last time, and approved of the work.

The church is a neat plain building, sufficiently commodious, and capable of containing three hundred persons. It must be satisfactory to the parties who subscribed so liberally towards its erection, that their money has been expended on the work for which it was solicited; and it must also be a source of much pleasure to them, that by their means the first Church has been erected and completed in the fine district of Paterson. Felix Wilson, Esq. of Sydney, who has taken a lively interest in the promotion of the Scotch Zion here, has expressed his intention of presenting the church with a clock, which will be of great use to the inhabitants of the township, as well as ornamental to the church itself. At the opening of the church, in August last, the ladies of the Paterson and Maitland presented the Rev. William Ross with a handsome pulpit gown, as a mark of their respect and esteem for him as a clergyman, and a faithful disciple in the vineyard of Christ. In the course of some time it is expected a parsonage will be commenced for our clergyman, and it is hoped that those who aided the building of the church with their means, will not be backward in lending their assistance in getting up a parsonage.

SYDNEY GAZETTE
TUESDAY, AUGUST 9, 1831

PRIME COLONIAL TOBACCO

ON SALE, a small consignment of very superior TOBACCO, from the Manufactory of J.P. WEBBER, Esq., Hunter's River, at Two Shillings Sterling, per lb. cash, on delivery, at the stores of

DAVID MAZIERE,
Pitt street.

25th July, 1831.

[Information supplied by Jack Sullivan]

SYDNEY GAZETTE
THURSDAY, MARCH 4, 1830

HUNTER'S RIVER TOBACCO.- We have this moment received a parcel containing samples of tobacco grown and cured by Mr. WEBBER, at Paterson's Plains. Its appearance and smell are most promising, but we shall prove its quality more satisfactorily by using it in our evening whiff, and shall report accordingly. By the *Lord Liverpool* he has sent ten casks to Sydney, for sale, after having sold a large quantity in his own district. We were not before aware that this refreshing weed was grown in that part of the Colony; we warmly congratulate Mr. WEBBER upon his success, and the Colony upon the increasing prospect there is of its tobacco becoming one of the staple productions of its soil.

SYDNEY GAZETTE
SATURDAY, MARCH 6, 1830

COLONIAL TOBACCO.- We have tried Mr. WEBBER'S tobacco. It fully equals the best Colonial we have met with, and wants age alone to make it as pleasant as the Brazil. Our tobacco-growers and manufacturers labour under a serious disadvantage, in not being able to give it sufficient time for seasoning; if they could afford to do this, they would soon have nothing to fear from American competition. But even as it is, the slight inferiority of its flavour ought not to deter the patriotic smoker from giving the preference to an article from which his country may reap such splendid benefits.

We ought to have observed, that the neat and workmanlike manner in which Mr. WEBBER'S figs are got up, is not the least circumstance which entitles him to praise.

[Information supplied by Jack Sullivan]

Imported Hereford Bulls.

Mr. Frank Reynolds, of Tocal, Paterson, has imported two more young pure-bred Hereford bulls from England. They were recently landed, and are now in quarantine. The following are their pedigrees:-

Major (23596), calved January 28, 1903; bred by Mr. John Tudge, of Duxmoor, England; got by General (21411), dam Stretton Beatrice 4th by Bretwalda (18252), g d Stretton Beatrice by Hero (7707), g g d Beatrice 5th by Ivington Boy (4662), g g g d Beatrice by Lord Hythe (3937), g g g g d Darling by Carbonel (1525), g g g g g d Daisy by The Doctor (1083), g g g g g g d Dainty by Orelton (901), g g g g g g g d Pretty Maid by Nelson (1021), g g g g g g g g d Pretty Maid by Turpin (300).

Blenheim (23298), bred by Mr. John Tudge, of Duxmoor, England; calved March 5, 1903; got by Royal Rupert (20976), dam Golden Pippin by Alton (11877), g d Apple Blossom 3rd by Wilton Monarch (8165), g g d Apple Blossom by Ivington Boy (4662), g g g d Blossom by Sir John (3451), g g g g d Beauty 2nd by Phillip (3314), g g g g g d Beauty by Lucks All (1643), g g g g g g d Spark by Miliam (1321), g g g g g g g d Spark by Plunder (1038), g g g g g g g g d Highlass by Northampton (600).

Blenheim is three-parts brother to Princess May (champion of England), and full-brother to British Queen. British Queen won first prize at the Shropshire and West Midland Show, 1904. Princess May (champion), by Rupert from Golden Pippin, won first prize at Lord Tredegar's Show, Newport, 1895; first prize R.A.S.E., Leicester, 1896; first prize Bath and West of England, 1896; first prize Lord Tredegar's Show 1896.

The original article contains two photographs.

[Information supplied by Jack Sullivan]



THE LATE MR. CHARLES REYNOLDS

The Late Mr. Charles Reynolds.

