

NOTES ON THE NORTH-WEST OF TASMANIA (J. SANDERS Oct. 26.10.48)

ARTHUR RIVER Named by Henry Hellyer Esq., surveyor V.D.L.Co, 1827. Hellyer took the liberty of calling this large river the Arthur, in compliment to His Excellency, the Lieutenant Governor of Van Diemens Land. The Arthur however had been previously entered by Lieut Hobbs in 1824. The aboriginal name for the river is Tunganrick

BISCHOFF Mount named by Mr James Sprent Surveyor General in 1828 in honour of Mr James Bischoff, who had been chairman of the Van Diemens Land Company in 1828.

The famous tin mine was discovered by Mr James (Philosopher) Smith on December 4th 1874. The Mount Bishoff Tin Mining Company was formed in 1873 & the Company began operations in September of that year. Actual working of Bisch started in 1872.

The tramway to Emu Bay (Burnie) was opened early in 1878.

CAM & BLYTHE RIVERS. Were evidently named by V.D.L.Co survey parties after English rivers of the same name in the same way the Mersey was named. A.K. McGaw (late manager of the V.D.L.Co.) writes:- These coastal rivers in 1826 were described numerically second, third fourth & so on, & although I have not seen the actual record of the naming, it seems almost certain that the Company & staff did name them, no one else being interested at that date.

CATTLEY Mount (South-east of Guilford)

Named after J.Cattley one of the early directors of the V.D.L.Co. Hence the name Cattley Street in Burnie.

COMPANION HILL A detached hill near St Valentines Peak named early by V.D.L.Co., the name being self-explanatory.

DEVONPORT (Torquay & Formby) It is hard to say when the two names were given to the settlement on either side of the Mersey, but when amalgamation was decided upon in 1890 or there abouts, they were merged into Devonport. This was the decision of the then Government that there should only be three ports on the N.E. Coast - at the Mersey, Emu Bay, & Circular Head.

DETENTION RIVER First named by the V.D.L.Co's survey staff the "Tret River". Afterward changed to Detention because of the uncomfortable forced detention of Alexander Goldie & his party at the river by a very heavy flood in 1826 (A.K. McGaw). Goldie St in Wynyard probably named after Goldie. (own notes).

DIAL RANGE Named first Dial Mountains by Fossey & later the V.D.L.Cos's records & maps show it as Dundas Range after Capt Dundas R.N. one of the first directors of the Company.

Note. Dundas Range situated near Zeehan & Roseberry).

The similarity of the profile of one of the peaks to the index of a sun dial is very clear & is the reason for its original name, which is very apt.

DIPWOOD MARSH & RANGE Named by Hendy Hellyer in 1827/

EMU RIVER So named by Hellyer who first forded it at Hampshire on Feb. 13th 1827. Hellyer refers to Emu tracks seen along the banks of the river & later on Hellyer says he has named it the Emu.

ROCKY CAPE So called for its forbidding appearance by Flinders & Bass in 1798 when they first sailed through the straits between Tasmania & the mainland.

TABLE CAPE Again discovered & named by Flinders & Bass in 1798.

CAPE GRIM named by Bass & Flinders in 1798. Native name Kennaock

FOSSEY RIVER A tributary of the Hellyer River situated in the Surrey Hills, named after Joseph Fossey V.D.L.C. Surveyor. The Mount Bischoff Tin Mine Co, takes its water by race from the Fossey River.

GAWLER RIVER. tributary of the Leven discovered by Surveyor N.L.Kentish in 1844 & named after Governor Gawler of South Aust, a former patron of Kentish.

GORMISTON Named in honour of Viscount Gormiston, who was Governor of Tas 1893-1900 it having sprung into importance as a mining town during Gormiston's office.

FORTH RIVER (& Settlement) Probably named after a barque of that name that sailed from England in June 1833. It called at Circular Head & proceeded to Launceston. There is however a belief that the name is a corruption of the numeral 4th from the fact that it is the fourth conspicuous opening in the land West of the Tamar Heads. The others are 1 Port Sorell 2 Mersey 3 Don 4 Forth. In support of this theory it may be remembered that when Yorktown was first settled & exploration pushed westward the first big opening & river Port Sorell & Rubicon River was called the First Western River.

FLINDERS ISLAND. Named by Governor King of New South Wales in honour of the great navigator.

FURNEAUX GROUP OF ISLANDS. named after Capt Tobias Furneaux by himself. His ship was the Adventure (Cooks second ship) in 1773.

JACOB'S BOAT HARBOUR. Named after one of the members of the VDL party which settled near Northdown. He was afterwards one of the pilots of the Tamar River.

JACOB MOUNT. Named after J.Jacob one of the early directors of the V.D.L.Co.

