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EDITORIAL

John Bird

FOR MORE than three-quarters of a century "*Bird's Annals*" has remained a rich mine for scholars and readers with an interest in the early history of Natal. It is thus fitting that a journal, dedicated to the preservation of the Natal heritage should, in its first number, honour the memory of John Bird—a pioneer preserver, whose great compilation of documents is now, in its own right, an integral part of the heritage of this province.

Born on 18 April 1815, John Bird was only 22 when Queen Victoria came to the throne. He died aged 81 on 28 May 1896, just five years before her long reign ended. He was, in a word, a *Victorian*—not just in the narrow temporal sense, but also in the wider sense that he epitomised a breed of men who gave to the Victorian age a part of its special character: respectable men of gentlemanly breeding but modest means, forced by circumstance to make their own way in the world; men who elevated initiative and self-reliance into leading virtues, and whose solid achievements and sober lives were the bed-rock upon which some of the more spectacular attainments of the age arose.

In G. D. H. Cole's words, "the Victorian age, and particularly the early part of it, was an age of 'self-made men'", but it was also an age in which "the competitive struggle was always hard". That it was so was because initiative and self-reliance still had to contend against patronage and jobbery. John Bird was to know this at first hand. Like his father, Christopher Bird, who had been sent as a special envoy to the French Directory in 1795, and who had later served as Colonial Secretary at the Cape, it was through *service* that John Bird sought to make his way in the world. But he found on more than one occasion, that the path to advancement was blocked by those more powerfully connected than he.

First employed in the Colonial Secretary's department at the Cape, he later qualified as a government surveyor, and in 1846 was one of a number selected for the original survey of Natal. In 1851, he acted as Surveyor-General, and in the following year, with the establishment of a separate revenue department, was provisionally appointed Treasurer-General. The post did not remain his, however. In London there were others with stronger claims to favour; and it was not Bird, but one Philip Allen, who gained the office. Not until 1876 was Bird to control the Department which he had helped to establish; and by then, in his own opinion, it was "too late". In the interim he had served as Chief Clerk in the Colonial Office, as Private Secretary to the Lieutenant-Governor, and as Resident Magistrate for the City and County of Pietermaritzburg; he had also, on the death of the Surveyor-General in 1854, done a second stint as acting head of the Survey Department, and had twice temporarily resumed charge of the Treasury: in 1857, and again from June 1870 to March 1872.

In 1878, after only two years in the post which he had aspired to for so long, his health failed and he resigned. For a while, thereafter, he served as Judge of

the Native High Court; but he found it impossible to reconcile his Catholic tenets with the law on divorce, and in November 1879 retired from the bench and from government service.

He knew that he was at odds with many of his fellow-colonists, not only on the matter of divorce, but also on the question of the relations between master and servant. To him it seemed that the law was too rigorous and should be softened by principles of common humanity. As a magistrate he had been unable, in conscience, to conform to "the belief of the European inhabitants . . . that the natives would be more inspired with respect and be made more diligent by severity". A man whose integrity was everywhere recognized, he was forthright in the expression of his views. In 1869, while still in the colonial service, he had published a 30-page pamphlet entitled *The Form of Constitutional Government existing in the Colony of Natal Considered as Affecting the Safety and Welfare of the European and Native Inhabitants*; after his retirement, in addition to his work on the *Annals*, he published two further tracts: *An Enquiry into the Causes of the Zulu War* (Pietermaritzburg, 1880, 40 p.), and *Natal 1846-51*, a 27-page pamphlet which appeared pseudonymously in 1891 as the work of "An Old Inhabitant". It is the latter which we republish in this first issue of *Natalia*. This pamphlet is now an extremely scarce piece of Nataliana, rarely found anywhere but in major libraries. It represents the viewpoint of a man closely associated with the Colony from its early days and involved in the setting up of the earliest administration. We feel that readers will find much of interest in a pamphlet reflecting the opinions and memoirs of such a man.

Although it is chiefly through the association of his name with the *Annals* that John Bird is now remembered, he served Natal richly in a variety of ways. We hope that this journal will do likewise, publishing material relevant not only to historical scholarship, but also to artistic endeavour, to the conservation of the natural environment, and to studies of the physical and human resources of this province.

