

The North Australian.

and Northern Territory Government Gazette.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 3, 1889.

Local Notes.

Copper is quoted at £53 per ton, and tin at £89.

Dr. Bovill departed on Wednesday in the s.s. Catterthun.

The s.s. Menmuir took 1780 horns from this port.

The Earl of Fife and one of the daughters of the Prince of Wales have been married during the week.

Between thirty and forty Chinese left for the Flowery Land in the s.s. Menmuir on Saturday.

The gold brought by the fortnightly escort on Wednesday amounted to 204½ ounces.

The whole of the visiting racehorses have now taken their departure from here, and the next we shall see of them will be at Burrundie on the 15th.

Subscription lists are going the rounds for the purpose of raising funds to provide a picnic for the Wesleyan Sunday School children.

A reliable correspondent informs us that the Chinese are obtaining good quantities of alluvial gold at the Pine Creek workings.

One of the items of export by the s.s. Catterthun for south, was a parcel of gold containing 1193oz. valued at £4261. The shippers were the E. S. & A. C. Bank.

H.M.S. Rambler arrived from Wyndham on Thursday morning. She will coal here and take in provisions, and is expected to be leaving again about Tuesday next.

Mr. Hamilton, accompanied by his doctor, leaves for the country districts

this morning, to give residents there every opportunity of having their lives taken on behalf of the A.M.P. Society.

By the steamer Catterthun twenty-nine passengers departed from here for southern ports. Several others desired to get away, but in consequence of the vessel's accommodation being taken up by an unusually large number of passengers from China, she was unable to provide for the lot. The majority of the departing ones are railway employees, who, now that the line work is all but completed, have no further stake in the country.

In connection with the painting of the Town Hall now going on, it should be remarked that the artistic interior work will have the experienced superintendence of Mr. J. G. Knight, which is as good as saying that it will be done in tip-top fashion. By the way, when is the Dramatic and Musical Society to make a start with the proposed alterations to the stage? In that matter as well as the painting it would be an advantage to have the excellent opinion of Mr. Knight.

In another place Mrs. E. Ryan is advertising tenders for the erection of a new hotel for Palmerston, to be built of stone, and to be two stories high. At the present time it requires a great deal of pluck to even suggest such an extensive and expensive piece of work, but we feel satisfied that if the tenders are at all near the mark the hotel will be proceeded with as quickly as possible.

Our telegrams of a couple of weeks back spoke of an extraordinary gold discovery having been made on the Malay Peninsula. The Brisbane "Telegraph" supplies some further particulars. An experienced North Queensland miner named Sefton lately visited the Malay Peninsula and found the natives there digging for gold in a very primitive fashion. He noticed enormous quantities of gold unearthed, and on coming back to Queensland Sefton arranged for the formation of a syndicate to purchase the property. A

space between the two vessels it seems wonderful that the man was not rendered insensible before he reached the water.

The tortured half-caste prisoner Joe Flick is now done with ; at least as far as we are concerned. But it appears to have required the exercise of a little ingenuity to prevent his entire discharge. Flick, after being remanded close on a score of times on the charge on which he was arrested and brought here, was on Saturday last acquitted on that count, and for the instant he was a free man. However, Joe's cup of happiness was not allowed to overflow, for he was quickly charged on a second information, and out of this will come his extradition to the colony which claims him as her own. If ever a prisoner deserved to get off that man is Joe Flick. Had he committed murder, instead of only making the attempt, perhaps the end would have been different. Our history teaches us that a murderer must not be tried twice if things are not all straight on the first occasion. Yet for a very simple offence we may on behalf of another colony remand a man sixteen times to give the other colony time to learn how to procure the offender's transformation.

It has been determined (so our telegrams of a few weeks ago informed us) to open the Pine Creek railway finally on October 7th ; but we are left in the dark as to who is likely to perform the interesting opening ceremony, granted, of course, that there is a celebration of the customary character. We take it that the date has been arranged between Mr. C. G. Millar and the Government authorities at Adelaide. Can it be that another Ministerial visitation is intended ? If we could depend upon the slightest good resulting from such a course we would be the first to say never mind the expense. But we are dubious on that point, and for reasons which hardly need recounting. There is very small chance, we presume, of our ever having a visit from the Governor himself. That would be too much joy,

himself. That would be too much joy, and the country would never survive the honour. Sydney Smith once remarked that it would take a surgical operation to force a joke on some people ; nothing short of that will ever induce a South Australian Governor to visit the northern portion of his province, anyhow, not until the Transcontinental Railway affords him a sure and speedy means of getting out of the country again. As yet no Governor of South Australia has ever ventured to suggest such a thing, and perhaps at the present moment Earl Kintore has his doubts as to whether Port Darwin belongs to Queensland or Western Australia.

Captain Tresize, who was sent out some months ago by an English Company to manage a tin mine at Mount Wells, left for England on Saturday last in what may be termed an advanced stage of dissatisfaction. The captain, we believe, complains that he could find no tin to "manage," and he has presumably gone home to tell his directors so. It is to be hoped that in unburdening himself of his adverse opinions the Captain will confine himself to his own particular selection and not go in for universal condemnation of the whole Territory, as others have too frequently done during our time.

The Directors of the Pine Creek Prospecting and Mining Company have under consideration the desirability of offering the following bonuses for "information that will lead to the discovery of payable gold in quartz on their property at Pine Creek" :—10 per cent. on the value of retorted gold for the first 20 tons of stone ; 5 per cent. for from 20 tons up to 50 ; 2½ per cent. for from 50 tons up to 75 ; 1 per cent. for from 75 up to 100 tons. The intention is not to go beyond 100 tons, and no bonus is suggested for gold resulting from any crushing of under 1oz. to the ton.

Amongst the exports by the s.s. Catterthun were the following items of local production :—496 hides on account