

BALLARAT LNK

November 2004 - No. 143

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The Ballarat & District
Genealogical Society Inc.

THE BALLARAT & DISTRICT GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY INC.

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The Society's Library is housed in the Australiana Room, Ballarat Central Library, 178 Doveton Street North, Ballarat 3350.

Australiana Room open for "members only" every Friday evening 5pm - 7pm.

Certain books from our collection can now be borrowed by members for 1 - 2 weeks, between 6 - 7pm on Friday evenings.

Membership

Single Membership :- \$25.00

Family Membership :- \$35.00

Overseas membership :- \$25.00

Membership year from 1st July to 30th June (Half price after 1st Jan)

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Monthly Meetings are held on the 4th Tuesday of each month at the Ballarat Central Library, Doveton Street Nth, Ballarat. 7.30pm. Visitors are most welcome.

No meeting December and January.

DISCLAIMER

The Ballarat and District Genealogical Society Inc does not hold itself responsible for the accuracy of statements or opinions expressed by authors of articles published in this magazine.

PROGRAM : 2004/2005

23rd November - Christmas Breakup

22nd February - Elizabeth Dowse (Sharp-Paul). Winner of 3rd prize in the 2003 Alexander Henderson Award with her book: "A Jackdaw's Gleanings: The Dowse Family of Wiltshire, England, and Wexford, Ireland; 15th to 20th centuries" - covering Ballarat and Buninyong.

22nd March - Lenore Frost. Dating photographs by Fashions

26th April - Scott Brown. The Exiles

24th May - Les Holloway. Lake Wendouree and Its Ferries

28th June - Betty Slater. Ballarat Genealogical Society Library

26th July. Annual General Meeting. Dr Liz Rushen - "An Insight into Researching Women in Family and Local History"

Suggested Itinerary for 2005 - to be confirmed

Tues 23 August - Joan Hunt on Researching in England

Tues 27 September - Susie Zada on the Geelong Heritage Centre

Tues 25 October - Jim Quinn on The Ballarat Chinese

Tues 22 November - End of Year breakup - show and tell with members

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FROM THE EDITOR

Hello Readers,

Christmas is upon us again!!! Planning for that family feast - is it going to be hot or cold? Shopping for presents— what to buy can be a problem with so much to choose from. Family gatherings and so more photo's for the family albums!! We are all so busy, it's a wonder we get any time for family history. I, for one, will have to re prioritized some chores around the house. I have yet to work out how to get out of doing the basic housework but I have promised myself that my family tree will 'grow' next year.

We have a bumper issue for you with great articles, some of which touch on the topic of Eureka, coinciding with the 150 Eureka celebrations this year. I have also included some extracts of articles from The Argus newspaper from that time, mostly written by their correspondent in Ballarat. They cover a small portion of what would have been reported on and they have been researched by many of our historians, but reading them gives you a very real sense of the feelings and the happenings of 'Eureka'.

Our regular articles, such as News from the Library, WWW Genie Links and Research Queries (News from the PRO will be back next issue) continue to keep us up to date with what's available. All in all, it's a great read.

This is my last issue of Link. It's been fun and a good learning experience. Thanks to Trina for all her help and advice, I appreciate it Trina. And thank you to all those who contributed articles, regular or for special features, it really was, and will continue to be, a team effort.

My best wishes to Helen and Gail for next year. I know they will enjoy the experience.

As always, if you have an interesting story about your family history, send it along, your suggestions and ideas for articles are always welcome.

I wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a safe and Happy New Year.

Regards Gayle

Contributions for February Link 2005 to be with the editor by 1st February 2005

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Visit the Ballarat Genealogy website:- www.ballaratgenealogy.org.au

Webmaster:- Daryl Povey EMAIL :- povey@sebas.vic.edu.au

Visit our webpage for Links to 'Eureka'... the following can be found there.

' Deaths at Eureka' Dorothy Wickham McINTYRE, Andrew; 1855 Letter to Scotland - a recent rediscovery

Eureka Arrests and Trial Witnesses - lists by Jenny Fawcett Eureka Flag - Ballarat Fine Art Gallery

12th Regiment of Foot at Eureka, 1854 - Ken Larbalestier, Sydney

WOMEN ON THE DIGGINGS

Early goldfields' reminiscences afford excellent illustrations of the courage and fortitude with which women faced the discomforts and hardships of the digger's life. Mrs. Agnes Franks lived in what is now known as Rodier Street for fifty years, on the spot where, on December 3, 1854, she recalled that she stood, terror-stricken, at the door of her father's tent, and saw the beginning of the attack on the stockade. Agnes was 16 years of age at the time of Eureka on 3 December 1854. She told her story at the 50th anniversary of Eureka.

'My father and his family landed in Sydney in 1849. He and my brother-in-law were on Ballarat in 1852. We came over to join them later, and arrived on the field on November 18, 1854. My mother, my sister, a younger brother, and I formed the party. My brother-in-law met us in Melbourne, and we started at once for the diggings in a dray, and were three days and two nights on the journey. My mother used to ride on the dray, but the young folks walked most of the way.

It was all new and strange to us, and we found much to interest us on the way. We slept at night under the dray, and I shall never forget our first night camping out. The dray was surrounded by great forest trees, and the loneliness and stillness of it, broken now and again by strange night voices of the bush, was very weird. When we arrived we found my father had three tents in a cluster, here on the brow of the hill, where my home is still. I have resided here ever since. We had never entered a tent before, and to us who were women they looked queer places to live in, with saplings driven into the ground for bedposts and boxes for tables and chairs. We soon, however, got used to it all. Things were very disturbed when we arrived. My father and brother-in-law and their mates did not approve of the movement to resist the authorities, and frequently after tea they would go off for a stroll in the bush to escape being pestered with those who were for strife.

For several nights before the stockade fight everybody was in a state of alarm and anxiety. We slept in our clothes, ready to fly to a place of safety. My father was aroused on the Sunday morning by the soldiers firing, and quickly called us. We gathered some things together in bundles ready to make off. From our tent-door we could see the red-coats as they knelt on the ground and fired. Lester's Free-Trade Hotel stood near the gatehouse, over there on the Buninyong line, and it was up behind that that the soldiers were posted. We all made off towards the Brown Hill, where hundreds of women and children, and men also, had gathered.

