OFFICIAL RETURNS OF THE COUNTRY SECTIONS CULTIVATED, OR UPON WHICH LOCATIONS HAVE BEEN FORMED, WITHIN THE PROVINCE OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

DISTRICT A, OR ADELAIDE DISTRICT.

No. of Section.	Name of Place or Farm.	Name of Cultivator.	Extent of Land in Wheat.	Barley.	Oats.	Maize.	Potatos.	Garden.	Supplied with Water, and how.	Extent of Land enclosed, and how.	Remarks relative to Crops; Buildings, such as Dwelling-houses or Wool-houses; Yards, Quarries, Irrigation, etc.
r. 43 r. 44		Charles George Everard	3	4	4	½		2½	Two wells, forty feet deep each, including three feet of water at all seasons.	Thirty acres—partly with posts, two rails, and narrow paling, and partly with posts and four rails.	Wheat—two acres, sown in the middle of July; a good crop, and free from smut; seed from Van Diemen's Land; one acre sown about the latter end of July, with seed grown on the same soil in 1839, a very good crop, very slightly smutted. Barley, sown in the end of July—seed partly from the Cape of Good Hope and partly English—yielded very good crops; but the latter was the best. Oats, sown in July, were cut green for feed. Maize, planted in the beginning of September, promising well. Two dwelling-houses—one of pisé, the other of brick; stable, stock-yard, sheep-pens, &c.
r. 53		Walter Thompson	4	5	1½		2	2½	From section 44.	One hundred and thirty-four acres—partly with bank, ditch, and one rail, and partly with bank, ditch, and two rails.	Wheat, sown in June, yielded an indifferent crop, full of smut. Barley, sown in July, proved a good crop. Oats were cut green for feed. Maize, planted in September, looking well. Potatos, planted in August from bad seed, yielded a very irregular crop, but of large size. A temporary hut erected on the farm, &c.
50	Dunsbey	Donald McLean	14	4	1		1		A well, forty feet deep, including six feet of water.	Twenty acres—with posts, two rails, and narrow paling.	Wheat, sown in March, a very fair crop, slightly smutted. Barley, sown in April, a very good crop. Oats cut green for feed. Potatos, planted in April, proved a failure. Dwelling-house of pisé, stock-yard, &c.
51	Edwards Town	Henry Owens and others							Two wells—one forty-five feet deep, including eight feet of water; the other forty-seven feet in depth, including six feet of water.	Five acres—partly with posts on end, partly with posts and rails, and partly with temporary fence.	This section is divided into acre allotments. There are eight families located upon it. Stock-yard, &c. erected upon it.
172		Henry Henning							Abundant supply of surface water.	No fencing.	There are two dwelling-houses on this section.
183	Lagoon Farm	John Windsor							Abundance of water on the surface.	Nine-tenths of eighty acres, partly with posts and four rails, and partly with posts and two rails.	Preparing to build a house on the section; at present there are only tents, temporary huts, &c.
r. 92	Cowandilla Village	Jas. Washington & others							Five wells, with good water at the depth of fifteen feet.	Several of the allotments are enclosed with temporary, or bush fence.	This section is divided into acre allotments, and contains nine or ten pisé houses. There are extensive brick-works in operation.
95	New Richmond Vil.	Frederick Skipworth	½						Well, twenty feet deep, including three feet of good water.	Two acres—with bank and ditch.	Wheat, sown in July, an indifferent crop, and much smutted. This section is also divided into acre allotments. There are three dwelling-houses on it, and two or three more in the course of erection.
94	North Richmond Township	Edmund Jas. Constable								One acre—temporary fence.	This section is also divided into acre allotments. There is only one person at present located upon it, in a pisé dwelling-house.
103	Twickenham Twnsh.	Thos. Beashill & Richard Smith							Two wells—one fourteen the other twelve feet deep, including three feet of good water.	Two acres—temporary fence.	This section is likewise divided into acre allotments. There are two brick houses upon it; brickfield, &c.
r. 207		Charles Berkeley					2½		Well, eighty-four feet deep, including ten feet of water.	Half of the section—part with posts and three rails, and part with posts on end.	Potatos, planted in July, a very indifferent crop. The buildings on this section are—a dwelling-house, and three cottages for workmen.
