

one which, in the earlier period of the colony, was used as a substitute for tea, and the long straight stems were used by the aborigines for making their spears; hardening their points in the fire, and sharpening them with a flint or shell.

CHAPTER IV.

HOBART TOWN was so named by Colonel Collins, the first Lieutenant-Governor, in compliment to Lord Hobart, at that time Secretary of State for the Colonies. Collins-street, named after Colonel Collins, was the first street that was begun to be built.

Macquarie-street was named by Governor Macquarie after himself; Elizabeth-street and Campbell-streets were named after the maiden name of Mrs. Macquarie, daughter of General Campbell. He also named Argyle-street, in memory of his native county of that name, in Scotland. He named Murray-street after Captain Murray, of the 73rd Regiment; and Harrington-street, after the Earl of Harrington, who was Colonel of that Regiment; the name of Barrack-street, as leading to the Military Barracks. Molle-street commemorates the name of Colonel Molle, of the 48th; and Antill-street beyond, that of Major Antill of the same Regiment, and Brigadier-Major to Governor Macquarie. Davey-street was named in memory of the late Colonel Davey, Lieutenant-Governor; Liverpool-street, after the late Earl of Liverpool; Bathurst-street, after the Earl of Bathurst, at that time Secretary for the

Colonies; Melville-street, after Lord Melville; Brisbane-street, after Governor Brisbane. St. Patrick-street was so named at the request of the Rev. P. Conolly, the Roman Catholic chapel being situated in it. Warwick-street was named by Mr. Evans, late Surveyor-General, in memory of Warwick Castle, in which that gentleman first saw the light.

The ground on which the town is built is of unequal surface: the rivulet running through the centre of it extends over seven hills, as many as ancient Rome, and covers upwards of a square mile. The Government Garden was approached through the Government Domain, at Macquarie Point, a promontory of that name so called. The Gardens were pleasantly situated on the banks of the river Derwent. A hot-house and green-house had been erected some few years previous to our arrival in the colony, containing many new and useful exotic plants; and the whole of the grounds were ably managed by the Superintendent, Mr. Davidson: and it was on this occasion that Mr. Davidson submitted to our notice the *Dasyuris*, or native hyæna, or devil, alluded to in a former chapter. On leaving Hobart Town we reach New Town and Glenorchy, having the bluff sides of Mount Wellington frowning upon us about five miles distant, on our left-hand. About a mile and a half or two miles from here, a small road turned off to the right-hand, leading to the lower part of New Town; we, however, made a detour to the left-hand, to inspect the flora peculiar to the level of Hobart Town, and how far the washing of Mount Wellington may have affected the sub-Alpine vegetation. On the pasture lands were many of the pretty bulbous plants called Star of Bethlehem by the colonists,

but by botanists known as *Anguillaria*, of which two species clothed the pasture; namely, *A. dioecia* and *A. uniflora*, or one flowered; *Styliidium* (native Jack in a box). Three species were abundant. This genus is remarkable for the singular elasticity of the column styles, which support the anthers, and which, being irritable, will spring up if touched with a pin, or other little substance, below the joint, before the pollen, or male powder, is shed, throwing itself suddenly over, like a reflex arm, to the opposite side of the flower. Hence the colonial designation of Jack in a box. *Stackhousia viminea* and *S. monogynia*, pretty dwarf plants, having long spikes of sweetly-scented, Hyacinth-like blossom. *Viola*, *Betonicaefolia*, *Betony*, leaved, and *V. Hederacea*, trailing, stemmed violet; both species have light-colored scentless blossoms; *Veronica calycina*, *V. plebia*, two dwarf species of speedwell, *Craspedia glauca*, *C. plebia*, two composite plants, which we subsequently discovered to form a universal ornament in all parts of the colony where a similarity of soil presented itself; *Clematis gentianoides*; *Gentian*, like clematis, a dwarf, erect-growing species, with entire or slightly-toothed leaves, and white four or five-leaved fragrant blossoms, of the size of a white anemone; *Convolvulus erubescens*, maiden's blush convolvulus, or morning glory; *Beronia variabilis*, a small heath-like plant, covered with pink, and sometimes faint-white blossoms during a greater part of the year. The aborigines, or human baboons, as they have, on many occasions, been most inhumanly termed, by the English writers, were in the habit of naming their wives and daughters after it, from its rare beauty; in the same manner as we, their