We returned home after the military had marched the prisoners away, and visited the stockade, and saw a

number of dead bodies, and some of the pikes the blacksmith had made-some finished, some unfinished. Martial law was proclaimed, and for days there was no work done, and everybody was in a great state of anxiety. No light was allowed to be used after 8 o'clock, unless in the case of sickness, and then only with special permit from the commissioners. Things, however, soon settled down again, and we resumed our usual occupations."...

And a woman's life, was it monotonous?

"There was a good deal of hardship, but we just learned to do without things, and were as happy and contented then as we are to-day, with all the conveniences we have about us. I have always thought that the young diggers of the early days were splendid fellows. Numbers of them were



well set-up, manly men, and kind and respectful to women. Their digger's costume was very picturesque. Red or blue shirts, with a red sash or a broad leather belt round the waist, with a brass snake buckle, and California felt hats, with broad brims and tall crowns. Sunday was their wash day, and it used to amuse us to see a long line of them at the creek washing."

"Yes, I was married here, and to a digger, of course. When we set up housekeeping our tent was furnished in the same way as my father's. I shall never forget the comical conditions under which my first baby was christened. I insisted on going to church to have the ceremony performed. My husband and I walked down to a Presbyterian church which stood back from Victoria street, which was then called the Melbourne-road. The church was a big calico tent, mildewed

(Cont. Page 10)

Herbert Swindells - A Reformed Character

by Joan E. Hunt

Herbert Swindells was born at Sandbach in Cheshire on 9th July 1819, and baptised as a member of the Independent or Protestant Dissenters at Sandbach on 23rd July 1819. He was the son of Abraham Swindells whose family had lived around Congleton in Cheshire for generations, and his wife Hannah, nee Downing. They had seven children, the sixth being Herbert, the namesake of an earlier brother who had died in infancy.

Herbert was well educated, and by his early twenties was established as an accountant and writing clerk. However, on 17th March 1846 he was convicted at the Stafford Assizes on a charge of forging a promissory note for payment of money and sentenced to 7 years, and imprisoned in Millbank prison in London.

After spending nearly two years in Millbank learning the trade of rug and mat maker, Swindells, probably based on his good behaviour, accepted the opportunity to become an Exile. This meant that he would be sent to the colonies and given a conditional pardon on arrival, and was not to return to England for the duration of his sentence.

He sailed from Plymouth on the "Anna Maria" on 9th March 1848, carrying with him a bag of clothing and seven shillings in cash. He was included on the list of 'Exiles who have distinguished themselves by exemplary conduct during the voyage'.

On discharge from the ship at Geelong on 23 June 1848 he had the clothes in his bag, two shillings and eight pence, and goods he had purchased worth four shillings and four pence. Within seven weeks he had established himself as an engrossing clerk and accountant in Lt Malop Street adjoining the Sir William Wallace Hotel. He then opened a registry office, and was for a while a school teacher in the Presbyterian school at Geelong.

In this 150th anniversary year of the Eureka riot on the Ballarat goldfields, it should be kept in mind that events had been leading up to the crisis for more than three years. It was the initial introduction of the licence fee in mid 1851 that exposed the first signs of discontent that culminated in 'the Eureka affair'.

On Monday, 25 August 1851 the diggers on the new goldfield near Buninyong received the unwelcome news that the Government would impose a licence fee of 30 shillings per month.

Herbert Swindells chaired a mass meeting of diggers opposing the tax, and at that and subsequent meetings he 'took the stump' to denounce the Government's decision. Resolutions were passed that no one should pay the licence fee. As the chosen delegates of the diggers, Swindells and Oddie led a deputation to Captain Dana to express their opposition to the licence system

When Commissioner Doveton announced, on 21 September, that he was ready to issue the licences he refused to allow Swindells and Oddie to have one and instructed the police to keep a special eye on Swindells, so that he was forced to leave Ballarat and return to Geelong.

Herbert Swindells was married on Monday 17th May 1852 at Christ Church, Geelong, by Rev. E. Collins, to Anne Harrison, the daughter of William Harrison and his wife Elizabeth (nee Wright). Anne's father died shortly after her marriage and her mother married again, to George Leaford in 1853.

In July 1852 Herbert Swindells became the leader of a party of goldfield explorers represented by the Geelong Gold Exploration Committee, under an agreement that if they discovered a payable goldfield the men under Swindells were to be paid a bonus of •50, plus •1 per week, and all the gold they obtained for themselves. Swindells himself refused remuneration.

Swindells' party found payable gold in the Springdallah Creek, a tributary of the Woody Yaloak Creek, just south of Mt Erip, where the Springdallah mining townships of Piggoreet, Happy Valley, Grand Trunk and Golden Lake later developed.

At a soiree held on 23rd November 1853 at the British Hotel in Geelong, a presentation of a handsome cup was made to Herbert Swindells as a token of the high esteem in which he was held in that town for his patriotic services rendered to the Western District. An inscription on the cup read: 'Presented to Mr Herbert Swindells, on the 23rd November 1853, by the Geelong Gold Exploration Committee, for his able and successful efforts in developing the Wardy Yallock Gold Fields'.

On 1st September 1854 Herbert and Anne took over the running of the Swan Hotel at Fyans Ford, but by February 1855 found themselves in financial difficulties, and Swindells was declared insolvent.

In 1864 Swindells was granted •100 by the Victorian Government as the official discoverer of the Woody Yaloak goldfields at Springdallah which, in the mid 1850s stretched for many miles as far as Haddon and Bunker's Hill in the direction of the Ballarat diggings. The total grant was •600, with the remaining •500 being equally divided between H.V. Smith, T. Kemp, and Julian Hardy.

Herbert and Anne Swindells had three children, the second one Frank dying in infancy. Herbert George, born in 1854 became a hotelkeeper, married Mary Louise Knight, had nine children, and died in 1920 in East Melbourne. Elizabeth Ann, born in 1858 married Albert Thomas Owen in 1887, and had a son and daughter.

Anne took over the Shearer's Arms Hotel in Aberdeen Street, held presumably in her name because Herbert was an insolvent, and they ran the hotel together until Herbert's death there on 1st December 1871. Anne also died there three years later on 13 July 1874 and they are buried together at the Eastern Cemetery, Geelong.

