

### *Punch or the London Charivari*

Among the periodicals provided for subscribers of the early Natal Library was *Punch* (see Miss U. E. M. Judd's article in this issue). Copies of this magazine were in great demand among the settlers who keenly enjoyed both pictures and articles. Apart from the political and other information to be found in its pages, the *Punch* cartoons supplied vignettes of English social life that were pored over by men and women who felt exiled and yearned for contact with their former environment. We have selected a few representative cartoons for the period 1849-51.



## SHAMEFUL ATTEMPT AT OVERCHARGE.

A John Bull type complains to Lord John Russell of the increase in income tax from 3% to 5%. (1848)



HERE AND THERE;  
OR, EMIGRATION A REMEDY.

The need for many unemployed people to emigrate was becoming evident in 1849.



A VISION OF THE REPEAL OF THE WINDOW-TAX.

"HOLLO! OLD FELLOW; WE'RE GLAD TO SEE YOU HERE."

Social reformers in 1850 warmly welcomed the repeal of the Window Tax.



LORD JOHN TAKING THE MEASURE OF THE COLONIES.

Lord John Russell introduced plans in 1850 for representative government in the colonies. Note that Natal is not mentioned because it came under the government of the Cape of Good Hope.



### DIRTY FATHER THAMES.

A shaggy Father Thames gathers rubbish from the bed of the polluted river. Dead fish float around him. (1850)



### AWFUL OCCURRENCE.

A lively sketch of a London bus that must have made the Londoners sigh for home. The 'awful occurrence' was a box of leeches accidentally dropped among the ladies. (1850)

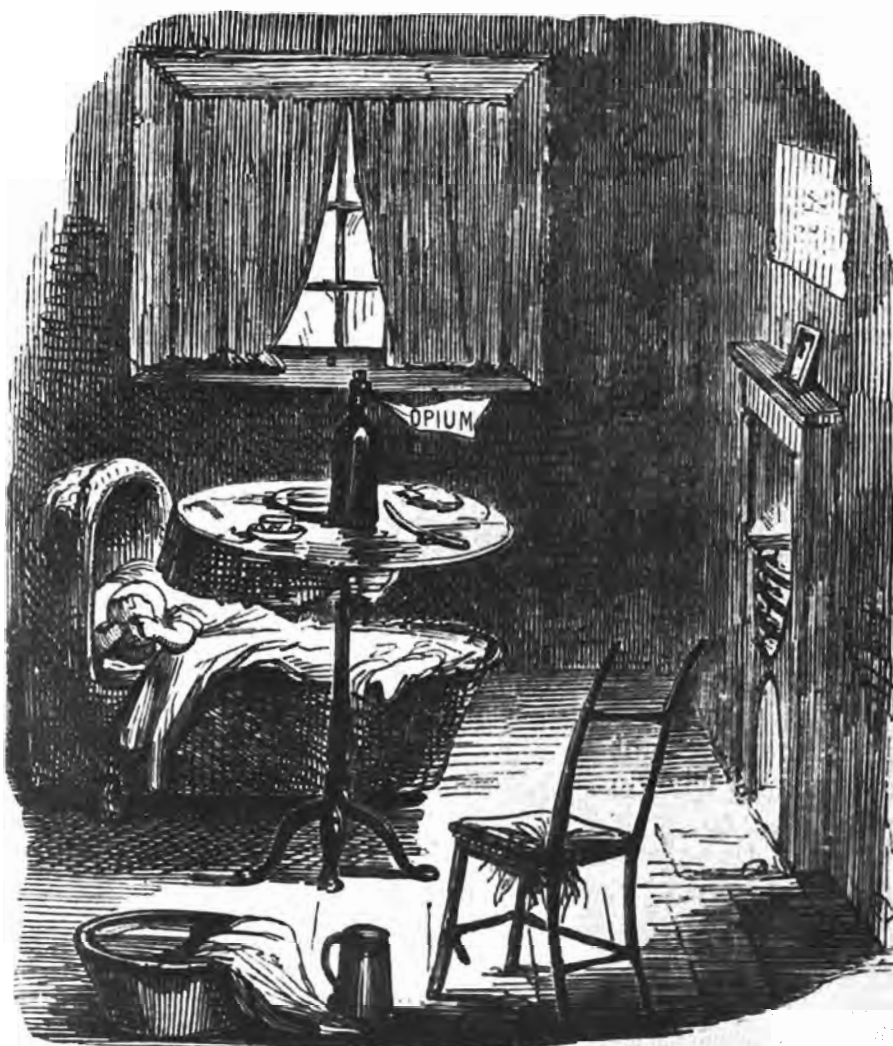
## A WET DAY AT A COUNTRY INN.



