

—Aboriginal Implements.—

The coast was reached at a point where steep cliffs joined on to rounded knolls of sandy loam, which sloped to the shingly shore. Mr. Walter Rutt and Capt. D. Fulton made up the quartet of visitors, and as the party went along Mr. Howchin remarked, "You may often find on these sandhills beautiful pieces of rocks chipped by the aborigines years ago for use in fashioning their boomerangs and wommeras, or throwing sticks." "There is one," he exclaimed, and he picked up a curious bit of quartzite with sharp edges. A search revealed several similar chippings, and the geologist delivered a little conversational lecture on the manner in which the dusky natives made and used these primitive implements.

—Story of the Ice Age.—

Not many minutes afterwards another story opened up when the visitors gathered around a smooth stone on the edge of the cliff, and just showing above the ground. "This is a roche moutonnee—or lamb's back rock, so named from its shape," said Mr. Howchin. Each of the party noted the rounded, semi-polished surface, and the scientist told his hearers that this was the most northerly evidence of ice action in connection with the old Inman Valley glacier. The ice cap, hundreds of feet thick, had extended, at any rate, from Victor Harbour to Hallett's Cove.

"But look at all these valleys between—how did it move over such country?" the pressman asked.

It was a pardonable question for one who simply knew that a glacier was a river of ice.

"Oh, those valleys were not there then," said Mr. Howchin. "Down to the south there was a range of high mountains. The earth is always moving and folding, though so slowly that we do not observe it. Those mountains are now under the sea, but these scratched rocks tell the story of their position and their ice cap. The direction the glacier took can be followed from Inman Valley to this place by noting the marks made on these stones by the masses of rock material carried over them by the ice stream. Here you may note how a hard sharp stone has been pressed down on to this rock, and its progress is marked by a series of deep dents in the line as it has been jerked along in its forward movement."

Further along, among a lot of loose material, which, we were informed, was the "till" or the "moraine" of particles of clay and stone carried along by the glacier, and deposited in its course, one of the party called attention to a piece of granite, half a yard long, lying on the surface.

—An "Erratic."—

"That's another piece of evidence," said the geologist. "You won't find any granite rocks nearer than the Inman Valley, Port Victor. That's an 'erratic.' It has been brought from there by the glacier, or perhaps from the mountains that are now under the sea. The rocks around here belong to the Permo-Carboniferous age."

"Then there should be coal under here, as in New South Wales, should there not?"

It was the pressman who blundered, proving that "a little learning is a dangerous thing."

"No." And it was a decided "No." "When the Newcastle (N.S.W.) coal measures were being formed out of the abundant vegetation of the period, the land there was not far from sea level; and, in fact, among the strata of that age there you will find marine fossils. The land here was high and mountainous at that time, so you'll not find coal in this neighbourhood, for it could not be formed in the circumstances."

"You see that limestone up on the hill-side," Mr. Howchin continued. "That contains many sea shells; but it is newer than those rocks. It shows that after the period of the high ground there came a time when all this land was under water, from which it has again emerged."

"This limestone is similar to that behind the University on North terrace?" The "little learning" now proved a fair guess.

"Yes," replied the geologist; and he drew a word map of South Australia in an age when the shore line stretched up to the City of Adelaide. He also painted in those great inland creeks, the Cooper and the Diamantina, as flowing through the great Lake Eyre and Lake Torrens, in the far north, to the southern sea along the channel of a now dead river and seabed.

—The Glacial Rock.—

Crossing a picturesque creekbed with a couple of rocky cascades, over which no water is yet running this year, on account of the light rainfall, another climb brought the party to the chief of the roches moutonnee, the famous "glacial rock." It is a large, nearly flat rock, polished and ice-scratched. Portion of it is exposed, and it has formed the chief link in connecting the story of the Inman Valley with the Hallett's Cove formation. The remainder—perhaps a few square yards, or may be an acre—is covered naturally with soil and loose material that will long preserve it from "weathering," and enable it to be inspected by future generations of scientists. It is satisfactory to learn that there is probability that the immediate locality will be permanently secured against any disfigurement that will obliterate such interesting memorials.