References used:

'Gold at Ballarat' by H.J. Stacpoole (Lowden Publishing)
'History of Ballarat' by W.B. Withers (F.W. Niven & Co.)
'History of Gold Discovery in Victoria' by James Flett (Poppet Head Press)
'The Pentonvil lains', in Victorian Historical Journal No. 60 (R. H.S.V.)
'Geelong Advertiser (and Intelligencer)', various dates
FamilySearch - internet version of the International Genealogical Index
VPRS 19, Unit 107 - Public Record Office Victoria
VPRS 815, Unit 1 - Public Record Office Victoria
Shipping microfiche - Public Record Office Victoria

The Eureka Encyclopaedia

Over 550 pages Over 300 images.

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The 2004 CHHA Local and Family History Expo was held on the first weekend in October.

The Public Record Office Victoria awarded the prize for the display which best reflected the theme of "1854: Eureka and All That!" to Bungaree Historical Society. A number of BDGS members worked hard to present an excellent display entitled "Was Your Ancestor at Eureka?". Many thanks to all concerned and to those who staffed the BDGS information booth and display at the Expo.



Jenny Burrell, Joan Hunt, Betty Slater & Cathie Shelton

OBITUARY

DEATH OF MR JOHN O' NEILL

Another very old resident of the district has been called away by death. We allude to Mr John O' Neill, farmer Of Glenlyon who died at about 11 am on Thursday from influenza. Had he lived until July next he would have been 80 years of age. Mr O' Neill was a native of Tipperary, Ireland, and left that country in 1849, going to America, where he was for some time the manager of a sugar refinery at Bristol, Rhode Island. In the year 1853 he was allured to Victoria by the gold discoveries, and his first mining experience was at Ballarat. Not being very successful at gold digging he, in the following year purchased a Yankee express wagon and a pair of horses and commenced carting and light loading between Geelong and Ballarat, and obtained as much as •80 per ton for the cartage. Whilst following this avocation, he was met by the commander of the 48th regiment, then in Melbourne, who inquired his destination, and on being informed he was enroute to Ballarat, the commander replied "That's just the place where I want you to go". The soldier then, in the name of the Queen, demanded that Mr O' Neill should carry the baggage of some 14 soldiers who were going to Ballarat to quell the Eureka Stockade riot. For this service he received •10 for each soldiers baggage. Mr O' Neill's sympathies were with the rioters, but he dared not refuse the demand, and so took the baggage whilst the soldiers "footed" it to Ballarat. He expected that when he reached the city named he would be treated as an enemy, but much to his relief, the diggers

knowing him well, and aware of his sympathy for them permitted him to pass unmolested. In 1856 he left and settled on the farm at Glenlyon, where he remained up to the time of his death. He was amongst the first to agitate for a road board for Glenlyon and this body subsequently, under the new act, became the Glenlyonshire. He was a member of that body and also chairman. He also was connected with the local agricultural society in the early days of its history, being elected a member of committee in 1866 (two years after the formation of the association), and became its president two years later. The deceased was seized with influenza about eight weeks ago, and under the treatment of Dr Fetherstonhaugh became convalescent. Subsequently, however, he caught cold, and about a week ago a relapse occurred, which brought about his death on Thursday last. He leaves a widow and a grown up family, viz :- Richard, who is a resident of Bendigo, and M.L.A. for Mandurang; Patrick, a farmer at Murrumbeena; Michael, a farmer at Tallagaroopina; Edward, who a few weeks ago went to Tasmania to work with his brother-in-law (Mr M.F.Egan); James, who is farming at Glenlyon ; a daughter married to Mr F Egan, superintendent and engineer for the Mount Lyell Company, Tasmania, who are constructing a line of railway to the mine; and two unmarried daughters living at Glenlyon with their mother. The funeral will take place tomorrow (Sunday), and will move from deceased's late residence, Glenlyon, to the Eganstown Catholic Cemetery at 12 o' clock noon.

*from THE DAYLESFORD ADVOCATE
Saturday 12 March 1898 page 3*

(Supplied by a BDGS member.)

WWW Genie Links

Cemetery records online

When searching for burial details on the internet we readily find great lists of cemeteries which are often little more than brochures for the cemetery. What genealogists find really useful is a searchable database with full details of burials. Fortunately there are some outstanding models of good practice for internet users. The following are worth a look if the places are of interest to you. They can all be found from the Ballarat & District Genealogical Society website www.ballaratgenealogy.org.au/



Fawkner Crematorium & Memorial Park, Melbourne (First burial 1906)

www.fcmp.com.au/

Click on 'Main Site' to view a sidebar and click on 'Deceased Search'. By following the prompts you will be able to find: name, age, service date and location. For many there will be date of death and information about others who share the same grave. One more click will bring up a printable map with the exact location of the grave highlighted.

Cranbourne Public Cemetery (1850-2003)

freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.com/~cranbourne/

Full details online from Cranbourne Cemetery Register. Search by letter of the alphabet for the surname.

Preston Public Cemetery, City of Darebin, Melbourne (1864-2000)

www.prestoncemetery.org/search/

A 'Grave Search' by surname only will give: surname, first name, date of burial, age and location.

Will Will Rook Cemetery (1860 to at least 1944) - was a parish in the County of Bourke, township by the Merri Creek, City of Broadmeadows

freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.com/

~pobjoyoneill/WillWillRook/wwrindex.html

A search by surname will show both names, age, year of burial, location, religion, suburb resided and in many cases occupations.

Geelong & District Burials Search

www.zades.com.au/geelong/gdcmsrc1.asp

This site generally covers the area ranging from Cape Otway to Grovedale and the Bellarine Peninsula, to the north east as far as Werribee and west to the southern fringe of Ballarat.

For the largest cemeteries - Geelong Western Cemetery (1834-1999), Geelong Eastern Cemetery (1836-1999) and Geelong Crematorium Memorial Park (1970-1999), limited information is given online about burials: name, year only and which cemetery.

This also applies to Drysdale (1850-1998), Grovedale (1855-1999), Highton (1856-1999), Leopold (1860-1999), Portarlington (1862-1998) and a smattering of smaller cemeteries.

This would seem to be a good compromise. There is sufficient information for family historians to be fairly sure that they have the right person before they make further enquires and pay a fee for full details.

