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- Spelled out abbreviations or short form words F[ield[. Nat[uralists]

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## THE AUSTRALIAN MUSEUM, SYDNEY Edgar R Waite. Book No. 34.June 12 to Sept[ember] 30. -1893- AM5587/31

June 1893 1.12 Mon[day]. On this date we got possession of our house 43 Barcom Avenue. the painters are still in the house &[and] were at work until Wed.[nesday] This day I bought a bedstead, spring, &[and]mattress £[pound]2.10.0. Unpacked the remaining Organ cases Went to the Gas Co[mpany] and by depositing £[pound]1 received an order to have the meter put in. dined at the Exchange and got a very good 3 course dinner for 1[shilling]/- (soup, entre or joint, Pudding &c[et cetera] cup of tea, cheese &[and] salad)13 Tues[day] Bought Australian Bent wood chairs 6 for 24[shillings]/- [1]

also pillows &[and] bolster 10[shillings] /- Today as in fact all the week hard at work arranging the furniture again dined in town &[and] gave change of address to G[eneral].P[ost].O[ffice]. Some residents at our back have a magpie which whistles part of a tune. Had our Gas meter fixed and also a stove supplied by the landlord, Described Petrosclites14 Wed[nesday]. An Indian Mynah in the trees in front of our house. I am told

that these birds breed about the houses just like the Starlings both [2]

2 here & in England. Our large Case was delivered to day and could not be got into the yard. I had in consequence to open it in the back street & after having emptied it I had to knock it in pieces & take it in in bits, which took me until nearly 12pm. 15 Thurs[day]. Spent the evening in fitting up bookcase temporally for it was too small for the recess & will have to be very largely remade I also hung a few pictures [3]

It was with very great difficulty that the old tenants could be got to remove, they owed much rent and left a fearfully dirty house - this became apparent in more ways than one the whole garden and yard was cut up and strewn with rubbish I saw a mouse & set a cyclone trap, by the time we went to bed I had secured 6[six] in the same trap & we caught threes & twos for a day or two but the fleas! we had been bitten [4]

3 all over. When I went home at noon Rose asked me how many she had caught & I guessed 5 & her reply is worth recording "53" before the night came she had made it 62. 16. Fri[day] By means of some Insect powder and by painting the floor boards with Carbolio Acid we speedily lessened the number of Pulex. It is fortunate there were no Rhynchota This day we got my room into ship-shape laid the carpet & cleaned the [5]

pictures from the paper strappings & [et cetera]. The Gull had persistently refused to eat and when I put food down its throat it regurgitated. I stopped this by tying a cord round its neck but evidently too late for it died to day. The Quail seems to be a hardy little beggar & is alive and well. Gave reprints of some of my papers to Sinclair Cooksey asked us to spend Sunday afternoon with him. Hedley also going arranged to call on him [6]

417. Sat[urday]. Gave Sinclair the Sep[tember] - Dec[ember] 1892 'Naturalist to complete the year. Spent a beautiful after- noon in fitting blinds in my room. We have now got Rose's room into something like order 18. Sun[day] At 2.30 we called on Hedley took the boat to North shore & cable train to Cooksey's house We then walked on to Kirribilli point & returned to tea. Spent evening with music & [et cetera]. I had taken the flute returned home by 11. O'clock. a very beautiful day. [7]

19 Mon[day]- I got possession of my new room at the Museum. This evening we put the bedroom into order & also did a good stroke at the back bed- room. 20 Tues[day]. Still at work, we about finished the back bedroom and did much at the "workroom" bought a spade

4[shillings]/- and rake 1[shilling]/-21 Wed[nesday]. In the morning I turned my attention to the back yard and dug up some of the ½-bricks drain pipes and other rubbish deposited beneath the surface, since, one [8]

5 might imagine, the Neolithic age, At night we finished the 'workroom' putting up shelves and racks for the tools &c[et cetera].22 Thur[ursday]. Had another 'go' at the yard.

Commenced to draw Pygopus lepi - dopus from a living example brought to the Museum, Mr.Walker called &[and] invited us to see him at his house tomorrow evening23. Spent the evening with Mr &[and] Mrs Walker at N[umber] 3 Palmyra Terrace, Bourke St[reet] Waverley. with music &[and] so forth - [9]

24.Sat[urday]. Took down the book shelves in my room and commenced to make new ones to fit the recess in the meantime we removed the birds to the Workroom. In the Afternoon we went to Horderns and bought what <Oilcloth> linoleum we required paying £[pound]4.25 Sun[day]. Rained all day with the exception of a short spell in the evening when we had a stroll I spent the day in "straightening up" putting the music, my books and papers &c[et cetera] into something like and much needed order. [10]

6.26 Mon[day] Deposited my £[pound]100 (which I had held in City Bank notes since the withdrawal from the Savings Bank Barrack St[reet]) with the P[ost] O[ffice] Savings Bank Received the Linoleum and spent the whole evening in putting it down in some of the rooms. I commenced <agai> anew my flute practice in the morning.27 Tues[day]. Fitted up the Work room with linoleum and removed the cases of birds from the Study and rigged up the Cabinet containing them in the workroom. Mrs Down sent [11]

an invitation for us to dine with then on Sat[urday] &[and] Rose overlooking the fact that it is my late duty week accepted it.28. Wed[nesday]. In the morning I walked round to the Agricultural Dep[artmen]t with Hedley to see the fitting up of a Camera Obscura thence walked through the Botanic Gardens to Lady Macquaries Chair. Here Hedley pointed out to me the Trap Door Spiders, or rather their nests or dwellings, they were to be seen ? in large numbers on almost perpendicular banks of soft wet earth [12]

7 At first I could not find them but in a short time I was more successful, the burrows were almost horizontal but the lid was not quite perpendicular &[and] in a plane with the surface the fitting is very perfect and the lid is hinged above so that it closes by its own weight, when seen it was easy to lift it by means of a penknife blade, it would be no easier to see that in

the rough [sketch] sketch &[and] among a large stretch [13]

of earth, &[and] behind &c[et cetera] is marvellously well concealed, Out of perhaps a dozen or more examined only one held down the lid &[and] not having very much time I was not able to obtain a spider and did not even see one. Received 2 papers from W[illiam].D[enison]. Roebuck containing an account of the Y[orkshire].N[aturalists'].U[nion]. excursion to Aysgarth. At night I devoted my time to continuing the remaking of the bookcase in the Study &[and] finished the rough joinery. Rose received a letter from Mrs Paterson they have left Clareinnis [14]

June 829 Thur[sday]. finished drawing of *Pygophus lepidopus* I had commenced a day or two ago. Received alive at Museum *Oedura robusta*. Finished putting down the linoleum on the ground floor.30. Fri[day] Pay day, bought a table for Rose's room 9[shillings]/- also some walnut stain 1[shilling]/3[pence] &[and] size 3d[pence]. In the evening I stained the bookcase shelves &[and] rough made a table-top for the 'base' in the study. On going into Ogilby's room (Barrows) Skuse found him crying. It seems his wife is ill [15]

&[and] he has drawn all the money to be paid for his last work. Skuse &[and] White- legge each gave him 1[shilling]/- At night Rose &[and] I went to his house &[and] found Mrs Ogilby up but far from well, he was half-silly On leaving Rose gave Mrs O[gilby] 5[shillings]/- as I had told her &[and] the surprise manifested would indicate that Ogilby has not told his wife of Skuse's &[and] Whitelegges' action. Having beautiful moonlight nights, the moon is much more brilliant than in England &[and] it is easy to read a news paper by its light. [16]

July. 9Sat[urday] . July. My day on duty at the Museum. I made a drawing of the Lizard *Oedura robusta*. A new species of *Notarcus* had been brought to the Museum &[and] Hedley got me to make a coloured drawing of the beast nearly allied to *Aplusias*\*[*Aplysias*]. At night I went out shopping with Rose &[and] spent 18[shillings]/6[pence] in Bed room Service &c[et cetera]. While at the Museum in the afternoon Hedley came in with an other "Beast" obtained at Rose Bay where the other *Notarcus* was got. I asked him to tea tomorrow [17]