more cultivated brethren, have done with the rose and other favorite plants. *Ranunculus* (crows-foot, or buttercups of the colony), adorned the pastures with their brilliant yellow blossoms; many of the orchis family were also common—the native potatoe (*Gastrodia sessamoides*). This is a curious plant, belonging to the *Orchis* tribe, the tubers of which when it obtains a favorable situation about the root of a decayed tree, are often found in large clusters. The pretty bluish white flowering annuals, *Euphrazia*, or *Eye-bright*; *Geranium potentilloides potentilla*, like geraniums, with small inconspicuous blossoms; *Hypoxis hygrometrica*, weather-glass *Hypoxis*, and *H. pratensis*, meadow *Hypoxis*, small plants, with bright, yellow, gem-like, six-petalled blossoms; *Kennedia procumbens*, a three-leaved trailing plant, with bright scarlet pea flowers. Along the banks of this lower course of the creek or rivulet were *Goodenia*, three species, a genus of singular, irregular, bright yellow flowering plants, growing in damp places, and by the sides of streams. The corolla is five-cleft, and are longitudinally split, pushing forth the stamens in a cluster outside. The free growing verdant leaves of the first species, bearing yellow blossoms almost all the year, have made it a favorite in the gardens of Hobart Town. *Goodia pubescens* native laburnum; *Decaspora disticha* and *Thymifolia*, the first two-leaved, and the latter the thyme-leaved *Decaspora*; *Dipplarhæna morea*, a flag-leaved plant, with iris-like blossoms; *Zierria arborescens*, tree *Zierria*. This is a tall handsome shrub, with pretty, four-petalled white and pink blossoms, and trifoliate spear-shaped verdant leaves. The leaves, especially when rubbed, have a strong, rank, aromatic smell, like hemlock,

which at first is rather unpleasant, but, when repeated, becomes refreshing, and will serve, in some degree, to relieve a nervous headache. *Calceitium linariaefolium*, a shrub with woolly leaves, and clusters of composite yellow blossoms, smelling like honey.

About four miles and a half from Hobart Town, on the Launceston Road, is O'Brien's Bridge, and the beautiful little stream called Humphray's rivulet; and, a little beyond the seventh mile-stone, we crossed Roseneath Ferry, where Mr. Austin kept an inn and an excellent garden for the accommodation of visitors and travellers. After travelling sixteen miles from Hobart Town, we reached the town of Brighton, whose original name was Stony Plains. There was a branch-road from this leading to the coal river, passing through the tea-tree brush. This branch-path joined the Coal river-road from Richmond, through Jerusalem to Jericho. To the left of Brighton lay the black brush, watered by the river Jordan, whose banks were covered with small farms, in a high state of cultivation. By following this road, we reached the river Jordan, where there was a settlement called Broadmarsh; and, a short distance beyond Mr. Murdock's farm, the road ceased to be passable for a wheeled vehicle. After leaving Brighton, the traveller passes through about eight miles of level country, through the fertile district of Bagdad, until reaching the foot of Constitution Hill. From thence to the very neat farm and garden of Mr. John Espie, of Bagdad, our road was through a number of small and well-cultivated farms. After leaving the valley of the Jordan, we crossed Constitution Hill. The small stream which waters the vale of Bagdad takes its rise

almost ten miles to the eastward of this hill. Near its source it is precipitated down a perpendicular fall of at least seventy feet. There is a remarkable high stony eminence, called the Barren Rock, close to the waterfall. On descending the north side of Constitution Hill, there are two lofty sugar-loaf hills, one on each hand, which may be seen from Hobart Town. To accomplish this ascent and descent, you have three miles of hard and difficult travelling, which brings you to a valley called the Green Ponds.