This gentleman, whose portrait accompanies our present notice, and whose lamented death we had to chronicle a week since, was one of the last links connecting the horse and cattle breeders of thirty years ago, with the newer lights of the present day; and if there be among us few men who have done so much to improve the colonial livestock, or give an impetus to pastoral and agricultural pursuits, we know of no one who had set such an example of determination; and shown others embarking in similar pursuits what can be achieved by indomitable perseverance, in the face of many difficulties, and when surrounded with all the elements which could lead to failure. Unlike most colonial breeders of pure stock, who have taken to pastoral pursuits, as the favourite and profitable manner of life in a pastoral country, Mr. Reynolds came to no new occupation, when he made New South Wales the land of his adoption. Coming of a farming family of mark in the county of Devon, and reared among the purest and best of livestock, he had been occupied, for some years before leaving home, in managing an extensive horse and cattle breeding establishment for his father; and he brought with him to Australia a laudable ambition to succeed as a leading breeder of pedigree stock; and establish in this new country herds of cattle, such as he had seen, and assisted in raising to excellence in the old. His great longing was to take a high standing among colonial breeders; and his previous experience in his favourite pursuit gave him a great advantage over most of his contemporaries here; not only as an excellent judge of all kinds of stock, but by enabling him also to steer clear of rocks upon which many others split. The principles of action by which he was guided – not only in the prosecution of

business transactions, but also in his intercourse with the world – he has lost no opportunity of instilling into the minds of his family and his neighbours; having, from long experience, discovered them to be the most certain roadway to prosperity and a good name.

The subject of this sketch arrived in New South Wales, early in the year 1840, and as he had not come out with the intention of being idle, he was not long putting himself into harness. His first attempt proved almost a total failure; for, having shortly after his arrival purchased a station on Liverpool Plains, within six months he lost by drought about eighty per cent of his cattle; whereupon he returned to Maitland, and at once rented Louth Park, with the intention of commencing to breed stock. In England, he had been brought up among the cattle of Devon and Hereford, for both of which he had a great fondness; and, after satisfying himself of the capabilities of this country and becoming convinced that his old favourites would thrive well here, he determined on continuing in the same groove, and lost no time in commencing operations, intending to go into cattle breeding, as well as agriculture, on a large scale. His first step was to purchase a few purebred Devons and Herefords from Mr. Hobler, who was at that day the pioneer breeder of the Hunter; and, in 1841, he sent home to England, and imported two Devon bulls, Molland and Red Rover, which thus became the founders of what is, I believe, even after a lapse of thirty years the only pure herds of Devons in the colony.

After a couple of years at Louth Park, an important change in Mr. Reynolds's arrangements took place; no other than his removal to Tocal, which he has since made famous as one of the greatest stud farms of Australia, but which had then a most ill-omened name, obtained through being supposed to have ruined all the people who had tenanted it, and endeavoured to make a living on it, either out of agriculture or grazing. To Tocal were, therefore, removed his Hereford and Devon cattle – the former numbering among them some of the best cows procurable, and a bull purchased from Mr. Hobler, and named Captain, by Trojan (imported), dam a cow imported from England by Mr. Hobler. In his herd of Devons were the two imported bulls, Molland and Red Rover, and their owner now set himself resolutely to work to keep these two breeds of cattle, of which he was so fond, separate, a resolution he has been fortunately able to carry out to the very letter.

Having settled himself at Tocal, Mr. Reynolds made some more purchases from Mr. Hobler's herd; and in the course of years bred from the following Hereford bulls: Captain (already mentioned) after whom came Thurlow, a son of Captain, dam one of Mr. Hobler's imported cows. In 1856 or 57 he imported The Captain, who as a yearling had taken first prize in his class at the Royal Agricultural Society's Show at Salisbury; and with him two Hereford cows Columbine and Wanton, after which (1859) he had the imported bull Thurston. To Thurston succeeded, in the Tocal herd, The Wanderer by The Captain, dam imported Wanton; The Calendar by The Captain, dam imported Columbine; Young Carlisle, and for a short time Otto, bred by Mr. Nowlan, and brother to Oscar.

In 1860 Mr. Reynolds purchased the estate of Duninald on the opposite side of the Paterson from Tocal; on which farm the Devon herd has since been kept, while the Herefords were bred at Tocal. The Devon bulls have been Molland and Red Rover for many years; after which came the imported bull Gardone, the sire of the cows shown at

the last Sydney Exhibition. Just lately the herd has been augmented by an imported heifer (Ellen), and an imported bull (Emigrant); both exceedingly good animals; and of very pure blood.

As Mr. Reynolds's father had been one of the most successful breeders and exhibitors in Devonshire, so did the son become in his new home; and until 1857 he was seldom beaten at the shows of stock in the Hunter district; but, after that, Tocal was for a long time subject to frequent and disastrous floods, which during a long series of years prevented all attempts at exhibiting, with a prospect of success. At the late show, however, both the Devons and the Herefords came off with flying colours, two Hereford bull calves, Napoleon 3rd (980 points), and Royal Charter (940), in one class, rewarding the veteran breeder for many a dreary year of non-success. The young bulls from these herds have for years enjoyed a great reputation, throughout New South Wales, and in the far off, lately settled districts in the north of Queensland, both the Devon and Hereford blood of Mr. Reynolds have had a great share in laying the foundation of a breed of cattle, second to that on no other stations in these colonies.

Mr. Reynolds, while paying great attention to his cattle, did not confine himself to them, but indulged his fondness for Leicester sheep, of which at one time and another, he imported a good many excellent specimens. That he thoroughly understood the breeding of this class of stock may very justly be inferred from the rams exhibited by him at the late metropolitan show, which were greatly, and with good reason, admired by all the judges of coarse-woolled English sheep.

It was, however, as a breeder of thoroughbred horses that Mr. Reynolds was destined to make his name and that of Tocal as household words throughout the length and breadth of Australia. Notwithstanding his delight in cattle and sheep, his great desire was to rise to the top of the tree among horse breeders; and after many years of hard knocks and working against difficulties, he had the satisfaction of hearing the Tocal Stud more widely and loudly conspicuous on the turf than its flocks and herds were in the show yard. The early struggles of this stud into existence would fill a volume; for, in those days, breeders seldom thought of giving or taking written pedigrees when selling or buying mares; it being thought sufficient to purchase a mare, said to be by an Arab, from a thoroughbred mare. All this the proprietor of Tocal had to encounter at his commencement, and he has many times explained to the writer of this memoir all the trouble entailed by this careless method of doing business; and the many doubts left in existence, from no other cause, to the very present day. Determined not to be daunted by trifles, his first step on taking possession of Tocal, was to gather around him a few really good mares, picked from the studs of the then most noted breeders; and he looked about for sires, on whose blood he could depend to found the stud.

