

## CHAPTER VI.

*St. Kilda Council Names Some of its Streets—Particulars of the Place Names—Early Residents and Property Holders—Five Groups of Streets Names—An Interesting and Historical Collection of Street Names—How the Poet's Group Came to be Selected—Council's First. Stone Quarry—Henry Tultetra Story of the Genesis of the St. Kilda Municipality—Justices and Councillors Disagree—The St. Kilda Jetts —Municipal Offices Sought—Land Sales, Luncheon and ChampagneSmuggling—William Spottiswood's Memories.*

**D**URING the first year of activities the St. Kilda Council had had the municipality carefully surveyed, and the council-lors had agreed upon the streets to be formed throughout the area. On April 29, 1857, the Public Works Committee was authorised, in conjunction with the Government Surveyor, to supply names for the various streets in the municipality. Care was to be taken to retain, as far as possible, the generally received names that the street had already assigned to them.

Street names in St. Kilda may be broadly sorted into five groups, and they, in some instances, indicate the approximate date of the birth of the municipality. In the first group we have the sources of the names derived from Australian Governors, such as Fitzroy, Robe, Grey and Barkly. Next we find the war group, then the poetical group, the marine group, and the personal group. Street names often disclose, when traced to their source, hidden facts in topographical history, others on the other hand come from obvious sources. Such a one is Neptune Street, *arising* from its proximity to the sea. Neptune Street in the "Village of St. Kilda" was the forerunner of others of a like breezy character. At Elwood we find Foam, Wave, Tide, and Spray Streets.

In the personal group we have Octavia Street, associated with Octavius Browne, a purchaser at the Crown Lands Sales at St. Kilda. He owned the block of land that extended from Alma Road to Wellington Street, from Chapel Street to High Street. He built, in 1853, a large house that was an early St. Kilda land-

mark. He called his dwelling "Charnwood House," after Charnwood Forest in Leicestershire. From the house's title the place name of Charnwood Crescent was resolved.

Gurner Street, already mentioned, running through from Grey Street to Barkly Street, recalls of course Henry Field Gurner. He was a purchaser of Crown Lands at the second Crown Lands Sale, and he bought Sections 27 and 28, each having a frontage of 300 feet to Grey Street, and also Section 42, with a frontage of 600 feet to Princes Street. The western boundary line of Section 42 ran along the base of Sections 27 and 28. Gurner Street appears, however, to have been made through Sections 24 and 41 belonging to F. G. Dalgety, the purchaser of four sections south of Gurner's. Dalgety Street runs through one of Gurner's sections.

The Public Works Committee of the St. Kilda Council submitted to the Council a report, No. 11, on July 29, 1857, containing a list of streets for proclamation. The Council made some alterations in certain of the names assigned to the streets in the committee's report.

The names of the first named streets, and the amendments were—Hotham Street, formerly William Street; Bull Street, Great Dandenong Road ; Wellington Street ; Alma Street, formerly called Alma Road; High Street, formerly called Brighton Road, being that portion of it lying between the Junction and Carlisle Street; Argyle Street East; Argyle Street West ; Charles Street; Inkerman Street, formerly Inkerman Road ; Carlisle Street, formerly Beach and Balaclava Roads; Brighton Road, from Carlisle Street to Glen Huntly Road; Glen Huntly Street, formerly Glen Huntly Road ; Barkly Street, formerly Punt Road or Hoddle Street; Fitzroy Street ; Princes Street; Gurner Street; Burnett Street ; Grey Street ; Robe Street ; Clyde Street ; Fawcner Street and Acland Street.

Three months later, October 28, 1857, the Council decided to name the streets lying to the "south of Balaclava Road," i.e., Carlisle Street. In accordance with instructions, the Public Works Committee submitted its report to the Council with a plan of the unnamed streets, and a list of the names the Committee proposed to call the streets. The streets in question were the roadways formed when the Government surveyed the Crown Lands for the purpose of selling the land in sections.

Councillor Sutherland moved, and Councillor Hale seconded, that the Public Works Committee's report be adopted.

Councillor Mooney moved as an amendment that the names of British authors be given to the streets.

Councillor Spicer seconded the amendment.

Councillor Marshall moved a further amendment: "That the names of British and Colonial Statesmen be given to the streets."

The Chairman, Councillor Cowderoy, seconded Councillor Marshall's amendment.

The second amendment was lost, and Councillor Mooney's amendment was carried. A further amendment, that consideration of the names to be given to the streets be postponed for a week, was lost. After consideration, and much argument, it was agreed that the streets' names should be officially proclaimed as follows :—

	In place of	as suggested in the Report	To be called
1.	Keogh Street		Burns Street
2.	Monaghan	-ditto-	Scott
3.	McCombie	-ditto-	Byron
4.	Willis	-ditto-	Milton
5.	Goldie	-ditto-	Dickens
6.	Emu	-ditto-	Blessington
7.	Nankerville	-ditto-	Southey
8.	Bennett	-ditto-	Tennyson
9.	Prell	-ditto-	Mitford

At the time of proclamation of these newly named streets, the old streets in "The Village of St. Kilda" were also given official recognition in the "Government Gazette."

Considerable personal interest lies behind some of the names that were rejected. We will take the first one, Keogh Street, which was cast out in favor of Burns Street. Keogh, after whom it was sought to name the street, was a relation of Tom Monahan. Manahan was the purchaser of Crown Sections 255, 257 and 258, containing about 20 acres of land starting at Scott Street and narrowing into a north-west corner block with 950 feet frontage to Glen Eira Road immediately south of Ripponlea station. The Brighton railway line cuts off the south-west corner of Monahan's Section 255; passes almost midway, but a little to the

east, through Section 257, and so through the top, coming out precisely at the south-east corner of Section 258.