2. Sun[day]. At 2.0 Hedley came &[and] we all walked to Rose Bay we did not find any *Notarcus* but there were many *Aplusias*\*[*Aplysias*] both dead &[and] alive, they have been killed by an influx of fresh water into the Bay caused by the recent rains I waded into the water and was able to watch the *Ap- -lusias*\*[*Aplysias*] swimming at which they were no mean performers they progress by means of their immensely developed mantles the

movement being the usual "figure of 8." As the folds of the mantle are brought together over [18]

10 the back the head is raised &[and] the animal is gently propelled forward as it unfolds its "wings" from behind forwards the head is lowered. When I disturbed them, they voided a carmine color which like the Sepia of the Squids immediately co- mingled with the waters &[and] partly obscured the animal No doubt serving the same protective purpose. On the beach &[and] in the wave wash were several Rays with one exception. A small Rhino- batis bougainvillii - they were all small examples [19]

of Trygonorhina fasciata one of which I took home with me. We returned but Hedley feeling the cold? &[and] fearing his Asthma did not stay to tea. In the evening I sketched the Ray leaving the coloring for daylight work. 3.Mon[day]. I measured the recess under the bookcase with the idea of having some drawers made to fit it. €»[reference mark] made coloured drawing of the Trygonorhina fasciata €»[reference mark] Asked our joiners who would make me them at a cheap rate &[and] they told me Barnes son-in-law [20]

11 Saw Barnes who sent him down to me. To make 12 drawers he would charge me 3[shillings]/- per drawer if I found the wood. Would let him know tomorrow At night I commenced to overhaul the British Birds found them much flattened and generally pushed out of shape but they were quite free from mould or other harm &[and] by working them and smoothing the ruffled feathers so far as I went I got them very presentable the Sternums which had been packed [21]

among them were chiefly responsible for all the mischief &[and] they themselves were in a damaged state ie[that is] no bones were broken but several were disarticulated &[and] a few were knocked off the tablets.4. Tue[sday]. Saw the joiner - A Davidson - who at my suggestion would make me 20 drawers &[and] find the wood for £[pound]4. I paid him £2[two pounds] on account. In the early morning the fields in front of our house were white with hoar frost &[and] people about - shivering. [22]

12 The Astronomer Royal reported that the grass Thermo €»[reference mark] registered below freezing &[and] that it was the lowest point on record viz[videlicet = that is] for 35 years at least, &[and] this our first winter in Australia after passing through the unique experience of having snow in the Red Sea. In the evening I overhauled the Insect cabinets, they were in rather a bad condition many of the specimens were hopelessly broken &[and]

several of the larvae were mouldy chip-box half full of Gum Arabic showed the [23]

effect of the heat in passing through the tropics, it had been softened (not melted) &[and] was congealed into a mass at one side of the box. Rose &[and] I journeyed into Oxford St[reet] and bought a kitchen table 5[shillings]/- 5 Wed[nesday]. An example (in spirit) of <Lygosoma monotropis> see Dec[ember] 12th Book No. 35 was brought to the museum &[and] I took it home and made a sketch of it in two positions to show the upper &[and] under side but reserved the colouring for day light. Finished overhauling the collection of British Birds. €»[reference mark] Min[imum] Temperature 38.7 1893 Grass - Radiation 24.0 1893 Min[imum] Temp[erature] July 5.58 34.1 1858 lowest [24]

July 136. Thurs[day]. Finished drawing of <Lygosoma monotropis>. Received a letter from Father &[and] spent the greater part of the evening in writing a long one in reply The Swallows here are very tame they fly within a foot of two of one. More like the Bats than 'English' Swallows, they pass under the verandahs &[and] perch above the shops &[and] look down on you in passing by. A pair are constantly flying in &[and] out of our grocer's shop they perch on one of the beams heedless of his customers &[and] the grocer [25]

think they are going to build. We have several Mynahs about the house they sit on the railings &[and] are very similar to the Starlings at home in general behaviours.7.Fri[day]. In doing up the garden I came across a colony of hibernated Helix aspersa they were glued together 7 or 8 deep &[and] I took 105 or 106 out of a space not 6 inches square I gave them a hot bath This is one of the things introduced from England &[and] like most other intro- [26]

14 -ductions has prospered to such an extent as to have become a nuisance made a "wardrobe-affair" for Rose in the evening.8 Sat[urday] Several Malurus Cyaneus in the garden this morning. In the afternoon Rose &[and] I took the 3.15 boat to Woolwich &[and] spent the afternoon at "Gadaar". I went down to the water &[and] put in a small line but did not catch any fish. found many L. taeniolatum under the stones &[and] one L Guichenoti obtained a brown colored Mantis we returned to [27]

Sydney about 9-30 pm.9 Sun[day]. This day I wrote to Father, Mr Paul &[and] Roebuck. Rose also writing a letter enclosed with mine to Mrs Roebuck. In the afternoon we walked to Darling Point but I was unsuccessful with the fishing neither yesterday nor to day had I suitable bait.10 Mon[day] - having been con- tinually working at Typhlops to day I found a

new reference. Peters describing 2 species, one of these I found to be Ogilby's T. (28)

15 curtus = T ligatus Ptrs. At night I put up some pictures wardrobe cretonne &c[et cetera] for Rose.11 Tues[day]. Made acquaintance of Nelson Illingworth who is making clay models of Australian animals &[and] Birds in Thorpe's room to be cast from for use in the Technological Dep[artmen]t. Spent the evening in Flute practise.12 Wed[nesday]. Went to Linnean Soc[iety]. to see Wieg: Archives re Typhlopidae Paid my £[pound]3.3.0, entrance fee &[and] first years subscription Fletcher mentioned that [29]

Healey had told him I had promised to draw his new frog. I told him I would take it away whenever he pleased &[and] arranged to call this evening he gave me reprints of his papers on Australian Batrachia. At 5.0 I went again and took away his living male &[and] a male &[and] female in spirits also partly drawn sketch of the beast for which Fletcher had paid an artist 25[shillings]/- . He now gave me reprints of [30]

16 Macleay's papers. During the evening Davidson brought 10 trays, very well made when I gave him another £[pound]1 - making £[pound]3 to date. Spent the evening in commencing to make the frame work of the Cabinet.13 Thur[sday] - Made good progress with the framework of the cabinet doing nothing else the whole evening.14 Fri[day] My investigations among the Typhlopidae led me to consider T ruppelli as distinct. I wrote a note on it, told Etheridge of my note re[garding] T curtus &[and] T ligatus [31]

&[and] on explaining that in his forthcoming catalogue Boulenger might also 'twig' the matter he said he would ask the board if I might publish my notes in the Proceedings of the Linnean Society. At night I worked at the new Cabinet, planing some of the "runners" &c[et-cetera].15 Sat[urday]. Spent all afternoon in drawing Fletcher's frog &[and] made satisfactory progress. Davidson brought the re- maining 10 drawers &[and] I paid him the balance of £[pound]1 . When dark I put [32]

17 in more work at the Cabinet.16 Sun[day]. Finished drawing of the frog also drawing side view of head, and the open mouth. When disturbed the animal ejected a quantity of clear odourless liquid. Mr &[and] Mrs Paterson called in the afternoon I had a walk with him to Darling Point while Mrs P[aterson] remained with Rose.17 Mon[day]. Wrote a description of the frog for my own benefit After 4.30 I went with Hedley to the Linnean Soc[iety] &[and] gave Fletcher the [33]

drawing of his frog. In the evening I finished the joinery work of the new Cabinet.<sup>18</sup>  
Tues[day] The *Oedura robusta* and *Pygopus lepidopus* not being very active I killed them by placing them into absolute alcohol, The *Oedura* soon died parting with its air in one large globule, the *Pygopus* lived longer & gave up its air in small bubbles. Commenced a drawing of *Typhlops nigrescens* from the living example.<sup>19</sup> Wed[nesday]. In the morning I went down to the Agric[ultural] [34]