Among the earliest of these stand Aaron, Ackbar, Emigrant, and Gratis; all names of high standing, and well thought of when found in a pedigree; and from these were bred, during a long course of years, horses that gave the breeder and his stock a very prominent position. In 1854 Mr. Reynolds purchased Cossack, the most renowned racehorse of the time, and from this infusion of the Sir Hercules blood the Tocal stud dates its excellence in those days for a broken-down colonial horse, the prejudice in favour of imported sires not having then been weakened by the stud successes of Sir Hercules, Cossack, and other colonials. The horse remained for about thirteen years at

Tocal, and never gave a reason for regretting the purchase. At the same time were quartered there Vanguard, and the imported Freetrader, winner of the Liverpool Grand National Steeple Chase; but none of these shone with so bright a light as the son of Sir Hercules and Flora McIver, whose winning progeny were soon seen on all the leading racecourses of our own as well as other colonies. The best days of the Tocal horses were, however, still to come.

In 1864, at the recommendation of his friend Mr. John Tait, Mr. Reynolds purchased for 700 guineas the then almost despised New Warrior; and it needs but to mention the names of Tarragon, Volunteer, Tim Whiffler, Kaizer, Juanita, Detective, Lottery, Teddington, Pyrrhus, The Pearl, The Spy, the Prophet, Titania, *cum multis aias*, to show that by that purchase the most famous sire of the day was transferred to Tocal. The above horses, the first three excepted, were all bred by Mr. Reynolds; and they have, with Colonel, Emerald, the two Rattlers, Falcon, Rinaldo, and many more sons of Cossack, succeeded during the last few years in bringing to him the height of his ambition as a breeder. On the retirement of The Barb from the turf, in 1869, there was some negotiating for the sale of this great horse into Victoria; but Mr. Reynolds put himself into communication with Mr. Tait, and the result was that The Barb went to Tocal, for the sum of 2000 guineas, the largest price as yet realized by an Australian-bred horse for stud purposes. Last year Mr. Reynolds lost suddenly his old favourite, New Warrior; and The Barb and a Cossack horse, The Don, now remain, as evidences of the great care continually taken by the late proprietor to procure the very best blood the colony could afford or money purchase. The fruits of this care and perseverance have been every year becoming more apparent. The Tocal race horses have been read of as winners on all our courses, and the yearlings been sought after at high prices more than any others in the land.

As a judge of stock, Mr. Reynolds had no superior; and for years he acted regularly as a judge at those district shows which he had been mainly instrumental in establishing, until at last failing sight caused his retirement from active participation in these exhibitions, much to the regret of those gentlemen with whom he had acted in concert.

In the theory and practice of breeding, he was consistent in his views, and carried them out with a pertinacious determination, which was quite justified by his long experience, and defied all efforts to break it down. He long ago came to a conclusion, as between the Devons and Herefords, in favour of the former; being as he said the quicker and earlier fattened, the more profitable to the butcher, and the better able to get their own living on scant feed in a poor country; and this opinion he remained firm in throughout, no doubt not without excellent reason. As a farmer and stock breeder, Mr. Reynolds's colonial career has been a very eventful one. Commencing at a time when others who preceded him were succumbing to outside pressure, he succeeded, by hard work and perseverance, in making the business which was ruining others bring a profit to him; this too on an estate where every one up to then had been forced to confess the impossibility of making farming pay; and, as a living memento of what such a course of action as he adopted is capable of resulting in, he leaves behind him a stud of horses, a herd of Devons, and a herd of Herefords, certainly not to be excelled in the colony of New South Wales.

It is a melancholy duty to tell of the death of a kind and valued friend, taken away suddenly; even though that friend die full of years and honour, respected and regretted by every one. Such is the writer's case here. He has found it easy enough to give a short history of Mr. Reynolds's life in Australia, as a breeder of horses and cattle; but it is difficult to find terms in which to tell of the good man, who through life had been everyone's friend, and the enemy of none. During his long residence on the Paterson, Mr. Reynolds's constant aim was to develop the resources of that fertile district, and advance the prosperity of its people. By precept and example he sought continually to improve the system of farming generally in use; and he never ceased making experiments in the growth of new cereals, in the results of which his neighbours were always as largely interested as himself. He promoted the establishment of pastoral and agricultural societies, was a staunch advocate for any measures likely to increase the importance of the district in which he had established himself, and took a leading part for many years in the actual superintendence of the road making, a matter of the greatest importance to an agricultural population. It was, indeed, on his way home from visiting a road party, that he met with the accident which caused his death; so that his neighbours, who through long years have had so much cause to respect him in life for his kindness as a friend, and his untiring efforts for their welfare, must now regret xxxxxxxx as the tried and faithful neighbour, who watched over their interests till the last and died in their service. They may well say he could ill be spared.

In his family circle Mr. Reynolds was the kind and affectionate husband and father, no harsh word was ever spoken or needed – gentleness on the one hand, obedience on the other, being the guiding powers in the intercourse between father and sons. Full of old English hospitality, whether an old friend or passing traveller were his guest, he was a genial companion, whose presence was welcomed heartily wherever he visited. At the time of his death Mr. Reynolds had reached the ripe age of sixty-five. He leaves a widow, four sons, and one daughter, all resident in the district where his memory will long be cherished; and I cannot pay a more fitting tribute to the memory of a departed friend, than the expression of a hope that his sons may stand the test of time as well as he did.