T. J. Nankivell was the purchaser of Crown Sections 125b, 125c of land at St. Kilda. The land was close to Glen Huntly Road in Elwood. "Nankerville" Street, despite the name's spelling, was apparently named after him. He was a merchant, member of the firm of Fanning, Nankivell & Co., Elizabeth Street, Melbourne.

The name of "McCombie" Street was suggested by that of Alexander G. McCombie, an auctioneer. McCombie & Co. were land speculators at St. Kilda. They bought from the Crown, Section 133, the triangular piece of land on which the Elsternwick Hotel is built at the corner of Brighton and Glen Huntly Roads. They also bought land in other places in St. Kilda. Goldie Street owed its name to James Goldie, a doctor, who had a practice in North Melbourne, and owned land, Section 211a, at St. Kilda with a frontage to Carlisle Street. Prell Street was called after Wilhelm Prell, merchant, of the firm of Harge & Prell. He resided in Dalgety Street. Years afterwards he was the agent through whom passed large sums of German money for investment in Melbourne city properties, which were known as Prell's buildings.

Probably the Council was wise in its generation when the majority of its members voted for naming the streets with non-contentious names. The amendment launched during the consideration of the street-naming question and seconded by the Chairman, Councillor Cowderoy, that the names of "colonial statesmen" be selected, had in it the elements of discord. Was the prevailing color to be green, O'Shanassy and Duffy? or of another color, Haines and Childers? Harmony was preserved by the selection of the names of literary men for the streets' names.

Since the poets' names were selected as the names of streets by the St. Kilda Council the number has been added to as new streets have been formed in the vicinity of the parent group. The poets' names are to be found in the southern portion of the city, as well as a place name called "Poets corner." The value of such group-name placing is obviously that of a finger post to their locality. A stranger in St. Kilda seeking a street is

not long in doubt of his vicinity to it when he finds himself within the area containing the war, the poetical, or the official groups of street names.

Tennyson Street is one of the best known of the poetical named thoroughfares. Other street names after authors' names are Shakespeare, Chaucer, Spenser, Dryden, Coleridge, Wordsworth. Then we have in the South at Elwood Meredith Street, Addison Street, Ruskin Street, Goldsmith Street, Shelley Street, Beat's Street, Lytton Street, Hood Street, Cowper Street, and others, quite a full library edition of notable authors in English literature. Thackeray is not forgotten in Thackeray Street. Carlisle Street is supposed by some to have been intended to be called Carlyle Street, and that an error was made in spelling the dour Chelsea sage's name. Australian poets are represented by Kendall, Gordon and McCrae, and Australian story tellers very inadequately by Marcus Clarke, Clarke Street. The influence of the mid Victorian period throughout St. Kilda is very marked.

St. Kilda has other street name legacies from wars, and heroes of wars. Among them are Waterloo, Nelson, Wellington, and Nightingale Streets. Alma Street, now called Alma Road, commemorates the first battle of the Crimea War won by the allied armies of Britain, and France, under Lord Raglan, and Marshall St. Arnaud. Alma Road was the name seed of the group of martial names in St. Kilda, which came to fruition in this way. Thomas Earles, a tailor, was a friend of Colonel Gould, who was killed at the battle of Alma. When the news came to Melbourne of the victory, and of the Colonel's death, Earles was living on St. Kilda Hill in his shop, situated on an unnamed Government Road. He painted on the side of his house the words, "Alma Street," and he told those interested that he would ask the Government to name the road "Alma". The Crown Land authorities agreed to Earles' suggestion, and on consideration went further. They named other streets in honor of military men, and British victories, and ended their newly found inspiration by calling the district Balaclava. Present war place names are Pozieres Avenue, Cavell Street. Such names for streets increase in numbers as time passes.

An instance, in St. Kilda, of a house's name becoming a place-name of a district, occurs in the place-name "Rippon Lea," though, to state the position correctly, the fact is that a *new* railway station was called after the dwelling place and the adjacent lands became associated, with the name of the railway station. The late Sir Frederick Sargood christened his beautiful home, in the south-east of St. Kilda, "Rippon Lea." Some years after his death, the extensive grounds of Rippon Lea, were, in part, divided into allotments, for buildings purposes. The purchasers of the land, agitated for a railway station, on the Brighton line, that ran alongside the property. The Railway Commissioners granted their request, and the station was called "Rippon Lea." Sargood, in the first instance, named his house "Rippon," in memory of his mother, who was a Miss Rippon. Her father was, for several years, the chief cashier, in the Bank of England.

The land absorbed, in the district of Rippon Lea, was, at one time, known by the long since forgotten name of the Village of Owensville. The late William Augustus Pay, of Rippon Lea, who came from London, and settled there, in the year 1857, and dwelt in Gleneira Road for 72 years, first knew the lands, and houses, in the vicinity of his home, as the Village of "Owens- vine." That name was probably a legacy from a land sale division of an estate. Auctioneers of the years of the fifties, had a strong partiality towards calling any large divisional land sale by the name of some projected village. At least half a dozen of those paper villages, along the St. Kilda-Brighton shore line, have waxed and waned. We do not know of "Owensville" ever having had official recognition, but, in an old diary of the Rev. David Seddon, he states, that he held a service at "Owensville," at the house of one of his communicants, Mr. Lane. That was in November, 1858.