—Striking Rock Scenery.—

White waves dashing from a sapphire sea washed the face of chocolate and purple

rocks—decomposed slate set perpendicularly on edge, and making a striking bit of landscape. Mr. Howchin showed how these rocks, once horizontal, had been tilted; and around the corner a climb over reefs of slate jutting out to sea, brought into view a most remarkable folding of the earth's crust, and forced home the conclusion that the scientific deductions of the various observers were no merely fanciful theories.

—Fine for Surf Bathing.—

By this time the Cove proper was reached—a fine sweep of beautiful beach, a water front that will lend itself admirably to surf bathing. Here, between the sea and the steep escarpment of the upper ground, a quarter of a mile back, is a most fantastic landscape, that looks as though Nature had been at play with herself. Cliffs in red and white are ranged around a series of low rises, about which one may find shade from any wind that blows, and a peculiar feature is a tall hill shaped like a pottery kiln, standing isolated in white terracotta colour among the rest. For real diversity of coastal scenery it would be hard to find a place better provided than is Hallett's Cove. It has long been hidden, on account of its hilly road approach, from all but the few who have good means of conveyance and plenty of leisure. Shortly the railway will make it one of the finest picnic grounds and snow places around Adelaide. Its beauty cannot all be taken in at once, but from any one of half a dozen localities sufficient can be seen to please, and a walk of a mile or two will enhance the enjoyment of a day spent there. It is bound to afford the metropolis a new and attractive seaside suburb at little greater distance than (say) the Semaphore, for it is only 12 miles by rail from Adelaide; and it possesses the advantages of an entire change of scenery, as compared with the metropolitan area, and of a comprehensive view of the coast from Brighton to Largs Bay, on the one hand, and to Rapid Head on the other.

THE CHIEF JUSTICE.

Condition "Highly Satisfactory."

Last night the Sydney correspondent of The Register telegraphed:—"Sir Samuel Way is reported to have passed a very good day, and his condition to-night is described as highly satisfactory."

—Message from Associate.—

The following message from Mr. G. C. Ligertwood (associate to the Chief Justice), who is in Sydney, was read out by their Honors Mr. Justice Gordon and Mr. Justice Murray in the Supreme Courts on Friday morning:—"The wound is practically healed. His Honor will be up by Monday. Sir Alexander MacCormick is delighted with such progress in four days."

—King Edward Memorial Committee.—

The following telegram has been sent to the Chief Justice by Mr. L. Cohen (Chairman of the King Edward Memorial Committee):—"We desire to convey our deepest sympathy with you, and express the hope that you may speedily be restored to good health."

—A Methodist Resolution.—

The following resolution was passed at a meeting of the Conference executive of the Methodist Church held in Pirie Street Church on Friday evening:—"This meeting expresses its devout thanks to Almighty God for the faith and fortitude with which He has enabled His Honor the Chief Justice to face the trying ordeal through which he has so successfully passed, and also conveys to His Honor its hearty congratulation on the prospect of his speedy restoration to health and resumption of the work he loves so well. We shall not cease to pray that the continued blessing of the Great Father may be his portion, and we assure him of an abiding place in the loving regard of his church."

—Walleroo Town Council.—

The Wallaroo Town Council, at its meeting on Wednesday night, carried unanimously a motion proposed by Cr. Clarke, and seconded by Cr. Ashton, that the Town Clerk be instructed to write to the Chief Justice, expressing sympathy with him in his latest trouble.

—Commerce Congratulations.—

The continued progress of the Chief Justice was the subject of gratified comment at a meeting of the council of the Chamber of Commerce on Friday. At the instance of the President (Mr. A. E. Davey) it was resolved to dispatch to Sir Samuel Way, in Sydney, a telegram expressing profound satisfaction at his emergence from a severe ordeal, congratulations upon his excellent prospects of recovery, and anticipation of speedy return to robust health.