18 Dep[artmen]t made drawing & took measurements of the table for working the Abbe Camera lucida with the idea of having one fitted up at the Museum. At noon Mrs Down & Miss Roebuck came to Fallowfield & had dinner with us. Received a letter from Father wherein he mentioned that Ernst had returned from Switzerland where he had been to bury his Father and enclosed an Oil Sketch of the Wharfe near Ilkley. I mounted it on to a Mill board. Mr. Walker called & I asked him Mrs. Walker [35]

& daughter to tea on Saturday. Bought book on Photo[graphy] 1[shilling]/3[pence]. A *Gymnodactylus platurus* brought to the Museum its tail had been reproduced in this stage being *P. inermis* for it is minus the original spines being Granular only. In the evening I wrote to Ernst after which we visited Mrs Paterson at the Mansion.<sup>20</sup> Thur[sday] Illingworth came up to my room when we had a chat. I had shown him some of my rough Australian sketches and he told me that as he had been 9 years at [36]

July 19 Doulton's & he thought of modelling some of the more popular birds, Lizards & c[et cetera] which they might reproduce for Australian exportation. they would when cast by Doulton's have to be coloured and Illingworth asked me if I would be willing to execute some coloured drawings to accompany them should he proceed with the idea which he had already mentioned to Doulton's agents in Sydney. Skuse gave me a *Gymnodactylus platurus* in which the > (see the 19th) [37]

Commenced to put the birds into the New Cabinet.<sup>21</sup> Fri[day]. Spent the evening in finishing this work also had some flute practise.<sup>22</sup> Sat[urday] Mr. Mrs. & Miss Walker came in the afternoon & stayed late. Walker & I had a stroll - round Rush- -cutters Bay & c[et cetera]<sup>23</sup>. Sun[day] Painted "Fallowfield" on our front. Mr & Mrs. Paterson called in the morning & asked us to go to their house up the Lane Cove River in the afternoon, together with the Misses Buckleton & Lancaster Misses Bullock and \_\_\_\_\_ [38]



20 we all went by the 2.15 boat to Longueville. I wandered about when we arrived found only 3 Lizards the inevitable *L. taeniolatum*. One of them had hibernated under a stone occupied by a colony of Ants. The latter ran over &[and] about the Lizard which took no notice of them whatever. On first lifting a stone the Ants seem bewildered at the sudden influx of daylight they rush here &[and] there &[and] coming across the larvae they lift one in their jaws and recom- [39]

-mence <carrying> wandering about. In some species the larvae seem to be laid on shelved or terraces. Constructed by the Ants &[and] the different parts the future imagos (Soldier Worker &c[et cetera]) were to play was not very difficult to determine. Some some very large black cockroaches under stones. I found a beast something like a tri- lobite in shape it so closely resembled the [sketch] stone &[and] clung so tightly to it that I did not see it at first. Skuse (who [40]

21 however has not done much at this group) did not know it but said it was a cockroach also got a small black bullet-shaped beetle, it seemed to be gregarious 20 or more under one stone. I shot one little bird with a catapult<sup>24</sup> Mon[day]. My *Gymnodactylus* died. As many burglaries have been perpetrated for some little time past &[and] as 2 or 3 have within the past 2 days taken place in our immediate vicinity we got a bit scared so [41]

to night I bolted up the windows &[and] took care to lock the inner as well as the outer doors. Commenced to overlook my British Eggs.<sup>25</sup> Continued the work this day, taking home some circular glass-topped boxes which Hedley gave me, or rather left behind when he vacated his old room.<sup>26</sup> Wed[nesday]. Letter from Paterson asking me if I could go with him to his selection x[reference marker] on Sat[urday] - Sun[day] next. Replied that I would write to him later. A fine *Dendrophis punctulatus* was brought in the Museum alive. x[reference marker] at Mulgrave [42]

22 At 8.0 I attended the meeting of the Linnean Soc[iety] when among other papers Fletcher described his new frog and exhibited my drawing<sup>27</sup> Thur[sday] - Rose received a letter from Mrs. Forde asking us both to tea on Sunday Made a drawing - which was done too hurriedly to be good of *Brachysoma diadema* during noon time for on account of the terrible wet day I had taken lunch to the Museum.<sup>28</sup> Wrote Paterson again &[and] said the wet should [43]

prevent our going into the bush tomorrow.<<sup>29</sup> Fri> Rose received a letter from Belle.<sup>29</sup> Sat[urday] Commenced to draw the *Dendrophis* &[and] was at work <when> fitting up the

bathroom as a dark room when Paterson came and took us to the Mansion &[and] we had cards Dr &[and] Mrs Ellis also being there.30 Sun[day]. Worked further at the Dendrophis. Rose wrote to Belle &[and] also to Fanny. I enclosed a line to the latter. At 3.0 we went to 'Ferndale' [44]

23 to see Mrs Forde who showed us some of her drawings of the Lepidoptera described by her father (Scott). She gave me 5 living cocoons of the Ailanthus moth also some cacti &c[et cetera] from the garden,as we were leaving [Arthur Sidney] Oliffe came in - my first introduction.31 Mon[day] Etheridge asked me if I was engaged tomorrow (Bank Holiday) I told him it was my duty week, so he asked Cooksey if he would take the day for me - he [45]

not having made any arrangement. As he agreed to do so, Etheridge asked me if Rose &[and] I would go with him &[and] a small party to Como - train 9.30. In consequence of having to leave the house I got a bolt for the kitchen door. Bought small bag second-hand for 4[shillings]/- from Mrs Lazarus, 30 Cartridges for the Stick gun All I could get 3[shillings]/6[pence]. &[and] 2 enamelled iron mugs 10d[pence] each. Sent 3 Ormuz photos to Father. Drew L tenuis [46]

August. 241. Tues[day] Rain pouring down so Como was out of all question. I busied myself with making a cupboard for Photo[graphy] requisites. It cleared up in the After- noon &[and] we had a walk to Ruchcutters' Bay. Saw a net hauled in but it contained only some Bream Tailors &[and] small Mullets. Received A/c[account] from Bros Son &[and] Smith £[pound]1-19-3 re[garding] Carriage &[and] Wharfage &c[et cetera] of our goods from the "Talavera"2 Wed[nesday] Gehyra variegata &[and] Diplodactylus vittatus brought to the Museum [47]

Cooksey took a letter &[and] £[pound]2 to Bros' for me. Made a drawing of the Diplodactylus, in the evening.3 Thur[sday]. To day Cecil gave J[ames].D[ouglas].O[gilby]. keys of a case in the Museum when he was "at" the spirits again. Entered up Harrison collections of British Eggs and made drawings of the Gehyra.4. Fri[day] Received the following instructions with respect to J[ohn].D[ouglas].O[gilby]. Whitelegge and Thorpe also receiving a similar communication. [48]

25Mr Waite ALL COMMUNICATIONS ON SCIENTIFIC SUBJECTS SHOULD BE ADDRESS TO THE CURATOR. 4.-8.-93.Copy. Memo. for Mr. J.D. Ogilby In future when Mr. Ogilby is in want of Fish-Skins in the dry state he will be good enough to apply to the Taxidermist - When in want of SpiritSpecimens he will apply to Mr. Whitelegge, or in his absence Mr. Waite - These Officers have been suitably instructed. [Signed] R. Etheridge.

