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Text in square brackets may indicate the following:

- Misspellings, with the correct spelling in square brackets preceded by an asterisk rendersveu*[rendezvous]
- Tags for types of content [newspaper cutting]
- Spelled out abbreviations or short form words F[ield]. Nat[uralists]

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Book No[Number] 35. Oct[ober]1 to Dec[ember] 31 1893. Edgar R Waite. Australian Museum Sydney.

Oct[ober] AM5587/321. Sun[day] Bad day. did not venture out and com- -menced to rewrite the diary of our voyage.2. Mon[day]. This day was a public holiday in annual commemoration of the 8 hours bill, the Australians secure a holiday on every possible pretext. The morning was wet but turning finer in the afternoon we went to the Botanic Gardens which was crowded with holiday makers who by strewing paper &c[et cetera] about had strangely changed the usual tidy place. [1]

3. Tues[day]. The Misses Joseph and Lazarus to tea and evening at "Fallowfield". Letter from Paterson with reference to his holiday. He would take it from the 13 or 14. The place being <Cooma> Tharwa Queen - beyan in Cooma district when I got home I found one of the Donac[ola] Castaneothorax dead. It showed no signs of having been hurt and was quite plump.4 Wed[nesday]. Took the dead bird to le'Bou who did not see anything wrong about it. I bought another (1[shilling]/-) [2]

and a pair of Poephila cincta - Gould 3[shillings]/- we had quite a house full in the evening Mr. Mrs and Mr Frank Down &[and] Miss Roebuck to tea. We received copies of the new

number of the Museum "Records".5 Thur[sday]. Received letter from B Crossland. Berowra stating terms to be: 30[shillings]/- weekly or 27[shillings]/6[pence] if for 2 weeks. trap from Hornsby 5[shillings]/- each way - boat 2[shillings]/6[pence] daily or 10[shillings]/- per week. Replied saying I would write to him later. In view of my [3]

being away on the 14th. Sat[urday] and my late week Cooksey volunteered to exchange Saturdays with me. Walker called at the Museum. At night I took Rose to the "Palmer Beaumont" Concert at the town Hall where we had good music Saw Dr & Mrs Vanse in the distance.6. Fri[day] Thorpe took me to Acklandes - Agent for Boswells Guns & cetera] - where I ordered cartridges and other things for the Wallaby battue. [4]

In the evening we went to Miss Scott's in Point Piper Road where we met some fashionable people.7. Sat[urday] At Museum until 6.0 I commenced a painting (in oil) of the Striped Opossum *Dactylopsila trivirgata*. G 8. Sun[day]. Paterson called in the morning when we arranged to leave by 9. pm train on Friday. In the afternoon we walked to Newtown & met my old Acquain- tance Fred Shaw & his wife. [5]

9 Mon[day]. Sent copy of Museum Record to father. wrote to C Rowling c/o Hervey & Co[mpany] Box 278. P[ost].O[ffice] Sydney. I have had for 2 or 3 days a live example of *Tiliqua scincoides*. To day I found that it had broken open and was attempting to eat a *Helix aspersa* in the box. Believing it to be a vegetarian I put in ½ inch of banana which it immediately tackled but being too large I cut it into 3 pieces [6]

and it swallowed then forthwith. I afterwards gave it a section of orange, this it did not touch but the *Pygopus* sucked at it & attempted to swallow it. There is in the box a narrow 2 inch tube. I had taken some flies in it, it would appear that it is a favourite retreat for I have found a young *Typholops nigrescens* coiled wholly within it & at the present time a *Diplodaclylus vittatris* [7]

has taken possession and no part of its anatomy protrudes. I must mention, however that it is tailless. It is found that snakes have a liking for Flower pots and cans and are sometimes turned out of such small ones that it is surprising how they could ever be contained.10 Tues[day]. Note from Paterson asking me to get some 20 bore cartridge cases for De Sales. I wrote to Ackland for them [8]

11. Wed[nesday]. Received account from Jepson £28-15-0 for the Piano. I wrote telling him I would pay on Nov[ember]: 1st.Sent off Typhlop reprints to Boulenger, McCoy.

Clarke Roebuck. de Vis & F.L. Billinghurst - (National Bank of Australasia Castleman. Victoria) a correspondent of Hedleys. In the evening we called at the Mansion and made arrangements for Friday. 12 Thur[sday]. Received goods from Auckland and paid £[pound]2-18-3 as follows - [9]

300 12 G. cartridges 2. 8.0 300 Caps 3.0 3 „s[pounds] shot 1.0 Bag Wads } 2.3 } De Salis
100 20 G cases } 4.0 _____ £[pound] 2.18 3 13. Fri[day] At 8.pm I left Redfern with Paterson for a weeks holiday to be spent at Tharwa in the Cooma district. We travelled all night. Day broke about 4.30. Saw Lake Bathurst from the train, passed the loading platforms for cattle and sheep. These consist of huge pens into which [10]

the animals are driven whence a long narrow fenced path leads them into the train. in the case of sheep the path divides into 2 an upper & a lower one to accommo- -date the double tiers in the vans. Our progress was very slow and we had sometimes half an hour at a siding for our Engine was used for shunting on the line Saw Ants nests 4 or 5 feet in height and in a measure resembling the African White Ants dwelling Along the plains I saw [11]

my first Wallabys. There were also many hares¹⁴ Sat[urday]. Passed within sight of Lake George 21 x 13 miles in extent. We were passing through what is called a ring- barked country, this has a most barren appearance all the trees have been killed by ringing & stand up gaunt grey objects like spectres, within the Area of Lake George however I was told that the death of the trees was due to the excessive drainage of the water from them. If [12]

this is true the land must have risen or the Lake lowered, otherwise how could the trees have ever grown there? Saw flocks of Spur-winged Plovers and Magpies. The line in part must have taken much making. In parts it is tunnelled but generally cut out which exposes some very rugged sections. I was told that the Government lose largely on that line. as we proceeded hills appeared & the country got wilder At length about 8. am we arrived [13]

& alighted at Tuggeranong while waiting for the buggy. I went off - Shot a kestrel (Tinnunculus cenchroides) and leather head. found several nests all containing young birds. The hours passed along & no buggy so Paterson inquired at the station & found that he must have been misunderstood for De Salis had sent the buggy yesterday, so off we set for the 7 miles walk. Shot some Black Magpies. Saw Brown snake dead on [14]

the road. Chased a Lizard but it ran too much for me among the fallen timber and I lost it. Overtook the mail cart & jumped in but I am sure we could have walked much quicker.