Such catholicity, John Bird himself would almost certainly have approved. He was an early Secretary and Council Member of the Society under whose aegis this journal appears, and was a Trustee in 1865 when a set of rules was adopted, formulating as objectives of the Society: "The acquisition and preservation of information of local value and interest, and the general encouragement of habits of study, investigation and research".

That tradition this journal seeks to perpetuate.

C. DE B. WEBB

Select list of recent Natal Publications

- ARNOLD, L. M., and Varty, A. E. Communication in industry; preliminary English course for adults. Pietermaritzburg, the Authors, 1971.
- BARNARD, C. J. Generaal Louis Botha op die Natalse front, 1899-1900. Kaapstad, Balkema, 1970.
- BEATER, B. E. Soil series of the Natal sugar belt. Durban, South African sugar association, 1970?
- BENSON, IVOR. Die Meningsmouse. Durban, Dolphin Press, 1970.
- THE BOROUGH of Kingsburgh . . . Durban, Publication services, (1971?)
- BRABY'S Natal directory including Zululand, East Griqualand and Pondoland, 1971. Durban, Braby, 1971.
- BRABY'S Natal, North Coast and Zululand directory, 1971. Durban, Braby, 1971.
- BRABY'S Newcastle directory, 1970. Durban, Braby, 1970.
- BRABY'S Northern Natal directory, 1970. Durban, Braby, 1970.
- BRABY'S Pietermaritzburg directory, 1971. Durban, Braby, 1971.
- BRABY'S Pinetown, Gillitts, Hillcrest, Kloof, New Germany and Westville directory, 1970. Durban, Braby, 1970.
- BRABY'S Southern Natal and East Griqualand directory, 1971. Durban, Braby, 1971.
- BRABY'S Vryheid directory, 1970. Durban, Braby, 1970.
- BROWN, E. A Discussion of the theological method of church history with reference to the church historiography of South Africa. Zululand, University college, 1970.
- DRABBE, J., *Editor*. When spirit speaks. Richmond, the Editor, (1970?)
- DURBAN. *Chamber of commerce*. Durban area transportation study . . . Durban, the Chamber, (1970?)
- DURBAN. *Glenwood high school*. Diamond Jubilee, 1910-1970. Durban, the School, 1970.
- DURBAN. *Municipal library*. Current periodicals, 1971. Durban, the Library, 1971.
- DURBAN. *Museum*. List of periodicals in the Durban museum (Part I). Durban, the Museum, (1970?)
- DURBAN. *St. Cyprian's Church*. The Centenary of St. Cyprian's Church. (Durban, the Church, 1970?)
- ESTCOURT directory, 1971. Durban, Braby, 1971.
- GORDON, R. E. Dear Louisa: history of a pioneer family in Natal, 1850-1888: Ellen McLeod's letters to her sister in England from the Byrne Valley. Cape Town, Balkema, 1970.
- GREYTOWN directory, 1970. Durban, Braby, (1969?)
- GROUT, Lewis. Zulu-land, or, life among the Zulu-Kafirs of Natal and Zululand, South Africa. London, African Publications Society, 1970. (Reprint)