A.C. Please note above man - Mr Ogilby is on account to have the charge of any Keys. All specimens are to be handed to, & received from him. Spirit specimens to be first decanted, but this preservation whilst in his hands to be suitably looked after R.E. [49]

wrote request to Etheridge for Tuesday's Board meeting to be allowed to publish notes on Typhlopidae & description of Petrosirtes in journal. Linn[ean] S[ociety] of New South Wales Met Mrs Buchanan who asked us to Manly on Saturday the 12th. At night I arranged my Pamphlets which had got into a chaotic state. 5. Saturday. Being my week on duty I had to put in all this day up to 6.0 at the Museum. Misses Buckleton & Lancaster called & asked if we would go [50]

26 with them, the Patersons & others for a picnic to the National Park to-morrow, train 10.20 from Redfern. 6 Sunday. A glorious day. We all turned up at the station only to find that the girls has given us the time of landing at Loftus instead of leaving Redfern which was 9.38. We next engaged a two horse drag & all drove to Tom Uglys Point - other wise Wianora. I rambled about during the time we spent there\* & got [51]

2 *Lygosoma equaelae*, I catapulted 3 birds. viz [videlicet = namely]:- *Malurus Lamberti* - ♀ [female] *Ptilotis chrysops* - ♂ [male] & *Acanthorhynchus tenuirostris* ♂ [male] Two turkeys among nine of us was not half - bad. The man on whose land we put us said he had only seen one Carpet Snake & the cast skin of a black Snake during the long time he had been there flying squirrels were often seen at nights Bandicoots burrowed under his rocks & Sleeping Lizards - *Cyclodius* were by no means uncommon, and he had [52]

[27] seen one "Frilled Lizard" Drove back to Sydney and all had tea at the Mansion with the Patersons where we spent the rest of the evening. 7. Monday. North named my birds for me I skinned then at night. Made up 2 Lizards the *Lygosoma* mentioned on July 6th & the *Gehyra* on August 2 for exhibition at the Board Meeting tomorrow both of which are probably new & not *L. monotropis* & *G. variegata* as set down. One of the *L. aequale* died before I opened the [53]

box & the other I placed in Spirit, after being there 15 minutes it seemed none the worse, not wishing to stiffen it by Chloroform I placed it in deep water & after 20 minutes seemed likely to live much longer I then placed it with a small quantity of Chloroform & it became violent & in no time it had snapped off its tail, the very thing I had wished to prevent. 8. Tuesday. Board meeting when the question of altering a window for

Camera lucida Publications of our papers &c[et cetera] will come before them. [54]

289. Wed[nesday]. Etheridge told us that the "window" was passed, that the 'Records' were to be continued &[and] that another 3 months leave had been granted to Ramsay Thorpe told me that my method of putting up the Lizards (in tubes with a white background) had been admired &[and] that Etheridge has said I was a good man &[and] he wondered that I had come out here. I asked Cooksey and Hedley to tea on Sun[day]: next, also Mrs Cooksey. [55]

Described a new species of Typhlopidae and commenced to make a drawing of it for the 'Records'. Looked out a few duplicate Eggs of British Birds for the Museum.<sup>10</sup> Thur[sday]. Considered that McCoy although describing T. nigrescens had figured my new species, with Hedley I went to the Photoline Co[mpany] and made inquiries respecting re- production of drawings Wrote to Father in the evening ack[nnowledge]d Picture of Wharfe &[and] Insurance Policy [56]

2911 Fri[day]. The papers received to day came by the 'Ormuz' so she will soon be here again. I wrote to McCoy, asking him about his drawing of T nigrescens also if he would be prepared to lend me any of their Typhlopidae. Etheridge also promised to write on my behalf. The last few days I have been making studies for drawings of Typhlops.<sup>12</sup> Sat[urday]. Rose, Hedley &[and] self went to Manly by 1.30 boat. On the Manly jetty we noticed the piles were peopled with Boletus [57]

Proceeded to Mrs Buchanan's house, leaving Rose, Hedley &[and] I went on to the Sea beach &[and] hunted among the rocks, the tide being low, got a few "beasts" including some "Urchins" of which there were any number about. Hedley went back by 4.30 boat &[and] we went by 5.15, after having had a cup of tea, Hedley not waiting.<sup>13</sup> Sun[day]. In the morning I had a stroll round the Bay (Rushcutter's) watched small fish, medusae &c[et cetera] from Simpsons jetty. In an inaccessible corner of the a large bird hawked over a poultry yard. Buzzard? [58]

30 Boat house in 5 feet of water was an object said by some boys to be an Octopus. Soon after our dinner Hedley came and we walked round Double Bay, got a few sea creatures, Aplysias in large numbers, spawning the ova are laid in rich yellow strings coiled together &[and] look like Berlin wool. This is the first time I have been in Double Bay so named because a projecting somewhat divides it - it reminds me more of an English fishing place

plenty of boats drawn up [59]

on the beach, nets hung about and a suspicion of smell, we returned at 4.0 but the Cookseys did not arrive until nearly 5.0. After tea we spent the evening in general confabulation U. S. W. (not N.S.W.)<sup>14</sup>. Mon[day]. At night I went to Rushcutter's Bay, routed up some 'Prickly Pears' to plant in our garden, this cactus is a plague here it grows profusely and prevents grazing - going down to the bogs I saw a large bird flitting in the dusk &[and] occasionally [60]

31 perched in a fence not 20 yards from me the W[alking] stick gun might have been useful, but 'ware the close season which commenced on the 1st The bird flew noiselessly like an Owl, was it a Podargus? While there I paid some heed to the incessant croaking of the frogs but resolved to go tomorrow night with a light I leave remarks on frogs until then.<sup>15</sup>. Tues[day], Made finished drawings of Typhlops with which i am not too well pleased. Etheridge[margin] No! Ninox boobook. ERW [Edgar Ravenswood Waite] [61]

pressed me for Typhlops M[anu]S[cript]S I suppose he wants the 'Record' out before Ramsay returns if he ever does do so, In the evening I went to the swamps in Old toggerly &[and] armed with a Museum lantern. To describe the melodius\*[melodious] notes of a frog is not easy but we will try. Two distinct sounds were discernable whether produced by the same species I Cannot yet say. The first to be describe[d] was heard all round, the sound made by the [62]

32 individual frog is like passing half-a-dozen ratchets of a watchman's rattle, a slight pause &[and] more rattle &[and] so on unceasingly, this being produced from scores of throats the effect may? be imagined but cannot be described. When I approached the sound close to me ceased but continues a short distance off be unalarmed frogs this accumulated sound is so great that it can be heard from great distances, the swamps at our front furnish us [63]

with music gratis all night long. The second sound is quite local. I heard a cart passing heavily along the road above me, I scarcely noticed it at first but my attention was drawn to the sound by the fact that it was long continued. At length as it did not seem to get either nearer or further I looked out for it &[and] on closer investigation found the noise proceeded from a frog a few yards distant. If anyone listens to the noise of a cart [64]

33 of bricks or coals on a road at some little distance they will have a better idea of the noise I heard than any amount of description could convey, it occurred to me this might be a special breeding note for near sound I found a mass of spawn not so well differentiated as that of *Rana temporaria*. I obtained 4 frogs of one species, one of these had a yellow stripe down the back probably a sexual variation, these were of the size of the English [65]

species. A second species is very small of the size of *Pseudophryne Australis*, this space left for notes after seeing Fletcher. I saw him at the meeting of the Linnean Society on Aug[ust] 30th when he pronounced the larger species to be *Lymnodynastes peronii* a common and variable Species of which mine were fine examples. The smaller one was *Crinia Signifera* having a small papilla above the vent I had also obtained this species at Woolwich. [66]

