

Bulletin of Maitland and District Historical Society Inc.

(Established March 1977)

Affiliated with Royal Australian Historical Society and
Museum and Galleries Hunter Chapter



Maitland Mercury

Volume 19, Number 4

November 2012

*The Aims of the Society are to
Discover, Record, Preserve, Advise on and Teach the History of Maitland and the District*

Maitland and District Historical Society Inc.

Cover:

Maitland Mercury, High Street, Maitland.

Images from: Maitland Mercury <http://www.maitlandmercury.com.au/about-us/>

Wikipedia http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:The_Maitland_Mercury_Building_.jpg

Correspondence : P.O. Box 333, Maitland NSW 2320

Telephone : 0438 623 299

Email : maitlandhistorical@gmail.com

Website : <http://www.maitlandhistorical.org>

Meetings are held at 3 Cathedral Street Maitland (opposite Bishop's House)

Lecture meeting is held on the first Tuesday of each month from 5:30-7.00pm as a forum for lectures, talks and presentations

Business meeting is held on the third Tuesday of each month from 5:30-7.00pm

Membership fees : \$15 (single) and \$20 (double / family)



The President and Committee of the Maitland Historical Society wish members a happy Christmas and extend an invitation to everyone for the Christmas Party Bill's on December 16, from 3pm.

Details in Diary Dates, page 18.

President : Kevin Parsons

Vice Presidents : Peter Smith, Keith Cockburn

Treasurer : Kevin Short

Secretary : Tom Skelding

Bulletin Editor : Judy Nicholson

Consultant Editor : Kevin Parsons

While every care is taken in the compilation and editing of the information contained in this bulletin, Maitland and District Historical Society Inc. and its editors do not accept responsibility for the accuracy of this information.

Historical Society Activities

Mercury's history award ☆

By Margaret Dennis Sept. 6, 2012, midnight



A JOB WELL DONE: Mercury editor Liz Tickner and general manager Sue Prescott (centre) with Peter Bogan and Ruth Trappel (right) from the Maitland Historical Society. Picture by STUART SCOTT

The Maitland and District Historical Society presented the Maitland Mercury with the inaugural award for its contribution to the history of Maitland, on 30th August 2012.

The Mercury report of 6th September provides further details:

Maitland historian Peter Bogan and society publicity officer and past president Ruth Trappel presented the award to editor Liz Tickner and manager Sue Prescott.

This was the first such award the society had given and would be presented when an individual or organisation was found deserving of it, Mr. Bogan said.

“To really know what the Mercury has done for the history of this city, you have to go back through the issues, back through history,” he said.

Maitland and District Historical Society Inc.

Mr. Bogan said the Mercury was how people knew what was happening around the place before the advent of radio, before television and certainly before the internet.

“It was from the Mercury that a lot of family history is learnt,” he said.

“For instance my great-great-grandfather was on a list of donors to the building of St. John the Baptist that was published in the Maitland Mercury in February 1843.”

“The society wanted to recognise what the Mercury has done for Maitland over the years and we thought it was particularly appropriate now with the newspaper’s 170th anniversary approaching.”

The paper was once distributed to the far north of the state and beyond.

“At one time the Mercury had an office in Brisbane, that’s how far the readership went,” Mr. Bogan said.

<http://www.maitlandmercury.com.au/story/305515/mercurys-history-award/>

Maitland Mercury

The Maitland Mercury newspaper will celebrate its 170th anniversary in 2013. This milestone is a journalistic achievement and a rare feat for a business.

All this began from a small building on the corner of High and Bulwer streets, Maitland which was the first home for production of the Maitland Mercury and Hunter River General Advertiser published weekly with the first edition on Saturday, January 7, 1843.

Politics kept the Mercury afloat in its first year of publication and the Mercury’s proprietors Richard Jones and Thomas William Tucker, admit the newspaper’s existence commenced at a critical period when the colony held its first elections.

From January 1, 1846 the Mercury was published twice weekly on Wednesday and Saturday.

The paper moved to Hunter Street, Maitland - Mercury corner as it was called - in 1847.

After 50 years of steady growth in 1894, the Mercury was published as an afternoon daily for 95 years until 1989.

The next historic change occurred when the Mercury became a morning daily on June 5, 1989. At that time the Mercury was the oldest afternoon daily in NSW.

After 165 years on the corner of High and Hunter streets, the Mercury picked up and made the move to its news modern premises at 6/555 High Street, Maitland.

<http://www.maitlandmercury.com.au/about-us/>

The Reverend Lovick Tyrrell

By Lisa and Allan Thomas

The Reverend Lovick Tyrrell was one of the more interesting and socially well-connected men to have served the early Anglican Church in the Lower Hunter.