- HOLDEN, William Clifford. British rule in South Africa illustrated in the story of Kama and his tribe and of the war in Zululand. Pretoria, State Library, 1969. (Reprint)
- HOPE, Alice. Yesterdays: the story of Richmond. Durban, Alpha Graphic, 1970.
- IDEALS and significance of Vedic (Hindu) marriage. Durban, Veda Niketan, (1970?)
- INNES, J. B. The Developer's guide to Zululand, 1969/70. Empangeni, the Author, 1970.
- ISAACS, Nathaniel. Travels and adventures in Eastern Africa, descriptive of the Zoolus, their manners, customs with a sketch of Natal . . . Cape Town, Struik, 1970.
- ISLAMIC calendar, 1970. Durban, Muslim digest, 1970.
- JACKSON, George S. Music in Durban: an account of musical activities in Durban from 1850 to the early years of the present century. Johannesburg, Witwatersrand University press, 1970.
- KINLOCH, G. S., and others. Urbanization and the plural society: a case study of flat life in South Africa. Durban, Logan's academic press, 1970.
- KINLOCH, Graham C. Flame or lily. (Rhodesian values as defined by the press.) Durban, Alpha Graphic, 1970.
- LADYSMITH directory, 1970/71. Durban, Braby, 1971.
- LAWRIE'S Durban directory. Durban, Lawrie, 1971.
- THE LAWYER'S pocketbook; edited for the year 1971 by M. J. Irwin. Durban, Butterworth, 1970.
- THE LEADER. *Durban*. Gandhi in South Africa, 1893-1914. Durban, the Leader, 1969.
- LUDLOW, W. R. Zululand and Cetewayo. Pretoria, State Library, 1969. (Reprint)
- LUGG, H. C. A Natal family looks back. Durban, Griggs, 1970.
- MAASDORP, G. G. A Natal Indian community: a socio-economic study in the Tongaat-Verulam areas. Durban, Univ. of Natal, Dept. of economics, 1968.
- MANSON, H. W. D. The Counsellors; edited by C. van Heyningen. Pietermaritzburg, Univ. of Natal press, 1970.
- MANSON, H. W. D. The Festival. Pietermaritzburg, Univ. of Natal press, 1970.
- MANSON, H. W. D. Magnus; edited by C. van Heyningen. Pietermaritzburg, Univ. of Natal press, 1970.
- MANSON, H. W. D. Potluck. Pietermaritzburg, Univ. of Natal press, 1970.
- MARKS, Shula. Reluctant rebellion; the 1906-8 disturbances in Natal. Oxford, Clarendon, 1970.
- MOBERLY, C. S. A City set on a hill; a history of Eshowe. Eshowe, Rotary Club, 1970.
- NATAL. *Education dept.* Tables of educational statistics and information, 1971. Pietermaritzburg, the Dept., 1971.
- NATAL. *Town and regional planning commission.* Soils of the Tugela Basin: a study in subtropical Africa . . . (by) J. J. van der Eyk and others. Pietermaritzburg, the Commission, 1969.
- NATAL. *University. Faculty of agriculture.* The University and agriculture; proceedings of the conference on higher education in agriculture . . . 9th-11th July 1968. Pietermaritzburg, Univ. of Natal press, 1969.

- NATAL. *University*. Inaugural address of Francis E. Stock, Principal and Vice-chancellor. Durban, the University, 1971.
- NATAL. *University*. *Institute of social research*. British emigration to Durban, South Africa . . . by P. H. W. Johnston. Durban, the Institute, 1970.
- NATAL COAST ANGLERS UNION. Yearbook, 1970. Durban, the Union, 1970.
- NEL, C. F. Beyers. Some aspects of adulthood as seen in philosophical-pedagogical perspective with reference to the Zulu's new image. Zululand, University of Zululand, 1970.
- NICHOLSON, J. M., and Morton J. G. Working with maps. Rev. ed. Pietermaritzburg, Shuter & Shooter, 1970.
- O'REAGAN, Mary. The Hospital services of Natal. Durban, Univ. of Natal, 1970.
- PARR, Sir Henry Hallam. A Sketch of the Kafir and Zulu wars. Pretoria, State Library, 1970. (Reprint)
- PATON, Alan. D. C. S. Oosthuizen memorial lectures, number one. Grahamstown, Rhodes university, 1970.
- PATON, Alan. Kontakion for you departed. London, Cape, 1969.
- PIENAAR, P. T. Double-up: a developmental reading programme in three parts. Pietermaritzburg, Shuter & Shooter, 1971?
- PILLAY, P. N., and Ellison, P. A. The Indian domestic budget: a socio-economic study of incomes and expenditures of Durban Indian households. Durban, Univ. of Natal, Dept. of economics, 1968.
- RANSFORD, O. The Battle of Spion Kop. London, Murray, 1969.
- ROSS, J. H. The Acacia species of Natal: an introduction . . . Durban Wildlife protection and conservation society, Natal Branch, 1971.
- SAVORY, Phyllis, *Compiler*. The Song of the golden birds. Cape Town, Timmins, 1970.
- SEANCE: 'n deurtastende ondersoek van spiritistiese verskynsels in Suid-Afrika. Durban, E.S.P. instituut, (1970?)
- SIVANANDA, Sri Swami. Saints and sages. 2nd ed. Durban, Divine life society, 1970.
- SOUTH AFRICAN cricket annual, 1969. Durban, S.A. Cricket Association, 1969.
- SOUTH AFRICAN POLO ASSOCIATION. *Pietermaritzburg*. Calendar, 1970. Pietermaritzburg, the Association, 1970.
- VIJN, Cornelius. Cetshwayo's Dutchman. New York, Negro Universities Press, 1969. (Reprint)
- WOMEN'S INSTITUTE. *Pinetown*. Annals of Pinetown. Pinetown, Town council, 1970.