However, full details can be viewed for at least 17 quite major cemeteries including Rokewood (1855-2000), Staffordshire Reef (1860-1998) and the Werribee area plus many, many other smaller cemeteries sweeping around the Geelong district.

Cemeteries of SW Victoria by Ian Marr

members.datafast.net.au/marrtronics/CEMINDEX.HTML

A very extensive site giving full details of burials for 123 cemeteries some of which are also available on the Geelong site. Each cemetery link gives the number of burials. The largest are Tower Hill (4280), Horsham (4066, in the Wimmera), Terang (3899), Port Fairy (3258) and Casterton (2549). Some of these large cemeteries with mega data take a while to load.

Clunes Cemetery Listing as 4 pdfs - links from this page
members.westnet.com.au/talltrees/clunes/page1.htm

Metropolitan Cemeteries Board - Perth WA

www.mcb.wa.gov.au/NameSearch/GenResearch.html

Has a searchable database for records at Karrakatta (from 1899) and Crematorium (from 1937), Fremantle (from 1898), Midland (from late 1880s), Guildford (from late 1880s) and Pinaroo (from 1978). (Cont. Page 14)

1854 Eureka and all that – 150 years up the family tree

The Eureka Anniversary is certainly making its presence felt, particularly here in Ballarat. Hoping to 'identify' with the event – the original one – without success, as I cannot find any of my ancestors who were present on the day, I have been wondering where 'my mob' actually was at the time. I have also wondered whether the Eureka event, and more generally 'the gold', had affected them.

A major genealogical problem when one goes back 150 years is, of course, that there are so many of these people called ancestors. So, to keep the task from getting out of control, I have gone back three generations, that is, to my great grandparents. Being blessed, as far as I can tell, with fairly 'normal' sorts of families, I have eight of these great grandparents. I know, with a reasonable degree of certainty, when and where seven of them were born. Five were, in 1854, but infants; only two were teenagers, so the enquiry will have to involve the families.

It seems logical to begin with that part of the family that had a place in Victoria. My maternal grandmother, Blanche Euphemia HEALE was born about 1872, probably in the Dandenong area. Her mother was born Annie Frances MARTIN, probably in 1853 somewhere between Melbourne and Avoca, although she claimed in her divorce submission that she was born in Cork in 1851. Her parents, Timothy and Mary MARTIN, arrived at Hobson's Bay in October 1852 and my next sighting of Timothy is his registration in the 1856 Electoral Roll as a miner at Avoca. He is listed in Avoca rate books in a number of other occupations, but it is clear that he was for many years a seeker of gold. Annie Frances was a child of the goldfields and the family presence here in Victoria was almost certainly a response to the lure of gold. How close to Ballarat they were in 1854, and whether they had any involvement in Eureka, direct or indirect, I do not know.

Grandmother's father was William Carrington HEALE. He came out in 1856 from London at the age of 16 with his mother and assorted siblings. Father had come earlier, probably 1854 – whether for gold or as an 'agricultural worker, is again unknown. William worked in a bank at Talbot, then transferred to Maryborough after his first marriage – the proliferation of banks was certainly a by-product of the gold. William is later recorded as a shareholder in several gold mining companies – not uncommon in the 'company' phase of mining. His subsequent history of alcoholism, delusion, cruelty, divorce, and several spells in gaol is another story.

The rest of the family tree involves the colony of New

South Wales, and is focused on Sydney. My maternal grandfather, Frederick HOLDSWORTH, was born in Deptford, London, in 1878 during one of the family 'trips home'. His father Joseph Burdekin (II) was born in 1851 in Sydney and the family business in Ironmongery was a very successful one. The respectable part of the family line reached back to the steel making of Sheffield (the part that went back to the child of a couple of convicts was not discussed). The business success was an example of the money that was made as by-product of the discovery of gold – ironmongery was an absolute essential for gold mining on any scale, and for all of what we would now call the 'infrastructure'. Mother Elizabeth GARDYNE, born in Dundee in 1852, was daughter of a ship's Captain whose visits to Australia must have impressed him sufficiently to give up the sea and bring out the family in 1864 – another migration caused by the prosperity of the gold era?

Turning to father's side of the family, my paternal grandfather was born in 1878 in Pymont, Sydney. His father, Levi, was born in Wales in 1850 and the family migrated in 1855 from Cornwall. Levi's father John worked, and became a foreman quarryman, in the sandstone quarry owned by Charles Saunders, his brother in law - as, subsequently, did Levi. The high quality sandstone used in many of Sydney's prestigious buildings, such as the Sydney GPO, and Sydney University, in the latter half of the 1800s, was made possible by the prosperity which came from gold. Grandfather Robert's mother was Frances PRICE. She was born in 1853 in Chippendale, another inner Western suburb of Sydney.

My paternal grandmother was Ada Maud WILSON, born in 1876 in Sydney. Her father John is one of the many challenges that still remain for me – at present I have no idea from whence he came. Her mother, however, was one Rachael WENNER, baptised in 1843 at St Philip's Church Hill in Sydney and daughter of emancipated convict Thomas, a wheelwright. She was certainly here in 1854 at Eureka – I wonder whether she knew about it. There is much that is yet unknown to me in this part of the tree so I cannot conjecture what effect 'the gold' might have had. Fortunately, it is good to still have problems to solve!

It is no surprise to find that the discovery of gold had a considerable effect on my ancestors who were here in Australia at or very near the time of Eureka. Whether the Eureka event actually had significance is another matter. The process of drawing a line in time has proved to be a worthwhile exercise. Looking across the several diverse branches of the family tree helps to draw the tree together rather than letting the branches take on a life of their own. This is not only good gardening but good genealogy - the common rootstock should not be lost in the foliage. v

Ted Maidment.

Lady Teviot Seminar



Lady Teviot and President Joan Hunt.

The Lady Teviot Seminar was held on September 5th, 2004. Parish records and London research were the topics for the day. Lady Teviot spoke about her own research and passed on many hints about using the records available. A very interesting afternoon was had by all, and many of us dreamed of travelling to London to find our own British family ties.

(From Page 4)

round the flaps, and with holes in them; the seats were roughly-dressed slabs nailed to stringy bark posts driven into the ground; the pulpit, a drapery-case, with the top and one side knocked off; and the tables in front of it a gin case nailed to saplings. The congregation, besides ourselves, was one woman and two dogs. We had to wait for some time until the minister turned up, and as we waited the woman's dogs chased each other in and out through the holes in the tent flaps. The minister gave us a sermon, and his son, who accompanied him, started the singing and took up the collection on a tin plate."