For several generations in England the Tyrrell family would have been classed as belonging to the educated gentry. Lovick Tyrrell's grandfather Timothy had been the Remembrancer of the City of London, as was one of his sons, Lovick's uncle Edward. The position of City Remembrancer, which was established in 1571, is a legal officer of the City Corporation responsible for ceremony and protocol. The Remembrancer also represents the interests of the Lord Mayor and the City of London to the Sovereign, the Royal Household, and the Parliament.

Timothy's son Frederick, Lovick's father, was a doctor at the Royal London Ophthalmic Hospital and a professor of anatomy and surgery at the Royal College of Surgeons. In 1823 Frederick married Frances (Fanny) Cooper, with whom he would have nine children. Lovick, born in Richmond, Surrey on 26 March 1827, was the second son. Professor Tyrrell died in 1843 from a fall, aged only 49. On 2 August 1854 Fanny remarried. Her new husband was 59 year old Sir Charles George Young.

From 1845 through 1849 Lovick studied at St John's College of Oxford University, graduating in 1850 with a Bachelor of Arts. During that period St John's was principally noted as a training college for Anglican clergymen. Therefore, while at St John's, Lovick would undoubtedly have been aware of the religious controversy called the Oxford Movement which was then swirling around Oxford University and dividing the Church of England. This movement, also known as Tractarianism, was a religious revival which was opposed to theological liberalism and advocated a return on the part of the Church of England to earlier Church dogma and ritual.

For a short time after his graduation Lovick was an attaché at the English Embassy in Rome, but he returned to England in 1852. His future career would be determined by another family connection. Lovick Tyrrell's uncle William had been consecrated a bishop in England in 1847 and sent to Australia in 1848 in order to become the first Bishop of Newcastle in Australia. It was decided that Lovick Tyrrell should follow his uncle to the Hunter in support of the Church's mission there.

Together with his younger brother Edward, Lovick Tyrrell arrived in Sydney on 20 July 1854. On 23 September 1855 he was ordained a deacon and the next day was licensed to minister in the newly established parish of Lochinvar and the district of Black Creek (Branxton). Lovick Tyrrell was raised to the priesthood on 21 December 1856. He remained in Lochinvar and Branxton, except for short periods of relieving work in nearby parishes, until 1863, when he was transferred to East Maitland (Elkin, 1955, p. 320).



From Waddell (1996)

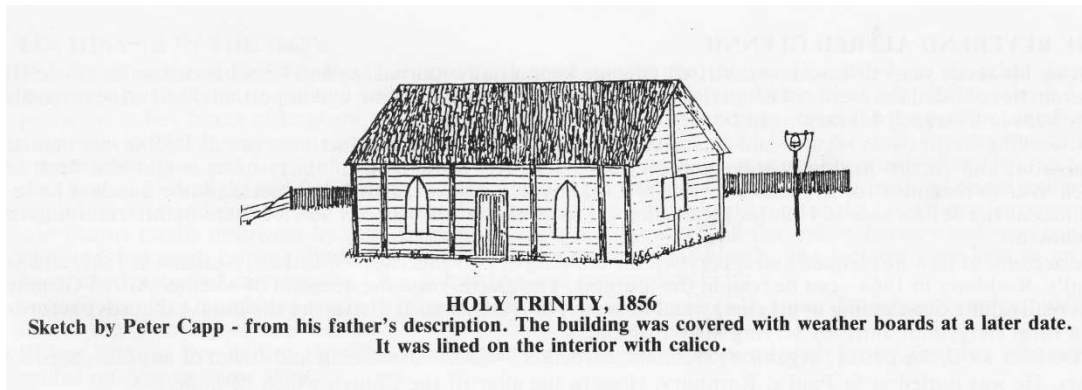
Apparently Lovick Tyrrell's appointment to Lochinvar had been enmeshed in a controversy of his uncle's making. Prior to Lovick's Lochinvar appointment, Bishop Tyrrell had temporarily placed his nephew in Raymond Terrace. The Bishop wished to move his hard-working chaplain in Muswellbrook, a man named Boodle, to the church in Morpeth. In order to do this the priest in Morpeth, the Reverend John Roe Blomfield, would have to move to Raymond Terrace and Lovick Tyrrell would be transferred to Lochinvar. Unfortunately Blomfield did not wish to leave the prestigious Morpeth parish, leading to some heated comments on Bishop Tyrrell's part regarding Blomfield's abilities.

Several leading Maitland citizens took up Blomfield's cause. Tensions simmered for some time before a meeting was held at the Morpeth church, which was reported in the *Maitland Mercury* on 23 May 1857, in which the parishioners expressed their strong support for the Reverend Blomfield, who did indeed leave for Raymond Terrace that year.