*Guest.* "IS THAT YOUR NOTION OF SOMETHING AMUSING!"

The high mortality from cholera in the big cities had its effect in causing people to emigrate. (1849)





**THE POOR CHILD'S NURSE.**

A grim footnote on the life of the working mother in London. (1849)



BLOOMERISM—AN AMERICAN CUSTOM.

'Punch' artists extracted a good deal of humour from the new fashion in ladies' costume of a form of Turkish trousers introduced by an American lady, Mrs. Amelia Bloomer, in 1851.

## *Notes and Queries*

### **May 1974: An important month for backward - looking people**

TO COMMEMORATE the establishment in Natal 150 years ago of the first European settlement various celebrations and events were arranged, mainly in Pietermaritzburg and Durban.

Two important occasions were the opening by the State President Mr. J. J. Fouché of the new 'Natalia' building, Pietermaritzburg headquarters of the Natal Provincial Administration, and the formal taking into use of the new wing of the Natal Museum, a ceremony performed by the Administrator of Natal, Mr. Ben Havemann. At both ceremonies the speakers made reference to the development of Natal since 1824.

In Durban Mrs. Daphne Strutt, curator of the Local History Museum, in conjunction with Miss J. Duggan, Librarian of the Killie Campbell Africana Collection, and Dr. B. J. T. Leverton of the Natal Archives, presented an exhibition of original documents and pictures that captured something of the life of Natal people between 1824 and 1850. The Provincial Library Services (Mr. C. J. Fourie) arranged book displays of many of the precious volumes which deal with Natal history. The University of Natal library also put some of its treasures on exhibition. The Natal Education Department organised an historical projects competition throughout the schools of the province and made a representative selection of the scholars' work which was exhibited in the display hall on the ground floor of the 'Natalia' building. For days parents and friends crowded the hall to see the handiwork of the young people.

In Durban, in addition to the floodlighting of the decorated City Hall, there was the ceremony of naming the town gardens 'Farewell Square' in honour of Lieutenant F. G. Farewell.

For those interested in music there was the Pietermaritzburg premiere of the oratorio *May the Land Worship the Lord*, a work composed and arranged by Dr. H. Haape, Mr. Stevens Grové, and Mr. John Knuyt.

One of the publications marking the 150th anniversary was the book *Pioneers of Vryheid: the Nieuwe Republiek and its Staatscourant* edited by Dr. J. A. Pringle and Dr. B. J. T. Leverton and published by the Natal Museum. It consists of all the existing copies of this extremely scarce newspaper, published of course in Nederlands, accompanied by an English translation of the material. The various items of news throw a fresh light on the affairs of the Nieuwe Republiek.

### **Lighting up 150 years**

*Neon 14* is a special commemorative number of the magazine regularly issued by the Natal Education Department. It appeared in May in time for the public ceremonies in Pietermaritzburg, Durban, and elsewhere and was favourably received. Entitled 'Natal 1824-1974' it consists of about 70 pages including a strong paperback cover carrying a brilliant reproduction of Capt. R. J. Garden's

1852 watercolour of Otto's Bluff. Basically it is a mini-history in pictures of Natal's social and economic progress — roads, bridges, Durban harbour, railways, etc., etc., — together with many photographs of early settlers, distinguished visitors, writers, historians and others. Included among the black and white pictures are political cartoons, sketches, and about 15 colour pictures. Text has been kept to a minimum — for example, the Byrne emigration-scheme is condensed into 120 words and the account of Durban's early history amounts to 286 words. The editors are Dr. J. Clark and Dr. B. J. T. Leverton who spent many months tracing pictures, copying them, and then selecting the most meaningful ones. The publication of this useful and interesting work was financed by the Natal Provincial Administration. Since the bulk of the issue has gone to the schools, it is not easy to come by a spare copy. Application should be made to the Director of Education.