The sources from which the street names of St. Kilda came are fairly well known. We select some street names, that possess a small personal interest though we leave others untouched. Blanche Street was named after Miss Blanche Barkly, the daughter of Governor Sir Henry Barkly; Cyril Street after Cyril, the son of an ex-councillor T. Kelly ; Farmer Street after John Farmer, a property owner in High Street ; Fuller Street after Governor Sir John Fuller; Gourlay Street after Robert E. Gourlay, owner of land; Henryville Street after

Charles Henry Galliers ; Herbert Street after George Herbert, poet, 1593. How George Herbert's sixteenth century works appealed to the Council we can only surmise. His life, a writer asserts, had the attributes of a courtier, a gentleman, and a saint so perhaps his name is well placed in St. Kilda. Johnston Street after ex-Councillor Johnston; Lambert Grove after Alfred Lambert who subdivided the land through which it runs ; Loch Street after Governor Sir Henry Lock ; Lynott Street after Charles Lynott, auctioneer; Linton Street after George Vale Linton, auctioneer; Marriott Street after ex-Councillor Robert Marriott; Mary Street after the late Mrs. Mary Tullett, wife of ex-Councillor Henry Tullett ; Moy Street, named by T. Kilpatrick, owner of land, after a town in north of Ireland; Patterson Street, after Dr. J. H. Patterson, Mayor of St Kilda, 1867-1868; Pilley Street, after ex-Councillor Pilley; Quat Quatta Avenue, after John A. Wallace's station in Riverina; Robe Street, after Lieut. Colonel Frederick Holt Robe, Governor of South Australia 1845- 48.

In October, 1927, the St. Kilda Council requested the St. Kilda Fore Shore Committee, to name the area of lawns, on the Lower Esplanade, adjoining Luna Park, and Shakespeare Grove, the O'Donnell Gardens as a mark of honor to Councillor Edward O'Donnell, who had then, for thirty-eight years, been a member of the St. Kilda Council and a member of the Fore Shore Committee since its inception, in 1906. At the same time, the large reserve, at the West Beach, opposite Beaconsfield Parade, was named the Catani Gardens, in honor of their creator, and also the creator of all the foreshore landscape beauties, the late Carlo Catani.

The early streets of St. Kilda required metal for their making. The St. Kilda Council was granted by the Government a site on the north bank of the Yarra, where the Council was at liberty to quarry the stone for road making purposes. With the stone obtained from that quarry, the roads of St. Kilda were first metalled by the Council.

A complimentary dinner was given to Councillor Henry Tullett J.P., at the George Hotel, St. Kilda, by the members of the St. Kilda Council, on the occasion of his retirement from the office of Mayor of St. Kilda, August 19, 1879. In his reply to the toast of his health, Councillor Tullett related, from per-

sonal knowledge, the genesis of the municipality. "It was," he said, "in 1855 that he first made himself a sort of tail end to municipal institutions in the form of a budding town clerk..."

"Some of the people of St. Kilda thought it would be a very desirable thing to establish a municipal institution in their midst. In those days the greater portion of what is now St. Kilda, Emerald Hill, and Sandridge belonged to the City of Melbourne. St. Kilda residents including Messrs. Greeves, Thomas Loader, and others, associated themselves together with a view to bringing St. Kilda within the operations of the Municipal Act. He (Councillor Tullett) was appointed a sort of amanuensis for the occasion. He could well remember writing out a full, and particular account of the boundaries of the coming municipality of St. Kilda. Their first attempt came to nothing, but two or three years afterwards, the municipality came into existence, not, however, without considerable opposition from those living on the east side of Barkly Street whose immunity from the tax gatherer they were most anxious to maintain."

"Their first meeting, to elect members, was held in a tent, on a spot somewhere at the back of what is now the Esplanade Hotel, or in Acland Street, near Councillor Simpson's property. He, Tullett, went there, and was asked to consent to stand. He refused, thinking that men of more age, and experience, should hold the position. However, he was proposed by Mr. Brodribb, seconded by Mr. Loader. He thought no more of it, until the following Monday, the day of election, which was held at the old Junction Hotel, when he was reminded during the day, that he was at the bottom of the poll. It was a comical sort of election. There was no roll of ratepayers, everyone supposed to own a piece of land was entitled to vote. However, finding how matters stood, before the close of the poll, he set to work, stuck up every woodcarter, collared their votes, and worked with such right good will, that he found, at the end of the day's proceedings, he had lifted himself considerably from the unpleasant position of being at the bottom of the poll. He was not one of the elected ones on that occasion. The successful ones were Messrs. Fraser, T. Hale, B. Cowderoy, A. Sutherland, J. Mooney, F. Spicer, and S. Marshall. This defeat rankled in his memory, and he was determined, on the first occasion, to go in and win. The opportunity presented itself on the

resignation of Mr. Sutherland, when he, Tullett, easily beat his opponent, Mr. Moore, by three to one. The first election took place on the 11th March, 1857, and he was elected on the 23rd February, 1858, since which time he had had the honor of representing the ratepayers of St. Kilda.