And the housekeeping bill – was it heavy?

"Yes; provisions were very dear; but then there was plenty of gold to be got. Eggs were 12/- (a dozen, milk 4/- (a quart, potatoes £1 (per lb., flour £5 a bag. There was no kerosene in those days. Candles were generally used for lighting, and these we often made ourselves. The scarcity of milk was the greatest hardship to families where there were young children. The carriers began to bring up goats from Geelong for sale, and I was quite envied by other mothers when my husband secured one for £6."

Dot Wickham

FROM THE INEVITABLE LAW BOOK OF GENEALOGY: After years of painstaking research when you finally solve the mystery of the skeleton in the closet, your tight-lipped spinster aunt will sniff, "Well, I could have told you all that!"

*Previously published in RootsWeb
Review: Vol. 7, No. 18, 5 May 2004.*

OUR GUEST SPEAKERS

August 24th 2004. Cathie Shelton spoke about her role as our Society's Research Officer

September 28th 2004. Lis Allan spoke about the many indexing projects she has been involved in.

October 26th 2004. Graeme Reynolds spoke about researching your family's land holdings.

For members only - Audio Tapes of Guest Speakers talks are available to borrow.

NEW

A new 'regular' item has been added to our monthly meeting's Agenda which should prove to be helpful to us all. An initiative of our President, Joan Hunt, it is an information session—in three parts; an informal part of the meeting where members are given the opportunity to give and receive help with queries. Included is "Did You Know", "Useful Index's" and "How do I find...?" At the October meeting Joan supplied the following pieces of useful information. So if you need some help or have come across some helpful research info or hints, bring them along to the meetings and share them with us.

Also at the meetings, there will be a question box. What's it for? - If you have a question (not a research question but a how, why or where question), place a note about your query in the box and some members will endeavour to find the answer for you over the next month.

Come along to our meetings and join in the fun. Meet other members and exchange ideas and info. The following hints may not always appear in the Link because of limits on the space available.

Did you know?? Dates of British Census:

| | |
|-------------------|-------------------|
| 1841 - 6th June | 1881 - 3rd April |
| 1851 - 30th March | 1891 - 5th April |
| 1861 - 7th April | 1901 - 31st March |
| 1871 - 2nd April | |

Useful Index's : Helen Docksford Harris

<http://members.ozemail.com.au/~hdharris>
Harriland Press, Melbourne Cemetery Tours, Index to Missing people, Index to Deserters, Index to Victoria Police & Police Stations

How do I find...? a place or a Local Historical Society?

Go to web page of R.H.S.V.
www.historyvictoria.org.au
Local History Online. A collection of Victorian online local history resources including: Societies Affiliated with the RHSV Database. Victorian Local History Database. RHSV Virtual Exhibition - Why Melbourne? Victorian Historical Journal Index. **Links to Regional Local History Databases.** RHSV My Connected Community Project.

Droichead na nDeor
Bridge of Tears.

Background:

Following the launch of an appeal in 1858 the Donegal Relief Fund was established to assist emigration of poor distressed people from Donegal to Australia. Ireland was in a post-Famine eviction era at the time.

As a result, 600 people left from the parish of Cloughaneely—then named Tullaghbegley (Falcarragh, Gortahork, Gweedore) - and emigrated to New South Wales.

Aims:

A group of people have got together in Cloughaneely with the object of making contact with descendants of those who left during that tragic period.

To source/collate information on the Cloughaneely, Donegal/Australian emigrants and their descendants from that period, 1859-1863.

THE History Committee wish to establish links with those Australians interested to know their identity, to facilitate details of their ancestry, and in particular those from Donegal who are descendants fo the Derryveagh evictions.

Our committee wish to extend a hand of friendship to those descendants and perhaps welcome them back home to Donegal, Ireland.

Contact:

Australia Ireland, Gortahork P.O., Letterkenny, Co. Donegal, Ireland.

Or email: australeire@eircom.net

For many who emigrated after the famine, the bridge was where they last saw the loved ones they left behind. The night before they left for America or Australia, their friends, neighbours and relatives would hold an “American Wake” to say farewell, then walk with them on the morning they left to this bridge to say the final good-bye. The emigrant would then cross the bridge and disappear from view through Muckish Gap as they walked on to Derry and their sea voyage—hence the name “Bridge of Tears”.



R E V I E W

**Masters, Mates & Engineers
1866 - 1921**

An Index to certificates of Competency issued by the Marine Department of New Zealand.
Compiled from lists published in the Appendices to Journals of the House of Representatives (AJHR)
Compiled by Denis Hampton
Published by New Zealand Society of Genealogists Inc.

Key to Index:

| Name. | Rank. | Class of Certificate. | AJHR Year. | Appendix. | Page Num- ber. |
|-------|-------|-----------------------|------------|-----------|-------------------|
|-------|-------|-----------------------|------------|-----------|-------------------|

& (Session).

Example of Index

ANDERSON

| | | | | | |
|-----------------|---------------------------------|----------------|------------|-------|-------|
| Albert Baldwin, | Second mate (steamship), | Foreign trade, | 1920, | H-15, | p 29. |
| Albert V., | 3rd -Class Engineer (exemption) | | 1920, | H-15 | p 34. |
| Alfred, | Master | Restricted | 1906 (II) | H-15 | p 19. |
| Allan Forrest, | 2nd Class Engineer, | Foreign trade | 1890, | H-18 | p 12. |
| Andrew, | Second Mate, | Foreign trade | 1884 (II), | H-6 | p 12. |
| Andrew, | First Mate, | Foreign trade | 1886, | H-24 | p 14. |
| Andrew, | Master ordinary, | Foreign trade | 1887 (II) | H-4 | p 16. |

This index is on fiche and is easy to read. As with any index, it is good practice to read the introduction, not only to find out how to use the index but also to find out how the index was sourced. This index also has an extensive introduction, giving the history of how the certificates of Competency came to be. Very interesting and well worth a look.

EUREKA. Extracts of articles as they appeared in The Argus newspaper concerning Eureka, many (but not all) supplied by their Correspondent in Ballaarat.