r. 201		Edwin Oliver							Well, thirty feet deep, including two feet water, very brackish.	One hundred and thirty acres—with posts and four rails.	This section contains an inn and hotel, two cottages, stock-yard, &c.
r. 291 r. 292	Tusmore	William Rogers	40	18	20	30	3	3	Well, forty-five feet deep, including twelve feet of good water.	Two hundred and sixty-eight acres—part with posts of three and four rails, and part with posts on end; divided into two paddocks of seventy acres each, one of sixty-five acres, and one of sixty acres. Garden and orchard, three acres.	Wheat, sown in April and May, yielded about eighteen bushels per acre. Barley, six acres sown in April, a very good crop; eight acres sown in the latter end of June, a light crop; four acres (chevalier) sown in July, a very light crop. Oats, sown in the beginning of August, a good crop; some self-sown, a light crop. Maize, planted during the month of October, looking tolerably well. Potatos, planted from July to September, an indifferent crop. Upon this farm is built a large and commodious dwelling-house, with stables, barns, and granary attached—all of brick; likewise three cottages for workmen, smith's shop, &c. There is also a mud and brick dwelling-house, with stock-yard, &c., and a public-house, with a stable attached to it.
101	Netley	Thomas H. Beare								Fencing just commenced.	There are on this section a dwelling-house, stock-yard, &c.; an inn and hotel, with stable, &c.; and two cottages.
	Green Slip	John Woodhead							Well, twenty-eight feet deep, including three feet water.	None.	There is a brick house on this farm.
106	Chuckford	Samuel Smart							Well, twenty-five feet deep, including five feet of water.	One hundred and ten acres—bank and ditch.	A dwelling-house, and a cottage in the course of erection.
107	Pineshill	Thomas Y. Cotter				2	2	2	Two wells, twenty-three feet deep, each including six feet of good water.	Forty acres—bank and ditch.	Maize, planted in September, an excellent crop. Potatos, time of planting unknown, a very good crop. There are four dwelling-houses on the section; stock-yard, dairy, fowl-house, &c. [illegible]
108	Plympton Hamlets	William Litton & others							Two wells, thirty feet deep, including five feet of good water.	None.	This section is divided into acre allotments. There is a considerable number of persons located upon it.
r. 289		Dugald McTavish	10	10					Well, seventy feet deep, including five feet of good water.	One hundred and thirty-four acres—one-half with posts and three rails, the other half with bank and ditch.	Wheat, sown in April, a fair crop, averaging twenty-five bushels per acre. Barley, sown at the same time, proved a good crop, and yielded about the same return. There are on this farm two large and commodious dwelling-houses, with a cottage for laborers; stable, cart-shed, stock-yard, &c.
½ r. 290		George Brunskill	2			½	2	1½	Well, twenty-five feet deep, including ten feet of water.	Sixty-seven acres—posts and four rails.	Wheat, sown about the beginning of October, smutted, and an indifferent crop. Potatos, planted from June till October, a tolerable crop, partly destroyed by grubs. Peas, sown in July, did not succeed. Maize, planted in October, is looking exceedingly well. Rape and Linseed, sown in small patches, succeeded very well. There is abundance of superior clay for bricks upon the section. The dwellings consist of an excellent brick house and cottage, with stock-yard, &c.
294		T. A. Forrest						2	From the Fourth Creek, a little above the section. Water on the surface part of the year.	Eighty acres—posts and three rails.	Upon this section are a good dwelling-house, stable, fowl-house, dairy, stack-yard, &c.
½ r. 290	Heath Poole	George Reid	3		3		1		Well, thirty feet deep, including six feet of good water.	Sixty-seven acres—posts and three rails.	Wheat, sown in the beginning of June, a tolerable crop, partially smutted. Oats, sown in the beginning of August, a very light crop. Potatos, planted in September, a tolerable crop—of good size, but not numerous. A good house, stock-yard, &c., upon the section.
r. 292	Tusmore	Thomas Preece, tenant of Mr Rogers	8	4	4	2	2	½	Well, one hundred and twenty-two feet, including five feet of good water.	For fencing, see Mr Rogers's portion of this section, above.	Buildings—an inn and hotel, stable, stock-yard, &c.
r. 93		T. B. Strangways							Two wells.	None.	Buildings—one wooden dwelling-house, and several others in the course of erection.