"The Governments," continued Mr. Tullett, "in those days were exceedingly liberal, and the council commenced proceedings with something like £5,000 to work with. They received a subsidy of 40/- for every 20/- collected in rates.... He was not a party to the first erection of what was now the municipal building of the Borough. He was not in the Council when the first portion of the structure was built. At that time, there was a big gully, some 9 ft. deep in front of his place. The present town hall (1879), corner of Gray and Barkly Streets, was erected on the only reserve near the centre of population, and the purchase of land, known as Ireland's corner, would assuredly have been made, in the early days, if the Council could have effected a purchase. The first Council was held in the police quarters, in the old iron house at the Junction. It was one of the houses that had been imported by Captain Mac-Mahon, and it was during that period the first councillors induced the Government to erect the court house on the position it now stands. The speaker knew nothing about it until the foundations were laid. Another plot of ground was obtained from the Government, with right of sale in Barkly Street, which the Council subsequently sold (he well remembered the circumstance as being a party to its purchase, when they fooled away some £200 or £300) and the proceeds, some £2,200 were spent on the land on which the Court House was built. Beyond assisting in the latter, he was not guilty of fixing the present site for the town hall. Circumstances at the time pointed to it as a centre, and a proper place for it"....

To resume our narrative, one of the St. Kilda Council's administrative acts at its initial meeting, was to appoint a sub-committee to enquire, and to report on the subject of a suitable building in which, for the future, to hold the council meetings. The Council's approach to the much petitioned Government for financial help in its quest to find a civic resting place. is shown by an answer it received, contained in a letter, read at the second meeting of the Council, wherein the Government

stated it refused to sanction a special grant for the Council for the purchase of land for the erection of municipal chambers. The letter also intimated that the Government "had retained no land suitable for the purpose." The Government also informed the Council that it had decided "to erect a Court House on the reserve, at the junction of Grey and Barkly Streets, for which a grant of £1,500 was obtained from Parliament, and that the work would be proceeded with immediately." The Council, in these circumstances, had under consideration the necessity of purchasing a desirable site for the municipal buildings.

When the Sub-Committee of ways and means to secure a municipal place of abode reported progress on March 30, 1857, the chairman of the Committee submitted to the Council correspondence that had taken place with the Chief Commissioner of Police and the Secretary of the Board of Works, referring to the occupation of rooms in the building attached to the Court House. On the motion of Councillor Fraser, it was resolved, that in the event of a favourable answer from the Commissioner of Police, the Chairman proceed at once to put the rooms in order, and to furnish the same in conjunction with Councillors Sutherland and Marshall.

According to the morning newspaper, The Herald of February 28, 1859, the question as to whether the justices should elect their chairman of the Bench, or whether the Mayor of the Municipality should, by virtue of his office, be chairman was a subject that had the elements of discord in it. We have known the question to be raised much more recently than the year 1859, and the arguments used, pro and con, were much the same in both instances, and the human nature revealed in the arguments was the same. The Herald in its paragraph stated: "The Bench of Magistrates, and the Municipal Council of St. Kilda, are not at present on the most amicable terms. The former body have always disputed the right of the chairman of the latter to preside on the Bench, but have hitherto allowed Mr. Cowderoy to sit, out of courtesy to that gentleman, who has acted as Chairman of the Bench, from the establishment of a Court of Petty Sessions at St. Kilda, when he frequently constituted the whole Bench. Things however have changed since then, and the St. Kilda Bench is now probably the most numerous and influential

in the Colony. Mr. Cowderoy's term of office as councillor expires on the 8th March, and the Bench not knowing who may be his successor, have embraced the opportunity to assert their privilege. On Tuesday last a special meeting of magistrates was convened to consider the question, and not only were the whole of the magistrates present, with the exception of three (two of whom are municipal councillors) of the opinion that they should exercise their right of appointing their chairman but, by the same majority, they elected Mr. Cowderoy to the office. The new Chairman or the Council will thus lack one of the chief honors which formerly attached to the office."

This was a daylight spoliation, on the part of the St. Kilda magistrates, of the civic rights, appertaining to the Mayor or Chairman of the Municipality of St. Kilda. The assumption of such powers incensed the Councillors, and they summoned their supporters to rally about them. We do not suppose that the majority of the ratepayers of St. Kilda felt the hurt like the Councillors did of "the blow struck at representative principles," for so "the blow" that had fallen, was described ; a blow which upset the official social harmonies of St. Kilda. The Council countered the magistrates' assembly by calling a meeting of indignant ratepayers, and thereby afforded those, who desired to do so, to give these Bench-proud justices verbal thrusts from the vantage stage of a public platform. The meeting was held at the unanimous request of the Councillors of St. Kilda. The Hon. Alexander Fraser, M.L.C., Chairman of the Municipality, called the meeting for the purpose of giving the residents of St. Kilda the opportunity to express the public opinion of St. Kilda, upon the doings of the St. Kilda magistrates. The residents assembled, at the Junction Hotel, on the night of March 3, 1859. They elected Fraser as their chairman, and he opened the proceedings by stating that the future chairman of the municipality, whoever he might be, had been insulted by the action of the magistrates of St. Kilda in electing a chairman to preside over them at the St. Kilda Court of Petty Sessions. The magistrates had filled the position of Chairman of the St. Kilda Bench by electing one of their colleagues to the place of honor. The position belonged to the yet unknown Chairman of the St. Kilda Council, the Councillor who was affronted before he was appointed. Chairman Fraser was not falling out personally with the St.