Monday 4th December 1854

BALLAARAT.

(From Our own Correspondent.) **1 a.m. Saturday Dec 2nd.** Since the departure of my express of yesterday much has occurred, although little has transpired. I may say that today has been the day of assembly; for the "chosen people" have been under arms from the daylight till dark going through their evolutions with an earnestness and patience not to be disregarded or looked-on as the effusion of a momentary excitement. **We are standing here 'on the brink of a great event.' What the next forty-eight hours will bring forth, I feel, will form a page in the future history of Victoria.** Manual labor, commerce, even 'tippling' is disregarded. The latest news borne on the wings of an express has lost its relish among the inhabitants of Ballaarat. The tranquillity of this day has been absolutely agonising, I am now writing amidst the reports and flashes of a thousand stand of arms. Every one is excited and confused. I wish the crisis were over; this suspense is fearful. You must excuse the incoherence of this report – the events of the last three days have worn me out. An attempt was made this morning, on the part of the Camp, to swear in special constables. Had they made use of their common sense, they would not have added ridicule to the hatred already existing, and still accumulating. The pageantry of war has been shifted. Bath's Hotel and the vicinity of the Camp were the rendezvous of the unarmed. On that side might be seen the Government officials and their staff, with the scarlet shirts and white caps of the cavalry standing out in bold relief against the more sombre hues in the background of straw trusses and old sandbags. Picture to yourself the scene, on the opposite (the Bakery) hill. There might be seen 2000 men, the bone and sinew of the colony, underarms of every description, from the Irish pike of the last century to the revolver of yesterday, - from the rifle of Manton to the cheap Birmingham fowling piece, - from the djerid of the Arab and the cutlass of "Jack Tar" to the ploughshare and the reaping -hook. Let the intelligent minds of the colony well consider who and what have made two thousand British subjects swear allegiance on their bended knees to a flag of their own choosing, and which absorbs nationalities, - "The Southern Cross."

Monday 20th November, 1854.

THE TRIAL OF BENTLEY.

The death of James Scobie has at length been brought home to Bentley and his accomplices. The trial took place on Saturday, and, after a searching investigation, the jury acquitted Mrs Bentley, and returned a verdict of manslaughter against the prisoner Bentley, Farrell, and Hance. Before sentence was pronounced they each made indirect confession of their participation in the deed, so that all doubt on the score is entirely removed.....*The article went on reporting on the evidence given at the trial which included descriptions of events of the evening of Scobie's death.*

Wednesday November 22nd 1854

THE BALLAARAT RIOT.

The Trial of Bentley has been followed by the trial of the men who were apprehended for setting fire to his hotel, and in both cases the majesty and supremacy of the law have been vindicated. The three men who were put upon their trial for this offence – McIntyre, Fletcher, and Westerby – were found guilty by the jury, and were yesterday sentenced by the Court to three, four, and six months imprisonment respectively.

This may appear a lenient sentence, but, taking all the circumstances into account, we do not see how the Judge could have acted otherwise. It will be alleged that the punishment is not strictly commensurate with the nature of the offence; but there is no reason for supposing that the Judge was guided by any considerations other than what were forced upon him during the trial. The men were tried as simple rioters, not as political victims; and it was no part of the Judge's function to consider what would be the effect either of acquittal or condemnation upon the relation of the Government to the diggers. Viewing the case in this light, we are bound to say that Mr Justice Barry gave the prisoners a fair trial; and passed sentence in accordance with the facts brought before him..... *the article continued on debating about the verdict and the length of time it took for the jury to reach a this verdict.*

Monday 27th November 1854

BALLAARAT

Everything here is, I believe, quiet. There is apparently little or no excitement about Bentley's affair. Certainly, parties seem much divided on the point; one considering that the ends of justice have been answered sufficiently (I may say that this opinion obtains amongst the majority); another party considers that, even supposing the lesser crime of manslaughter, instead of the greater count of murder, to have been proved, that punishment is by no means equivalent to the offence; while others, and these the more violent, consider not only that the verdict is contrary to the evidence, but that the gold of Mr Bentley's "Eureka" line had been extensively called into requisition. My own opinion is that the ferment will gradually subside, and that those who have stronger feelings, but less discretion, will gradually yield to the better judgment of those who, really devoting themselves to the good of the influential class here, the diggers, endeavor to impress upon their minds that, having proved by the decisions of the court in Melbourne, their conduct as regards the determination to have the truth in Bentley's case sifted to the bottom, was perfectly right; there is no necessity upon that point to have any more agitation.

Wednesday November 29th 1854

BALLAARAT

From our own correspondent - Monday, November 27th
I have but a short report to send you to-night, for everything here is in a state of suspense, awaiting the arrival of the deputation of the Anti-License Association from Melbourne, the report of the committee, and the issue of their demands from the authorities of McIntyre's and Fletcher's release. The feelings of a certain party are very strong on the subject of the verdict in the above case, and hence the deputation; but I refrain from touching more at length upon this really delicate subject until after the monster meeting advertised to take place on Wednesday, of which I will send a full report; as, to quote the words of the *Ballaarat Times* "such a meeting for a fixed, determinate purpose was never before held in Australia."

Thursday 30th November.

BALLAARAT

Information reached us last evening that a portion of the military force despatched from town on Monday had arrived, and that in passing through the diggings the soldiers were pelted with broken glass and other missiles by some diggers. Our informant adds that the military received this manifestation of feeling in the best possible temper, and did not attempt to irritate the mob by indulging in gestures or movements which might be interpreted to mean other than a friendly inclination to them. They were marched into Camp, and had taken up quarters there when our informant left. It will be remembered that yesterday was

appointed for the day of the monster meeting on the license question.

Saturday 2nd December 1854

(from our own correspondent) Per Express

SERIOUS OUTBREAK AT BALLAARAT.

Thursday, 11 p.m. In great haste I forward you the proceedings of this morning, and considering them of greatest importance, I send them by a special messenger.