270 272 and 271	Edgeton	William Sandford					5	½	Well, forty-six feet deep, including three of good water.	Two hundred and forty acres enclosed—two and a half miles with posts and rails, and half a mile with posts on end.	Potatos, planted in August, a failure. There is a substantial wooden dwelling-house on the estate.
294 293 r341 342 r847 848 r849 850	Woodforde Estate	Samuel East						½	From the Third Creek, which passes through the property.	One paddock of one hundred and thirty acres, one of eighty, one of one hundred, and one of thirty-four—all enclosed with posts and four rails.	On section 342 are two cottages, two stock-yards, cow-sheds, &c.
½ 908	Greenhill	James Hutchison							Abundant supply from the First Creek, which passes through the section.	None.	A good pisé house on the section.
½ 508		George Willis							From the First Creek.	None.	A good pisé house.
262 275		South Australian Compy								Two hundred and sixty-eight acres—partly with posts and four rails, partly with posts and three rails.	
½ 299	Thornington	John Hunt	2						Well, twenty-four feet deep, including two feet of water. Water on the surface nine months of the year.	Sixty-seven acres—with posts and three rails.	Dwelling-house, barn, stock-yard, &c., on this section.
½ 290		C. B. Radwell							Well, thirty-four feet deep, including three feet water.	Sixty-seven acres—with posts and four rails.	On this property are three substantial and commodious dwelling-houses, dairy, stable, &c.
903		William Warland							From the Creek in abundance.	None.	The proprietor has just settled on the section, and has built a good slab house.
854 855 and 856	Glen Stuart	C. W. Stuart		2		½	½	2	From a stream which runs through the farm all the year, affording an abundant supply.	One hundred acres—posts and four rails.	There are four dwelling-houses, three stock-yards, stables, &c., on this farm.
273	Tusmore	David Wyllie					½	1	From section 274.	None.	Potatos, date of planting unknown, very good crop. A dwelling-house, stock-yard, &c. on this section.
612		John Stead	2	1		½	2	½	From the Torrens—a good supply.	Two paddocks of seven acres each, one of twelve, one of twenty, and one of four—all enclosed with posts and three rails.	Wheat, sown in the latter end of July, a very light crop, but free from smut. Barley, sown in July, a light crop. Maize, planted in September, a very excellent crop. Potatos, planted at different times—part of the crop turned out very well, but a great proportion of it badly, on account of the badness of the seed. Substantial dwelling-house, dairy, stable, hen-house, and stock-yard.
298	[illegible] House	Christopher H. Wearing					2	½	From a small stream which passes through the section.	One-eighth of a mile with posts and four rails—the remainder of the section with temporary fence.	A dwelling-house and stock-yard are erected on this section.
½ r. 289	Hollybush	Joseph Edmonds	2				1		From a stream passing through the section.	Twenty acres—posts and four rails.	Buildings—two cottages and stock-yard.
½ r. 290	Burnside	Peter Anderson		2	1	2	½		From the Second Creek, which passes through the section.	Five and a half acres—one quarter bank and ditch, three quarters with posts and four rails.	Four cottages and a stock-yard.
904	Clifton Valley	Robert Bell					1		A good supply from a stream passing through the section.	One acre—dog-leg fence.	One dwelling-house and stock-yard.
840	Balcombe	A. F. and S. E. Board	2				3	1	Abundant supply from the Torrens.	Sixteen acres—posts and three rails.	This section is bounded on one side by the Torrens. Wheat, sown in the latter end of July, produced a return of sixteen bushels per acre sown. Potatos, planted at different times, produced a very fair crop. Buildings—one house and one [illegible]
823		A. F. and S. E. Board								Half of the section—posts and three rails.	[illegible] dwelling-houses, nearly completed, on this section.
r. 309	[illegible]	John Walker and Stanley Stokes	¼			3	½	2	From the Torrens in abundance.	One paddock of six acres [illegible] with posts and four rails; [illegible] with posts [illegible] acres, three-fourths with [illegible] with posts and [illegible] rails. Thirty acres with bank and ditch.	[illegible] bounded on one side by the Torrens. Maize [illegible] September, a very good crop. Potatos, planted [illegible] crop. [illegible]

