JACOB BACKHOUSE WALKER

J. E. Walker (1841-1899) solicitor, son of George Washington Walker and Sarah Benson. Walker, a Quaker, was interested in the history and geography of Tasmania. He gave many talks to the Royal Society of Tasmania and others. He was a fellow of the Royal Geographical Society, London.

His notes, draft articles, newspaper cuttings, etc. were presented to the Royal Society of Tasmania by his sisters in 1920.

25/3
Walker's notes of trips he made in Tasmania:

1) Fishing trip to Fortescue Bay Easter 1884
   2 drafts (1 incomplete)

2) West Coast 1887
   Walk to Macquarie Harbour by a new track via Derwent Bridge, Lake St. Clair, Mt. Lyell, led by C.F. Sprent. The party included, as well as J.E. Walker, R. Johnston, M. Giblin, Bailey, Ferrin, Col. J. Y. Legge and Figueirid (the last two only as far as Collingwood Valley). Most of the party then walked on to Nararal and returned by train via the north coast and Launceston.
   a) Walker's letter to his mother, 24-27 Feb. 1887, describing their walk to Macquarie Harbour via Mt. Lyell; also describing the mines and a miners' meeting called by Sprent to consider the need for tracks.
   b) Draft of Walker's article describing the walk (64 octavo papers)
   c) Draft account of the walk by another member of the party
   d) Col. J. Y. Legge's 'The Highlands of Lake St. Clair' read 21 Nov. 1887 (offprint from *Proc. of the Royal Society of Australasia*, 10 Aug. 1887, suggesting 'preparation of a better notice of Sprent for Transactions' mentioning having had 'the pleasure... to accompany him on a walk... by a new route... a track blazed through scrub'. Enclosed: cutting announcing the progress of a party of workmen headed by C.F. Sprent - the track cut to within 13 miles of King River 24 Feb. 1887.
   e) Draft of letter from Walker to the Royal Geographical Society of Australia, 10 Aug. 1887, suggesting 'preparation of a better notice of Sprent for Transactions' mentioning having had 'the pleasure... to accompany him on a walk... by a new route... a track blazed through scrub'. Enclosed: cutting announcing the progress of a party of workmen headed by C.F. Sprent - the track cut to within 13 miles of King River 24 Feb. 1887.
   f) E. J. Sprent to Walker 24 Feb. 1887, 'some notes... a few extracts from the letters I have' (cf. *Proc. of the Royal Society of Australasia*, 1872, 1878)
   g) 5 scraps of paper containing rough memoranda (may not be connected with the walk)
   h) Part of a draft article about explorers
   i) Bill for stores 1892
   j) dried botanical specimen
1 (3) Visit to Zeehan and West Coast, Nov 1896
Notes and draft article

1 (4) Hartz Mountains 1895
Notes and draft article

Walking Tour St Mary's to Dranxholm, November 1895.
Journal, 7-18 Nov. notebook

Early Tasmanian History. Cuttings from Tasmanian Mail,
26 Oct. 1898-31 May, 1890. no. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 (a, c, c, e) 3, 7, 9, 10, 11 (a to g) 12. with ms. corrections. Reprinted in his Early Tasmanian History.

Ass. of papers read to the Royal Society, with drafts and notes and news cuttings of reports of Royal Society meetings. Also
Walch's Literary Intelligencer, no. 461 (June 1897)
Norfolk Island, by Thomas J. Brennan, from The Austral Light, Melbourne, vol. 3 no. 5 (Aug. 1899)

Cuttings of J.B. Walker's articles on Tasmanian discovery printed in Tasmanian Mail, and papers by A. Hault about early maps read to Royal Society and A.A.A.S.