Ironically, the Reverend John Roe Blomfield had originally been assigned to the emerging parish of Lochinvar in 1851, according to the clergy list, but had been withdrawn to fill a vacancy in Morpeth in 1852. John Roe Blomfield, born in Maitland in 1824, was also the brother of Lovick Tyrrell's first wife. Lovick had married Louisa Matilda Blomfield on 12 February 1857, when she was 28 and he was 30. John Roe and Louisa Matilda were two of the twelve children of Thomas Valentine Blomfield, who was born at Dagworth in Suffolk in 1793 into a military family. Thomas Blomfield had been a lieutenant in the Peninsular War and had arrived in Australia in 1817, first settling at "Dagworth" on the Hunter with his bride Christiana *nee* Brooks. Thomas Blomfield had property interests far beyond East Maitland. He is considered as one of the pioneering settlers of the Monaro district, having been granted 35,000 acres on the Monaro Tablelands in 1848.

Sadly, Louisa died on 19 May 1858 in Maitland during Lovick's time in Lochinvar. Her grave is the second oldest in the Lochinvar Anglican cemetery. The inscription says only "Sacred to the Memory of Louisa Matilda Tyrrell who died May 19th 1858 Hope".

One can only speculate what Lovick Tyrrell must have felt during his 1855 through 1863 tenure in Lochinvar. He would likely have been the only university graduate in his parish, which only included around 100 adherents of the Church of England, although far fewer regularly attended Divine Service. The church building itself was fairly rudimentary. In 1855 the Bishop's (Diocesan) General Fund had lent £50 towards the construction of a (wooden) church at Lochinvar.



From Roberts (1989)

This early church building was remembered when, on 2 December 1890, the foundation stone of the present Holy Trinity Church was laid. Reverend Tyrrell was invited to the ceremony and was asked to say a few words, as was reported in the *Maitland Mercury* on 4 December 1890:

The Revd. Canon Tyrrell supposed very few of those present would remember his connection with that parish. Many of them were not born then. It was twenty-eight years ago since his connection with it ceased, and he remembered it thirty-five years ago. He used to hold service in a little hut the other side of the old church, and it was during his incumbency that the present church was put up. Things were in a primitive condition then.

The Venerable Archdeacon Lovick Tyrrell was also present at the consecration of the completed church on 28 April, 1893, and preached the first evensong service there (*Maitland Mercury*, 29 April, 1893).

Although the original church buildings may have been rustic, the first parsonage was comfortable. In 1857 £65 was contributed towards a brick parsonage, which was completed in 1858 (Elkin, p. 207). Twelve years later the building was valued at £1000. It was in this parsonage that a theft occurred in May 1859, as reported in the *Maitland Mercury* on 8 November 1859. An elderly woman named Ann Glass, who was employed as a washerwoman at the parsonage, was accused of stealing money from a man called John Jacobs, who had been staying with Lovick Tyrrell. "It appeared that she had not been employed at the Parsonage for a fortnight before the money was missed; but on the other hand, she was acquainted with the servants, and had not been forbidden to visit them." Mrs Glass was convicted in the Maitland Quarter Sessions after a jury deliberation of fifteen minutes. Lovick Tyrrell had given evidence in court in this affair.

During Lovick's tenure in Lochinvar, both the church building and the parsonage were surrounded on the east and west by the properties of Thomas Hickey, the Lochinvar poundkeeper. The pound itself was directly on the eastern border of the parsonage (see the *Bulletin of the Maitland Historical Society*, Vol. 19, No. 3, August 2012, for more on poundkeeping).

The Report of Contributions to the Newcastle Church Society for the year 1862 showed that the Reverend Lovick Tyrrell was the Secretary for the Lochinvar and Branxton District. A total of £120 was raised, to be apportioned between the Parochial and the Diocesan Funds. It was reported that £50/7/6 was given through the Reverend Tyrrell.

Lovick Tyrrell remarried in 1860 while he was still in Lochinvar. His second wife was Emma Hungerford, who, like his first wife, was also from a noted local family. The Hungerford homestead was "Owlpen" in Maitland. Between 1861 and 1869 Lovick and Emma had six daughters and two sons. In February 1868 Lovick had a severe riding accident and travelled with his wife to England to convalesce, only returning in February 1869. Emma Hungerford Tyrrell died on Christmas Eve 1871.



Lovick Tyrrell
From Roberts (1989)

Lovick's brother Edward had also married a Hungerford, Emma's sister Susan, on 7 June 1869 in Maitland. They had ten children. Edward did not follow his brother and uncle into the church. In 1858, after giving up his initial plan to become a dairy farmer, he had taken up a selection of 320 acres near the Brokenback Range. This limestone property, which he named "Ashmans" after family land in England, was to prove excellent for the growing of grapes. Through Edward, and his son Edward George Young Tyrrell, the Tyrrell Winery was established.