Saw several White-backed magpies. Arrived at Tharwa a little done-up with the night travelling. In the Afternoon we went up the rocks behind the house and I shot my first Wallaby. a scrub in the pouch was a large young one quite [15]

unhurt. Dick the black boy who went with us "bagged" the Old Wallaby's skin in which we carried home the young one. 15 Sun[day]. I distributed some glass tubes among the children for collecting purposes. Went towards "the little river" &[and] found some large lizards in cracks in rocks. We could not move them even by smoking-out but they wedged themselves the tighter in, and were killed by the smoke and fire. Went[footnote] The whole place was overrun with the Harlequin Bug (*Dindymus versicolor*). All in copu[lation] now. [16]

to the same spot after dinner. Dick found a hole under a large stone on lifting it one of the Lizards ran out. I caught it &[and] found it to be *Egermia cunninghamii*. Lifting other stones I secured 4 Typhlops among the Termites. 16. Mon[day] Up at 6.0 &[and] had a stroll round. Shot a Rock Wallaby with a fine young one, this was slightly hurt but I took it alive. Rain drove me in. After breakfast Paterson &[and] [17]

I walked to some Fir Ranges 3 miles away but did not get any- thing beyond a Rock Wallaby. Returning we pegged out our skins. After dinner we took horses and rode to the "Wallaby Rocks" after wading the river here after having tethered the nags we had rough work some of the river banks on which the wallabys live were many 100 feet high &[and] exceedingly steep. Got some long shots which proved [18]

my gun a good one, getting up again with dead Wallaby was killing work. I had to take one at a time, then return for another until I was fagged out. I had not seen Paterson since we divided and he signalled me by a fire. We had a moon- light ride back when I found the damaged young Rockie dead - 17. Tues[day]. My early stroll secured me a Jackass and I saw a *Varanus* in the water but lost it when shot under [19]

some willows. Paterson &[and] I went to the Fir ranges and were fairly among the Rockies, by this time I had got my eye in, they are very nimble &[and] rapid and remind me much of Squirrels only larger. Saw inaccessible nests of Black Magpies. A bowl shaped mud nest built on a horizontal branch, some distance from the trunk. Shot a few hares, these are so common that the people on the station do not thank you for [20]

carrying them home - shot 2 'Possums, was a female with a large young one - she was only slightly injured and gave us a fine chase. I secured the young one unhurt &[and] unearthed

its mother from a hollow stump in which it had taken refuge. 18 Wed[nesday]. This day we also went to the Fir ranges and got some more Wallabys. Shot an Owl. Ninox boobook the same species which had disturbed my birds [21]

Plenty of Bee Eaters about the neighbourhood 19 Thur[sday]. Drove with Mr Farrer who is making experiments on rust proof wheat to his farm at Lawbrigg and walked the 4½ miles back along the banks of the Murrumbidgee saw a large Buzzard quartering a pasture. In the river for a moment I saw an object which must have been a Platypus I afterward met a boy fishing who said that there were some [22]

Platypus at the spot I indicated he having shot one last week. Shot some Bee Eaters which were very common. Flocks of Ducks on the river and large flocks White Cuckoos*[Cuckoos] among the trees. When I returned we took horses to the Fir Ranges and shot more Rock Wallabys. One had a damaged young one in the pouch which I nevertheless took alive. Shot a Plover (Spur winged) and in the evening a "More Pork" [23]

(Podargus. also a Bandicoot. perameles 20 Fri[day]. Had an early bathe in the river - found that the young Scrub Wallaby obtained on 14th had escaped it had become quite tame &[and] was feeding well. Took horses to the Wallaby Rocks &[and] shot more Rockies, they had become wilder &[and] more unapproachable. In coming back I took the river bank afoot in the hope of seeing Platypus, was not successful. Saw a [24]

large flock of White Cuckoos* [Cuckoos] which made a fearful din. 21. Sat[urday]. Took horses to a new place some miles away among the rocks. The wallabys were very thick and we got many. A fine young one took refuge in a crack &[and] although we "smoked" we could not get him out. Shot an "Iguana" wh[ich] came down a tree &[and] was running across an open piece when I knocked it over. Shot a pair of Gang-gang- [25]

Parrots and returned only just in time to pack my things and drive off to the station 7 miles to Tuggeranong as it was my bag with all the skins and birds in flesh were left behind. Left at 8.20 booking 28 wallaby skins at Queanbeyan 1[shilling]/9[pence] &[and] taking a Wallaroo's tail for soup and a Duck. 22 Sun[day]. Landed in Sydney at 6.15, found Rose at Mr. Paterson's The second Diamond Sparrow had died while [26]

I was away. Letter from Miss Scott asking us to meet McGarvie Smith on Tuesday. The boys next door told me that an Opossum was in hiding behind our packing cases at the back. On getting it out it scooted off &[and] I caught it 3 houses away. It was very savage

and would not tolerate my little Opossum and bit very wildly at me.23 Mon[day]. The 'Possum was so savage that it let it go'. Letter [27]

from Mrs. Ellis 'At home' tomorrow. Letter from C Rowling 25 Canterbury R[oad]. Albert Park Melbourne, to which I replied. Letter from Prof[essor]. David granting me permission to take away from the Macleay Museum the Typhlopidae I had asked for. Bought wire netting for wallaby &c[et cetera] enclosure 7[shillings]/3[pence]. Spent the evening in making the said enclosure.24 Tues[day]. Left Museum at noon and at 2.45 with Rose visited Miss Scott who with a party of [28]

5 or 6 took us to McGarvie Smiths. He showed us all his appliances for cultivating bacteria and then to his snake room. he is a wonderful man and uses admirable apparatus for catching snakes &[and] collecting the poison. Every lady present sooner or later handled Death Adders, <Ca> Black, Tiger and Brown Snakes so great was the confidence he could inspire. He warned me, privately, not to [29]

entrust any information to Prof[essor]s Stuart or Martin. We spent the evening at Mrs Ellis's "At home".25 Wed[nesday]. Did not attend the Linnean meeting Cohen our neighbour asked me for a lecture for something or other after Christmas.26 Thur[sday]. Letter from Fred Shaw asking us for a musical evening on Tuesday. A large box from Tharwa came containing the young lame Rock Wallaby which I had intended [30]

to leave and a young weak Scrub Wallaby, a young living Magpie and a living Echidna, also a dead Platypus and a few birds. On examining the Rock Wallaby, I found it was infested with maggots which were eating into its living flesh. I got them out with kerosene but don't see how the poor thing can live.27. Fri[day]. I had placed the Echidna inside the enclosure, but this morning found [31]

it had burrowed away I dug with a spade but am afraid we shall not find it. Paterson turned up at 9.am and said he had packed up in the box the body of the Platypus in a damp Wallaby skin Neither skin nor body had arrived so the station people had no doubt "collared" the Wallaby skin &[and] thrown the Platypus body away as dead meat. The Platypus being a male rendered the loss less [32]

severe. Wrote Fred Shaw &[and] accepted invitation. Having noticed some eaten Passionfruit the per- petrator was discovered in the shape of the Old Opossum which I had set at liberty. We found in on the vines but it got away. I wrote to Father. Have noticed in the

stomach of Reptiles as follows: In Hydrosaurus, a whole Egernia Cunninghamsi In Acanthophis. hind quarters of Amphibolurus neuritis. and in Diemenia superciliosa - a frog [33]