Kilda magistrates, so he made it quite plain that he believed "a more respectable bench of magistrates did not exist in Victoria." It was not the magistrates he disliked but their action. They had done that which caused the constitution of the body politic to tremble as an aspen leaf. They had touched the free institutions of the Colony ! They had struck a blow at representative principles by electing their own selected chairman, regardless of the civic rights of the St. Kilda Council to possess, in its own municipal chairman, the first magistrate in the municipality. Was there ever, by a group of magistrates such vaunting ambition, such improper skurrying to snap their fingers at the Council and at its claims, nay its rights, that had been overridden? Were men, who did not observe justice in their personal relations with the Council, likely to hold the scales of justice equally in the courts of law ? Who could truly say ? And what if Melbourne residents did regard the magisterial trouble at St. Kilda, as a storm in a teacup? It was not to be supposed that the citizens of Melbourne, at the other end of St. Kilda Road, knew what was happening in the south of St. Kilda Hill in the secret chambers of ambitious justices of the peace. The councillors did not know. They only judged by the fruits the justices brought forth, and the fruits they offered to the councillors were bitter to their taste.

A. Sutherland moved the first resolution, "That this meeting condemns the appointment, by the Bench of Magistrates, of Mr. Benjamin Cowderoy as their chairman for the ensuing twelve months, whose connection with the Municipal Council is about to terminate, as a covert attack upon the principles of local self government having a tendency to lower the status of the Council, and calculated to bring municipal institutions into contempt." Sutherland in speaking to his motion said—he was evidently a man of strong expressions—"that a diabolical insult had been thrown in the face of their representatives." Sutherland said he chose the word "diabolical" because he could not find a milder term. Continuing he remarked, "Mr. Cowderoy for this reason ought to have declined the honor offered to him as he could not accept it, without insulting those whose representative he was. If he himself were the Chairman of the Council he would take his seat in the Chair of the Bench, and would defy all the J.P.'s to turn him out of it—(cheers)—and he trusted that he would

have the good sense to give way, if any district case had to be investigated."

Richard Heales, M.L.A., in seconding the resolution, said that he thought the worst result of the step taken by the magistrates would be that it would remove a prize, a stimulus looked forward to by gentlemen who came forward as municipal candidates. Councillor Tullett supported the resolution, and Mr. J. A. J. Macgregor declared that the magistrates had acted illegally for they had no power to elect a permanent chairman. The motion was then put, and carried unanimously. Another motion was launched by a Mr. Marshall to the effect, "That this meeting is of opinion that the Chairman of the Municipal Council of St. Kilda should be the Chairman of the local Bench of Magistrates, and preside at the hearing of municipal cases." Speaking of Mr. Cowderoy he said that he put "that man in the chair of the Council, and therefore he deeply regretted the mistake he had made."

Councillor Hale seconded the resolution, remarking that he also had special reason for regret, as he had seconded Mr. Cowderoy's nomination to the chairmanship. The next speaker, Councillor Spicer, said the question involved in the dispute was whether the system of local government should be sustained, or whether the nominee system should be carried on—(cheers)—and when he looked at that assembly and saw the intelligence beaming from their eyes (loud laughter, and cries of "No 'buncombe' !") he had no fear for local government.

The resolution was put, and carried unanimously.

Councillor Florence Gardiner moved the third resolution, "That this meeting pledges itself to support the Council of St. Kilda in its legitimate efforts to maintain the dignity and privileges of its chairman." That resolution, seconded by Mr. Crate, was also carried unanimously. Mr. Broman moved the fourth, and last, resolution, which was also carried unanimously. It was to the effect, "That this meeting requests the Municipal Council of St. Kilda to take the necessary steps for the establishment of a Municipal Court of Petty Sessions." He said that he regretted that nearly all the actions of the St. Kilda Council had been carried out by Councillors. These gentlemen were their own representatives, and it was the duty of their constituents, the "outsiders," to support them in their extremity. He assured

them, the Councillors, that he spoke the sentiments of that meeting, and of the entire body of ratepayers, when he said, the Councillors had the general sympathy. He was ashamed of Mr. Cowderoy, and *he* thought that the magistrates were not to blame so much as Mr. Cowderoy. His (Cowderoy's) great fault was ambition. The speaker had observed this ambition through the whole course of Mr. Cowderoy's life in the Colony, and ambition, in a public man, frequently proved injurious to social interests. ("Hear, hear!")

The Hon. W. Nicholson, M.L.A., stated that some years before the Government did all in its power to injure representative institutions, and as one of the means of doing so they never appointed aldermen magistrates, and probably would not have allowed the Mayor to sit on the Bench if they could have helped it. To that policy he attributed the degenerate condition of the City Council.

In acknowledging a vote of thanks, moved by Mr. McNaughton, and seconded by Mr. Phillips, the Chairman (the Hon. Alexander Fraser) said that though he had decided two months before to resign his position as a councillor he would change his mind, and he would "stick by the old ship till she was in good sailing trim," which declaration was acclaimed by loud cheering.

But after the *cheering* was over, the populace departed, and everything was quiet. Cheering did not charm the magistrates off the Bench, nor the public meeting put the municipal chairman of St. Kilda in the chair. It was plainly a position for compromise, a round table talk; and so it came about, and thereby an amicable arrangement was made that the justices of the peace should elect their own chairman, and that he should preside on the Bench on Tuesdays, and that the Mayor of St. Kilda was to be the chairman of the St. Kilda Police Court Bench on Fridays. A characteristic newspaper note on the occasion of such an election is, "At a meeting of the Honorary Magistrates, held on Friday, 2nd September, 1878, the Mayor, Councillor Marriott, was elected chairman of the Bench on Fridays, and Major Krone on Tuesdays."