[Information supplied by Harry Boyle]

Peaceful, Pretty Paterson.

A SOLID LITTLE TOWN AND A PROSPEROUS DISTRICT.
SOME OF THE FARMS AND ORCHARDS.
(BY "BERI.")

There are some places in New South Wales – and elsewhere, too, for that matter – that look best at a distance or in the dark; but the quaint little town of Paterson, standing near an acute angle of the Paterson River, eleven and three-quarter miles from Maitland, is not one of them. To see this rural town to most advantage one must view it from within its own precincts, and in the broad light of day. And what man is there that, having viewed it in this way, has not been impressed by its charms.

Located in the Paterson Valley – a splendid sweeping valley extending for 50 miles or more between the wooded spurs of the coastal range – the town is almost encircled by hills. On one side of it is Johnson's Hill – the town lies snugly at the foot of this – and on the other, Hungry Hill. Both are long, high, and heavily-timbered. The first-mentioned is a portion of the range which separates the valley from that of the Hunter, whilst the latter forms part of a line of hills that divides it on the other side from the Williams Valley. Between the heights at Paterson and at the foot of the town the Paterson River winds its sinuous way down to the Hunter, which it enters below Hinton. The Paterson may not be, in fact, is not, a noble stream, but it leaves no one who sees it in doubt about its beauty. Its loveliness is unquestionable. Weeping willows line each bank for miles, the drooping branches of the trees being perpetually reflected in the ever-flowing water. Behind the willows in places, and flanking the river in other parts, are also orange orchards and cosy dairy farms. The trees in the orange groves, with their big crops of golden fruit balls showing out in marked contrast to the dark foliage, are a pretty sight just now. But he who visits this spot in the spring time, when all over the country the fresh, brilliant green grass and herbage and crops are spreading across their mantle; when the pink peach blossoms stand out in contrast to the deep blue of the lofty hills behind them, and the clumps of acacias in the gardens and the willows along the river are leafing out in delicate spring green; when numerous herds of beautiful, sleek-coated cattle are scattered over the fertile flats – he who is lucky enough to see Paterson then will feel at least that it is one of the prettiest little rural places that he has seen in the State.

SOMETHING ABOUT THE TOWN.

The township is built on the south side of the river. Most of it is on high ground, out of the reach of floods, which are occasionally troublesome and disastrous. I should say the population within a radius of a mile from the post office would not exceed 500. The place has not yet risen to the dignity of a municipality. It cannot boast even of a progress committee. The member for the district (the Minister for Works) has to see

that it gets all it wants. So Paterson does not worry itself about its requirements or anything else for that matter. Altogether, it takes life very easy. Nevertheless, it is a rather fascinating little town, full of the atmosphere of romance and the poetry of a pastoral and agricultural people, linked by all the ties of inheritance and association with the history of bygone days. In the veins of many of its inhabitants flows the blood of some of the district's early pioneers. A few of the latter, it is pleasing to note, are still hale and hearty, notwithstanding the weight of nearly four score years and more which some of them are enduring.

In the one business street of the town there are several fine buildings. The Commercial Bank (of which Mr. Doyle, formerly of Raymond Terrace, is manager) is a handsome brick structure with a tiled roof. Then there are the post office, School of Arts, courthouse, and police station, all solidly built, and, like the bank, a credit to Paterson. Nice little churches, particularly that belonging to the Anglican denomination, adorned various parts of the town, which has three stores and two hotels. Two of the stores are owned by Messrs. Cann Brothers and the other by Mr. M. Smith, who has an auctioneering and general agency business besides. Mr. A. Wilson, whose late father was an old and respected resident of the district, has the leading hotel – the Courthouse. It is a very fine, two-storey building, and visitors may go there with every confidence of finding a comfortable and excellently-conducted house. A Farmers' Union auction sale is held at Paterson every Tuesday. That is the one busy day that the always peaceful town enjoys every week. Then you see the farmers coming in from the country in their carts, buggies, sulkies, or drays, bringing along to the marts whatever they have for sale in the way of fruits, vegetables, farm produce, poultry, and so on. Buyers come from Maitland, Morpeth, and Hinton, and other places, and the main street is not only lined on each side for some distance with vehicles, but it is generally with difficulty that a driver steers his way through the multitude of conveyances that are inter-mixed all over the roadway for a hundred yards or more. I was omitting to mention that the river is navigable up to Paterson. A small steamer runs up from Newcastle one day, and back the next, doing its journeys all the week through. The boat seems to do very well. It brings up all the goods and merchandise for local business men and the storekeepers at Vacy and Gresford. Very little produce is exported from the river that does not go by this steamer. The wharf is just down from the Courthouse Hotel and its smallness gives cause for a little complaint on the part of those who have to use it. The days on which the cream boats visit Paterson always find it inconveniently crowded by vehicles and milk cans. There is a picture showing the wharf in such a state appearing in this issue of the "Town and Country Journal."

SPLENDID GRAZING ESTATES.