28. Sat[urday]. Mounted the Platypus. A fearfully wet day. In afternoon Mr & Mrs Paterson came round. He suggested that by prodding with a wire I might find the Echidna. I did so and at length I felt something elastic under the fence and beneath the asphalt walk of the next house. When I dug the Echidna also dug but at least I got to it and then had great difficulty owing to its spines & great weight in getting [34]

it out of such an awkward position. When Paterson's went away they took the little Opossum for themselves and the young Scrub Wallaby to rear, for us, wrote to Wilfred. Paterson called round later & after tea we went to the Mansion. I had left the Echidna in a box in the kitchen the lid weighted and the magpie in a box open at the top when we returned I found the Echidna had got out, climbed up into [35]

the magpie's box, and the bird was sat upon it's prickly back asleep. 29. Sun[day]. Olliff who was asked to come in the afternoon did not turn up until after tea. I allowed the Echidna loose in the room, as long as we remained quiet it ambled about but when we moved it ducked its head and erected its spines its walk is by no means slow, perhaps not quite so quick as a Hedgehog and first one side of the body is advanced then the other. A veritable waddle [36]

The young Rock Wallaby was so much crippled and appeared in pain So I killed it 30. Mon[day]. Mrs Paterson sent the body of the Scrub Wallaby, it had died under her care. I has*[had] fastened down the Echidna last night but it had forced the lid and in the morning I found it had been rampaging about the kitchen. It had removed everything from against the wall including a rather heavy table, boxes [37]

boots, bottles &c[et cetera]&c[et cetera]. It is immensely strong. After having done the round I don't know how many times, and pulled up linoleum knocked out lime and plaster it had crawled into the magpies box. I found it could climb the stairs quite easily 31. Tues[day]. Pay day. As soon as I received my cheque I got it cashed & paid £[pound]20 the whole of it less 16[shillings]/8[pence] to Jepson, on a/c[account] of the piano. The balance £[pound]8.15.0 to be paid next month. In [38]

Oct[ober] - Nov[ember] the evening we took train to Newtown and spent a musical evening at Fred Shaw's, there were about 20 present I performed on the flute. Shaw gave me a ticket for the "Liedertafel" concert on Thursday.1.Nov[ember]. Wed[nesday]. I had long asked the landlord for some sods for "out back" and received them today, spent the even- -ing in putting them down in the "Wallaby run"2.Thur[sday]. Got on approval a 6-keyed flute from from [39]

Joseph with the idea that Whitelegge might like it. 15[shillings]/-. The Ailanthus Moths given me in pupae by Mrs Forde are now beginning to come out. In the evening I met Fred Shaw and together we went to the Sydney Liedertafel Smoking Concert at the Town Hall and had good music. All male voices about 60 and a good orchestra - 3 Fri[day]. Heard the Cicadas for the first time this Spring. There are in the trees at our front &[and] make a din. [40]

4 Sat[urday]. Cooksey asked me if we would have a picnic on Thursday next Public holiday - Prince of Wales birthday.5. Sun[day]. Wrote to Uncle Banks and had a walk after tea it being too hot to go out during the day. I had almost night seen the 'Possum which I let go feeding on the Passion Vine but until this night I had not been able to secure it. However it allowed its tail to hang down and as I had as usual taken my [41]

stand below it I seized the opportunity (which in this case happened to be by the tail) and swung the animal into a sack which I held in readiness, thence I transferred it to the "Wallaby run"6 Mon[day]. Spent the evening with Paterson when we discussed the question of the introduction of his new amalgam into England. I arranged to write to Reynolds and Branson with regard to a British agency and also to Birch. Found [42]

that a mouse had entered the top drawer of my bird cabinet &[and] had destroyed several British birds. To-day Gibson, (a neighbour) called respecting a flute when I told him I could get him one for 15[shillings]/- Whitelegge had got a silver key one having low B and high --- and many useful movements for the old style of flute.7. Tues[day]. The magpie picked up its food for for the first time to day and will save us some [43]

trouble. Wrote a draft letter for Branson &[and] took it to Paterson for consideration. Found that he would have to return to business and as Mrs P[aterson] was going to attempt to make an opossum cage I returned for Rose &[and] my tools and worked hard all the evening at the Mansion. Asked Hedley to go with us on the Pic-nic.8 Wed[nesday]. Letter from Paterson re[garding] my draft for Branson with suggestions &c[et cetera]. Mr &[and] Mrs North spent the evening with us and [44]

Nov[ember] asked us to Ashfield for Sunday.9. Thur[sday] Public holiday wretched day. We had to abandon all idea of the Picnic. Rose had a letter from Olliff asking us to Afternoon tea tomorrow.10 Fri[day] Found that the 'Possum had forced the wire netting &[and] had escaped. Wrote to B[urton] Crossland re[garding] holidays for the 20th inst[ant = day of the current month]. In the afternoon I went to the Linnean Soc[iety] &[and] saw for the first time the new Catalogue of Snakes [45]

in the British Museum, *T nigrescens* regarded as a synonym of *T polygram -icus* which has precedence. *T Curtus* equals *T ligatus*. Rose and I went at 5.0 to afternoon tea at Olliffs where we met some aristocrats.11. Sat[urday] An order was sent round the staff informing us that we might pub- -lish papers in any journal we thought fit as the "Records" were to be discontinued. Wrote to Father, Birch &[and] Branson and saw Paterson with reference to <Brans> letter [46]

to the latter. Returning from the Mansion I met Hedley who was off for a stroll. He went with me to Fallowfield when we both went off together, skirted Rose Bay &[and] dropped at the farther end of Double Bay where we sat on a rock &[and] watched the multitude of white sails plying up &[and] down the harbour. Hedley returned with me to tea. In the evening I developed internal pains &[and] had turpentine flannels applied I had probably [47]

taken cold while on the rock.12 Sun[day]. Spent all day in bed &[and] ate nothing all day, but felt a little better towards night. Fearfully wet13 Mon[day]. Remained in bed in the morning. Rose posted my letters to Father &[and] Birch &[and] asked Paterson to copy &[and] attend to Branson. I went to the Museum in afternoon.14 Tues[day]. I had ordered some Flute music from Palings &[and] today they told me that it could not be obtained in Australia. [48]

my late week, (6 O'clock) at the Museum.15. Wed[nesday]. Adapted the Piano case for the accommodation of the Echidna, we were at Paterson's in the evening.16. Thur[sday]. Not having heard from Crossland in reply to my letter of the 10th. asking him to meet us at Hornsby on Sunday by the 11.5 train. Bertie Etheridge promised to take the magpie during our absence. Rainbow came to Fallowfield in the Evening I gave him some hints on drawing for reproduction. [49]