34 I should have written that before breakfast I strolled round the Creek saw a magpie and the "Flycatcher" *Lygosoma guichenoti* under stones also *Gryllas* very common.<sup>16</sup> Wed[nesday]. Finished drawing the plate of *Typhlopidae*!. Letter from Father and one from Paterson saying that our engagement for "the Selection" on Sat[urday] would have to be put off owing to illness - (at the place where we should put up) I wrote to Grassham at night [67]

to Sausilito Marine Co[mpany] California.<sup>17</sup> Thur[sday]. wrote to Will at Zoutpansberg. I gave M[anu]S[cript] of *Typhlopidae*! to Etheridge comprising 3 papers. I. Introduction with note on T Curtis. II. Attempted reinstatement of T Ruppelli and III my new species which I called *T proximus* the two latter papers illustrated on one plate. In the evening Paterson wandered round and dragged us off to play cards. [68]

35<sup>18</sup> Fri[day]. Letter from Paterson asking me to have a stroll on Sunday. At night we paid a visit to Mr & Mrs Thomas he would insist on helping me to cut our grass & promised to look round tomorrow.<sup>19</sup> Sat[urday] Wrote Paterson & declined invitation. Rose had letter from Mrs Down to say they had measles at "Gadaar"! In the afternoon Mr Thomas came & we cut the grass together he also brought some [69]

flower - seeds, stayed tea & part of the evening.<sup>20</sup> Sun[day]. In the morning I went to the Botanic Gar- -dens, & spent some time among the aviaries. An escaped parrot visited its past confreres but was too wary to enter the trap cage which is always kept set for visitors. (While away Paterson called and would have us go with them this afternoon). On leaving the gardens I walked round the Lady Macquaries Chair, 2 men were poking in a

crack After, I found a lizard [70]

36 and when I told them to mind it didn't snap off its tail they gave up the situation to me more especially when asking me what it was I told them *Gymnodactylus platurus* I eased it out with a piece of stick, the crevice was too small for it to exhibit its tail so make a great show of frightening me by opening its mouth & wiggling its head, its tail had been fully reproduced. At 2.15 Mr & Mrs Paterson Rose and self left by Lane Cove River boat & arrived at [71]

the head of the Cove the ladies went to visit "the Blacklands" while Paterson & I walked the seven miles to the North Shore. I had taken the stick gun and secured the Fantailed Cuckoo (*Caconiantis flabelliformis*) Yellow tufted Honey eater (*Ptilotis auricornis* Lath) and the Yellow Robin (*Eopsaltria chrysorrhous*) the first <sup>TM</sup> female 2 latter <sup>TM</sup>, [male]s. I had only wounded the *Ptilotis* & it got away] but I afterwards secured it with the catapult I [72]

37 entirely lost the fourth bird I shot, in the thick scrub. Got a couple of caterpillars. We made for Lavender Bay & managed to jump on a boat as she was moving off. At the Circular Quay I saw the "Ormuz" Walked to the mansion and as we arrived at the gate Mrs P[aterson] & Rose were just getting out of a cab. Spent the evening with the P[aterson]'s. 21 Mon[day] <After> Having asked our friends they spent this evening with us I bought some cards c[et cetera] [73]

which we used when the P[aterson]'s came. Also got some gun wads & shot for our Saturday Ex- pectations. 22. Tues[day]. At the Museum I made water color drawing of a shark (*Parascyllium collare* R.O) the only specimen known here besides the type skinned the birds I had obtained on the 20th. 23. Wed[nesday]. After tea Rose & I went to see the "Ormuz" gave Cole (the Bandmaster) Walls & Savage copies of the photos. Most of the Stewards were changed [74]

38 had a chat with Mr Davidson the 2nd Engineer. After a walk round the shops we called in to see Mrs Lazarus with whom we spent a little time. 24 Thur[sday]. Paterson sent us his 2 <cards> tickets for to nights subscription concert. Instrumental music not bad but vocal much below par. 25 Fri[day]. Etheridge asked me to work up a comparative anatomy series for the museum I handed Barnes 2 neg[ative]s of Birds wings I had taken at S[outh] Kensington to be printed off. [75]

Paterson came round and told me that measles had broken out at his selection & might prevent us from going.<sup>26</sup> Sat[urday]. He wrote to ask me to go on Sunday & be prepared to stay overnight. Ogilby gave me a copy of his "Edible fishes of N[ew] S[outh] W[ales] & then borrowed 5[shillings]/- from me €»[reference mark] Spent the afternoon at the Zoo & with Rose had tea with Mr & Mrs Thomas after which I loaded 2 doz[en] cartridges and prepared for tomorrow's outing €»[reference mark] never returned. [76]

392<6>7. Sun[day]. Up at 6.30 am<sup>27</sup> Paterson had breakfast with us took a cab to Redfern & met D[octo]r. Magnus & all went to Parramatta by 8.5 train Magnus would have a horse while Paterson & I got a buggy. Magnus was not comfortable & talked of going back after 10 minutes on the road. We drove on and he dropped rearward we waited for him, turned back, & met him in great distress Paterson also bestrode the horse but also pronounced the [77]

animal "a cow". Magnus was to go back & follow us in a buggy but as he had not liked the idea of a possible night camp in the open we did not expect to see him again. Our course was over varying country, up hill & down past laden orange orchards, with sight of the Blue Mountains. An occasional bird I winged a *Grallina picta* Lath - & hoped to keep it alive passed a few houses en route of which there were a small group [78]

4 at Rouse Hill. After dozen miles or so we left the road & entered the bush through which a rough passage had been cut frequently we had to wade through water & bogs. Although in places the ruts were very deep we did manage without upsetting. I climbed up to a nest or two but they proved to be old.. Passed some very large Ants nests those of the Termite were largely in evidence. These creatures had done much damage to the trees in some of [79]

the nests were round holes probably cut by Kingfishers. The wattle was coming into bloom & looked beautiful I wandered through a foot & shot a *Collyrio-incla harmionica* also had a long shot at some crows but missed bringing any down. I believe the powder had deteriorated having been loose during the voyage, did not do much firing in consequence of the small no of cartridges I had taken Saw several *Slanda arvensis* as we got more into the open reminding one of [80]

41 England. After another spell of bad going in which I realised how strongly an Australian buggy is constructed we finished the 17 miles, & arrived at McQuire's clearing at 1.30.



Owing to the Measles we put up in his hay loft & arranged to sleep there in the night. Having attended to the horse we wandered on to Paterson's selection through Orange Orchards where the ripe fruit was lying thickly under the trees & the branches above bowed [81]

down with the still remaining load. Heard the Dacelo gigas laughing several times. Saw a number of L taeniolatum Paterson attended to his business testing the soil with litmus & cetera] & finding it acid to his annoyance. I shot a beautiful Crow- shrike - Cracticus torquatus. Laid down & watched the small birds in the big trees & at length returned & made a fire in the bush & had a meal the moon which was full became overcast & rain drove us to the Hay loft [82]

42 we lost hope of any sport & it was too late to drive for the 10.25pm train, however it cleared & we went for the dog McQuire & one of his men accompanying us. The dog was a Fox terrier well trained but lamed by a recent accident. Off we started & were not gone long when we heard the dog, which had gone off - barking, this meant "Possum" so we made for the sound, the dog then sat quietly at the foot of a tall tree & [83]

we just saw the 'Possum run but before I could lift the gun it had disappeared, possibly into a hole. Soon we had another point, this time into a thick tree, but not seeing the beast I handed the gun to the man who brought it to the ground. Trichosurus vulpecula. The next 4 were mine, 2 of which I first saw myself (ie. [id est "that is"] after the dog) there were young in the pouches of some, one of the animals possibly scared on the ground had run [84]

43 up a sapling, we now lost the <down> dog & as time was getting on we started back. Mc Guire with trained eye spotted a bear - koala - Phascolarctus cinereus. among the more slender branches at the top of a very high tree. I fired 6 shots but beyond making him a little uncomfortable they did not have much effect the man fired a further 3 but with no better success. I was confident that the powder was at fault. [85]