St. Kilda in its early days did not lack for justices, who were residents in St. Kilda. The municipal magistrates for St. Kilda, in the year 1863, were Francis John Bligh, Henry Wilkinson Farrar (Alma Road, St. Kilda), Germain Nicholson, James

Patterson, M.D. (Robe Street, St. Kilda), Frederick Spicer and Edward Sydes. The jurisdiction of these justices was limited within St. Kilda. With more extended powers than they had, were the territorial magistrates whose jurisdiction extended throughout the Colony. Among the residents of St. Kilda was a number of territorial magistrates, their names being Edmund Ashley, Robert Bennett, M.L.A., Thomas Black, Brice Frederick Bunny, Henry Samuel Chapman, Benjamin Cowderoy, John De Pass, Alexander Fraser, John Gemmell, Charles Prendergast Hackett, Richard Heales, Matthew Harvey, John Hood, Berkeley Westropp Hutchinson, James Stewart Johnstone, Dennis Patrick Keogh, John Mackenzie, Edward Manning, Thomas Shannon Martin, John Matheson, James McCulloch, Thomas James Nankivell, William Nicholson, James Patterson, M.D., Robert Patterson, John Peter Quarterman, James Hunter Ross, Frederick James Sargood, Robert Sellar, Francis Guy Smith, William Henry Tuckett, Henry Tullett, George Urquhart, Dr. F. T. Van Hemert, Joseph Henry Williams, Thomas Le Mesurier Winter. This list of justices contains the names of several well known men, distinguished in Melbourne professional and business circles, and it shows also the popularity of St. Kilda as a seaside residential suburb with the "gentry of Melbourne."

St Kilda, as a dwelling place, during the golden years of the fifties, was a favourite one. Lands upon which to build substantial houses were sought for by men suddenly enriched by, or through the abundance of gold, that was being won at the various diggings. These demands for lands led to an increase in prices of real estate property. On the crest of the financial wave of prosperity the Colony was enjoying, rode groups of hungry, and expectant speculators, who had bought beautiful acres of land at St. Kilda. Through astute auctioneers, who at that time flourished, these speculators, and land company syndicates, Jews and Gentiles, offered their properties for sale. The auctioneers were laughed at because of their "flowery eloquence." Their methods to attract purchasers included "lunches with champagne." What prices were realised for such lands we do not know, nor are we likely to know, since the auctioneers, and their books are no longer available. An odd auction book or two may have survived those hectic days, but where do they rest? We

will select, out of the many sales by auction, some characteristic, and important sales that recall well known landmarks. For instance:— An advertisement, under the heading of "sales by auction" appeared in The Argus newspaper, June 9, 1852, wherein Peter Davis announced that he had received instructions from Mr. Alderman Nicholson to sell by public auction, on Friday, June 11, a "delightful situated suburban property known as Allotment A, of Portion No. 68, situated at the entrance of St. Kilda." From the description of the land we learn that it is located on the slope of St. Kilda Hill, within a few minutes' walk of the Beach, and that it is admirably sheltered by the hill from the bleak winds of winter. "Independent, however, of these great natural advantages, the importance," declares the auctioneer, "of this property is considerably enhanced by being made the focus from which all the Government roads in the neighbourhood radiate. The grand road from the Princes Bridge to St Kilda, three chain wide, runs up to, and terminates at, the north-west angle of this property."

We are informed then that "From this point diverge the following roads : The road separating South Melbourne from Prahran, and leading to the Yarra Punt, near the Botanic Gardens ; the road, or street, bounding St. Kilda to the east, and leading to the Esplanade, in front of the St. Kilda Hotel; the Dandenong Road, to which this property has a frontage of nearly twenty chains ; the Brighton Road, which bounds it on the west, and the road, or street, which commences at this point, and bounds St. Kilda on the west, leading to the margin of the Bay. The possession of these important advantages renders this the most suitable site round the entire circuit of Melbourne for an extensive hotel, whilst its nearness to town (2½ miles from the Bridge), its salubrity, and its proximity to the margin of the Bay establishes its superiority as a site for suburban residences."

After explaining that the land had been subdivided into lots suitable for suburban residences, the advertisement reads :- "Persons unacquainted with the exact situation are informed that after passing over the Bridge and its abutments, they may immediately pick up the stripe cut in the ground, defining the grand St. Kilda Road; this stripe is continuous and direct as a gun shot to the property. The property is entirely enclosed with

a substantial 3-rail fence, and so much as bounds each lot will be given to the respective purchasers. Title: A grant from the Crown to Mr. Alderman Nicholson."

That was in June, 1852, and we learn the interesting fact from the advertisement that at the date mentioned St. Kilda Road was regarded as the "grand St. Kilda Road" though it was still only a road of such uncertain complexion and area to the eye of the traveller that it had to be defined by "a stripe cut in the ground."

In January, 1852, two superior six-roomed houses, "at the entrance to St. Kilda, and fronting the Bay" were to let. They were houses described as under one roof, and ones that could be conveniently occupied as one house. The house had a coach-house, and a stable, and land sufficient for a good garden. Intending tenants were told to apply to Mr. Powell Ironmonger, Collins Street, or Mr. James, builder, St. Kilda. A Mr. J. S. Johnston had also a house in St. Kilda to let.

Land values increased with "boom like" rapidity in 1853, and purchasers at Crown Land Sales rushed their properties into the market. F. G. Dalgety offered for sale by auction on April 12, 1853, all of his St. Kilda land to the extent of twelve acres, known as "Dalgety's Paddock." He selected for his auctioneer, W. H. Cropper, who told the public in the advertisement announcing the sale that Dalgety's Paddock was situated at the entrance to the village of St. Kilda and that it was unequalled in position.