Compiled by U. E. M. JUDD, Natal Society Library.

A First list of Natal Artists 1824-1910

THIS PRELIMINARY check-list merely serves to record the names of artists known to have painted pictures in or of Natal. Readers of *Natalia* may possess pictures done by Natal artists or may know of work done by artists not mentioned here. If so, please send the information to the Natal University library, Pietermaritzburg, and help to build up this important body of information.

AGAR, C.
ANDERSON, Kathleen
ANDRIES, C. C.
ANGAS, G. F.
AINSLIE, H. F.
ARBUTHNOT, Jane
ARDACH, J. C.

BAINES, T.
BOWLER, Thomas
BROOKES, H.
BUTCHER, Kate
BUTLER, Emily Mary

CATO, C. J.
CHARNLEY, W. J.
CLARKE, C. G.
CLEMANS, T. C.
CLOETE, P. L. G.
COLBOURNE, Jane Lemon (Smith)
COOK, Olive Mudie
COXON, Colonel
CRAWFORD, C.
CREALOCK, John North

DELACRONEY, H.
DE NEUVILLE, A.
DICKMAN, Charles
DIXON, Percy
DUNLOP, C.

ELLIS, A. B.

FINDLAY, Archibald

GEE, Isabella
GEMELL, E. M. B.
GILLESPIE, Mrs. Marianne
(née Churchill)
GLENDENNING, W.
GONNE, Charles Melville, R.A.
GONNE, Sheltie Henderson
GORDON, General George Hamilton
GREEN, W. E.
GRIER, Surgeon
GRIFFIN, B.

HARRIS, James
HENDERSON, Vere Forrester
HENWOOD, Hilda
HOLLOWAY, J. L.

HUTCHINSON, Mark
HUTTON, E.

INGRAM, J. Forsyth

KEATE, R. W., Lt. Col.
KENYON, Jean Elizabeth
KEULEMANS, J. G.
KING, H. E.
KING, J.

LAURIE, A.
LEIGH, Helen
LLOYD, Jas.

McDONALD, Langford
METHVEN, C. W.
MORELAND, John

NEWMAN, M. E.

PARKMAN, Alfred
PATON, Wallace

RAWLINS, E.
REID, T. W.
ROSE, H.
RUTHERFORD,
RUTHERFORD, G.

SANDERSON, John
SAUNDERS, Kathleen
SISSON, J. J. L., Captain, R.N.
SMITH, Capt.
SMITHSON, G.
SOHN, Carl
STEWART, F.

TATHAM, E.
TATHAM, R. B.
TUBRANAM, R. H.

WALTON, W. A.
WEBB, James
WEIDEL,
WEST, J. B.
WHITE, M., *pseud.*
WHITEHEAD, H.
WINDHAM, Ashe
WITT, Rev. O. de
WOODVILLE, R. Caton

J. A. VERBEEK, *Natal University Library*

Register of Societies and Institutions

THE PURPOSE of this register is to list for general information the numerous organisations that are engaged either in preservation, conservation and research, or in the promotion of artistic and creative endeavour in Natal.

The organisations and institutions listed are asked to check the accuracy of the information given, and to supply the editors with corrections.

Organisations and institutions that have not been listed are invited to furnish information for inclusion in the next issue.