At 10 a.m. Messrs. Commissioners Rede and Johnson, with their troop of mounted and foot police, with drawn swords and fixed bayonets, demanded from the diggers their licenses. The diggers, on their appearance, assembled in the masses many with arms, to resist the enforcement of the most obnoxious tax. Mr. Commissioner Rede attempted to reason the point with the diggers. He told them he MUST do his duty, having received instructions from the highest authority to that effect, and do it he would. He drew their attention to what their own deputation had told them yesterday, viz., that if they memorialised the Lieutenant-Governor they would get their rights, and that moreover Mr. Fawcner had been selected as one of the number to inquire into the grievances of the goldfields. Three cheers for Fawcner. The cry of the diggers was "We will not have drawn swords or fixed bayonets." "Where is the Governor?" "Send up Sir Charles Hotham." "We want justice, and we WILL have it." Upon this Mr. Commissioner Rede declared he was determined to collect the licenses. "We haven't got them; we can't give them." "We have burnt them." Mr. Commissioner Rede: "My lads, I must read the riot act." The cry was "Read it, read it." He read it. The scene of confusion and excitement which occurred in the new road at this moment, eye-witnesses alone can depict.

A moment of silence being obtained, Mr. Rede being evidently confused, and Mr. Johnson "shepish," the former said, "The licenses must be shewn; we must apprehend all who have not their licenses." One great universal cry then arose, "To the Camp, boys, to the Camp!" For some distance the diggers followed towards the Camp the retrograding military force, when suddenly there was a shout of "Not to the Camp, boys, not to the Camp; back to our own ground on Bakery Hill.".....

The article went on to describe the attempts by police in collecting licenses, the rallying of diggers at the Stockade and the formation of troops and police around the area.

Monday 4th December, 1854 BY EXPRESS

FATAL COLLISION AT BALLAARAT. Monday, 3 a.m.

At the above hour a gentleman arrived at this office who had ridden through express, leaving Ballarat at half-past one yesterday. He brings us the following disastrous report.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

At four a.m. this morning (Sunday) the troopers advanced on the right of the Warraneep Gully, and another division on the left of the Eureka line, encompassing the camp of diggers. A shout was raised, and after a sharp firing of about twenty minutes the troopers called to the soldiers, who were advancing, that it was all over.

The camp of the diggers was constructed of piles of slabs collected from the neighboring holes.

I enclose the official return, as known at 9 a.m. To-morrow you shall have the real truth. I do not believe but that the loss of the military, to say nothing of the wounded, is considerably more than acknowledged.

Ballarat, December 3rd 1854 – Sir, - I have the honor to inform you that the casualties on the part of the military, are, 1 private of 12th regiment killed, two privates of the 40th killed. Captain Wise, 40th, is dangerously wounded; Lieutenant Paul, 12th, seriously wounded. Several privates of the 40th and 12th more or

less wounded. No official return has yet been made, but the correspondent of the Argus can have it tomorrow, by applying at the camp.

One hundred and twenty-five prisoners made, but the casualties on the part of the insurgents are not known.

I have the honour to be, Sir,

Your most obedient servant.

ROBT. REDE, Resident Commissioner

..... Nearly all the ringleaders are taken. Fifteen are lying dead in the Eureka Camp. Sixteen are dangerously wounded. A German has received five different wounds. The Eureka Camp, as well as the stores and tents in the neighborhood, have been burnt to the ground, and considerable loss of property has ensued thereby.

A former reporter for the M.M. Herald, a Mr. Haslam, was shot in the shoulder by the troopers. The London Hotel is the chief repository for the dead and wounded. The troopers swept the diggings, and are making several captures now at the moment of writing. The most harrowing and heartrending scenes amongst the women and children I have witnessed through this dreadful morning. Many innocent persons have suffered, and many are prisoners who were there at the time of the skirmish, but took no active part.

10 a.m. Several waggons containing wounded and confiscated property have passed on their way to Camp. At present every one is as if stunned, and but few are to be seen about.

The flag of the diggers, "The Southern Cross," as well as the Union Jack, "which they had to hoist underneath, were captured by the foot police....."

Tuesday 5th December 1854

BALLAARAT

(From our own Correspondent) December 4th.

The hurried note which I sent by yesterday's Express gave you, as far as I could make out from the different stories I heard, an outline somewhat near the truth.

Having heard about fifty other versions since then, I can approximate still more near the truth.

The insurgent party had been out most of Saturday on various duties, one of which was watching after the rumored approach of some additional force, which it was their intention to wait for, and, if possible, drive back. Not having fallen in with this party, they returned to the encampment at Eureka, where a kind of barricade or stockade of slabs had been erected. Here, after orders when to re-assemble, the whole force was ordered to go home. This, most of them did, unless a few, some 150 men, who would not go home. Outposts were usually placed a long way out, in this instance there were none; and through some instant communication on this subject to the authorities, they were made aware of this fact, and determined to surprise them. The first intimation which was given of the presence of Her Majesty's troops, was either a demand from the officer in command that the insurgents should lay down their arms, or else a trumpet blast at some one hundred yards distant from the Stockade. When the demand was made, either a negative answer or silence was the result; The troops were then ordered to fire as had been agreed on – two rounds of blank cartridges. The diggers returned the fire. Five soldiers fell at the first fire. The troopers and a few foot police were present, but at some distance. The main fighting part devolved on the soldiers. The diggers, as I said before, numbered some one hundred and fifty, they were in several divisions, riflemen, &c., in all five. After a contest of about from fifteen to twenty minutes the whole affair was over. The insurgent party were thrown into irremediable confusion from the division having revolvers, in sheer daring, running up towards soldiers to ensure a better aim, and thereby

(v P 14)

RESEARCH QUERIES

We are Looking for:

Any information on William Wright who was arrested at Eureka.

John Williams, who was a blind harpist living in Ballarat in the 1860' s.

Jonathon Binns Were and his son Jonathon Henry Were of Ballarat & their connection to the Wallace family.

Llewellyn & Howell Morris, musicians with various bands in Ballarat.

James Golding who was stationmaster at Ballarat in the 1880' s.

Information relating to John Lockwood Westoby who may have had the alias Henry Westerby, and been involved in the burning of the Bentley hotel.

I can be contacted at cshelton@bigpond.com or PO Box 1809, Ballarat Mail Centre, Vic 3354.

Cathie Shelton
Research Officer

RESEARCH ENQUIRIES \$20 PER HOUR—non members \$10 PER HOUR—Members

Research enquiries may be forwarded to the Society's Research Officer C/O our Postal Address.
Please include sufficient relevant details.

Charges for HELP WANTED Queries published in Ballarat Link

Members are entitled to 1 free entry per year. Please quote Membership No.