Lovick's brother, Edward
From "Tyrrell's" (2008)

Lovick Tyrrell's 1863 arrival in the East Maitland parish, where he was to spend forty years, initiated a period in which this undoubtedly accomplished man could more widely express his varied talents. It was principally through his vision that St. Peter's Anglican Church was built there. It was designed by Blacket Brothers of Sydney and built from 1884 to 1886 in the Decorated Gothic style. A synopsis of the major features of St Peter's Church may be found in the *Bulletin of the Maitland Historical Society*, Vol. 18, No. 3, August 2011.

Lovick's religious duties in East Maitland were greater than he had experienced before, and in 1875 the chaplaincy of Maitland Gaol was added to his care. He was appointed a canon in 1879 and the archdeacon of the Central Archdeaconry of Newcastle in 1892. Due to the increase of parish work, Reverend Tyrrell employed a series of curates, paying them out of his own pocket until 1885.

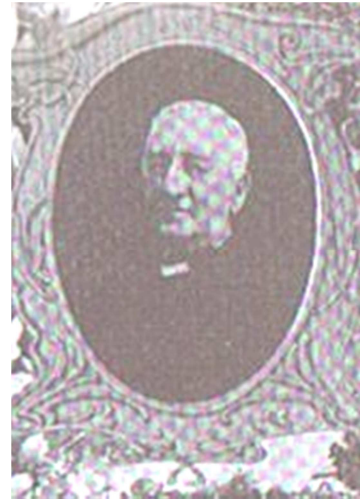
Lovick Tyrrell's financial acumen expressed itself in his property dealings in Newcastle. Together with Archdeacon Coles Child of Morpeth, he owned land in Newcastle. In October 1883 they sub-divided and sold off the property, which is in the general area of York Street, Shortland Street, and Frederick Street, and which was subsequently known as "Tyrrell's Estate".

Privately, Reverend Tyrrell was probably sympathetic to the tenets of the Tractarians. However, his public attitude appears to have been generally conciliatory. Reportedly, when there were disputes between high church and low church adherents, he argued for tolerance of a wide range of belief and practice.

Lovick Tyrrell retired in July 1903 and died in Ashfield in 1905. He is buried at East Maitland, in the cemetery on Raymond Terrace Road.

Some Notes on the Name "Lovick"

The name Lovick is fairly uncommon and may have been traditional within the family. Its derivation is unclear. It may be from the Old English word "leofric", meaning "beloved ruler", or from Old Norse words meaning "leaf creek". A number of surnames appear in the thirteenth century which are variously spelled "Loverich", "Leveriche", and "Lovrick".



Lovick Tyrrell
in old age
From Waddell (1996)

Lovick and Emma's second son was named "Lovick Astley", thus carrying on the name. Moreover, through the marriage of one of their daughters to James, of the local Garland family, Lovick's grandson was named Lovick Tyrrell Garland (1895-1972).



Many thanks to Kevin Short and James Waddell for background data on Lovick Tyrrell and St Peter's Church. Thanks also to Murray Flannigan and Brigitte Wilson of Tyrrell's Wines, for their assistance with the Tyrrell family history. We are indebted to Judy Nicholson for the information on Lovick Tyrrell's property dealings.

Information on the London Remembrancer, the Oxford Movement, Oxford University, and the name "Lovick" were sourced from various Internet sites, including Wikipedia.

Elkin, A.P. (1955). *The Diocese of Newcastle: A History of the Diocese of Newcastle, N.S.W., Australia*. Australasian Medical Publishing Company.

Roberts, J. (1989). *Lochinvar – A Parish History*. Printed by Goanna Print.

Thomas Valentine Blomfield. <http://www.monaropioneers.com/blomfieldtv.htm>.

Tyrrell's Wines: Nothing is great unless it is good (2008). Published by Tyrrell's Wines.

Waddell, J. (1996). *A History of St Peter's Church, East Maitland NSW*. Self published.

Lecture Meetings

August – Guest speaker **John Whittaker** spoke about his family's long involvement in the jewellery business. John brought with him a collection of early watches and other artefacts of interest.

September - Judy, Adele and Ruth gave an overview of the Society's collection, the location of various items in the Society's collection as well as items on display.

October - Judy Nicholson spoke about the practical aspects of researching the history of a house or property.

Ghost' signs

Partial signs or faint, faded 'ghost' signs on old buildings can create a (somewhat foggy) window to businesses and products of the past.