[To be continued in our next.]

THE NATURAL HISTORY OF THE COLONY.—No. 15.

A Summer's Day in South Australia.

Many are the beauties and much is there to admire in meadow and pasture land, mountain and rivulet, on one of those brilliant and unclouded days that occur almost without cessation during the warm months of summer, when earth and air teem with animated beings of every variety of form and color, raising our minds in admiration above the lower habits and pursuits of the world, and leading us in observing Nature to worship Nature's God.

Ere the first streak of light is visible on the distant horizon, a minute songster salutes the opening day with his constant but lively note; as it warbles sitting on some inviting twig, adjacent to the farm or homestead, till the tree-tops are visible above the strongly marked outline of the sloping hills. Now far and wide may be heard the "clarion" of the "tenant cock," sounding in an exulting tone to his companions, who in defiance send back the answering note, till the full light of day invites them to come forth to enjoy the invigorating warmth. The various tribes of insect life spread over the fields and flower-covered plains, where the hum of the wild bee comes pleasantly to the listening ear, reminded with

"The still nuptial song of life is on every bough."

How much enlivened is the scene by the numerous flights of parroquets, which in large and compact bodies fly in circles round the tops of the loftier gum trees, the vivid green of their backs glancing in the sun-light. These are often succeeded by a sheet of white, displayed by the yellow crested cockatoos, who rise screaming from among the surrounding foliage, and soar away on steady wings after their noisy leader, far above their smaller and party colored companions, as the beautiful warble of the grey crow or magpie is heard from the distant woods rising and swelling on the breeze, while

"Nature's universal song
Echoes to the rising day."

The stock-yard gates unfastened, out rush the herds of cattle, spreading over the adjacent pastures, and shewing in various antics their joy at the recovery of their liberty. Above them, undisturbed by scenes below, and in this season of social harmony, like the other songsters answering to the call of its mate, may be seen that restless bird our starling.* Sweet scented plants now perfume the air; "the blooming flowers with opening beauties glow," while from the rivers' bank exhales the strong and aromatic odour of the wild mint, on which the slender bodied dragon flies delight to settle, also occasionally visited by the roaming butterflies and slow flying moths, or water loving red bee.

In the more sheltered and retired spots, the insidious snake steals through the bushes, gliding along with noiseless rapidity, avoiding, as if conscious of some nefarious purpose, the full glare of the daylight; one of the few remaining enemies to man of a much diminished tribe. The great warmth of the meridian sun is now fully displayed, and all the insect tribes are abroad, either to dance with the midges in the sunbeams or provide for their numerous progeny. The fly-catching birds are everywhere seen hawking about for their prey, but avoid with instinctive dread the hole or niche where

"The venomous wasp victorious guards her cell,"

preferring the harmless fly or harvest-eated beetle. In all directions are distributed the hillocks of the industrious ants, who constantly busy, are equally and unanimously engaged in provisioning their nests for the wants of a future race. While the little bright eyed lizard with shining [illegible] skin, runs timidly through the grass in pursuit of some tiny fly, then frightened as a mouse it darts back on the least alarm to its home under a decaying log.

Far away from all inhabited parts now feeds the watchful Kangaroo, where on the albuminous plains numbers may frequently be seen, often attended by that lover of solitude the Emu; here they graze in conscious security, driven from the "haunts of men," by a power hitherto unknown and irresistible. A smaller but not less interesting bird (called by us) the wild turkey, may sometimes be seen collected in small flocks, or flying high over head, as unapproachable as its larger companions. The native dingos now spread thinly over the country, skulking in holes and caves seek to avoid the light of day, unless driven by hunger in search of food, usually stealing forth by night to feast on any carrion not already devoured by birds or insects. A few may occasionally be observed (though even these have lately become less common) with our native brethren, who partly tame their savage natures till it becomes difficult to tell which are the most civilized.

The hour of noon approaches. The [illegible] [illegible] as an ardent eye can gaze [illegible] is seen shimmering among the leafy coverts in the distance, under the deep azure of a cloudless sky. Scarcely a breath of air disturbs the evergreen foliage, save when some minute whirlwind curls the light leaves into little eddies as it glides o'er the open pastures, "like a thing of [illegible]," [illegible] onward over the woods for the dusty roads, it increases in height and volume, then, with sudden and expiring effort, whirls clouds of sand high into the air, leaving behind it a grand but frail monument of its temporary power.† Most lovely circling in [illegible] graceful curves "with broad unmoving wing," the [illegible] with watchful eye, surveys the scene below, descending at last beside some distant hill dotted with white spots—the browsing flocks of a fine-wooled race. The birds retiring from the glowing heat, rest quiescent among the leafy branches, except, perhaps, the grive swallow, who seems ever on the wing in pursuit of her smaller and less nimble prey; for now great numbers of the insect tribes come forth to sport in the noontide rays, often shewing their beautifully marked and burnished wings

"Quick glancing to the sun,"

as they cross and recross in their airy flight, rejoicing in the general warmth. At intervals, the amusing and continued noise of that long-billed bird, called by the early settlers the *laughing jackass*,* is heard from some clump of tall trees, affording a "broader browner shade." The drowsy cattle are seen slaking their thirst at the river's brink, or devouring, with seeming relish, the creeping or twining plants and bushes that overspread its banks.