17. Fri[day] Still no reply from Crossland. I saw Paterson who advised me to see Chauncey which I did at noon. he says that Crossland fetches his letters once a week, on Thursdays so

he would not get mine of the 10th until yesterday. In the afternoon I received a telegram from him to say he would meet the train. Letter from Father enclosing Slip of Mrs Roebucks death & offering to send me the piano. Also a letter from Percy Davis thanking me for [50]

expressions of sympathy conveyed through Father called to see Mr Down but he was out. When I got home I found Miss Frost with Rose. In the evening I wrote to Roebuck & to Father, enclosing a photograph of an Aboriginal which I had bought as an Xmas[Christmas] Card. 18. Sat[urday]. Bought ½ „[pound] of Powder, 2[shillings]/-. In evening I loaded some cartridges and packed up generally *[generally] for Berowra. [51]

19. Sun[day]. Left Redfern at 10.0 Changed Strathfield & arrived at Hornsby at 11.5 met by Crossland & we drove to Berowra A blazing hot day. After dinner we sauntered about the place. I caught some Green Frogs.. and large Tadpoles. We had a few lemons which grow about the place. During the night a heavy rain & wind storm came on & awoke everyone. 20. Mon[day]. Up at 5.30 I took a boat & pulled up the small creek where I found most beautiful [52]

Scenery. Saw the Coach whip bird & had no difficulty in naming it from its peculiar note "SWswash". After breakfast I pulled down the Creek with Rose. Saw Shag. A large Varanus in the water too oder- iferous for me to tackle with Rise in the boat Grallinas & Leather-heads After dinner the tide was low so we pulled up the Creek into very Shallow water and had a paddle, thence, as the water was rising attempted to get up the [53]

little Creek got on the sand and while waiting for more water commenced a w[ater] color sketch. Also shot a kingfisher, got further up the Creek where I commenced to make another sketch. Returned to tea at which we had a feed on Oysters 21 Tues[day] After breakfast we paddled up the Creek and I enjoyed a swim next attempted to go up the little Creek but the water was too low. Searching the bank I found nests of Trap door spider & secured [54]

a large inmate. In an old log by the water I found numbers of molluscs like Muscels*[Mussels] each in a tunnel wh[ic]h it might have made there were also some small crustaceans in holes. In the afternoon Rain fell heavily but during an interval I sallied out & found several nests which I believed to be Red- Heads. One nest con- tained 4 White Eggs. by placing a gauze over the opening I secured both old birds [55]

& finding them to be Redheads I released them, near the house a cuckoo sat & often flew off & returned to the same garden post. 22. Wed[nesday]. Rain all day. I put

on a mackintosh & walked up the creek. Saw some very beautiful ferns including a pretty "maiden-hair." There were some Black Magpies about and numbers of Grallinas. A very large tree had half fallen but this must have been year ago as from [56]

the side of the almost horizontal trunk shoots as thick as my body were growing, down by the water on the mud flats I found some curious conical mounds about 3 in[ches] high each had what appeared to be a decayed stem in the interior thus:- the top being open all round were [sketch] holes & scratchings of bandicoots & a little one scooted off into cover before I could get the gun to [57]

my shoulder. Beneath hollowed rocks were the pits of Ant-lion larvae which I have before described () The whole district is covered with grass trees in all stages of growth some with the bases just appearing above ground while others 5 feet or more in height Found 2 or 3 nests in trees built entirely of bracken, they were however all empty I noticed that on climbing a tree if I broke off a branch [58]

containing a nest it frequently remained suspended by the creepers which hung about it. The rain was very annoying & I returned with my 'bags' wet through from having collected the rain from the scrub²³ Thur[sday] To day was as fine as yesterday was wet, immediately after breakfast we took out "our" boat & with a high tide pulled to the farthest point on the little creek to which a boat could [59]

be taken. I walked further up and saw 2 Lizards on the rocks by the water, both of which I failed to catch. One looked very like L' tennis but the other I think was a gecko of a dark grey color & for a moment it was in a small pool of water. I exposed 2 plates on the creek Shot a Leather-head. Returned with the ebb tide & landed at the boat house. While Rose was gathering [60]

flannel flowers and trembling grass, I Climb up among the rocks. Poking about I came across in one of the wind-holes in a large rock a mass of Eucalypti leaves, these I thought might have been carried in by the wind but as they appeared to be very regularly laid I began to poke them out with a stick I then found that the hole was deeper than I thought & seemed [61]

full of leaves, a rustle put me on the Qui Vive, when poking cautiously a little snout & a pair of sparkling eyes was thrust between the leaves, I now knew this must be a "mouse's" nest. I carefully drew out the leaves during which a little animal rushed out and was climbing

up the perpendicular rock when I secured it. The scuttering inside told me that the occupants [62]

in some numbers. I finally drew out the nest and feeling movement within took care that any of the inmates did not escape. A larger &[and] evidently the mother "mouse" came to the opening but seeing me scuttered back the nest I held in my hand contained 2 young ones but before I had disposed of them I saw the old one rush out of the hole, with young ones on her [63]

back &[and] was climbing under a horizontal ledge back downward when I caught her she had 4 young ones on her back &[and] on taking them off I found that each had in its mouth a tuft of fur proving how they had held to their mother I had now 7 young ones &[and] in looking into the hole found an 8th The pouch of the old one could now not be regarded as such for any of the [64]

young were each far too large to be contained, the orifice of the pouch was very much enlarged and exposed 8 teats, so that the old one had evidently her full complement of young. the hole was about 8 inches in diameter &[and] four<d> deep it then curved &[and] was about 8 inches long in that direction thus:- and [Sketch] the whole cavity [65]

had been filled with leaves, the young had many lice upon them &[and] I caught one large lively flea wh[ich] hopped well. After dinner we took the boat up the main Creek and I moored it leaving Rose in while I ascended the ranges it was very rough work some of the huge boulders wh[ich] block my way were almost insurmountable, huge holes also abounded &[and] as these were [66]

generally concealed by a luxuriance of vegetation much higher than my head added to all being very "up-hill" made progression tedious. I had just dropped from a big boulder when at my feet lay a diamond snake or Python as we ought now to call it (c/-[care of] Boulenger B[ritish M[useum] Cat[alogue]:). I cut a forked stick and very soon secured it I descended to the boat the snake [67]

aiding my movements by checking my too rapid <movement> - progress. Curling its tail round any thing into which it came into contact. I drowned it but it took a long time I swam it behind the boat by a string I opened it to make a 'flat' skin &[and] took from its stomach what I believe was a a small opossum ie.[id est "that is"] it was something short of being full grown although very large. In the evening [68]