Another commemoration issue is the special Natal number of the magazine *Lantern* published in Pretoria by the Foundation for Education, Arts, Science and Technology. This well-produced magazine is aimed at the Republic's educational institutions but has much in it of interest to the general reader. Illustrations are invariably excellent. The special May issue deals with the first party to arrive in 1824 and the later wave of emigration from 1849 onwards. Mrs. D. Strutt, of the Local History Museum, Durban, has an article on costume illustrated by sketches of the kind of clothing worn by men and women about 1824. Colonial architecture of the period is represented by Mr. Brian Kearney's article on the 'Natal Veranda', accompanied by many examples in sketches and photographs. The Killie Campbell Africana Library and Museum, the Voortrekker Museum, the Durban Local History Museum, the Natal Museum and other guardian institutions have their place here together with many excellent illustrations. The history of the Natal Society (1851) is given by Miss U. E. M. Judd, and the story of Macrorie House, now renovated, is told by Dr. Ruth Gordon. Mid-Victorian settlements at New Germany, Marburg, and New Guelderland are also dealt with by well-informed writers. Mrs. Brian Spencer, a specialist on the settler period, has written an article on many of the Byrne settlers with an extensive selection of photographs of people involved, as well as pictures of ships, etc., connected with the emigration. Miss R. Gadsden and Mrs. Wood of the Durban Local History Museum have also captured the feeling of the time in their settler-articles. Dr. B. J. T. Leverton of the Natal Archives has written on the Durban harbour and the first railway from the Point to the town-centre (here again with some very good illustrations). He has also contributed biographical material on some of the Natal Parliamentarians and personalities. Mr. G. A. Chadwick has written on Voortrekker Pietermaritzburg. A colour portfolio of pictures by early Natal artists (Angas, Wood, Garden and others) adds impact to this issue. Altogether, Mr. V. C. Wood, the editor of *Lantern*, and his staff, have produced a worthwhile publication which will hold an important place in schools, universities and other places of learning for many years. The general reader will also find much to study and enjoy.

### **Natal's oldest artistic tradition**

The rock paintings of this province are an eloquent reminder that Natal's

history did not begin in 1824, important as that date may be. While our sprawling gallery of artistic treasures is rightly recognised as a splendid feature of the Natal heritage, the full extent of its spread and richness remains unknown. The paintings of the Drakensberg foothills have become widely known through the work of Willcox, Vinnicombe, Pager, Lewis-Williams and others, but it is not generally appreciated that rock art dating back to the Late Stone Age is widely distributed in other parts of Natal.

Dr. Tim Maggs, archaeologist at the Natal Museum, Pietermaritzburg, and Mr. John Wright of the History Department, University of Natal, Pietermaritzburg, are at present engaged in a survey of the paintings in the basin formed by the middle Thukela and the lower reaches of its tributaries, the Buffalo, Sundays, Mooi and Bushmans. The warm, bush-covered valleys and hill-slopes of this spectacularly broken terrain are thought to have provided a favourable habitat for 'Bushman' hunter-gatherer communities of the Late Stone Age, whose artists left paintings in many of the numerous small overhangs formed in the bands of sandstone *kranses* characteristic of the region. Between 30 and 40 painted sites are known to exist, and it is certain that others remain to be discovered.

The purpose of the survey is to record (1) the location of the sites; (2) as many of the paintings as possible by means of colour photography; and (3) the details of each individual figure in a statistical form suitable for computerization. In this way it is hoped that a bank of information will be obtained which will enable comparisons to be made with similarly recorded rock art in other regions of southern Africa at a greater level of detail than has hitherto been possible. Ultimately such region-by-region analysis should yield significant information about the living patterns of the hunter-gatherer peoples who at one time lived over most of the sub-continent. The records of the survey will be housed in the Natal Museum branch of the Archaeological Data Recording Centre, which has its headquarters at the South African Museum in Cape Town.

### **Iron Age man in the Thukela basin**

The Thukela basin has figured prominently in the news as a future centre of large-scale urban and industrial growth, but while the planners spell out their visions of material progress for this region it is worth recalling that the valleys of the Thukela and its tributaries were for ten or fifteen centuries before the intrusion of European-descended peoples the home of settled African communities who were well acquainted with the techniques of industrial production, even if in rudimentary form. Material remains left by these 'Iron Age' peoples, some of whom were certainly ancestral to the present-day Zulu-speaking population of Natal and Zululand, are still plentiful in the area.

It is partly the existence of this wealth of evidence that has led Dr. Tim Maggs, archaeologist at the Natal Museum in Pietermaritzburg, to begin work in the Thukela basin on a preliminary survey of the environmental background and of general patterns of Iron Age settlement and exploitation. Problems that emerge from the survey will be investigated at a later stage in a programme of fieldwork and excavation of selected sites. An incentive to Dr. Maggs's work is the threat posed to the survival of archaeologically valuable sites by the proposed construction of the Estcourt-OFS freeway, which will cut through an area of dense Iron Age settlement. He is also keeping an eye on potentially unwelcome (from

an archaeologist's point of view) developments in the Thukela-Vaal water conservation scheme.

In April last year Dr. Maggs directed a rescue operation at an Iron Age site near Muden that had been exposed by donga erosion. The site yielded a rich assemblage of 'NC 3' pottery and associated cultural and faunal remains. A number of charcoal samples were sent to the CSIR laboratories in Pretoria for radiocarbon dating. The results are awaited with interest, especially in view of the fact that of the 50 or 60 Iron Age radiocarbon age determinations so far published for sites in South Africa, only two are from Natal.