"The whole of it," advertised Mr. Cropper, "lies on the top of a hill, and it is approached by three main Government Roads. It commands unrivalled views over the whole of the township, and the Bay, as far as the eye can reach. Williams Town, the shipping, and the whole of the country from the blue mountains on the west, the Goulburn Ranges, Mount Macedon, Station Peak, Indented Head, etc. It is situated only three minutes' walk from the beach, and it is protected from the heavy southerly gales. It is close to the princely mansions of Octavius Brown, Esq., Nankivell, Jennings, and others. The whole of the timber (by the liberality of the proprietor) is left on each lot, and there are some magnificent trees in full growth."

An additional inducement to become a purchaser of Dalgety's lands was the statement that the "St. Kilda Jetty would soon be built. Prospective purchasers were further informed that there would be a band of music in attendance, and that Dalgety's title was a grant from the Crown. To facilitate the sale of his land, Dalgety, in addition to making Gurner Street through his sections, also made Burnett Street, naming the street after John Alexander Burnett, one of the founders of the firm of Dalgety & Co., Bourke Street.

Three allotments at least of the original division of Dalgety's paddock were not sold. They were offered for sale on October 6, 1857 by William Green, an auctioneer, who conducted the auction in the iron store, containing five rooms, of Alfred Aveling, grocer at the corner of Grey and Robe Streets. In later years it was a butcher's shop occupied by F. Smiley. The building was imported from England by Miles Kingston & Co. for the purpose of using it in Bourke Street, Melbourne, as a bazaar. Owing to the Melbourne City Corporation passing certain building regulations excluding iron houses from erection within the city, the building, when it arrived, could not be put to the purposes for which it was imported. Miles Kingston & Co. had the iron sections of the building carried to St. Kilda, and there the house was assembled and erected. About the same time an imported house was built in Fitzroy Street opposite the Park Gates, and it became, The Cricket Club Hotel.

The allotments the auctioneer Green had to offer in Dalgety's paddock had frontages to Grey Street of 123 feet 6 inches by a depth of 120 feet to Burnett Street. Two other lots of land had frontages of 83 feet 4 inches to Burnett Street by a depth of 123 feet. Another piece of land was situated in Robe Street. It was part of Allotment 22 in the Parish of South Melbourne, and it had a frontage to Robe Street of fifty feet, by a depth of 182 feet. Land at that time in Robe Street was valued at £7 per foot. On this piece of land was a large shop, and a private house occupied by Doctor Thomas, who paid a rental of £150 per annum. Joseph Dittmar was the licensee of the Star and Garter Hotel, which had 30 rooms and a coachhouse. Alongside his hotel was a shop, with two rooms, and from the shop protruded a barber's colored pole, Robert Christian the occupier being

a barber, whom the boarders at the hotel said was as good as his name. Dr. Charles Lempriere lived in Burnett Street, on the hill, next to a house called Etloe Hall. He advertised that he treated all poor people when they came to him free of charge. Allotments of land, of an area of almost an acre each, at the corner of Inkerman Road and Chapel Street, in the immediate vicinity of the residences of Sir George Stephen, Henry Jennings, and F. Bunny, were sold in October, 1857. It was claimed, at the time, that "this land was soon to be the centre of St. Kilda." "The best sites in St. Kilda," we further learn, "are being rapidly taken up, and built upon."

Two types of investors bought freely of St. Kilda lands. The first bought with the intention, carried out in most cases, of building villas suitable for people, who were able, and willing, to pay high rents for a comfortable dwelling house. Some of these investors owned rows of houses, others preferred to place their capital in terraces. The result of these movements may be seen in the rows of houses in St. Kilda to-day, that have a family likeness to each other. For instance, in Dalgety Street, Thomas Edens owned eight brick houses, each house having ten rooms, with the appurtenant conveniences of a coach house and stables. He had for tenants of these houses Marcus Sievwright, a solicitor well known in the Melbourne Police Court, John Frenchman, Thomas Davis, Antonio Perrigalli, Walter Williamson, Thomas Edin, and George Watson. The gross assessment of the houses was £250 each, and the net assessment £212 10/-. Another investor was James Thomas, and he had six cottages, of nine rooms each, and there were several more landlords of that class of property in St. Kilda. The other type of investor was the man who built two and three-roomed cottages, mostly of iron construction. John Anderson, a baker, in Clyde Street, occupied one containing two rooms, and we have mentioned others. The man who built the greatest number of these habitations was the resident of Elwood, Samuel Griffiths, who was so well known in St. Kilda as an agitator in various complaints to the Council.

Important sales of land belonging to private owners took place in the year 1854. A most successful sale was made of allotments described as being comprised in William Easey's paddock. It was number 3 allotment at St. Kilda, County of

Bourke, Parish of South Melbourne. The land was laid out in ornamental walks, and planted with fruit trees. Edward Cohen was the auctioneer, and the sale took place in February. The land had frontages to the Esplanade, and though we do not know what prices were obtained they were such as to make a record, for other auctioneers, in their advertisements of land at St. Kilda, referred to the great demand manifested for allotments of land at the sale of Easey's paddock. Here is an instance, quoted from an advertisement, in the Argus, announcing that on February 25, 1854, would take place a "grand sale of land" of marine allotments on the choicest portion of the Esplanade, having the Government Beach Reserve in the front, Easey's Paddock on the one side, and on the other side the property of W. Campbell, Esq., M.L.C. W. M. Tennent & Co. were the auctioneers, having received instructions to sell the land from W. F. Splatt, M.L.C. The land was described as "a beautifully situated paddock between Acland Street and the Beach Reserve."