The 'ghost sign' featured in the **August 2012** Historical Society Bulletin was the **Miller** building at 431 High Street.

Congratulations to **Rob Barnes** for spotting that one – if we had a big expensive award it would certainly be presented to Rob!!



Maitland and District Historical Society Inc.

Well before the Miller business, this building was the wholesale and retail drapers **Sparks, Brown & Sewell**. The building sketch above has been sourced from the engraving West Maitland and its leading commercial buildings, 1878.

Sparks, Brown & Sewell initiated business with a notice in the Maitland Mercury of Saturday 24 November 1877 calling for tenders for shop and counter fixtures. By May 1879 an auction was advertised, selling just about everything that still existed in the Sparks, Brown & Sewell premises:

To Storekeepers, Dealers, and Others,

M MOORE has received instructions from the Trustees in the Estate of Sparks Brown, and Sewell, to sell by auction, on the premises, opposite Wolfe and Gorrick's High-street, West Maitland, on MONDAY, 6th May, at Eleven o'clock,

ALL THE REMAINING STOCK OF DRAPERY, SHOP FIXTURES, &c., consisting of DRAPERY, Clothing, Fancy Goods, Hosiery. A large assortment of the above. Shop Fixtures, Gas fittings, Outside Window Lamps, Glass Cases, Chairs, Tables, Pier Glass, &c. No Reserve. Terms cash.

(Maitland Mercury, Thursday 1 May 1879)

CHEAP BOOTS.
CHEAP BOOTS.

R. DREW

BEGS to inform his friends and the public generally that he has OPENED THOSE PREMISES OPPOSITE MESSRS. WOLFE AND GORRICK, late Sparks, Brown, and Sewell, as a BOOT SHOP, where he intends to SELL AT THE

LOWEST POSSIBLE PRICE,
FOR CASH.

BOOTS AND SHOES, of all descriptions, kept in stock. Call and judge for yourselves.

PRICES EXTREMELY LOW.

5495 **ROBERT DREW.**

A few months later, R. Drew took over the premises for his boot and show shop – lowest possible price for cash.

(Maitland Mercury, Tuesday 12 August 1879)

In addition to Sparks, Brown & Sewell and Drew, it is believed the building has also housed the following businesses (not chronological order):

Ben Saxby-Chemist.; Sargent's; R.J. Franklin; The British Record Co.; N. H. Goodsir – Real Estate

The 'ghost sign' for **May** was **Sullivan**, the **cheap cash draper**, another High Street building.

Congratulations to **Glenda Dowling** for picking that one – again, if we had a big expensive award it would now belong to Glenda!



Sullivan's business enterprise commenced around September 1891, moving to his 'new' High Street premises in June 1892, with plenty of 'marvellous bargains':

SULLIVAN - the Cheap Cash Draper

NEW BUSINESS PREMISES IN HIGH-ST., WEST MAITLAND.-We are always pleased to report any matter which shows the prosperity of Maitland, and gives a denial to statements so often made by croakers that there is no money left in the district. Mr. W. R. SULLIVAN, who was ten years with the late firm of John Lee and Co., started ten months ago a Cash Drapery Business in unpretentious

*premises next door to Mr. Croyle's hotel. After a short time he found that the place was too small, and rented more commodious premises at the Bank Arcade. He now finds that the new place is a long way too small, and has taken the one adjoining, which he is having nicely fitted up as a Ladies' Department. The entrance from one shop to the other is by means of a large arched doorway. Mr. **W. R. SULLIVAN** is known as the **Cheap Cash Draper** because he only sells for cash. He has a style of carrying on business which is peculiarly his own ; and judging from his success satisfactorily to his customers, Mr. Sullivan informs us that for the time being he is going to use his new shop for making a display of what he terms **Marvellous Bargains** during a Great Sale which he purposes starting on Wednesday morning next in commemoration of the opening event/and which he calls his Great Extension Sale. Mr. Sullivan is deserving of success in his spirited enterprise, and we trust he will receive it.*

(Maitland Mercury, Saturday 18 June 1892)

The Bishop's House



Bishop Wright renews tradition at Maitland residence

Bishop Bill Wright has decided to take up residency at the Bishop's House in Free Church Street, Maitland, re-establishing the city's long-standing tradition in the Maitland-Newcastle Diocese, reports *The Maitland Mercury*.

He will be the first bishop to live in the house since Bishop Leo Clarke, who resided there until the

1990s. "My intention to live in Maitland brings with it a number of opportunities for me as bishop," Bishop Wright said.

"And the thought was first prompted by seeing the church next door [St John's Chapel] with its cyclone wire fence and its crumbling tower. I thought that if the bishop moved back in we could do something about this and generate a bit of interest.