As all the cartridges had been used. The man went to the house (a mile) for more. We lighted a fire and I skinned two possums. I asked Patterson & Mc Guire who were chatting together how the bear was & on getting up to see found that it has lowered 6 feet I went & found that its hind legs were swinging in air & although the animal tried hard it could not regain the over- hanging branch with [86]

44 them, slowly & slowly it slipped down the branch & we were much afraid it might lodge in a fork which it was approaching however it tried hard but failed & it was evidently only a matter of time for us & I determined to wait. In another half hour down it came & I had 'my first Bear' (vide Prince Rudolf) we were surprised to find the dog had been sitting at the foot of the tree Altogether the bear must have been hanging more [87]

than an hour & yet it had not travelled above 12 feet down the branch, just after the animal fell the man brought some cartridges & they the men all went off while I killed the Bear which was tough work shot had riddled him all over but his thick hide had prevented them penetrating far I skinned another 'Pos' & the party returned with 2 more & a cat In all we had 7 <8> Opossums 1 Bear and 1 Native Cat Dasyurus. [88]

45 viverrinus. Struck camp took up the heavy load & proceeded to the first tree the dog had 'set' when the 8th Possum fell to McGuire (My gun was the only one in the field.) The dog set up a Bandicoot. Perameles but owing to lameness did not catch it. it went trumpeting away. After midnight we returned to our loft I found the rats had partly eaten the Cracticus Had not a very comfortable time, the Rats were a nuisance, the [89]

horse below kept making a noise, the moon shone full in through the open way which also let in the heavy dew. 28 Mon[day] Awoke several times & at 4 got up, jogged up Paterson & we looked out. A beautiful halo was round the moon of prismatic colours exactly those of the Rain bow but not so brilliant although very vivid, on the opposite side was a bow very large clearly marked but without colour it was formed in the [90]

46 dew & corresponded to the rainbow seen at daylight in being at the near side of trees & other objects, found that McGuire was moving in his house near by, he made us a cup of tea & put in the horse by 5.0 we were off again - what with opening gate bars, deep ruts, moon overcast, big trees, bogs horse shieing at every & frequent pools of water our progress was slow we could not attempt anything more [91]

than an extremely cautious\*[cautious] walk. The horse was not at all used to the bush and attempted to step over every pool of water, lost our track heard the Jackasses many times. At length the day glimmer appeared & we got on to the high road some little distance from the proper exit, the sun light tipped the Blue Mountains & appeared to snow-cap them. We witnessed a beautiful sun rise the clouds being successively tipped [92]

47 with colour causing a ruddy reflection in the west. As we got on to higher ground we saw a magnificent effect, not so extensive but reminding me of a similar experience on 18 Aug[ust] 1891 when travelling between Passau and Nuremburg\* [Nuremberg]. We were above the mist which lay in a long level line looking just like water the higher land &[and] trees &c[et cetera] jutted out of the mist and had the appearance of Islands in the sea. As [93]

the sun rose the dew dispersed leaving a flat &[and] fertile tract exposed to our views. We had now a better road &[and] made good way. Three hours from leaving landed us at Paramatta station unloaded, I took the trap to the owner &[and] paid £[pound]1 while Paterson arranged the material at the station left at 8.15 Sydney 9.40. Cab to Fallowfield breakfast &[and] Museum. At noon I found the young Possoms alive in the pouches but very cold. Whitelegge [94]

48 who had been to Maroubra told me that 5 Pseudechis porphyriacus had been killed there on Sunday morning North brought some frogs &[and] a male Pygopus. he had caught the latter in copu[lation] &[and] said that while attached at the genital opening it held the female by its mouth at the side of her body, he failed to secure her. In the evening I commenced the work of skinning did 4 Poss[ums] the bear &[and] the cat. Mr & Mrs [95]

Paterson came. Mrs P[aterson] looked at the young ones &[and] warming them said it might be possible to rear them I fitted up an arrange- ment on the Gas Stove which I kept in all night &[and] gave the little ones some milk.29 Tues[day] Saw Thorpe re[garding] preserving the skins, he told me to boil in 2 gallons of water „”s[pounds] of Common (rough) salt &[and] 1„”[pound] of Rock Alum which ingredients he supplied me with. Clean [96]

49 the skin from blood &[and] dirt &[and] steep for 10 days in the solution, then rinse in clean water, squeeze and drain &[and] peg out. Finished skinning at night &[and] steeped in clean water. Rose made call on Mrs. Lazarus &[and] I looked in on my way home.<29> 30 Wed[nesday]. North who will describe a new Parrot in the 'Records' wants a coloured plate and if allowed, asked me if I would prepare the original drawing. At night I placed the [97]

skins into the solution went to meeting of the Linnean Society when Fletcher identified some frogs I took him and Lea gave me Lizards &c[et cetera] for the Museum from N[ew].S[outh].W[ales]. Barnes at the Museum gave me prints of the 2 Brit[ish] Museum Negatives.31 Thur[sday]. When going to the Bank with Hedley I called on Mr Down and learnt that the "measles" were better. Met Dr &[and] Mrs Vause, the former did not see me.

At night I prepared skulls of Phas- [98]

Aug[ust] &[and] Sep[tember] 50 - colarctus, Trichosaurus, and Dasyurus. Paid gas Bill £[pound]1 - 2 - 1.Sep[tember]. 1. Fri[day]. Wrote to Father also a further line to Grassham and finished letter to Will. Recieved letter from Father in which he tells me of the death of J.W.Davis.2. Sat[urday]. Recieved a promenade photo of Father taken by Worwald. He sent me a Halifax paper containing an account of Davis - gave to Cooksey for his wife a parcel of toilet mats from Rose. Uncle Paul sent her a copy [99]

of the Royal wedding number of "sketch". In the afternoon we went to Double Bay &[and] I exposed a few ¼ plates but on development they were over exposed.3. Sun[day]. Took a negative of Rose. In the afternoon went for a walk and called on Mrs Ogilby. In the evening or rather at night we had a heavy thunder-storm &[and] very vivid lightening. The smallest 'possum which has been gradu- ally weakening, died to-day. [100]

514. Mon[day]. Bought Gold, Printing out paper and toning chemicals. I posted letters to Grassham, Will, in Zoutpansberg, Father to whom I sent a photo[graph] of camels I had bought at Port Said. Sent Photos of Ormuz groups to Denny The Misses Lazarus and Joseph spent the evening with us.5 Tues[day]. Rose took a neg[ative] of myself. Retouched and printed the one I had taken of her. I stretched out the skins some of which however had [101]

"slipped" the fur. I got letter from Trustees of the Macleay Museum allowing me to examine the Typhlopidae, but not to remove them from the building. Although my late duty week I did not stay late on account of the monthly board meeting.6. Wed[nesday]. The second 'possum although lively up to now appears to be declining and will not take the milk readily. Stayed at the Museum until 6.0, and after tea I went to Hedley [102]

52 who took me to the meeting of the Royal Soc[iety]. where we were awfully bored by having to listen to a long article on Iron, merely a compila- tion fitted for serials as "Engineer" 'Iron' &c[et cetera] &[and] not suitable to be placed on permanent record.7. Thur[sday]. I chloroformed the Gymnodactylus obtained at Lady McQuarrie's\*[Macquaries] chair &[and] noticed that the pupils were widely dilated, before death they were the merest vertical slits. Today [103]

I received a reply from McCoy to my letter of Aug[ust] 11th. he admitted the mistake in regard to the number of body scales saying that it was correctly stated in his M[anu]S[cript]S.

but did not offer me inspection of his specimens. In the evening we called on Mr & Mrs Ellis but found they had gone to the theatre. Received a long letter from Wilfrid. Paterson asked us to spend tomorrow evening with them at the Mansion. Stayed at [104]