1. *Botanic Gardens*. Swartkop Road, Pietermaritzburg.
2. *Botanic Research Institute*. Regional Headquarters: Herbarium, Municipal Botanic Gardens, Durban. Offers an advisory service as well as conducting ecological research.
3. *Campbell Collections of the University of Natal*. 220 Marriott Road, Durban. Three collections are housed together: the Killie Campbell Africana Library; the Mashu Bantu Museum (ethnological specimens); and the William Campbell Museum (furniture, *objets d'art*). The collections are accessible on application to the Africana Librarian at the above address.
4. *Durban Civic Orchestra*. City Hall, Durban.
5. *Durban Local History Museum*. Old Court House, Aliwal Street, Durban.
6. *Durban Museum and Art Gallery*. City Hall, Durban.
7. *Durban Municipal Library*. City Hall, Durban. Houses the valuable Don Collection of Africana, as well as some official records.
8. *Federation of Women's Institutes of Natal, Zululand, East Griqualand and the Transkeian Territories*. Fraser's Building, Pietermaritzburg. The Federation has been responsible for organising the compilation of 'Area Annals', recording the history of country districts in Natal, East Griqualand and Zululand. Copies are being housed in: Government Archives, Natal Depot, Pietermaritzburg; University of Natal Library, Pietermaritzburg; Natal Society Library, Pietermaritzburg; Killie Campbell Library, Durban; Local History Museum, Durban.
9. *Government Archives, Natal Depot*. Private Bag 9012, Pietermaritz Street, Pietermaritzburg. In addition to official papers from the colonial period, the Archives houses a valuable collection of newspapers, private papers and published works.
10. *Historical Association, Pietermaritzburg Branch*. Honorary Secretary: Mr. J. M. Sellers, 9 Vere Road, Scottsville, Pietermaritzburg. The Association serves as a forum for the reading of papers and the presentation of talks by local and overseas speakers.
11. *Historiese Genootskap (Natalse Tak)*. Local Representative: Mr. I. Adendorff, c/o Werda School, P.O. Box 3, Malvern. The Genootskap is planning to restore Commandant General Andries Pretorius' house at Welverdient (now Edendale).

12. *Ladysmith Historical Society*. P.O. Box 380, Ladysmith. Conducts tours of the local battlefields and has as one of its objects the reproduction of maps, diaries and other records relating to the history of the area. In co-operation with the Ladysmith Town Council, the Society also maintains a museum in part of the old Market Hall.
13. *Military Historical Society*. c/o Mr. M. C. Carter, 30 Sea Doone Road, Amanzimtoti.
14. *Mountain Club of South Africa*. Natal headquarters: Box 96, Snell Parade, Durban. Articles on Natal appear in the annual Journal of the Mountain Club.
15. *Natal Bird Club*. c/o Mr. W. J. Lawson, Durban Museum.
16. *Natal Development Board*. Private Bag 9037, Pietermaritzburg.
17. *Natal Museum*. Loop Street, Pietermaritzburg. Houses scientific and historical collections.
18. *Natal Parks, Game and Fish Preservation Board*. P.O. Box 662, Pietermaritzburg. In addition to maintaining a number of game parks and nature reserves, much scientific research is conducted under the auspices of the Board, and it is planning to restore an old settler's house at Loteni.
19. *Natal Performing Arts Council*. 480 Berea Road, Durban.
20. *Natal Society Library*. P.O. Box 415, 201 Longmarket Street, Pietermaritzburg. Includes a copyright library, and houses a large and valuable collection of Nataliana, newspapers, journals, etc.
21. *Natal Town and Regional Planning Commission*. Private Bag 9038, Pietermaritzburg. Has published a number of reports on the economic resources and potential of Natal.
22. *National Monuments Council*. Natal representative; Mr. G. A. Chadwick, c/o Natal Educational Activities Association, 480 Berea Road, Durban. The Council's main function is to preserve the heritage of South Africa in respect of: (a) geological features; (b) biological associations; (c) archaeological phenomena; (d) historical sites; (e) important buildings; (f) relics. Sites and other objects considered worthy of preservation should be reported to the Natal representative.
23. *Old House Museum*. 31 St Andrews Street, Durban. A settler homestead.
24. *Operation Wildflower*. Local representative: Mr. T. Giddy, Gwyddian Farm, Umlaas Road. Chiefly interested in removing, for preservation elsewhere, indigenous plants, especially aloes, from sites about to be bulldozed or built over.
25. *Pietermaritzburg Municipal Art Gallery*. City Hall, Pietermaritzburg.
26. *Pietermaritzburg Philharmonic Society*. City Hall, Pietermaritzburg.
27. *R. E. Stevenson Museum*. Colenso.
28. *Simon van der Stel Foundation*. Regional Chairman: Mr. E. D. Gower, 133 Villiers Drive, Pietermaritzburg. The aim of the Foundation is the preservation, by purchase or otherwise, of buildings, historical objects and sites of historical value or great beauty. The restoration of Macrorie House, Loop Street, Pietermaritzburg, has been undertaken by the Foundation.
29. *South African Archaeological Society*. Honorary Secretary, Natal Branch: Dr. D. E. van Dijk, c/o Zoology Department, University of Natal, Pietermaritzburg. Arranges talks and expeditions.