"It just seems sad to me that a church that represents the beginning of our story in this part of the world looks like that and I think we can do better than that somehow."

Source: Catholic News, February 06, 2012 <http://www.cathnews.com/article.aspx?aeid=29936>

The following articles from the Maitland Mercury & Hunter River General Advertiser cover details of the beginnings of the Bishop's house from fundraising in 1878 to details in 1884; researched by Peter Bogan.

The Bazaar in Aid of St. John's School. Yesterday, at three o'clock, the bazaar in aid of St. John's Catholic Denominational School and the fund for the Bishop's house, was opened in the Maitland School of Arts, by the Right Rev. Dr Murray, Catholic Bishop of Maitland. There were eight other clergymen present. The boarders from the Dominican Convent, who had prepared some of the finest articles, came at four o'clock, and remained for an hour, We shall in a future issue, give a list of the ladies presiding over the stalls.

As for the goods for sale, we have no hesitation in saying they give evidence of much precious labour, and that they equal in quality, beauty, variety, value, and usefulness, any previous collections which we have seen at bazaars, They will be found well worth inspection, and if we do not attempt a detailed account, we have several good reasons for abstaining. One is that we have not room; another that bazaar collections are well nigh of the same character always; a third, that we could not possibly do the articles justice; a fourth, that we think the public should see for themselves; a fifth, that each stall is presided over by a large number of ladies, and we cannot hope to satisfy them by the most careful descriptions. So we take the path of prudence, and seek refuge in the merest generalities.

There was a good attendance in the afternoon of yesterday, but business can scarcely be said to have begun till the evening. We understand that the result of the day's work was very encouraging to the stall keepers.

Maitland and District Historical Society Inc.

As announced in our advertising columns, the bazaar will be open during the week from eleven o'clock a.m. till eleven o'clock p.m.; but on the two race days (Wednesday and Thursday) it will open in the morning at nine o'clock. PLB

(Maitland Mercury & Hunter River General Advertiser, Tuesday 14 May 1878)

Researched by Peter Bogan

BISHOP'S HOUSE-A preliminary meeting of Catholics, presided over by his Lordship the Bishop of Maitland, was hold in St John's School, last evening, to make arrangements for the erection of a Bishop's house, for which a suitable piece of ground has already been purchased adjoining the Cathedral grounds. Resolutions, expressive of hearty co-operation in the work, were unanimously adopted. In connection with the above, it may be observed that the foundation stone of the building will be laid on Sunday next. The Bishops of Bathurst and Brisbane will be present on the occasion. (Maitland Mercury & Hunter River General Advertiser, Thursday 30 September 1869)

Researched by Peter Bogan

New RESIDENCE For THE BISHOP OP MAITLAND. -On Sunday morning, the 15th instant, an advertisement states, the foundation stone of the new residence for the Right Rev Dr Murray, Bishop of Maitland, will be blessed and laid by his Lordship after the eleven o'clock mass The Ret. Father O'Farrell, C S S R, of Singleton, will preach the sermon and a collection will be made after the ceremony in aid of the building fund PLB

(Maitland Mercury & Hunter River General Advertiser, Saturday 7 April 1883)

New Residence for the Bishop of Maitland.

LAYING AND BLESSING OF FOUNDATION STONE. The Catholics of the Diocese of Maitland have long recognised the necessity that exists for the erection of a new and more suitable residence for the Right Rev. Dr. Murray, Bishop of Maitland, and on more than one occasion a movement has been started for the raising of funds to carry out the work; but his Lordship's earnest desire to promote the cause of education in his Diocese, a work which has engaged Dr. Murray's almost undivided attention during his episcopate, has delayed the plans of his people in regard to the erection of an Episcopal residence. The parishioners of St. John's, West Maitland, and the people of the diocese generally, are now determined that the work shall no longer remain in abeyance. Recently a strong, energetic committee was formed to secure the practical furtherance of the object, and so gratifying were the assurances for success received, that the committee felt warranted in instructing Mr. J. W. Pender, architect, to prepare the plans for the proposed new residence. These having been approved, the tender of Mr. James Pritchard for the execution of the work was at once accepted, and satisfactory progress has already been made with the building.