Readers living in the Thukela basin, or indeed anywhere else in Natal, who know of the existence of Iron Age remains, such as stone ruins, pottery, and evidence of iron smelting, are asked to get in touch with Dr. Maggs at the Natal Museum.

More news from the Natal Museum: Dr. Oliver Davies's report of the excavation which he conducted in 1972 at the Moor Park Iron Age site near Estcourt is about to appear in the *Annals of the Natal Museum*. A later number will carry the report of his work at the Late Stone Age site in Shongweni Cave.

### Memorials to the Zulu past

For some time past the National Monuments Council has been sponsoring a programme of excavations and restoration at Mgungundhlovu, the royal capital of Dingane. This year the project took a leap forward when Mr. John Parkington of the Department of Archaeology, University of Cape Town, brought a team of trained and carefully supervised workers to the site. While some digging was done at well-selected points, the major achievement of the expedition was a detailed survey of the site.

The information yielded by this survey should make it possible for the responsible authorities to draw up an intelligent programme of properly staged operations for the future. We sincerely hope that this will be done. The annals of archaeological 'enterprise' abound with spine-chilling tales of the desecration of sites, not only by treasure-hunters and over-enthusiastic amateurs, but also by inexperienced experts who have proceeded with misplaced confidence in the efficiency of their own methods.

In the case of Mgungundhlovu, we cannot allow this to happen. It is altogether too important a site. From it we can hope to get answers to an assemblage of crucial questions about life at the royal *umuzi*, and about cross-cultural influences in the early years of association between black and white in Natal. Better, by far, that some of these questions should remain unanswered for the time being than that they should be made unanswerable by over hasty and over extensive interference with the site.

Nor is that all. If we are to proceed without doing damage, our interests as scientists and historians must be modified, where necessary, to meet the interests of the Zulu people. Lying in the heart of the Emakoseni valley — the birth place of the Zulu nation, and the burial place of the chiefly forefathers of the Zulu kings — Mgungundhlovu is one of the great memorials to the Zulu past. It would be a terrible commentary on the phase of history inaugurated by the arrival of the white pioneers if 'science' were to pursue a relentless course at Mgungundhlovu without regard for the interests and wishes of the people whose forefathers lived there.

Another project concerning Zulu habitation sites is being conducted by Professor C. de B. Webb of the University of Natal, Pietermaritzburg. By locating royal and chiefly homesteads, Professor Webb is hoping to elicit information about preferred living conditions and environmental influences in the history of traditional Zulu society. Farmers and local historians in many parts of Natal must know of old kraal-sites. Please assist the project by passing on such information to Professor Webb, c/o Department of History and Political Science, Natal University, Pietermaritzburg.

### Tracking down a big game hunter

From J. N. Bannister, President of the Leyland Historical Society, Lancashire, England, we have received the following note:

In the parish church of St. Andrew, Leyland, there is a marble plaque with the following inscription: 'Sacred to the memory of a patron of this Benefice, William Charles Baldwin, the Writer of *African Hunting*, the first European from the East Coast to reach the Victoria Falls on the Zambezi River, August 4th 1860. Resolute, not reckless, he was one who never turned his back, but rode straight forward. Born March 3rd 1826 — Died November 17th 1903. No man shall order me, I will be my own master. JESUS! MASTER! MERCY!'

W. C. Baldwin was buried in the family grave at St. Andrew's. The epitaph on the gravestone is very appropriate: 'Like Nimrod, A Mighty Hunter Before the Lord.'

In Baldwin's book, there is the following entry, dated 1852: 'In the course of a few weeks I was able, by the advice of my physician to go up to Pieter Maritzburg for a change of air, where Mr. Collins, the postmaster, and a passenger of mine, most kindly took me into his house, treated me with the utmost attention, and forestalled my every want. It is to Mrs. Collins's nursing and care, and all the little delicacies, so grateful and refreshing to a sick man, which a woman's forethought can alone supply, that I am indebted for my eventual recovery after a long illness.'

Mr. Bannister, who is gathering material on Baldwin, wonders whether anyone has information about the Mr. and Mrs. Collins mentioned in the above extract, or about any other aspects of Baldwin's experiences in Natal. Correspondence should be addressed to Mr. Bannister at 15 Malden Street, Leyland, Preston PR5ITJ, Lancashire, England.