Paterson is almost surrounded by grazing properties. On the south there is Tocal, where Mr. Frank Reynolds has his famous stud of Hereford cattle. Then, further towards Maitland, are Duninald (which belongs to Mr. Syd. Reynolds), Glendarra (also Mr. Frank Reynolds'), Leeholme (Mr. H. L. Brown., son of Mr. H. H. of that name, who at one time represented the district in Parliament, and is now making a gallant fight to again secure the seat), Freshingfield (Mr. Pearse), and Strudbroke (Mr. Cory). All of these places are on the Paterson. On the same river, north of the town, Mr. A. A. Nivison's Tilimby Estate is the biggest. Gostwyck was recently subdivided, and is now occupied mostly by dairy farmers, some of whom also go in for fattening stock. Beyond

Gostwyck there is a succession of big estates, right on to the borders of Dungog township. But to get back to Paterson. Mowbray Estate, owned by Mr. Elliott, of Sydney, and managed by his sons, lies north-west of the town, and so does Cardoness, which is let out to farmers who are engaged in dairying. Between Vacy (a tiny village four miles out) and Gresford (the second town in the district), a distance of about eight miles, Mr. W. Reynolds' Trevallyn and Mr. Maddrell's Toryborne properties are met with. Both are devoted to grazing and fattening stock. Peshurst, Coulston, and Lostock are above Gresford, but also on the Paterson. They, too, are now principally devoted to dairying. On Tilimby, Tocal, and Duninald I saw some very fine cattle – all Herefords. These are the popular breed amongst those in the districts who go in for meat-producing stock.

THE DAIRYING INDUSTRY.

At one time, most of the Paterson people depended upon maize-growing and fruit culture. Now, dairying has to a great extent supplanted the former, and to the general good of the district. The monthly cheques from the butter factories have worked a wonderful change for the better in a comparatively short time. But the story in this connection is, in details, the same as that I have often told of late about other districts. It is therefore unnecessary to repeat it. One of the most notable features of the development of dairying on the Paterson has been the cutting-up of some of the big pastoral estates into dairy farms. Another has been the founding of dairy herds on a few of the cattle "stations." What better testimony to the profitableness of the industry could be afforded than this? The herds in the district are mostly small, though there are a number ranging from 40 to 80 cows. The Jersey – either pure or grade – holds a prominent place in nearly all of them. No doubt this is to a large extent due to the fact that Mr. H. H. Brown used to have a large stud herd of this breed, when he held Coulston, Lostock, and other properties. He used to breed Jerseys extensively, and did much to improve the standard of the dairy stock up this way. He was in fact, in his day, the Chirnside of New South Wales, so far as the breeding of Jersey cattle was concerned. There is not a butter factory at Paterson, but Gresford has a small one. The bulk of the cream goes out of the district though – some to the co-operative factory at Raymond Terrace, some to Mr. J. Lavis, the enterprising owner of the Bowthorne Factory at Hinton, and some to Duckenfield. Regular visits are paid to Paterson by small launches from these factories, for the purpose of collecting the cream. During the winter months, the boats came twice a week, but in the warm periods their visits are made tri-weekly. The progressive managing body, the Raymond Terrace Co-operative Butter Company, is moving in the direction of establishing a branch factory at Gresford. The directors of the company, and their capable, trustworthy manager (Mr. Scarr), visited that centre recently, held a meeting, placed their proposal to erect a factory, capable of turning out eight or nine tons of butter a week before the farmers, and received numbers of applications for the 1600 £1 shares, which represents the amount of capital that is wanted to bring the branch factory into existence. The latest information I heard about this matter was that the shares were going off well, and it was not thought any difficulty would be experienced in disposing of the lot.

FRUIT-GROWING, AND SOME OF THE ORCHARDISTS.

The soil and climate of Paterson must be well-suited for the growth of fruits. There are numerous orchards throughout the district. The orange is grown extensively, and also the lemon. Stone fruits of different varieties are likewise cultivated, but the orange is the golden yield for which all orchardists toil. Here the growers are in a virtual paradise as compared with those of other districts. They know not from practical experience what the fruit fly is. The borer has never yet visited their orchards. Melanore is quite unknown, and I am told that one might travel amongst the orchards for a day and not find scale in a single one. The plantations are mostly set out on alluvial or scrubland, and near the edges of the rivers or creeks. This season has been a very prolific one for all citrus fruits. The sight of the beautifully clean, heavy crops on the orange trees throughout the district, reminded me of the citrus orchards in the picturesque Kurrajong, where many years ago, before the insidious pests that are now common, had invaded this territory, perhaps the finest and cleanest oranges grown in the State were cultivated. There is only one thing that the Paterson orange-grower laments at present, and that is – the low price he is getting for his fruit. I saw nice medium size oranges sold at the weekly auction sales in the town for a penny a dozen. Washington Navels, for which we, in Sydney, have to pay 2s to 2s6d per dozen, were disposed of for sixpence a dozen. A lot of oranges and lemons from this river find their way to Sydney, but the biggest part of the crops goes to supply the Maitland and Newcastle markets. In the immediate neighbourhood of Paterson township, the Messrs. Tucker Brothers have fine orchards. At Big Creek, Messrs. J. Boyce, F. Eyb, J. Merchant, and J. Parish are the principal ones concerned, among many others, in the industry. Mr. Parish, who has about 300 trees, told me that he has taken as much as 190 doz of oranges off one tree in his orchard. From that same tree this season, he expects to pull fully 150 doz of fruit. His oldest tree has been standing 40 years, and he has about 100 that have been planted two years. Another nice orange orchard is that owned by Mr. E. C. Eveleigh, of Icelip, near Gresford, who states that his trees do well, and yield large crops of as good fruit as is raised in the district. I saw some of the Washington Navels which were grown at Icelip. They were specimens that any fruit-grower might be proud to say he cultivated. The orchard of Mr. C. Robinson's, at Martin's Creek, contain six acres, and about 500 trees, mostly citrus varieties, and nearly all in bearing. His brother – Mr. W. Robinson – also goes in for fruit-growing.