53 the Museum till 6pm.8. Fri[day] Letter from De Vis promising me his Typhlopidae as soon as he could look them out & hoping to see me on his way to Adelaide (Aust[ralian] Ass[ociation] Adv[ancement] of Sci[ence]) shortly. Wrote addendum to my descriptions of *T. proximus* dealing with the points raised in McCoy's letter. Received from Father Halifax paper with an account of Davis' funeral also "Mercury Supplement". Rose received "The Lady" from Fanny. From [105]

Roebuck I got the Aug[ust] "Naturalist" and a bound catalogue from Reynolds & Branson. In the evening we went to Patersons & met Mr & Mrs Aldous & Mr Flavell. The Possum died during the night having lived 12 days.9. Sat[urday] My day 'on' at the Museum until 6.0. In the Afternoon I worked in the joiner's shop and made a framework for the aviary. Took it home & commenced fitting together in the evening - a wet and altogether disagreeable day. Bertie Etheridge gave me 2 Redheads. [106]

5410. Sun[day]. Left at 10.15 boat to Lavender Bay thence walked through the reserve to Cooksey's house where we were joined by Mr & Mrs Alport & Mr Jephson. The seven of us carried down provisions & [et cetera] to Folly Point & took a small boat which we weighted heavily & pulled into Middle Harbour, landed in Pearl Bay & had our Picnic - afterwards I looked round found in the crevices of a weather - work rock a nest (or rather several) of possibly a wasp, it was built of sand & filled [107]

up one of the little holes, from one part depended a beautiful trumpet shaped apparatus which was the opening to the nest. The nest was placed on the under side of the rock and was about [sketch] the size here shown having to climb up and "hung on by my teeth" [108]

55 I was not able to extract the nest whole but on breaking one open I got out a fat white grub an inch long, we next walked [sketch] towards the spit. Alport taking round the boat, which we here joined thence pulled up to the floating Powder Magazines and again landed and had another meal. Being 4.30 we again packed up and pulled back to Folly Point. Spent the evening with music and returned by 10.15 pm boat [109]

11. Mon[day]. Sent 'Ormuz' photos to Wilfrid. Received and corrected proofs of the Australian Typhlopidae. Spent this day at the Macleay Museum examining the Typhlops. I bought wire netting for the aviary 7[shillings]/6[pence] and a new lamp (4[shillings]/6[pence]). Put the front and back frames of the Aviary together at night. 12. Tues[day]. Jepson telephoned to me and asked when I could call on him. I arranged 9. am to-morrow. I afterwards saw Cooksey who told me [110]

56 that Jepson no doubt wanted to see me about a piano which I could have at trade price Cooksey had got his very fine instrument from him &[and] it happens in this wise:- Jepson who with his brother is a woollen importer has been in the habit of bringing over with his goods high class pianos for a large dealer in Brisbane, they are first selected by a competent judge in London, &[and] on arrival here are sent on to Brisbane. They are [111]

of German make. "Haake" During the Queensland floods the dealer was ruined &[and] Jepson had 4 pianos thrown on his hands, not wishing to be thought to be "dealing" by sending them to Auction he is disposing of them <by> privately. Cooksey got the best for £[pound]33 the retail price being about £[pound]65. (more tomorrow.) To day while teasing one of the Amphibolurus muricatus in my Museum vivarium I caused it to open its [112]

57 mouth &[and] hiss at me I offered it the Indian rubber top of a dipping tube when it sprang several inches and deliberately avoiding the Rubber fastened itself on to my finger, and held so that I lifted the Lizard Although a smart nip I did not cause me any amount of pain but I was astonished. Went to the Macleay Museum with Hedley and worked at the Typhlopidae. In the evening Mr and MrsOgilby came to Fallowfield [113]

13. Wed[nesday]. Called on Jepson as arranged when he explained to me the circumstances of the piano and saying that on Sunday at Cookseys he had heard us speak of wanting an instrument and thought he would give me the chance of taking his the cheapest one was spoken for and would be taken in six weeks but he was at liberty to let me have it if I wished, the other which he still held [114]

58 was the 2nd best and would after paying carriage, duty &[and] all expenses be £[pound]28.15.0 the cheapest only £[pound]21 he explained that it was still in bond &[and] as he had never seen it I should have to take it as Cooksey had done his, so we arranged that it should be sent up &[and] I was at liberty to return it if it did not please me. 14 Thur[sday]. The piano came in the evening and I had to take out the [115]

dining room window in order to get it in Hedley has arranged to take his holidays at Adelaide for the meeting of the Australian Ass[ociation] intending to sail on Sep[tember] 19 with De Vis who is coming from Brisbane. 15 Fri[day]. Wrote to Clarke &[and] to Roebuck for next Monday's mail. In the evening I worked at the aviary. 16 Sat[urday] Hedley brought me a letter from Dr Cox inviting me to dinner on Monday to meet De [116]

59 Vis also with Etheridge &[and] Hedley. Worked all the afternoon at the Aviary finished it and painted the interior. 17 Sun[day]. Paterson called round and asked us to go by 2.15 to their house at Longueville which we did and returned to the Mansion where we spent the evening. Paterson men- -tioned the holiday business and asked me if I could get off for full moon week in October. I arranged to look it up. [117]

18. Mon[day]. Wrote Paterson &[and] told him full moon was on Oct[ober] 25. and suggested the week 21 to 28 for the holiday &[and] placed my name in the Museum roll for that date (provisionally) Received &[and] passed proof of Typhlops plate. Put the Quail and two Red Heads into the Aviary. As Josephs had invited us to spend the evening Rose went in afternoon &[and] I joined her at 5.0 but left again at 6.0 when with Etheridge &[and] Hedley went to North [118]

60 Shore, learnt that De Vis had accepted a previous invitation. We spent a very pleasant evening. Mrs Cox had 2 little Ringed-tailed Opossums. (*Pseudochirus peregrinus*) which she had reared, they were charming little things. 19. Tues[day]. North took me to le Bon's where I bought a pair each of - the Chestnut-breasted Finch. *Donacicola castaneothorax*. G. and spotted-sided Finch *Stagonopleura guttata* Shaw paying 4[shillings]/6[pence] for the 4 birds, these together with the [119]

Quail (*Co< o>turnix communis*) and the two Redhesds (*Aegintha temporalis*) given me by Bertie on the 9th from the present occupants of the Aviary, into which I placed some branches. At 5.0 I went down to the "Amarac" and saw Hedley &[and] De Vis before sailing - Rose accepted an invitation for us at Woolwich on Saturday next 20 Wed[nesday]. Received proof of Hedley's plate for consideration. Had a walk round Rushcutters [120]

61 Bay and met a boy carrying a Brown-banded snake *Hoplocephalus curtus* which he had killed "near the water tanks at Belle Vue" Gave letter<2> to Cooksey for Mr Dandliker the tuner. 21. Thur[sday]: This morning I saw a kingfisher in the Eucalypti opposite our house. North showed me the bird in the collection - *Halcyon sanctus*. When I got home I found the

man tuning the piano for which I paid him 8[shillings]/- Rose told me that a [121]

wild Red Head had been about the aviary all day. I also saw it there, and it fed on the balcony within a few feet of me. At this time it was rapidly darkening and the bird hopped into the creeper on the wall evidently for the night I caught it very easily - &[and] placed it with the other birds. Placed some dried grass in the aviary for nesting purposes if required. Received and corrected 2nd. proof of Typhlopidae. [122]

6222 Fri[day]. This morning I was awakened, just as day was breaking, by a fluttering among the birds and indistinctly saw a large bird on the wires. I took it to be a hawk and crept out on to the balcony when an Owl flew off, it returned but seeing me made away again. As the light spreads rapidly here I waited until it was quite bright and went back into the room. I was astonished when the Owl returned [123]

and I watched it clinging to the wires for fully a couple of minutes the birds being excited meanwhile considering it was only fraternising I did not disturb it but North afterwards told me to beware, he said it was Ninox boobook Lath and would kill all the birds, but drawing their legs through the wire as the cats did the starlings &[and] blackbirds at home. He said that over a dozen birds had been killed at the Old [124]