KING ISLAND. Named after Gov.King of N.S.W. in 1798 by Flinders when in the sloop Norfolk he circumnavigated Tas King Island (writes Mr T.Dunbabin) was not discovered by Flinders in 1798. Governor King writing in 1802 says that the island was first discovered in 1798 by a Mr Reid in the Martha & afterwards seen by Mr Black in the Harbinger. The Martha was a vessel of 30½ tons built at Sydney(historical Notes of N.S.W.)

KENTISH PLAINS. Discovered on Aug 1 st 1844 by surveyor NL Kentish & by him named August Plains. Name later altered to the present one in honour of the discoverer.

GUILFORD JUNCTION. On the Emu Bay Railway Named in 1897 by C.J.S.Sanderson's Grandfather Mr J.W.Norton Smith after the capital town of the Country of Surrey.

GUIDE RIVER An important tributary of the Arthur River, discovered by Henry Hellyer, first surveyor to the VDL Co. Named by him the "Don" on Feb 16th 1827 but later renamed in honour of Hellyer.

INGLIS RIVER. Named by the staff of the VDL Co, after Mr James Inglis, one of the early directors of this company.

LATROBE. Named after C.J.Latrobe, one time Lieut-Governor of Tas.

ALBOWSMITH Mount named after Government Surveyor (not sure of date.).

NORTHDOWN. Named by Mr Edward Curr 1st manager VDL Co., who established his headquarters there in 1827. But he later moved to Circular Head.

Note. While Mr Edward Curr was manager at Circular Head, his small daughter was killed through falling out of a dogcart & breaking her neck - See photograph of Headstone.

PEARSE MOUNT. Named after J.Pearse 1st governor of the VDL Co.

PRESERVATION BAY. This is a fine sandy bay midway between Penguin & Suphur Creek, & said to have been named by an early navigator, probably Bass, who put in there for fresh water, when sorely needing it. The mouths of adjacent creeks would not be noticeable from the sea, & there was & still is today a small steam of splendid clear water emptying into the bay. Note. Present day maps do not shoe correct marking on maps of exact position. (See R.S.Sanderson's notes).

ROBBINS ISLAND. Named after Lieut Robbins who did much work along the North Coast. Lieut Robbins was of the colonial schooner Integrity.

ROSEVEARS. Named after a Mr Rosevears who had a farm close to the inn which was originally built there.

SORELL HARBOUR. known to early settlers as Yorktown or 1st Western River. The name it is believed was given officially by Capt James Kelly in 1815 but as Yorktown had been in existance for many years then it is probable that he merely adopted the popular name. In 1817 it was given its present name after Gov. Sorell, who arrived to assume control of the colony in April 1817 Its native name was Panatana. (See Supply River).

GOLDIE. Street named at Wynyard in honour of Surveyor of this name.

MERSEY RIVER. Originally known to the Yorktown settlers as the 2nd Western River from the fact that it is the 2nd opening of import on the N.W. Coast going West from the Tamar. Its native name was Paranaple. It was possibly named Mersey by Survey Goldie in 1826. The name of the Port formed by this fine river is Port Frederick two of the early N.Western surveyors Messrs Goldie & H.Hellyer had intheir party a man of conspicuous ability named Richard Bredericks, & it is possible that the man was bestowed in his honour. Mersey named by Mr Edward Curr, first manager of VDL Co., in charge of the 1st party who came across country inland from Quamby Bluff to the Coast. Curr's report to the VDL Co. directors reads "July 31st 1826 We remained in neighbourhood of the 2nd Western River which we called the Mersey."

MARRAWAH This According to Dr Milligan is the equivalent of the aboriginal numeral one.

MAY DAY Mount. Fossey on the 1st inland journey made in 1827 from Quamby via Middlesex Plains, Black Range & Surrey Hills to the coast at Emu Bay, ascended Mount May Day on May 1st & as in the case of St. Valentines Peak, named the mountain after that day.

MOOREVILLE ROAD. (Emu Bay) name given by Mr J. H. Munce to a bush section 2 miles from the coast taken up by him - This name being an English place name in which he was interested having nothing to do with the Hon. Wm Moore- The name of the road which led to Munce's section as a consequence was called Mooseville Rd. on the suggestion of Munce, who was a member of the road board. The naming of the road duly appears in the minutes of 1859 to 1860 of the Emu Bay Road Trust.

MONTGOMERY Mount. This name is given to the Northern end of the Dial Range, which is behind Penguin, & which was once used as a trig. station. The name is said to have been derived from a Mr Montgomery, who was anxious to secure land near some friends of his, & the selected (in England) a 320 acre block, adjoining, without any knowledge of its character. It happened to include the mountain referred to, & although the latter threw up the selection in disgust it yet retains his name.