I was prowling around near the house & saw a Lyre Bird - a male. 24 Fri[day]. This morning we pulled to the head of Still Creek. I found a "goana" it was very sluggish & I had not the slightest difficulty in catching it with my hand it did try to run away but made no attempt to bite me. Rose called me & said she had seen a large bird like a Pheasant which made a curious noise this was no doubt a male Lyre Bird. The [69]

afternoon was so very hot that we remained indoors. After tea I went out and when the moon was up I saw at the top of a tall Gum-tree something which I was undecided as to whether it was a Bear or an ants' nest. I was viewing the tree from all sides when suddenly something gave me a very acute prick in the ankle then I felt another, then a third the pain was very severe I knew the [70]

must be ants & as I was not more than 200 yards from the house I made a rush for it and found several Bull-dog Ants, an inch long on my socks, I next exchanged my shoes for boots and again went forth, not being able to satisfy myself I shot a shot into the tree without producing the slightest effect so judging the object must be a Termite's nest I left it further alone. [71]

Some bats were flying about the house and also several birds all in the dusk these latter I could not at all make out. They looked like Hawks but flew noiselessly like Owls. I thought they might be Ninox never having seen this bird in flight but could scarcely comprehend that it would have pointed wings. 25 Sat[urday]. After breakfast we made our way up main creek. Saw some beautiful Kingfishers [72]

of a dark purplish blue, whereas the one I shot was of a lighter blue. In one part we came across some huge rocks weathered-out into most remarkable hollows which hollows are again honeycombed. Against the wall of the hollow swallows had built their nests.. I concluded the morning with a swim & having no towel pulled about the creek au naturel until I got dried - & [73]

longer. Afternoon saw us down the creek as the tide was ebbing In the evening we heard a bear over the creek somewhere above the boat-house. New visitors came viz[videlicet = namely]:- Mr Baker a Cutter, Mr Dobbie a Surveyor & Mr & Mrs Begby a newly married & sanctimonious couple. 26 Sun[day]. Dobbie & Rose pulled up Still Creek while Crossland & I went to try & find the bear. We on the flats found a Diamond [74]

Snake hanging head downward from a sapling, having killed it we hailed the boat left the snake in it &[and] then commenced to ascend the rocks in search of the bear but although Crossland said he knew within a tree or two where the bear had cried we failed to find it. the three of us then pulled up the main creek, examined the rocks mentioned yesterday and found in horizontal [75]

crevices nests of some kind of wasp, the nests were made of light colored earth &[and] divided into chambers in each of these we found a grub and a large number of small long-legged spiders, the spiders all being the same species. The construction of the nests were like this. The portion [sketch] on the left is intended to represent [76]

the exterior aspect of the nest intact and on the left 3 cells are shown. In coming back we saw a bear at the top of a tall tree. I fired one shot from the boat which did not seem to have the slightest effect. I then went ashore &[and] he fell into the water &[and] sank in a few moments before it could be reached by the boat, as the water water 6 feet or more in depth and as it [77]

was running strongly I dispared of getting it. Guided by rising bubbles and shading my eyes I fancied I could see it. By prodding with the oar Dobbie brought it to the surface when I seized it from the shore. Spent the after- noon skinning the bear &[and] the Diamond Snake. After tea, I had brought to me by Crossland a small Lizard of which they all were much afraid [78]

27. Mon[day]. Dobbie &[and] Baker left. We pulled down the creek intending to go up Conley's Creek but just as I had turned the boat a large bird which I thought might be an Osprey flew further down and alighted some 400 yards further. I then pulled down but could not get within shot before it winged its way out of sight. By this time we were opposite Sands or Sams? Creek so up I pulled, it is very beautiful but [79]

short only about $\frac{1}{4}$ mile in length. After going to the head I went further afoot. A very pretty waterfall fed the stream, here I saw several of the dark colored Kingfishers. We returned &[and] then, partly ascended Conley's Creek intending to pull to the head, when about $\frac{1}{4}$ mile up I noticed a pair of Black Mag[pies] flying overhead and making a great 'to-do' almost directly I saw a young one sat on a branch overhanging [80]

the water, I pulled gently up to it and as it only exhibited curiosity I sent the boat close to the tree on which it was sat &[and] went ashore, by moving cautiously I was able to seize it by the legs when it did make a noise wh[ich]: was vociferously responded to by the old ones. When I got it into the boat I clipped a wing and put it beside Mag wh[o] we always took with us it the boat when it would either sit on [81]

the edge or poke about in the bottom. We then pulled homewards the new captive remained very quiet but soon after we got into the main Creek it jumped on to the edge &[and] into the water, it endeavored to reach the shore. I secured it once more &[and] then tied its legs. I frequently threw Mag into the water for a bath but it always made for the boat &[and] not for land like the wild bird. The afternoon was hot and I did [82]

little except skin a Black Snake which Crossland caught at a water hole not 50 yards from the house at dusk I shot one of the Hawk-Owl-like birds whose flight had troubled or rather puzzled me and I then found it to be a nightjar.²⁸ Tues[day]. Not having seen the head of Conley's Creek we made there first thing today. Among the Mangroves growing in the water I found several nests but they [83]

were old ones. The Sandy bottom made it a delightful place to bathe &[and] I enjoyed my dip today immensely Just after dinner a thunder storm came on accompanied <with> by exceedingly heavy rain and large hail which made a terrible noise on the iron roofing of the house, it was so heavy as to make the distant, ie [id est = that is] over the Creek, ridges mere blue washes. Later it cleared when I found that owing to the ex- [84]

ceptionally high tide when I fastened up the boat our boat was stranded high &[and] dry, while the Begby's boat had the bow tilted &[and] the stern part under water. We did manage to right her &[and] then had to bail, then we launched "our boat" I took the Misses C[rossland]. with Rose down the Creek saw several very large Medusae &[and] landed one. More rain with promise of much more drove us back in &[and] returning I saw a [85]

'dark' Kingfisher on a spray and beneath it noticed a little fish jump the birds also saw it &[and] in a moment it was wriggling it to beak &[and] soon had its life dashed out against a branch. I went up to the rocks at the back of the house &[and] found sundry things. A spider's nest which I may have noted before, it is white about the size of a florin and is probably protected <from> by its great likeness to the spots [86]

of lichen on rocks. under rocks I found 2 or 3 kinds of nests one was like a cocoon attached to the under side of rocks while others were in holes. A mass of earth with 2 or 3 openings. A third had a projecting tube which marked the entrance. [sketch] [sketch] [sketch] [sketch] No[number] 4 represents the spiders nest [87]

of the Natural [sketch] size.- Between high [and] low water mark on all the creeks in suitable places one may notice holes in the mud, when the tide is out numerous crabs run about but as soon as they see the boat in they pop. Got several Ant-lion larvae out of their pits whether the sand was not suitable I can't say but the [88]

blowing dodge would not work I found I could get at them by putting in a mosquito when the larva would seize it [and] I lifted it with the handle of my scalpel. Sometimes I managed by digging deeply [and] quickly to oust the larva with- -out the aid of the bait [and] I noticed that a small nodule of sand around the insect was of slightly firmer consistency than the surrounding Sand. [89]