63 Museum avaries by this bird in a single night. I gave North some more British Eggs. In the afternoon Bertie went home with me to tea. Ogilby called for "Ornithology and Sport". Rose received an invitation from Miss Scott for us to go there next Friday. Jepson telephoned asking us to tea by 5.30 boat tomorrow.23. Sat[urday]. I had taken up the stick gun for Mr. Ninox but he did not appear. Saw [125]

2 parrots among the Eucalypti. One was *Trichoglossus concinnus* and the other probably an escaped *Platycercus pennantii*. In the after- noon I wrote to Father &[and] Wilfrid and at 5.20 took boat to North Shore where Cooksey &[and] Jepson met us, went to the private house where the latter is staying (Mrs & Miss Ross.) spent a pleasant musical evening.24. Sun[day] Took the 12. boat to Woolwich. Had a stroll round and found [126]

64 *Lygosoma tennisi* which I had not seen there before but did not catch it. On the Eucalypti I found large clusters of larvae (*Perga dorsalis*.) some were head , some tail up. On being dis- turbed those nearest the point of attack raised their heads &[and] tails into a threatening attitude &[and] emitted from the mouth a yellowish liquid, this had a strong odour of eucalyptus and therefore was other than objection- -able to a human being. Met Mr Wallace



from [127]

Scarb[o]ro[ugh] he knew the Rowntrees, Backhouses Conings, &[and] is himself a "friend" at Ackworth. I took 4 ½ plate negatives of the group at the house &[and] we returned about 10.0.25 Mon[day] In the evening I developed the photos and found them all good so far as the negatives are concerned. At 12.0 this night Rose awoke me &[and] whispered "the Owl", it came on to the verandah &[and] not wishing to alarm every [128]

65 one by firing the gun I struck at it with the sword but owing to the length it struck the Balcony railing &[and] the bird flew away &[and] did not return. 26 Tues[day], Called upon Paterson re[garding] Berowra &[and] then wrote Crossland for his terms &c[et cetera]. Also wrote to Miss Roebuck (Gertie) and told her that the photographs would be successful. North went with me to 'Fallowfield' to tea and spend the evening with us. [129]

27 Wed[nesday] Wrote to Hedley enclosing proof of his photos plate, also to Gurnell. Attended the meeting of the Linnean Society in the evening. 28. Thur[sday]. Printed photos of the woolwich negatives &[and] toned them at night. The past week has been the hottest experienced this spring 84°[degrees] being the maximum recorded. 29 Fri[day] Rose received a letter from Miss Rose Scott asking us to postpone our visit for a week as they had sickness in the house. So in [130]

66 the evening we called on Patersons at their new house, but they were out, we next went to the Ellis's and spent the evening with them. To day Skuse borrowed 3[shillings]/6[pence] from me. 30 Sat[urday]. At 12.10 North and I took train for Botany which we reached in an hour, the whole district was flat and fairly populous, the distance being 7 miles. As we neared our destination the famous Botany Bay appeared on our left, while on the [131]

right were some very objectionable smelling tanneries, succeeded by scrub. The weather was windy &[and] therefore unfavorable for Bird-nesting For miles the scrub was growing in white sand and although we saw a few Lizards they were very quick and the scrub too thick to allow even of identification we found many empty nests of *Meliornis novae-hollandiae* it was evidently too late for the first brood &[and] too early for the second, All the [132]

67 nests found were built low down in Banksias. Seeing that this spot was no good we proceeded to walk to La perouse. Saw several of the large Cockroaches (*Polyzosteria limbata*. Burm:) and took one from 10 feet high on a telegraph pole, it emitted an odour on being handled which I did not consider unpleasant. On one plant we found many pairs of a beetle

(*Metriorrhynchus erythropterus* Erich) nearly all in copu[lation] [133]

On our way under a stone I found a snake *Diedemia reticulata* &[and] could easily have killed or secured it but North asking me to wait cut a forked stick and the snake got away. Only a dozen yards further I found another but this being near some decayed timber promptly escaped Although somewhat late the flowers were still in great luxuriance growing among the *Banksias* &[and] *Xanthoreas*\*[*Xanthorrhoeas*]. Arrived at La Perous we visited the monument which marks [134]

68 his landing &[and] replaces the tree with the copper inscribed - plate which was removed to the Paris Exhibition. At the entrance to the Bay was the large fort into the grounds of which visitors are not ordin- arily admitted. In front of us stretched the Pacific but such a strong wind was blowing that we were glad to find a more sheltered spot. Returning, we passed a cottage where a *Cracticus* whistled very nicely. [135]

after a little refresh- ment and hearing the strains of a harmonium in the bush we made our way to it and found an assisted abor- -iginal settlement. The natives a dozen perhaps were seated round a missionery and a girl probably his wife was at the harmonium, they good people no doubt considered they had had a "call" - the man was not more than 23 &[and] talked utter rot to these poor wretches who probably understood but [136]

69 little about what he was talking. It is certainly surprising that they should listen to his remarks on repent- ance &c[et cetera] when it is to the white man that they owe the extinction of their race. With one or two exceptions they were all half casts to whom do they owe this circumstance? to the same race as the very man who now began talking about their sins. I think I could have made that so called mis- [137]

sionary stare if I had 10 minutes talk with him. We were both disgusted at his presumptions harangue. We left them and con- -tinued our search I found the only tenanted nest of the day - it contained 2 young of *Meliornis novae-hollandiae* Found a frog almost choked with the sand. Collected some of the gum from the roots of the *Xan- thoreas*\*[*Xanthorrhoeas*], this is formed in small nodules and is burnt as incense [138]

70 in the Roman Catholic cathedrals. Cut a few of the flowering stems as perches for the birds in the aviary &[and] left by the 6.20 train North leaving me at Redfern for his train. When I arrived home I found Mr Thomas at our house. [140]

Re[garding] Aviary. 53. "Redheads". 53. At Cookseys. N[orth] shore. Middle Harbour }54.  
Wasps nests }55. Saw Jepson-Piano. 56. Amphibolurus. 57 Ogilby at Fallowfield 57.  
Received Piano. 58. At Patersons Longueville. 59. At Dr Cox's N[orth]shore 60. Wild "Red-  
head" 61. Owl at Aviary 62 & 64 At Jepson's N[orth]shore 63<64> At Down's Woolwich 63-  
4 At Ellis's. Nardoa. 66. At Botany. 66-70 [141]

Instructions re[garding] J[ohn] D[ouglas] O[gilby] 25 At Tom Ugly's point 26 Typhlops  
proximus 28 At Manly (W. Buchanan) 29 At Double Bay 30 Owl at Rushcutter's Bay 31  
Notes on frogs 31-3 At Paterson's Mansion 33 At Paterson's <Longueville>Lane Cover  
R[iver] 36 Paterson's at Fallowfield 37 Visited the "Ormuz" 37 Went to Concert 38 At  
Paterson's "selection" } 39-45 Bear cat &[and] Opposums } Lunar halo &[and] bow 45  
Illusion of water. 46 Preservative for skins 48 Photo of Father 50 Royal Society 52 [142]

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Trap-door Spiders. 6. Hedley at Fallowfield. 9. Notarius &[and] Aplusias. 9.-10 Re[garding]  
New Cabinet 10.-11 Swallows &[and] Mynahs. 13. At Down's Woolich 14. Typhlops curtus.  
15. Fletchers frog. 15. Typhlops rupelli 16. Linnean Soc[iety] 22, 49, 65. Mrs Down at  
Fallowfield 18 Walkers at Fallowfield 19 At Patersons Longueville 19 Ants &[and]  
Cockroaches. 20. At Paterson's Mansion 22. At Mrs Forde's Ferndale 22. AMS 587/31 [143]