The site of the new building is in Charles street, West Maitland, near the Cathedral. Although situated in town, it will possess the advantages of a quiet villa residence. The plans show a commodious structure, to be built in brick, on concrete foundations. To secure it from the reach of floods the floors have been built high above the ground - about a foot higher than the floor of the Cathedral adjoining. The walls are built in cement up to the level of the floor, about five feet, not only to prevent damp arising, but also to afford ventilation underneath the floors. The building, the front of which faces Charles-street, stands some distance from the street, to admit of a flower plot in front. Access will be given to the entrance by a flight of stone steps, having neat paneled parapet and pediments to carry vases, up to a wide verandah. The entrance hall will be thirty-three feet long by eight feet wide, and will give access to drawing-room, eighteen feet by sixteen feet; dining room, twenty-one feet by eighteen feet; sitting twenty-one by eighteen feet; parlour, fourteen feet by eighteen feet. Provision is also made on this floor for large pantry and store-room, with housekeeper's room, eighteen feet by eleven feet, opening on to back verandah. From the hall there will be a very handsome staircase giving access to the hall on the first floor, which will contain his

Lordship's sitting-room, sixteen feet by eighteen feet, five commodious bedrooms large bathroom with lavatory. There will be a wide verandah front and back on the first floor. These balconies are supported with very handsome fluted columns, ornamental spandrels, with friezes, and neat iron balustrading. The rooms on the ground floor will be fourteen feet high, and those on the first floor thirteen feet high. Throughout the building the architect has provided for perfect ventilation. –it should be mentioned that in the front elevation there is a large oriel window.

The dining-room and drawing-room nil be screened off with paneled screen forming a large room, thirty eight feet by eighteen feet, when required. The ceilings of the principal rooms are finished with cornices of a very ornate description, filled a with enrichments and centre flowers The brickwork is to be finished with tuck-pointing, which, together with the dressings to be carried out in cement, with paneled quoins and ornamental trusses supporting the roof, which is to be slated, will give the building a very pleasing and attractive appearance. A large underground tank, capable of holding about 13,000 gallons of water, will supply powerful force and lift pumps, by which means the water is to be conveyed to cistern in roof, for bath and lavatories. The building when completed will cost something like £4000.

On Sunday forenoon the ceremony of blessing and laying the foundation stone of the new edifice was performed by his Lordship. Mass was celebrated in the church at eleven o'clock as usual, the celebrant being the Rev. M. Kearns, of Merriwa. There was a large congregation present. PLB
Maitland Mercury & Hunter River General Advertiser . Tuesday 17 April 1883

NP. A lot more on this mainly reporting sermon preached

A collection was then taken up in aid of the building fund. The total collected was £1250 PLB

Researched by Peter Bogan

Residence for the Bishop of Maitland. The Contractor, Mr. James Pritchard, is making very excellent progress with the erection of new residence for his Lordship the Right Rev. Dr. Murray, in Charles-street, West Maitland, near the Cathedral. The walls have been built nearly the required height, and the material for the remainder of the work is on the ground. It will be a commodious attractive building. PLB

(Maitland Mercury & Hunter River General Advertiser, Saturday 28 July 1883)

Researched by Peter Bogan

Dr. Murray's New Episcopal Residence. Last evening a number of ladies and gentlemen assembled at the new residence of Dr Murray, Bishop of Maitland, situated in Charles-street, West Maitland, to take part in a social entertainment, at the invitation of his Lordship, the gathering was intended chiefly for the lady promoters of the bazaar, so successfully carried out some fifteen months since in aid of the building fund, und their assistants, but a number of friends were also included in the list of invitation Dr. Murray and several of the clergy were present and took much interest in the proceedings. The building was begun in the month of March last and on the following month the ceremony of laying and blessing the foundation stone was performed, in the presence of about seven hundred persons - members of all denominations.

Addresses were delivered on the occasion by Dr Murray, Messrs Robert Hyndes and E. W. Doyle, and the collections amounted to the large sum of £1250. Included in a full report of the ceremony, published in this journal at the time, was a lengthened description from the plans of the proposed building, and we have from time to time referred to the progress made with the work. The site of the new residence is near St. John's Cathedral It is built of brick on a concrete foundation with cement dressings, and is two stories high The floors are raised above the reach of floods, being a

foot higher than the floor of the cathedral. The walls are built in cement up to the level of the floor - about five feet - and the brick-work is tuck-pointed and has a very neat appearance. The building faces Charles street, and stands some feet in from that thoroughfare, in order that provision may be made at any time for a flower garden in front. It possesses the advantages of a villa residence. A flight of massive stone steps, having paneled parapets and pediments with stone vases gives access to a wide, cheerfully finished verandah in front. The entrance hall is thirty three feet long by eight feet wide, and gives access to drawing-room, eighteen feet by sixteen feet, dining room, twenty one feet by eighteen feet, sitting room, twenty one feet by eighteen feet, and parlour, fourteen feet by eighteen feet, which are fourteen feet high. The dining and drawing rooms are divided by means of a paneled screen which can be drawn aside when necessary, and a clear floor space of thirty-eight feet is thus secured. Picture rods are bung around the walls, and the interior fittings and furniture are very handsome. None but the best timber has been used throughout the building. The doors are richly varnished, and there is a fanlight over each. Each room is supplied with an electric bell, which is connected with the kitchen and an improved system of ventilation has been introduced. Indeed no building in town is better ventilated or more perfectly lighted. The electric bells have been fitted up by Mr G H. Clark, electrician, of Sydney, and are similar to those in Mr John Lee's new villa residence at Leeholm.