PIG RAISING AND BACON CURING.

An important and increasing enterprise in the district is that of pig raising and bacon curing. Mr. Thos. E. Jarrett, of Allynvale, Eccleston, probably leads the way in it. He has a fine holding of 450 acres. Forty of these are cultivated. Maize is grown pretty largely for pigs and market, whilst lucerne is cultivated for the dairy cows, there being about 20 in milk at the present time. Sixty pigs, which are fed on skimmed milk as well as maize, are killed on an average every year on the farm. The bacon is all hand and sugar cured, and commands good prices at the local union sales, and at Maitland and Newcastle. Mr. Jarrett breeds only pure Berkshire pigs, considering them the best for bacon. He has about 40 in the piggery now, and his son told me that they were a fine lot. In the same part of the district that this industrious settler resides, are to be found Messrs. S. Barton, S. Hopson, H. Hopson, W. Sales, J. Warr, A. Kenny, J. Sivyler, and J.

Watts, nearly all of whom are interested in the above industries, in addition to dairying and grazing.

THE TIMBER INDUSTRY.

There is an old sawmill on the banks of the river at Paterson, and one of the daily spectacles in the town are teams of bullocks drawing huge logs down the hill to it. I was informed that a good number of men are employed in the district in connection with the timber industry. They are chiefly cutters and drawers. The valley and the ranges which surround it are set with abundance of ironbark, stringybark, pine, and red and spotted gums. But the timber industry, the same as bee-keeping and poultry raising – which also receive attention – is one of the minor resources of the Paterson. The district, as has been shown, relies more upon grazing, dairying, and fruit-growing, and in scores of instances the three things are carried on together on the same holdings, thus evidencing the wisdom of the settlers in not putting all their eggs into one basket.

MR. W. TUCKER'S FARM AND ORCHARD.

The farm and orchard of Mr. W. Tucker formed one of the nicest properties that I saw in the district. They are located directly opposite the town of Paterson, and the entire holding comprises over 500 acres – all freehold. Until a short time ago Mr. Tucker went in for grazing and fruit growing, but, having become afflicted with the bacilli of dairying, he has given over grazing pursuits, and taken up, instead, the industry which has made the lot of most people in the district much more pleasant than it was before they thought it worth while troubling their heads about it. He has a herd of 80 cows, which were mostly culled from the stock that were running on the property at the time it was decided to go in for dairying. They are pretty well all of the Devon-Shorthorn cross. This is a breed that Mr. Tucker has a great liking for, and, as I had not seen any stock of this character in the district, I was sorry the herd was not at hand, so that I could have had a glance at them. That it is a hardy, well-doing breed I have no doubt, but its utility for dairying purposes depends upon the amount of attention given by breeders to the all-important point of using only stock that comes of good milking strains. Mr. Tucker says his “cows are good, but not extraordinary milkers,” and that he is getting now about five cans of cream a week from the 35, which make up the present milking herd. On the farm, which is well improved, and admirably adapted for dairying, there are more than enough good land to grow what feed is wanted for the stock, a number of fine grass paddocks, and plenty of shelter.

The orchard is planted on a low ridge of alluvial soil, running along the bank of the river, which separates the farm from the town. There are about 500 trees in it altogether. The best part of them are citrus fruits. These fruits range in age from six to sixteen years, and are healthy, flourishing, and well developed. Numerous varieties of the orange tribe are represented among them. The Washington Navel forms a conspicuous group, and shows to great advantage. This beautiful orange really seems to grow to perfection here, the tree being heavily laden with an abundance of clean, well-grown, and fine-flavoured fruit. The common varieties all look well, too, and so do the mandarins and lemons. So productive of an excellent crop has the season been that some of the trees have had their limbs broken by the weight of fruit upon them. The branches of others are bending almost to the ground, and in several instances supports

have been placed under the limbs, to save them from breaking. The orchard is immune from disease. An intelligent system of pruning is practised, and most of the trees are of good symmetry. Mr. Tucker also goes in for systematic cultivation.

BONA VISTA DAIRY FARM.

Originally the country residence of the late Dr. R. S. Bowker, Bona Vista now belongs to Mr. M. Smith, who is running it as a dairy farm. The property is not much more than a mile from the Paterson Post Office, and embraces 300 acres of mostly well-cleared grazing land. The cultivation land in it is only of fair quality, and there is not a great deal of it at that, but still sufficient, I should think, to grow oats and other greenstuff for the dairy herd. Mr. A. Taylor, who is managing the farm, kindly showed me the milking herd, which numbers 25 cows. He told me that these represented just half its full strength, the other 25 members of the herd having been turned out. The absent ones, I was also informed, included the best of the stock. However, there were several nice little cows amongst those that I saw. One of them was the pure Jersey "Queenie," a squarely-built, low-set cow of an uncommon stamp. She is Mr. Taylor's own property. Two other noteworthy members were pure Poly Jerseys, which the manager said were high class milkers, the same as "Queenie." The herd is chiefly composed of pure Jerseys and Jersey-Ayrshire crosses, and includes a number of cows that originally belonged to the famous Coulston herd, which was established, as I mentioned earlier in this article, by Mr. H. H. Brown. This gentleman also bred the Jersey bull that is being used in the herd. The cream from Bona Vista is sent to the Co-operative Factory at Raymond Terrace, and Mr. Taylor is perfectly satisfied with the returns he receives.

GOSTWYCK FARM AND HERD.