Twenty-nine miles from Hobart Town, you reach the Cross marsh, where was an inn called the Royal Oak. Close by this inn a road turned off to the right, and passing through the romantic valley, or rather ravine, called Serpentine Valley, with sandstone rocks overhanging on each side. Among these rocks and the sandy soil, which was the natural characteristic here of the country for some miles, we found the usual difference which characterises the botanical features. *Xanthoria*, or grass-tree, three species of which enlivened the landscape with their scapigerous white blossoms. *X. Australis*, *X. humilis*, and *X. arborescens*, or larger grass-tree, with its remarkable strong, grassy, or bent-like leaves, sending up a very long scape, or club-like head, to the height of four to five feet, and exuding a resinous gum, said to possess, in a great degree, the virtue of the dragon's blood of the *Pterocarpus* and *Calamus*. As it grows from year to year, this gum continues to exude, so as to be easily collected in large quantities. In 1825, when Captain Smith, of the "Caledonia," was at Western Port, he discovered a quantity of it, and, by boiling it with oil, made a very good and cheap

composition for covering the bottom of his vessel, instead of pitch. The aboriginal natives were in the habit of cutting out and eating the heart or pith. *Leucopogon*, *Xerotes*, and *Veronica* were beautifully in bloom at the time we visited this place. Cats are very fond of this plant, *Drosera peltata*, shield-leaved sundew, throwing up a stem about a foot high, terminated by a few pink blossoms. Its stem is clothed with shield-shaped leaves, upon footstalks inserted into the backs of the leaves, which are covered with hair, bearing on their points small pellucid bulbs, like drops of dew (*drosos*). In most of the species, their leaves are very irritable, closing upon small insects that touch them, after which the leaf bends and holds them fast. *Diuris*, *Pterostylus*, and others of the orchis tribe, were common among the soil between the rocks, and upon the small bulbs of which the little bandicoots had evidently been regaling, from the disturbed appearance of the soil which they had rooted up with their small-pointed noses, or snouts, in search of the small bulbous roots, their favorite food. *Anthericum semibarbata* was here in bloom, as well as the *Dianella*. The flag-like leaves of this plant are made into baskets by the aborigines. They are prepared by being drawn over a fire, which softens and renders them more flexible for the purpose. *Cynoglossum Australis*, a plant from one and a half to two feet high, with blue flowers, resembling the forget-me-not of England, named from *kano*, a dog, and *glossa*, a tongue, because the long soft leaves are thought to resemble the tongue of a dog. The *Bursaria spinosa* was also to be met with on the dryer parts of the valley. This beautiful shrub, however, is common throughout this island. It has already been

introduced into the conservatories in England, to which its elegant odoriferous blossoms are a great ornament. The capsules, or seed-vessels, resemble those of the common weed, *Thlaspi bursa pastoris*, of Britain, so much that Labelliardiere fancied he had found a cruciferous tree, when he first discovered it at Recherche Bay. *Astroloma humifusum*, a native cranberry, was frequent, with a few species of the *Aster*. The ferns were *Allantodia Australis*, with oblong "sori," as the dots or patches of fructification are botanically called, covered with an enclosed membrane (*involucrum*) opening from the veins, and also, when situated near the margin or back of the frond or leaf, opening inwards. It derives its name from *allantos*, a sausage, to which the arched quality gives it some resemblance. This romantic road led us to the main Launceston-road, near the thirty-seventh milestone.

CHAPTER V.

PASSING through the country called Lovely Banks, over Spring Hill, which we found to be a continuation of a high range, stretching across from the Jordan river to the east; and the ground appeared to be tolerably well clothed with grass and herbs, and many plants, which we soon discovered to be of a different genus to those previously seen. *Leucopogon*, three species; *Cryptandria*, *Disandria*, *Leptomeria*, a low broom-like shrub with white blossoms, and green acid berries; *Epacris*, and many others, of which the last-named genus form the type. From the country of the river Jordan we reached