### Do you know a national monument?

The National Monuments Council has issued a nation-wide appeal for information about buildings and sites which may qualify as national monuments. While the Council has no wish to discourage replies to its own appeal, it is understandably a little worried at the prospect of being 'inundated by well-meaning reports on matters of purely local or minor interest'. Suggestions should relate to buildings and sites the preservation of which is deemed to be of *national* importance. The information requested by the Council is set out under the following heads:

- (a) Situation of the building or site.

- (b) Name and address of owner (if known).
- (c) Reasons for preservation.
- (d) In the case of buildings, kindly furnish the following details:
  - (i) Condition of main building: good/average/poor;
  - (ii) Conditions of the outbuildings: good/average/poor;
  - (iii) Is/are the building/s in an area zoned for non-white occupation?
  - (iv) As far as you know, was the building ever owned or occupied by an important historical personage?
  - (v) Is it in use now, and for what purpose?
- (e) Photographs of the site and/or building/s will be welcome.

Reports and recommendations should be addressed to the Secretary, National Monuments Council, P.O. Box 4637, Cape Town.

### Maps of Natal and Zululand 1824 - 1910

The list of maps published in *Natalia* No. 2 has provoked some interesting responses.

The City Librarian of Kimberley reports that the Public Library has copies of the maps which accompanied James Vetch's 1859 reports and recommendations for the improvement of the harbour at Port Natal. One wonders how, and why, such documents found their way to landlocked Kimberley, whose history started a full twelve years after the publication of Vetch's findings.

Professor Colin Gardner of the Department of English, University of Natal, Pietermaritzburg, has brought to our attention a 55cm x 88 cm coloured map printed by John Singleton and Sons of Durban, and entitled 'Bird's-Eye Map of War District Natal: To Accompany the Official Railway Guide'. The main map shows Ladysmith, Colenso and Spion Kop, while insets show: (a) Laing's Nek, Newcastle, Dundee; (b) Lines of communication between the war district and Durban and Pietermaritzburg; (c) Boer positions from Colenso at the site of the 14th and 66th batteries of artillery. Does anyone have further information about this map, and about the Official Railway Guide which it accompanied?

Official publications (British Blue Books, Natal Sessional Papers, Railway Guides and similar documents) are known to contain maps on a variety of subjects; but the full range of material available in these sources is waiting to be explored. A comprehensive Natal list would be more than interesting; it would be an invaluable aid to scholars working in many fields.

### Natal art before 1910

In previous issues we published appeals from Mrs. J. A. Verbeek for information about early Natal artists. So vigorously has Mrs. Verbeek's project progressed that the University Library, Pietermaritzburg, has now issued, for private circulation, a finding-aid of 53 typed pages under the title *Natal Art Before Union*. In her 'Introduction' to the volume Mrs. Verbeek writes:

For some years I have been compiling a catalogue of Natal Art before 1910. It is to be housed in the Library of the University of Natal, Pietermaritzburg, and the entries are on cards which give details of the individual paintings which have been traced. The catalogue is not complete, and it is intended to



grow in size as more paintings are discovered in a continuing process of investigation . . .

The documentation of Natal Art was initially undertaken in a totally non-selective manner. It soon became apparent that lack of selection would involve a work of considerable proportion, and two limitations were imposed. First, only drawings and paintings were listed . . . Second, since the catalogue was intended, in part, to be of use as a tracing tool for those interested in viewing the originals, it was decided to list only those works which had been traced to the location of the original. Thus, although I am aware of painters and pictures other than those entered in the catalogue, permanent entries will only be made when the original is traced . . .

The full catalogue itself cannot be reproduced economically . . . The full catalogue also contains some information on the ownership of paintings which it is not possible to disclose freely. Partly for these reasons, partly because it was desired that the information be available to a wider readership than could be obtained through individuals using the catalogue in the Library, and partly because I hope that a wider knowledge of what has been listed will result in a feed-back of additional information to me (so resulting in an extension of the catalogue) it was decided to produce, for private circulation, the extracts from the catalogue which are contained in the following pages. The information given about individual paintings is not as complete as that contained in the catalogue itself, but it is hoped that what is given is sufficient to be of some benefit to those who are not able to use the catalogue in person . . . The format of the entries which are now published is as follows: the names of the artists are given in alphabetical order, together with Christian names, titles, and dates of birth and death where these are known. These headings are followed by a very brief biographical note, and references to published works, which give more detailed information, or to other sources of information which I have used. Then follows a list of books or publications which it may be interesting to consult. Finally, in italic print, is a list of the works of the artist which have been traced and entered in the catalogue, together with a statement of the medium in which they were executed . . .

We congratulate Mrs. Verbeek and the University Library, Pietermaritzburg, on this achievement.

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