30. *South African National Society*. Natal Branch headquarters: c/o Mr. G. W. McDonald, P.O. Box 135, Durban. The Society was founded in 1907 'for the preservation of objects of natural or historical interest'.
31. *University of Natal*. Pietermaritzburg and Durban. Many of the academic departments of the University are engaged in research relating to the natural and human resources of Natal, its environmental conditions and its history. In addition to the academic departments, there are the following research institutes: Meyrick Bennett Children's Centre (Durban); Oceanographic Research Institute (Durban); Paint Industries Research Institute (Durban); Institute of Parasitology (Durban); Institute for Social Research (Durban); Sugar Milling Research Institute (Durban); Wattle Research Institute (Pietermaritzburg). The various libraries of the University have large holdings of works relevant to Natal subjects.
32. *Voortrekker Museum*. Church Street, P.O. Box 998, Pietermaritzburg. Houses a valuable collection of relics from the period of the Great Trek.
33. *Wildlife Protection and Conservation Society of South Africa*. Natal Branch: P.O. Box 2985, Durban.
34. *Zululand Historical Museum*. Nongqai Fort, Eshowe.

C. DE B. WEBB

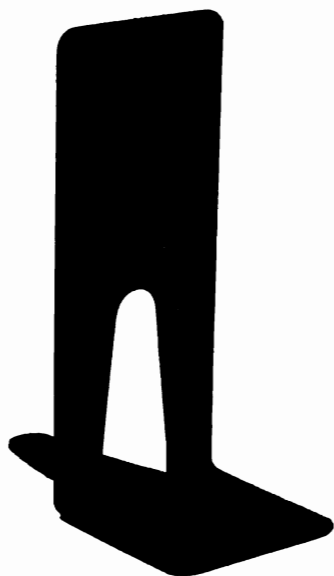
Our Next Issue

IF YOU have enjoyed the first issue of *Natalia* and the reprint of John Bird's scarce pamphlet on the early days of Pietermaritzburg, then you may be interested to know that the next issue of this new journal will contain a reprint of two long letters written by Theophilus Shepstone to the *Natal Mercury* in January and March, 1892. They are entitled 'The Native Question' and are extremely outspoken on the subject of how the Native people of Natal should be treated by the Whites. To the writing of these letters Shepstone brought the ripe experience of nearly 50 years of Native administration and contact. For a man normally so reluctant to reveal his views in communications to the Press the two letters are a revelation of deeply-held beliefs that are valid to this day. Our reprint will be the first in 80 years.

Other articles and regular features will also appear.

We regret, incidentally, that owing to the increase in the cost of publication we are compelled to raise the price of *Natalia* to R1.00 per copy, payable in advance. Advertising rates of R8.00 per issue for a full page and R5.00 for a half-page will remain the same.

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SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

THE ROAD TO ULUNDI. An album of sixty-seven water-colour drawings made in Natal and Zululand during the Zulu War, 1879, by Lieut.-Col. John North Crealock, military secretary to Lord Chelmsford. Edited and introduced by R. A. Brown, M.A.(Oxon.), Librarian of the University of Natal, Pietermaritzburg. **R19.50**

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