29 Wed[nesday]. This morning we pulled the most distance Creek we had visited, viz[videlicet = that is] Merriman's Bay. The entrance is wide but it very soon narrows into a short creek terminated by a rock over which falls water broken up into scores of driplets. Among the rocks in the water shoals of prawns jerked about [and] jumped out on to the rocks when disturbed and the ferns were very varied and luxuriant, the sides of the creek were studded with mangroves [90]

Afternoon with the Misses C[rossland] we pulled to the end of the shoals viz[videlicet = that is] into the deep water which extends to the Hawkesbury the spot being Britannia Rocks. In various spots on the creek one may see the kitchen middens of the blacks, chiefly distinguishable by the imbedded mollusc shells and also by a peculiar fine grass which grows over them. Crossland says their*[there] were many blacks in various parts of the creek when he first [91]

went there, they went to him for corn cobs several burnt parts of which I saw in their camps and they were often to be seen fishing from the rocks. In the evening I put down a fishing line but the tide was ebbing [and] I caught no fish.30 Thurs[day]. I went out early [and] strolled down the creek found a nest of young birds in a Rose Bush may be Malurus it was somewhat [sketch] of this shape:- When ¼ mile [92]

from the house I saw at a little distance a Lyre Bird mobbed by a Grallina which led it a fine dance, the Lyre Bird seemed to be quite helpless. I went back for the gun as I wanted a Lyre Bird when I returned I soon found the bird which was scratching much after the ways of a Megapode. It allowed me to get to within easy range. I was sorry I had shot it for it was only a young male with a [93]

very short "Lyre" Back at the house I found Mrs Crossland with a fowl in her lap, it had picked up my fish bait which I had left at the back and swallowed the hook. I don't know what be- came of the sinker. Our morning row took us to Merrimans Bay here I picked a few small ferns. I found the time had slipped away rapidly and was exactly ½ hour pulling home against a strong wind. [94]

Nov[ember] - Dec[ember]. Rose stayed in in the afternoon, I pulled up to Tree-fern Creek, the T[ree]-ferns here are very fine. It is amusing to see the Black Magpie it had not yet got over the idea of being fed by its parents for it rushed to "Mag" &[and] literally attempts to swallow it, while Mag not understanding the state of affairs amuses itself by picking at the Black Mag[pie]'s tongue. The interior of the mouth of the latter is yellow while that of "Mag" is [95]

a delicate rose color In the evening a 'South[erly] Buster' came up with heavy rain and hail and fine lightnings. 1. Dec[ember] Fri[day]. Pulled up the main creek to a point further than we had yet attained &[and] returned early to dinner in consequence of our sanctimonious couple's leaving to-day we took both Magpies with us. Black Mag[pie] soon jumped out &[and] made for the shore - it had, however a long way to swim &[and] got tired out &[and] waited until I got [96]

to it &[and] it seemed to be glad when I lifted it into the boat. In an hour when it had got dried I threw it out but this time it at once made for the boat, its Spirit was subdued. After dinner we made for Still Creek I saw the lizard which I before thought might be a gecko. I found it was an Amphibolurus it played hide &[and] seek with me it ran under a Rock when I went near to it, but came out soon after I left [97]

many a time. By throwing water into its Crevice I made it very uneasy &[and] at length it quitted when I caught it. In the evening I watched a party of Jackasses, old &[and] three young, here they call them "Goburras" or are these native names? I noticed galvanised iron round 2 or 3 trees in the paddock, these trees are utilised by the fowls for roosting &[and] the iron is to prevent the native cats [98]

climbing the trees. Berowra is a creek cut deeply from a high plateau 500 feet & the water is about 6 feet above sea level, it being tidal to the head of the creek, the sides generally are steep & covered with gum trees intermixed with huge boulders which are tumbled about in a wild manner, in parts the slopes descend directly into the water which is there generally deep, sometimes a large flat exists between [99]

the base of the steeps and <& the water and it is on such a flat that Crossland has built his house, on piles for at rare intervals the house even is flooded. Berowra Creek is intersected by smaller creeks each having a distinctive name. The borders of these & the main creek are some- times of firm soil & at others of soft mud covered at high water & crowded with Mangroves. [100]

2. Sat[urday]. Wet day. In the morning I went to Tree-fern Gully with the idea of photograph[ing] some of the ferns, but when it did not rain there was too much wind & no sunshine. We then went further down the Creek when very heavy rain obliged us to land for shelter. I saw a snake (*D. reticulata*) gliding over the ground it stopped, (when I cut a stick) but eventually went down a hole. There was no pleasure in being out so pulled home [101]

& remained in the rest of the day. At 7.0 I togged-up in Mackintosh & c[et cetera] & went down to the Creek and in Cooing Crossland who had been out line fishing came for me. The rain shut out all distance & I did not see the boat until she was only a short way from me. We were now going to try net fishing so the boy pulled us down the Creek. In the west one could still perceive some evidence of the sinking sun by the red murkiness of [102]

the clouds. Soon however the sky darkened but throughout there was sufficient to distinguish the outline of the ranges & their perfect mirroring in the water below even to the giant gums wh[ich] occasionally broke the outlines, the line of separation was marked by a streak of light where the water reflected the sky. There was a slight wind which just dulled the surface of the water like breath on a mirror, but in some places the water [103]

was smooth in long streaks, this marked the current way and under the same tides these lines were always in the same places. Although the rain beat upon the water it did not prevent the phosphorescent like glow turned up by the oars & forming a curve of light

on each side of the boat. While watching the water a comet - like streak darted away, caused by a frightened fish rushing near the surface. Occasionally I [104]

saw streaks shooting out in all directions very like the fireworks "Devil among the Tailors" this marked a shoal but the water was too shallow &[and] too many sticks to cast the net. We passed successively Still Creek (left) Conley's Sam's Creek, (right) <Merrin> (Right) Merriman's Bay (left) the Britannia Rocks soon after passing the latter, Crossland pointed out a rock in which was cave wherein he told me that there were some very good [105]

examples of "black's hands" At length we reached the Whale's back and it was decided to cast the net. An 8 foot pole like a tennis pole to which the net was attached &[and] weighted at one end was thrown into the water, the boat was quickly rowed away until the 250 yards of nets was all paid out, the net is corked along one edge &[and] leaded along the other. The net is 300 yards long but is "slacked" down to 250 [106]

the boat now made a large sweep & carried the end of the net which was terminated by another pole, as the first cast pole was made for Crossland beat the water with the oars, thus driving the boat rapidly and at the same time frightening the fish into the net, I had imagined that the fish would be enclosed but learnt this was the same net while that here used was called [107]