"Easey's Paddock" is shown on T. J. Crouch's "Map of the Municipalities of Prahran and St. Kilda," published without date, probably 1853, as consisting of Lots. 1, 2, 3, 4. Allotment one was bought at the Crown Sales by Captain Lawrence, the other allotments, in order, by J. M. C. Airey, Captain Charles Hutton, and J. P. Main. Easey probably bought the land from these original Crown Land purchasers. The paddock had a frontage to Melbourne Parade (now called Fitzroy Street), and a frontage to the Esplanade extending as far as the Alfred Square, and the land ran through to Acland Street.

The auctioneers called the public's "attention to the fact that this is the very last portion of land at St. Kilda with Beach frontage, which can be offered to the wants of the wealthy citizens of Melbourne, every other disposable section having been already subdivided, and sold, and there is no land, even in this delightful and healthy locality, &c. . . ." The auctioneers concluded their verbal fireworks, with the intimation that "they expected a very spirited competition for this last, the best—the cream of St. Kilda." Two days after that sale, P. Davis & Co. sold Bay frontages near the Royal Hotel, "an entire Government allotment, Government Portion 36, 28 lots, some with frontages to Gibson's Road." The auction took place at eleven o'clock, and a champagne lunch was advertised.

In the same month, February, 1854, the Junction Inn, St. Kilda, was for sale. The advertisement stated, "This magnificent hotel contains 29 apartments, and stabling for 20 horses, and its situation for beauty and business is unrivalled. John Mackenzie, Queen Street." May be it was at this sale that James Mason bought this hotel.

Such were some of the movements of real estate in St. Kilda at the time of the gold rushes. An idea of the stirring times may be gleaned from the statistics taken two years after the private sales of property, just quoted, at St. Kilda. The figures showed that in 1856 there were 82,428 persons, or one in every five of the population, engaged at the diggings, and in that year they won 3,053,744 ounces of gold worth £12,214,976.

The foreshore of St. Kilda beach was used by smugglers as a place of hiding, for the goods they brought off in boats from ships anchored in the bay, in the dark hours of the early morning. On November 23, 1853, Frederick Bale, William Kemp, William Taylor, and John Miller, were brought, under an armed escort, from the St. Kilda Watchhouse to the Melbourne City Court on charges of smuggling. A newspaper report states, "The prisoners were found at, about midnight, bringing brandy, and gunpowder ashore, which they were in the act of burying when they were arrested by the police. His Worship the Mayor, also Mr. Sturt, the Police Magistrate, and Mr. Balburnie, .J.P., remanded them in order to inform the authorities at the Customs House of the affair." At that date, 1853, there was no police court held at St. Kilda, and anyone arrested in St. Kilda was taken to Melbourne for trial.

We insert here the memories of the late William Spottiswood, who belongs to this period, 1854. He was born at Montreal, Canada, in 1834, and he left his native place with his father, brothers and sisters for Toronto at the age of eight years. He resided in Toronto till 1853, when he went to New York. In May of that year he sailed for Liverpool, and went to Glasgow, where he stayed for three months. He then sailed for Australia in the "s.s. Birmingham," and arrived in Hobson's Bay on New Year's Day, 1854. He landed at Sandridge from a tug boat on January 2, and went straight out to St. Kilda the same day. In Glasgow his family had bought two tents, and they erected the

tents in Carlisle Street, St. Kilda. When they had got their tents up they saw, not far from them, a game of iron quoits in progress. They watched the game, and learnt after it was finished that the players were F. J. Sargood, father of one who was, years afterwards, Sir Frederick Sargood, Robert Sellars, Appleton and McDougall of Briscoe & Co. After living in the tents for two months Spottiswood decided to "try his luck" at the Maldon diggings. Two months at those diggings convinced him that gold was not so easily found as he had supposed. He returned to the tents in St. Kilda, and started to follow his trade, that of contracting. His first contract was to erect the building of the Immigrants' Home on St. Kilda Road, long since pulled down. Another early contract was for erection of Marli Terrace on the Esplanade for the Hon. J. S. Johnstone, which is one of St. Kilda's landmarks and may be seen from a ship in the Bay. The only means of public conveyance to Melbourne, in 1854, was by a coach 2/6 each way, and after seven o'clock in the evening, the fare was 5/-. The coaches started from Mooney's Hotel, the Esplanade, and ran along Robe Street, thence to Gurner and Alma Roads, along High Street to the St. Kilda Road, and so on to the city. In 1854 the St. Kilda Road was a bush track. Dr. Dick of St. Kilda was "stuck up" by bushrangers on the road near the Domain. Spottiswood bought land in Vale Street, in the year 1854, at £3 5/- per foot, and he could, at the same time, have acquired land in Chapel Street, at £2 a foot. He saw a bush race meeting held on the ground opposite the Village Belle Hotel, and also a bullock roasted on the ground on a New Year's holiday. The aboriginals, who came from Mordialloc, at frequent intervals, to visit St. Kilda for the purpose of begging, always camped on the ground upon which now stands the City Hall in Carlisle Street. They were a great nuisance to the local shopkeepers.

Spottiswood claimed to be one of the founders of the St. Kilda Presbyterian Church in Alma Road, and he was present *at* the opening of the St. Kilda to Melbourne Railway. He died in August, 1916, and his wife died in April, 1911. Their family consisted of three children.