The rooms on the first floor, which are thirteen feet high, are approached by a richly finished staircase. His Lordship's study is 16ft by 18ft and is cheerfully furnished. There are also five large bedrooms, with bathroom and lavatory. Connected with the main building are large pantry and storeroom, kitchen housekeeper's and servant's rooms. The mantelpieces in the principal rooms are of marble, and the ceilings are finished with cornices of an ornate description, with enrichments and centre flowers. Stained glass windows are provided in the halls. In the front elevation there is a large oriel window. There are verandahs and balconies at back and front. These are supported with very handsome fluted columns, ornamental spandrils with friezes and neat iron balustrading. Paneled quoins and ornamental trusses support the roof, which is slated. The verandah and exterior woodwork are painted in well attuned colours. The building is lighted with gas. In the principal rooms the gasoliers are very handsome. This part of the work was satisfactorily executed by Mr. Pidcock.

In the yard there is an underground tank, capable of holding 25 000 gallons of water, connected with which are powerful force and lift pumps, by which means the water is conveyed to the cistern in the roof for supplying bath and lavatories, and to tanks for supplying kitchen and scullery sinks. Under the pantry there is a large, cool, well-ventilated cellar.

The land is to be enclosed with a neat fence, and wash house and other buildings are to be erected. When these improvements have been completed the building will be one of the most complete in the district.

Mr. J W. Pender was the architect, Mr. J. Pritchard the contractor, and both gentlemen have given the greatest satisfaction to his Lordship, who speaks highly of the excellent workmanship in the building. Mr. Pender is also greatly pleased with the manner in which the various departments have been carried out. The plastering was executed by Mr. Richard Ward, of Newcastle, and the interior varnishing by Mr. B Macartney, of West Maitland. PLB
(Maitland Mercury & Hunter River General Advertiser, Thursday 7 February 1884)

Researched by Peter Bogan

Remedies of the past

PRICKLY PEAR OIL.

(PATENT REGISTERED.)

AWARDED GOLD MEDAL, SINGLETON SHOW, 1892.

This Preparation will Cure all Wounds and Sores.

DIRECTIONS:

For Human Use.—One part of Oil with three parts of water to form a Lotion. Moisten a piece of Linen cloth with the Lotion, and apply occasionally.

For Animal Use.—Use the Oil Pure, and apply with a feather three times a day.

PRICKLY PEAR LINIMENT

(PATENT REGISTERED.)

A Valuable External Remedy for Rheumatism, Sciatica, Stiffness of Joints, Coughs, Colds, and all affections where a Stimulating and Soothing application is required.

DIRECTIONS FOR USE:

For RHEUMATISM and all painful affections.—Well rub in twice a day.

For COLDS, BRONCHITIS, and other Chest complaints.—Well rub in between the shoulders and over the chest and throat.

For COLIC PAINS in the Stomach and Bowels.—Apply the Liniment sprinkled on flannel wrung out in hot water.

For CHILDREN.—Mix a teaspoonful of Sweet Oil before using.

Sole Manufacturer:

A. REUBEN,
SINGLETON, N.S.W.

 **WRITE FOR TESTIMONIALS.**

Price: 2s 6d per Bottle.

Maitland Mercury,
Saturday 24
December 1892



ABC's Now and Then features a Singleton business of the past selling the famous Prickly Pear Oil, which was manufactured in Singleton.

<http://www.abc.net.au/local/photos/2011/01/17/3114821.htm>

Diary Dates

November

Tuesday 6th Guest Speaker to be advised 5.30 at the rooms

Tuesday 20th General Business Meeting 5.30 at the rooms

December

Tuesday 4th Guest Speaker 5.30 at the rooms

Friday 7th BBQ at Bunnings, Helpers needed please.

Sunday 16th Afternoon **Christmas Gathering** at Bill Sutherlands, Old North Road Lochinvar. A lovely informal get together, where we can look over the restored old Rail Carriage in his yard, BBQ available. Please bring your own table and chairs. We have some spare if you need them. From 3.00pm.

Tuesday 18th General Business Meeting

Saturday 22nd Our last open day for 2012.



We will resume on **Saturday 5th January 2013**



Victoria Bridge
Spanning Wallis Creek, Maitland

Linking East and West Maitland (1852-1896)

National Library of Australia, J.R. Clarke 1857