Cuttings from Argus, "Tasmania". 1878-89; 1890-93.
2 vols. of mounted cuttings. 8 Aug. 1878-22 May. 1881
Contributed by J.B. Walker. "After that date Murphys was the Argus correspondent and he was, I believe, succeeded by M.A. Nicholls, editor of the 'Nobart Mercury'. v.B.M." - note on fly leaf.
Newspaper cuttings:
pp.2-10 Overland expedition of Sir John and Lady Franklin to Macquarie Harbour in 1842, by R. J. Turner (see also R.S. 154).
pp.14-33 Articles by J.C. Calder: The first years of settlement. (Mercury, 16 May, 3 July 1873), a Tasmanian newspaper (Lancer Star) (Mercury, 9 Oct. 1873); Hobart Town in the olden times (Mercury, 3 July 1873); Seals and blacks. (Mercury, 6 July 1874); General Court Macgu. (Mercury, 21 Oct. 1874); John Clark and John Julius Stutzer. (Mercury, 9 Nov. 1874); Topographical sketches of Tasmania. (Mercury, 8 May 1874).

Cuttings of James Fenton's articles "Pioneer Work in Devon", published in North-west Post, 1890-1891.

"Newspaper cuttings Tasmania, Constitution, Politics":-
Draft letter to Mercury? "May or Feb. 1857" re rumoured appointment of Alfred Dobson as Judge.
Draft of letter and notes on secret ballot. 1872
Electioneering song on behalf of C.S. Cansdell, ca. 1870;
droodside against Ivery for House of Assembly elections, 1869;
droodside, address to electors, by Richard Backhouse, 6 June 1861.
"Tasmania Constitution Politics" mounted cuttings, 1871-72 on politics; unmounted cuttings including cuttings on the Tasmanian Constitution act, 1864.

"Newspaper cuttings, Tasmania, ecclesiastical - education" unmounted cuttings on state aid to religion, including controversy surrounding the State Aid Commutation act, 1865-1868; also petition, ms. draft with notes by J.B. Walker, presented to Parliament, Sept. 1865 protesting against land grants to churches. also cuttings on education and church matters, 1872-1896.

Newspaper cuttings on currency, agriculture and commerce, natural history and meteorology and ms. notes on sheep breeding in Tasmania.

Miscellaneous newspaper cuttings, especially those relating to Hobart Working men's Club, unemployment and ms. draft of letter to W.H. Jolin, 1894 and papers relating to Hobart Working men's Club, 1887-8, 1892, 1894, 1895.
"Topographical and Descriptive Articles on Tasmania, Surveys and Crown Lands". Unmounted newspaper cuttings and excerpts from journals and magazines, including J.W. Beattie's "Trip to the Arthur range" [illus] _Tasmanian mail_, 18 July 1896; also ms. draft of article on land policy, 1882-1896.

Unmounted cuttings, mostly from newspapers, relating to the west coast of Tasmania, its exploration and the mining areas. Included, Prospectus of Mt Black Proprietary Mine.

Newspaper cuttings, unmounted, mainly about the history of Launceston, northern Tasmania and the Van Diemen's Land Company; includes article by John Halfe about John Davies, ca. 1870.

Ms. list of land owners (not in J.S. Walker's hand)

Two letters from James Bonwick from Record Office, London, July 1896, with transcripts from Colonial Office records and from English newspapers relating to Tasmania.

_Mémories sur les plonges accouplées des Ornithorynques..._ par M. Geoffroy Saint-Hilaire. Extrait de la Gazette Médicale de Paris. 1831(?) with ms. notes by author and transcript by J.B. Walker. (2)

Newspaper cuttings of articles and letters about ship in Hobart, _La Mutiny or Aladdin_. 1898

Notebook containing list of J.S. Walker papers in Royal Society Library, compiled by Mrs J.S. Mcilroy, 1938 (see Ms. Letter file)

_Times_, London, 21 Dec. 1899, containing obituary of J.B. Walker

Circular letter from J.S. Walker Memorial Committee, 23 Nov. 1899, soliciting donations.

Ms. lecture: "Hobart 1837-1897, a comparison. A lecture delivered at the Masonic Hall... 18 June 1897..." 40p.

Miscellaneous notes by J.R. Walker

Notes about people and buildings in Hobart, including notes made of interviews; also speech at dinner given by the Southern Legal Practitioners to the Judges, 22 Nov. 1898 (1 quarto vol., indexed)