Member additional queries and Non Member queries may be submitted at a cost of \$10.00 per entry. This will cover a query of up to 140 words in length. (Approx 13 x A4 lines of print)

(From Page 8) [WWW Genie Links](#)

'Search by Name' enables you to find details of a deceased person, including date of death, cemetery and grave location. This is worth a look for people who disappeared from the Victorian goldfields when the mining declined in the late 19th century and may have made a new life in the west. On the B&DGS website there are links to a number of other cemeteries including one with the transcriptions of many town cemeteries in WA.

Hopefully a session on the internet will save some time wandering around cemeteries or visiting centres where records may be lodged. '

Jennifer Burrell :jburrell@netconnect.com.au



AFFHO

11th Australasian Congress on Genealogy and Heraldry Family History - the access revolution Darwin 28 June to 2 July 2006

This theme was chosen so that the speaker program can be developed around the phenomenal records now available to the family historian. All fellow family historians are invited to attend.

The Call for Papers closes on 1 December 2004. If you wish to submit a paper or the outline for a Workshop - full details and a draft program are available on our website or by contacting the Society.

Congress fees will not be known until early-mid 2005, we are committed to keeping this Congress at a reasonable cost. Early Bird registrations will close on 28 February 2006 and delegates may pay in full or in three part payments, September and November 2005 and the final payment by 28th February 2006.

Register your interest now and be kept up-to-date with the latest Congress information!

**Genealogical Society of the Northern Territory Inc
PO Box 37212, Winnellie NT 0821, Australia
Tel (08) 8981 7363 [+61 8 8981 7363]
Email: congress11@austarnet.com.au
<http://www.octa4.net.au/genient>**

(τ P13) preventing the riflemen and other comrades from supporting them. The stockade was ultimately surrounded, and those who still remained taken prisoner and marched off to the camp.

When the soldiers had once tasted blood they became violent, and had not the officers used every exertion, the prisoners would have been murdered on the spot. When it was clearly seen by the officers that no further resistance was offered, they wished no more blood shed. Mr. Commissioner Amos is also most favorably spoken of, he saved two lives which else would have been instantly sacrificed. Mr. Commissioner Johnstone interfered in a praiseworthy manner to preserve property which had been set on fire, and eventually succeeded in saving it. But, after giving credit where it is due, I must protest against the barbarities practised by the troopers. Those who had taken the law into their own hands were punished by the soldiers; those who were warned and perfectly innocent of rebellious notions, were murdered, fired at, and horribly mangled by the troopers.

Tuesday 5th December
MARTIAL LAW AT BALLAARAT.

The following notices were issued by the Executive yesterday afternoon, intimating the proclamation of Martial Law at the Gold-fields of Ballaarat, to commence tomorrow, the 6th inst.
The Proclamation followed.

**PROHIBITION OF ARMS AND SUPPLIES.
PROCLAMATION.**
The Proclamation followed. '

Some infant deaths registered in Ballarat 1854

| No. | Died | Name | Age | Cause | Parents | Birthplace |
|-----|-------------|-------------------------|-----------|---------------------------|---|--------------------------------|
| 8 | 6 Feb 1854 | Euphemia ROSCOE | 10 mos | Convulsions from teething | Jeremiah & Margaret ROSCOE | Geelong |
| 9 | 6 Feb 1854 | Jane DOW | 15 mos | Convulsions from teething | David & Ellen DOW | Geelong |
| 10 | 1 Feb 1854 | Elizabeth PAIN | 12 wks | Pneumonia | John & Catherine PAIN | Geelong |
| 14 | 20 Feb 1854 | Sarah Ann YOUNG | 17 mos | Dysentery | John & Eliza YOUNG | Geelong |
| 15 | 20 Feb 1854 | Harriet BROOKSBANK | 6 yrs | Fever | John & Hannah BROOKSBANK | England |
| 17 | 26 Feb 1854 | Richard Thomas NICHOLLS | 9 mos | Teething | William Henry & Mary NICHOLLS ms WEARNE | Ballarat |
| 21 | 26 Feb 1854 | Elizabeth WATSON | 18 mos | Teething & Dysentery | John & Ann WATSON ms SMITH | Adelaide |
| 22 | 14 Feb 1854 | Sarah Jane HARGRAVE | 13 mos | Water on the brain | William & Margaret HARGRAVE | - |
| 26 | 19 May 1854 | Joseph JULYEN | 10 mos | Fever | Parents - Informant William SKINNER | - |
| 44 | 22 Mar 1855 | Robert JOHNSTON | 1 yr | Inflammation | Robert & Janet JOHNSTON | Ballarat |
| 46 | 24 Mar 1854 | Agnes ANDERSON | 8 mos | Dysentery | Henry & Christianna ANDERSON | Ballarat |
| 49 | 24 Mar 1854 | Ann McNAUGHTON | 2 1/2 yrs | Scald | Walter & Mary McNAUGHTON | Devils River |
| 50 | 26 Mar 1854 | Elizabeth MATHERS | 17 mos | Chronic dysentery | Andrew & Mary MATHERS | Ballarat |
| 52 | 28 Mar 1854 | Mary KING | 15 mos | Dysentery | William & Ellen KING | Portland Bay District Victoria |
| 83 | 30 Mar 1854 | Mary FRY | 15 mos | Dysentery | Richard & Patience FRY | Geelong |
| 85 | 1 Apr 1854 | Female child | 24 hrs | Convulsions | James & Elizabeth BISSETT | Ballarat |
| 87 | 2 Apr 1854 | William HILLARD | 10 days | Convulsions | James & Ann HILLARD | Ballarat |
| 89 | 31 Mar 1854 | Mary NIXON | 11 mos | Fever | Joseph & Catherine NIXON | Melbourne |
| 90 | 3 Mar 1854 | Mary Ann HILL | 12 mos | Dysentery | Joseph & Mary HILL | Ballarat |
| 92 | 6 Apr 1854 | William James THOMAS | 3 yrs | Consumption | John & Tellkah THOMAS | Adelaide |

Enquiries to Ballarat & District Genealogical Society Research Officer: Email: cshelton@digpond.com

If undelivered return to
**Ballarat & District
Genealogical Society Inc.**
P.O. Box 1809
Ballarat Mail Centre, 3354
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