the mash, and the fish were caught by the gills so that only those of a certain size were secured, there were but few fish they were Black Bream, Whiting and Mullet, 2 hauls were made in different places when having caught as much as was required we turned homewards. In various places we had evidences of marvellous echoes chiefly at the mouths of the various creeks. Reached the [108]

house in drenching rain about 10.30. Sun[day]. Took boat to Tree Fern Gully &[and] took photo each of a Tree Fern &[and] Grass Tree under unfavorable conditions visited nest of the M. superbus when the young ones being ready to fly fluttered out of the nest, took large Batch of stag horns which some visitors had pulled by left also some birds nest ferns which C[rossland]. gave to us, paid him £[pound] 7. incurred as [109]

follows. for a fortnight Board &[and] Lodging @ [at] £[pound]1 -7 - 6 - week - 5. 10. 0 Boat @ [at] 10 [shillings] /- --- 1. 0. 0 Trap @ [at] 5 [shillings] /- --- 10. 0 Left Berowra at 2.p.m. walked up the steeps met Crossland at the top drove to Hornsby got 5.0 train to Sydney had tea at

Mansion learnt the Echidna & the Quail were dead. Letter from Wilfrid. 3 photos from Father taken by Gurnell & a water color sketch of the Deveron Bridge Huntly. [110]

4. Mon[day]. At Museum again found letter from C Rowling he is back in Sydney at Horderns in Pitt St[reet] and is lodging 252 Forbes St[reet]. Thither I went but found he had removed to 43 Eliz[abeth] St[reet] Paddington he returned with me to Fallowfield and we spent a musical evening arranging to meet next Monday. 5. Tues[day] Wrote to Father On leaving the Museum Rose met me and with Hedley we went to see the Art Gallery. [111]

6 Wed[nesday]. Paid Jepson at noon £[pound]8.15.0 being balance for the Piano, he told me that Cooksey was ill at home, he being from the Museum on his Annual leave. To day was very hot and according to the official report reached 93.6 in the shade. 7 Thurs[day]. Wrote to Father. I commenced a drawing of 2 Lobivanellus lobatus developed some of the Berowra photos but they were not good. I dis- continued the work<in> owing to Mr & Mrs Paterson calling [112]

Planted the ferns brought from Berowra. 8. Fri[day] Wrote Miss Bowling enclosing £[pound]1 for Wilfrid to get me Flute music. When at Tharwa, with regard to the Magpies I noticed that the Black ones were always seen on trees & not on the ground while the Magpie proper was as frequently seen upon the ground These young birds show the same disposition, as soon as we put in the Black Mag[pie] it at once goes up into the Loquat tree where the [113]

Pied Mag[pie] is never seen They are put into the "Wallaby run" every morning & taken indoors at night to avoid the cats. 9. Sat[urday] In the afternoon I finished the drawing of the Spur-winged Plovers & had a stroll with Rose after tea round the bay, here is a puzzle. A man took a circular table top to a carpenter & asked him to make 2 oval stool tops out of it. This he did in 3 cuts without wasting a fragment, the [114]

pieces merely required to be joined, cut as indicated & the joints will be perfect leaving a hand hole in the centre of each stone. Table- top [sketch] Resulting - - stool [sketch] The inner circle must bisect the radius [115]

10. Sun[day]. Finished the drawing of Lobivanellus & practised the flute. 11. Mon[day]. Sent letter and newspaper to Father. A letter each from Rose & self to Fanny in wh[ose] I enclosed £[pound] 1. for Wilfrid to get me some flute & piano music & a letter to Belle (Rose's) Rowling came in the evening & we had our practise. Now working out a

Lizard the one drawn on July 5th it is a Lygosoma &[and] if new may be named Lygosoma () zebra [116]

12 Tues[day] Sent a/c[account] to Paterson £[pound]1, for Tharwa cartridges &[and] proportion of ditto for de Salis. This evening we had a splendid thunder-storm, the lightning flashes were very frequent &[and] some of them brilliant. as usual I stood at the verandah, for a thunder storm always had a great fascination for me. The charm of 'sport' lies in its uncertainty and there is something very uncertain about lightning, one must keep their eyes [117]

fixed on the leaden sky &[and] wonder where the next flush will appear its character &[and] intensity being both to move away for fear of missing a more brilliant display than has hitherto occurred. Found the Lizard to be a very young of Hemisperiodon *[Hemispheriodon] gerrardii. 13. Wed[nesday]. Went to Macleay Museum &[and] took away 9 tubes of Typhlops. I superficially examined one I had marked "Nov sp." and now believe it to be new. Wrote to Fred [118]

Shaw &[and] asked him to meet Rowling at Fallow -field on Monday. Hedley had seen Dr Creed who invited he &[and] myself to his house on Friday. Etheridge now at home ill. So that North Hedley &[and] myself are the only ones of the "staff" on duty. My late week at the Museum. <The M> Received a long letter from Grassham he is just going to the Hudson's Bay Co[mpany] having "signed" for 5 years. This evening we had another lightning display, but [119]

no thunder, the brilliant illuminations were almost continuous and made the world as light as day. I could have sat up all night watching it. 14 Thur[sday]. The Museum <porter> watchman told me that the lightning went on without a break from 9 until 4 am. <In>15 Fri[day] The evening with Hedley I went to Dr. Creeds met Mrs &[and] Miss C[reed]. Miss Freeman &[and] a Missionary from New Guinea whom Hedley had met there. The conversation was lively and chiefly on life in Papua - Sir. [120]

W[illia]m Macgregor astonished the natives by killing (chloroforming) a man, cutting off a shattered hand &[and] restoring him to life. He, (the governor) was a dead shot. A native would not accept the offers of peace &[and] friendship &[and] drew his bow When Sir W[illia]m sent a bullet into his knee, While binding up the wound he expostulated with the man for his foolishness. A Native murderer was being taken in a canoe to execution when he jumped overboard [121]

&[and] swam ashore, but just on landing he received a bullet thro[ugh] his heart. The Native arrows are not feathered but are heavily weighted towards the point. The D[octo]r is a funny man "yesterday" said "a man came to me &[and] said he was ill." "What's the matter" "A pickle bottle ran all over me &[and] 6 corkscrews came out of it and bored into every part of me!" Received £[pound] 1. from Paterson for cartridges &c[et cetera] used during our holiday at Tharwa. [122]

16 Sat[urday] At the Museum until 6 pm. Spent the afternoon in painting at the Opossum (D. trivirgata) commenced on Oct[ober] 7th Received a letter from Shaw to say he would come on Monday. 17. Sun[day] In the morning I made some studies of horses in pencil &[and] in the afternoon Mr &[and] Mrs Paterson called, (P[aterson] told me of his domestic affairs) &[and] we went out house hunting round by Double Bay, returned to the Mansion to tea where [123]

we spent the evening. 18. Mon[day]. A small party of Jackasses feeding in the park at our front. Squashed up some Tomatos and planted the seeds, unearthed the spines &[and] as many of the <body> bones of the Echidna as I could find. I easily separated the spines by throwing the mass into water when they floated. In the evening Shaw &[and] Rowling came when we had music and general Old-country chat all Leeds, Middle Class Schools Boys. [124]