Gradually the heat declines as the sun sinks towards the horizon, and a soft refreshing breeze is felt gently stealing over the parched earth. As evening draws on, the Libellulæ forsake the streams, now overcast by the long drawn shadows of the adjacent trees. The pert little manakin, with its ruff of a shining metallic blue on a ground of velvet of a purple black, flits from shrub to shrub, followed by its mate, to find a lodging suitable for their repose, or flies round some thick bush or fallen tree in which is deposited their little nest, while they chirp their last notes to the departing day. The little robin also shews his glowing breast for the last time, as if to rival the early stars, then hies away to some convenient hollow in bank or tree. In the darkening pool the small speckled fish glide swiftly away from the bather, who comes, after the toils of the day, to enjoy the coolness of the water in a refreshing plunge; but if lingering too long, is attacked by the jet black leech, who, with undulating and zigzag motion swiftly approaches unseen, imitated in this respect by the equally blood-thirsty and wandering musquito, while numerous companies of smaller gnats dance, rising and falling, over the stream. Large spiders, now less timid, creep from under the bark of the trees. There one is seen in chase of some strayed ant, or other hapless insect; at last overtaking it, he pounces directly upon his victim, then hurries back to his hole; if now disturbed he leaves his prey and starts forward in pursuit of the intruder, often followed by a minute and thin-legged brood, lately hatched from the clear colored eggs. Now homeward are driven the herds of cattle by mounted drovers with long stock whips; one wayward bullock at the head of the column, escaping from its fellows, will sometimes turn back from the path, in spite of all endeavors to restrain it, and the men follow, shouting and hallooing; the others, left for a time to themselves, stray in all directions, till after many a turn and much noise and clamour, they are again collected and driven pell mell into their stock yard for the night. The rooks flying across the lowlands, seem uncertain for some time where they shall take up their evening quarters while their loud and sometimes wailing and melancholy notes sound through the woods till they are lost in the distance.

The sun at last, like a ball of fire, buries itself in the bosom of the distant bay, leaving behind it clouds streaked with gold or crimson, vying in color with the opposing mountains, against which the last rays of the departing luminary are reflected, varying, as the light recedes, from the lightest tints of the rose to the deepest purple, equalling, if not exceeding, the brightest coloring of the artist, or the warmest imaginations of the poet.‡ Again, the parroquets, with much noise and chattering, collect in great multitudes on the trees adjacent to the dwellings, seeming to prefer these spots to congregate, though individually more afraid of the form of man—the retiring sun shining obliquely on their crimson and purple breasts, as

"Each rapid movement gives a different dye,"

or on the vivid green plumage of the smaller species, presents altogether a scene of animation and beauty unrivalled in temperate climes. That bird of night, the musing owl, disturbed by the wide-extending choir of these gems of the forest from her day dreams as the hour of her migration approaches, now flies abroad. The evening chirrup of the crickets is heard, mingled with the thrice told of the leather-winged bat, as it flies through the gloaming silently but swiftly in pursuit of its insect prey, now also on the wing in great numbers, some (the dingy colored) moths being almost its rivals in size and strength. Twilight gradually receding, Night throws her dark mantle over the scene. The numerous fires of the native tribes, around which they sit like midnight witches preparing some incantations, are seen far and near, flaming and flickering in the darkened landscape, while the young men dance their corrobories with wild joy and still wilder gestures to the measured time kept by the females beating their opossum or kangaroo skins. Many small bright spots show where are placed the happy homes of our own dear countrymen, and Fancy at once pourtrays each family circle collected round the cheerful board after the business of the day. The rising moon sheds her silvery light all around, refulgent, clear, and placid, the brightest ornament in a starlight sky. Silence at last reigns o'er a slumbering world, and all nature is wrapt in repose.

NATURÆ AMATOR.

June 9th, 1841.

* This singular bird [illegible] (almost as incorrectly) called the laughing jackass, makes a roaring or chattering [illegible] something between a laugh and the neighing of a horse.

† [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

‡ [illegible] much celebrated as a landscape painter, [illegible] and exceeds any approach to many of his latest scenes in Van Diemen's Land, and any one who has passed but through a country in this southern clime, could not but remark, upon seeing those spirited landscapes, how truly they represent those beautiful phenomena, which (there is little doubt) do not differ in any respect in that still more southern land. Numbers there [illegible] that country who blamed and found fault with the [illegible] of art, and among them there might have been [illegible] good judges of painting as a whole and as a science, but few perhaps of whom had yet set foot beyond the boundaries of their native shores.

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