A little over three miles from Paterson, on the Dungog road, and in the heart of some good grazing and farming country, is situated Mr. G. Priestly's property, known as Gostwyck. It is not so long since that name belonged to a much bigger area of country than it does now. When the estate was subdivided and sold, Mr. Priestly (who was living at Brandon in the Seaham district) purchased the homestead portion. There are 448 acres altogether in it, and when it is got into thorough order there will be very few, if any, properties of the same size in the district that can surpass it in the way of dairying and stock grazing. The estate is splendidly watered, having a frontage of two and a half miles to the Paterson River, besides being intersected by Martin's Creek, which runs through its centre. The farming land lies in patches along the banks of these streams. About 40 acres are being cultivated now, the crops grown including millet, maize, lucerne, oats, and barley. But Gostwyck is used more for dairying than farming. The herd, at its full strength, consists of 80 cows, and, judging by appearances, I should say that there is not a more profitable lot of cows on any other farm in the district. Those that were in the milking yard at the time of my visit were, on the whole, a nice lot. They were of mixed breeds, it is true; but, nevertheless, a big proportion of them possessed several characteristics of deep milkers. The record of the herd for May last, when 70 cows were in milk, was 1605 lb of butter. Of course, the milk flow had then fallen off considerably to what it was in the autumn; still, notwithstanding that, the performance quoted was a creditable one. Mr. Priestly firmly believes in rugging the milkers during the cold weather, and also in feeding them well all the year round. The head of the herd just now is a red dairy bull, but there is on the farm a youngster of the Shorthorn type

(bred by Mr. Hindmarsh, of Moss Vale), that will occupy the position by and bye. Besides farming and dairying, there is plenty of room for fattening a few head of cattle on Gostwyck, and the enterprising owner expects to turn a fair number off fat every year. Mr. Priestly is one of the directors of the Raymond Terrace Co-operative Butter Factory, and is doing his best to influence the farmers of Vacy and Gresford to do the right thing by accepting the offer of his company to establish a branch butter factory at the latter place.

TWO OTHER DAIRY HERDS.

On Mr. J. Horn's farm, at Vacy, I saw a fine lot of big-bodied, wedge-shaped cows, including a few of the Illawarra type. The forty that were in milk were giving 50 gallons a day, a fair number of the cows having the calves on them. Mr. Horn does not believe in the practice of artificially feeding the calves on skimmed milk. He finds it pays better to allow them to run with the cows for a while. The value of the milk they consume is more than made up in their improved condition, for the steers command a good price from the butcher, whilst the heifers develop into much superior animals to those not fed on the mother's milk. There is in Mr. Horn's herd a foundation on the cows' side for building up a really good dual purpose herd if he would but introduce a good Shorthorn bull to it. In addition to the 200 acres in the Vacy farm, Mr. Horn has a 371-acre holding at Lostock, on which he is also milking about 40 cows. He sends all his cream to Mr. Lavis' Bowthorne factory; and so does Mr. C. Woodhouse, whose small farm is on the opposite side of the river, at Vacy, to that of Mr. Horn's. I was sorry Mr. Woodhouse, who goes in for apiculture as well as dairying, was not at home when I called; but I learned that he is a great believer in a green crop of wheat as a winter feed for milching cows, considering it superior to oats, and better than lucerne, insomuch as it does not taint the milk. A lot of lucerne hay is made on the farm. The dairy herd, which is made up of 30 cows of mixed breeds, is well fed and, I understand, the practice has always given satisfactory results in Mr. Woodhouse's case.

[Information supplied by Jack Sullivan]

The Tocal Yearlings.

A visit to Tocal is a pleasant event to me in any circumstances; but when the country is dressed in its very best – to say nothing of the prospect of a look at the yearlings and a chat with my hospitable hosts about racing and other congenial topics – you may be sure I anticipated a treat. And I was not disappointed; for the estate never looked to better advantage, with its luxuriant growth of grass; while the glorious view up and down the willowy river, seen from the handsome new iron bridge just erected over the Paterson, is worth a pilgrimage in itself.

That the yearlings are a good lot goes without saying, for Tocal invariably more than holds its own in the sale ring; and the recent deeds of Arsenal, Cardigan, and Algerian, besides many other notable sons and daughters of stout old Goldsbrough, will be sure to evoke a keen desire to secure some of the “plums” which will be offered for sale next month.

And, if I mistake not, this sale will have a double interest for racing men, inasmuch as it marks the advent of some new and choice blood in the progeny of Splendor (imp.). I cannot call to mind just at the moment any other representative in Australia of the good old Blacklock line, a strain of blood which was for some years under a cloud in consequence of the persistent way in which a former great authority on breeding in England wrote it down. Despite all opposition, however, the accursed Blacklock’s blood is greatly sought after, and highly prized across the water, and most of the phenomenal horses of the present day can count several strains in their pedigrees.

Stockwell, the princely representative of the Birdcatcher line, has a close strain of it through the Baron, whose grand dam was by Blacklock. In England it is found to be a good cross with such strains as Melbourne Pantaloon, Emiline, and Bay Middleton; and it invariably mates well with Birdcatcher.

However, to get back to the yearlings. Without going individually through the whole batch, it will be sufficient for all practical purposes to say that, taken as a whole, they are a remarkably level lot, with scarcely any tailing off to commonplace. The fillies, I feel sure, will be admired all round, though in my opinion the pick of the thirteen for good looks are those by Goldsbrough, from Melody (dam of The Broker, Sou’wester, and Melodious); by The Barb, from Mermaid, by Fisherman, &c. Also the Goldsbrough filly, from Lady Horton (dam of Sweet William) by Stockwell; the Goldsbrough – Powder filly, a full sister to Crossfire and Arsenal; the Goldsbrough filly from Mingera, by Yattendon, from sister to Fishhook; and the filly by Splendor, from Kilmany, by the Marquis; and also the Splendor – Rose of Cobham filly. Very little exception can be taken to the remainder, which need not be particularised, as the auctioneer’s catalogue gives full particulars of all the lots.