19 Tues[day]. English mail brought a letter &[and] "Sketch" (the paper) from Father now working at Bats &[and] Rats le Souef brought from Cooktown Queensland. In the evening I sorted out Echidna bones &[and] Rose &[and] I had a walk. 20 Wed[nesday]. Ogilby called at Museum &[and] said his wife was very ill &[and] asked if we would go to see her tomorrow. At noon I almost finished the D. tri- virgata which I have painted at every day since Sunday. Many [125]

of the horses here have their heads covered (protection from the sun?) with a cap which cannot be placed there as an ornament. 21. Thur[sday]. Heard first - thing on reaching the Museum that Mrs Ogilby died last evening wrote to Rose bought 2 tickets (@ [at] 2 [shillings] / -) for Xmas [Christmas] day Con- cert. Received Rose's thimble from Berowra which she lost at a known spot in the Creek. Finished a [126]

letter to Father and illustrated the envelope by a copy of Jakko from a drawing I made last night. The Envelope Sketches I have sent are on the last page of this book In the evening I

got a frame made for the Picture of the Opossum, 5[shillings]/6[pence], while Rose & I had a walk through the City²². Fri[day] Went to Linnean Hall. Saw Fletcher who helped me with the Queensland (le Souef's) Frogs, framed the [127]

Dactylopsila trivirgata. Made sketch of a "Mag" copying on to an Envelope ready for next letter to Father. "Broke-up" at the Museum until Wed[nesday]. morning. All the telegram boys ride ponies and gallop along with their messages at a fine rate.²³ Sat[urday]. Holiday. "Squared-up" generally in morning. Hedley came after dinner & he & I had a walk along the head of Rose Bay through some Scrub & then on to a large stretch of Sand hills [128]

which it is said were caused by some one cutting down the timber & so letting the sand in, though this which is of enormous depth the Sydney main sewer has been cut & we made for a stone pedestal, over a mile of dazzling sand, this marks the spots where the sewer joins the sea. Along the sand I noticed numbers of beetles chiefly these have no doubt been blown off their course & [129]

left their "bones" (sic) to bleach in the desert. Arrived at the Coast I noticed that the sandstone had a columnar appearance & Hedley took me down a precipitous* way to the sea where he showed me a good fan-like section he said the larva* melted the Sandstone & after it had cooled in basaltic form, the Sandstone cooled around it being in fact moulded upon it, the softer lava had weathered away [130]

leaving the Sandstone of Columnar form - Having ascended the Cliff we walked along the Bondi beach & then through part of Bondi whence we returned to Fallowfield having walked about 12 miles in a broiling Sun in part over immaculate Sand wh[ich] cast up a glare very trying to the eyes even through dark goggles.²⁴ Sun[day] - Too hot to go out during the day & in the evening heavy rain fell. Had a [131]

long chat with Mr. Cohen on Biblical Animals & c[et cetera].²⁵ Xmas.[Christmas]. Mr Cohen in all morning when he enlightened me much on Jewish History & the Talmud. In the afternoon I went to G[eneral].P[ost].O[ffice]. to post letters for England but found the box had been closed at 10. am. The 'Ormuz' is now in & sails on the 30th. In evening we went to the Town Hall Sacred concert & heard Miss Lillian Tree. & excellent music. Dr Vause we saw in the [132]

distance. Rose felt ill when we left amid vivid lightening which had flashed in during the concert.26. Tues[day]. Rose in bed all day, consequently during the morning I was occupied about the house. In the afternoon Hedley came and we walked to Rose Bay. The strangest thing we saw was evidently an animal but no one knew what it was. There were very many about &[and] they occur all round the coast. [133]

This creature appears to attain a length of 8 inches and is very decidedly *[decidedly] curved. It is of transparent jelly of firm texture and apparently without structure. Its base is flat &[and] the upper sur- face rounded with a faint <sub> line almost in the centre of the dorsal surface. The ends are slightly furrowed. [134]

In the evening Paterson came, he told me pretty full particulars of his domestic af- fairs which it may at this stage be well to commit to paper so far as I am con- cerned (to be written up separately.)27. Wed[nesday] Took home a 'Cuscus' Phalanger maculata to draw from. Rose received a letter from Mrs Down asking us to dinner on Sunday she replied that we would go later.28. Thur[sday] Bought an Album for unmounted photo[graphs]s [135]

for 6[shillings]/6[pence]. Received letter from Gurnell and some English papers.29. Fri[day] Mounted Port Said &[and] Gibraltar photo[graphs]s in the new Album. Took skins of Wallaby's to Museum for preservation.30 Sat[urday] Spent afternoon in making a Water motor Gertie Roebuck having sent me a caterpillar crushed in the post, I wrote the following &[and] sent it to he<a>r along with a letter by Rose. Telegarm from Mrs Down.

Copy.Ode on a Patricide. otherwise Pater ciller = _____Please pronounce the (C. as K,)Like the Greeks of older day. _____My dear Gertie please attend. And suggestions herein find Hope the "my" will not offend Perhaps the "dear" has been assigned,The Gertie" faith I cannot mend 'Tis your name (so please be kind.)If I thought I'd be contented, If I thought you hadn't dined,Then the lines I'd not have penned I don't want to be maligned.Now your ears, or eyes now lend For I'm sure you are not blindWhen an insect next you send Pack it please if you don't mindIn a box that will not bend For to tell you I'm inclinedThat of the creature there's an end When the box's not wooden lined.I found the insect in a jelly and could not tell the back from the bellyTo NDR. Jan[uary] 1. 1894. from ERW. [136]

31. Sun[day]. Took 12.0 boat to Woolwich and spent the day with the Downs Mr. Wallace also there - he also being "Yorkshire" they pointed out a peculiarity of speech they said all Yorkshire people use e.g. [exempli gratia "for example"] "He's a nice fellow is Jones". that is

placing the Nominative last so that it occurs after the verb. "It is a beautiful flower is that".
[137]

Illustrated envelopes to Father:- Kangaroos Emues "Ormuz" Oct[ober] 30 Opossum
Nov[ember] 20 Xmas[Christmas] flowers Dec[ember] 11 Berowra drawings Dec[ember] 25
"Jakko" 1894 Jan[uary] 8 "Mag" 22 "Cereus glandiflorus" Feb[ruary] 5 Platypus 19 Echidna
M[ar]ch 5 Diamond Snake 19 Jackass Ap[ril] 2 Malurus cyanens 16 Chaetodon 30 Spur-
winged Plover AMS 587/32 [138]