The colts number twelve; and those which took my fancy most were the full brother to Cairo, by Goldsbrough from Thirza, by Yattendon. A black colt with gray hairs and some white feet, by Goldsbrough from Babena (the winner of the Maribyrnong Plate), by Yattendon from Atholine (imp.). Also a whole bay, by Splendor from Emelia, by The Barb; and a chestnut colt, by The Drummer from Ruby, by Tim Whiffler (imp.) from Amethyst, by New Warrior from imported Amethyst. The chestnut colts by Splendor from Colima, and Camellia (by Brigadier and Kelpie respectively) are both useful, well-shaped and well-grown colts.

The Splendors will at once strike men accustomed to the sale ring as new blood; their characteristics being whole colors – generally rich bays with black points – excellent timber, a good wear-and-tear look, and nothing washy. Sporting men will be glad to hear that Goldsbrough has quite recovered from his late illness.

Mr. Sydney Reynolds kindly took me to Tillimby, where I had an opportunity of looking over Mr. A. Nivison's yearlings, four in number. Among this lot is a slashing colt of the Panic stamp, by Wellington from La Murette, by Fireworks; also a well-grown, speedy-looking chestnut, by the Drummer from Kate, by The Barb. And a muscular filly, by Wellington from Sea Swallow (imp.), by See-Saw; and a useful colt by The Hook from Mambourine, by Ladybird. It is truly refreshing to see an enthusiast like Mr. Nivison, who, though unfortunately deprived of his eyesight some few years ago, shows a wonderful knowledge of the shape of his yearlings, acquired through constantly passing his hands over them; and buyers will have the satisfaction of securing animals free from any nervousness or vice, which are great points in a racehorse.

“CENTAUR.”

[Information supplied by Jack Sullivan]

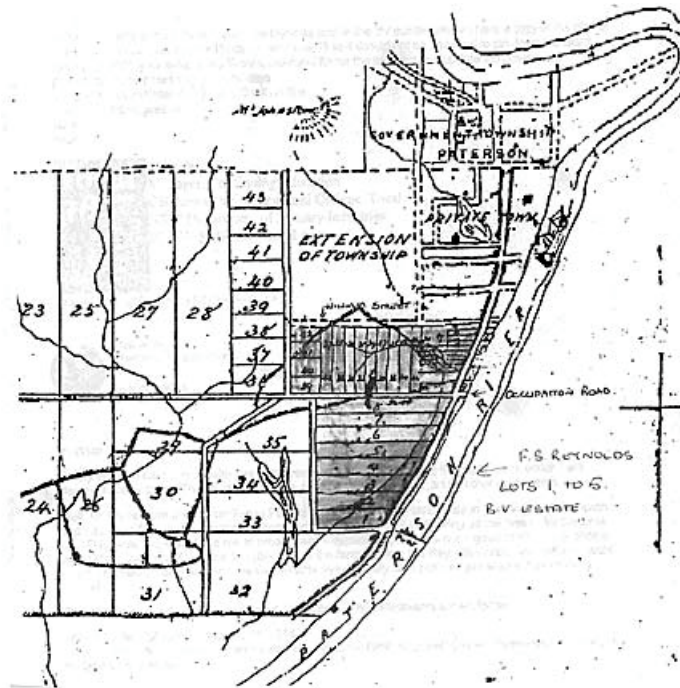
Bona Vista Estate

LOTS 1 to 5 of the Bona Vista Estate now part of Kalimna

29 October 1859	James Keppie purchased Lots 1 to 5 containing 25 acres of the Bona Vista Estate subdivision from the British and Colonial Banking Company, Mortgagee of James Phillips
5 August 1863	James Keppie was insolvent and after several deeds the Bank of New South Wales acquired the land
20 October 1874	The Bank sold the land to Frances Seaton Reynolds
21 June 1880	Will of Frances Seaton Reynolds whereby she appointed her executors and directed payment of her debts etc. out of moneys in hand or in the Bank and after certain bequests directed that the residue of her Estate consisting of the Glebe Paddocks purchased by her since her husband's death a farm on the Bona Vista Estate also purchased by her and certain personal described in the Will be held by her trustees and that they set a fair price on the Glebe Paddocks and on the Bona Vista farm and then to offer them for sale to her eldest son Frank Reynolds at such price and if he accepted them or either of them to make such terms as to payment as to her said Trustees might seem reasonable allowing to her said Son his share of the purchase money out of the whole sum and to convey the same to him or as he should direct on completion of the purchase (Frank would pay the agreed purchase money less his share of the estate) Mrs Reynolds later signed 6 Codicils to her Will but they did not affect the Bona Vista land other than changing her executors and trustees
13 October 1900	Frances Seaton Reynolds died
9 November 1900	Probate was granted
4 May 1901	The executors of the estate of Frances Seaton Reynolds conveyed the land to Frank Reynolds of Glendarra, Paterson River, Grazier
24 June 1911	Frank Reynolds sold the land to Elsie Muriel Brown, wife of John Sydney Brown

25 September 1900

Mrs Elsie Muriel Brown purchased the adjoining Lots 6, 7 and 8 of the Bona Vista Estate. The house would be built on these lots.



[Research by Mrs Shirley Threlfo, Paterson Historical Society, February 2005]