

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

THE novel has a basis in fact. The Devon locations in England and the Victorian and Monaro ones in Australia are accurately described. The main events in the Australian section of the novel are based on bushranging activities of which Kingsley (hereafter, HK) became aware during his time in Australia. In addition there is an almost encyclopedic series of references to people and events in the first half of the nineteenth century in England and Australia. HK had a wide range of sometimes unexpected interests. In the following commentary, the novel's volume and chapter numbers are indicated, e.g., as III. VI; page-and-line numbering refers to the present edition; and 'VDL' means Van Diemen's Land (renamed Tasmania in 1855).

The time frame of the novel is a little complicated. Geoffrey Hamlyn begins writing his recollections in Australia in 1857 (13:6) and completes them when he returns to England (582:34) – 'this present year 1858' (280:36–281:1). This parallels the time and place of HK's composition of the novel. Hamlyn is looking back over events in previous decades, but the recollections are told in the present. Three periods of time are defined in the novel. In vol. I, which is set in Devon and s. England, the time frame is the two decades from the end of the Napoleonic wars in 1815 to the departure of some Devon gentry to Australia in the mid-1830s. The Australian scenes also cover two decades, *c.* 1836–58: 'a period extending over nearly, or quite, twenty years' (224:5). These scenes are in two different periods. The early chapters of vol. II deal with pioneering in the later years of the 1830s, when both Victoria's Western District and the s. Monaro of NSW were being opened up

Chapter XVI

- 1 (p. 163) **blacklegs** Turf swindlers or card sharpers.
- 2 (p. 164) **Thackeray . . . my knife.** W. M. Thackeray (1811–63) as M. A. Titmarsh, *Doctor Birch and his Young Friends* (1849); the section is ‘Briggs in Luck’.
- 3 (p. 164) **Arabs of the metropolis** Street-wise vagrants and rogues (from the nomadic desert Arabs); cf. ‘an Arab of society’ (517:13–14). George Hawker’s loss at cards has some similarities to the Brighton Card Swindle: in September 1851 three people were charged with conspiring to defraud another of a large sum of money during the Brighton races.
- 4 (p. 170) **dry Sillery** Superior still wine from Sillery in Champagne, popular among the wealthy in England.
- 5 (p. 177) **abomination of desolation.** Matthew 24. 15.

Chapter XVII

- 1 (p. 183) **quoted Scripture . . . unto me.** Matthew 25. 40.
- 2 (p. 186) **to go wherever Mary goes . . . Ruth and Naomi,** Ruth, known for her loyalty to her mother-in-law Naomi, went with her from Moab to Bethlehem (Ruth 1. 16).
- 3 (p. 187) **Mount Edgecombe,** Wooded headland on a promontory of Plymouth Harbour which gives commanding views of ships leaving the harbour.

VOLUME II

Chapter I

- 1 (p. 191) **A NEW heaven and a new earth!** Revelation 21. 1.
- 2 (p. 191) **flaming lorries** Probably the Rainbow Lorikeet, *Trichoglossus haematodus*; ‘parroquets’ (l. 18) is an alternative spelling of *parakeets*.
- 3 (p. 192) **great watershed . . . since better known as the Snowy-river** The Monaro Range (part of the Great Dividing Range) separates the Tuross (formerly Belloury) R. from the Snowy R. and s. Monaro. Other Aboriginal names for the Snowy R.

HISTORICAL COLLATION OF VARIANT WORDINGS

THIS is a list of variant wordings, and of changes in the presentation of wording judged to have a clearly substantive effect, in *A₁*, *E₂*, *TZ* and *T \mathcal{J}* other than those used to emend error in the copy-text, *E₁*. (These are listed in the Editor's Emendations, but silently emended readings associated with substantive variation in other states appear here.) Variants such as 'further/ farther', 'toward/ towards', 'woke him/ awoke him' are not taken as substantive.

The reading to the left of the square bracket is that of the reading text. *T \mathcal{J}* omits 17:1–187:32. From 13:1 to 16:12 and from 191:1 where *T \mathcal{J}* resumes to 584:7, the sequence is *E₁*, *A₁*, *E₂*, *TZ*, *T \mathcal{J}* . From 17:1 to 187:32 it is *E₁*, *A₁*, *E₂*, *TZ*. See Note on the Text for conventions of presentation; silent categories 1 and 3 have been adopted.

14:22	writing." . . . [15:11] "If writing." <i>P</i> "If <i>T\mathcal{J}</i>	36:34	then] <i>Om. E₂⁺</i>
15:15	bedroom, and . . . [16:10] If you] bedroom, and if you <i>T\mathcal{J}</i>	37:25	at] of <i>A₁</i>
16:11	sir] reader <i>T\mathcal{J}</i>	41:12	meditated] mediated <i>A₁</i>
16:11	it all] it <i>T\mathcal{J}</i>	43:6	interests] interest <i>E₂⁺</i>
26:18	north] south <i>TZ</i> see note 9 for p. 25	43:29	had] <i>Om. A₁</i>
26:24	sleeps] slept <i>E₂⁺</i>	52:28	arose] rose <i>E₂⁺</i>
27:5	when] when he <i>A₁</i>	54:38	these] those <i>TZ</i>
30:34	We] The <i>E₂⁺</i>	57:12	well] <i>Om. E₂⁺</i>
31:9	villages] villagers <i>A₁</i>	63:1	drank] drunk <i>E₂⁺</i>
31:33	burst] bursts <i>E₂⁺</i>	64:9	provided] providing <i>A₁</i>
35:28	it] <i>Om. E₂⁺</i>	67:30	would] will <i>E₂⁺</i>
36:29	so] so that <i>E₂⁺</i>	67:32	examining] examine <i>E₂⁺</i>
		88:7	very] <i>Om. E₂⁺</i>
		89:38	cold] old <i>TZ</i>
		90:32	says] say <i>A₁</i>
		90:33	face] <i>Om. E₂⁺</i>

SAMPLE COLLATION OF VOLUME II, CHAPTER X

THIS is a note on the different stylings and house-editing of *AI*, *TZ* and *TJ* (*E2* is discussed in the Introduction, pp. lxiv–lxviii). A collation then follows of variants in punctuation, spelling, capitalisation and hyphenation, as well as variants in wording, in the lifetime editions of II. x, ‘The Golden Vineyard’.

So far as is known, *TJ* was the only Australian type-setting and printing of the novel in HK’s lifetime; it was by far the most thoroughly adapted version of the three. The omission of the English chapters in *TJ*, amounting to nearly all of vol. I, occasioned some adjustments both in what was left of I. 1 (see Historical Collation) and elsewhere: ‘at Drumston’ (193:14) became ‘at home in Drumston’. The printed format of *TJ* led to the alteration of ‘preceding pages’ (573:32) to ‘preceding columns’ (see also note 2 for p. 243). *TJ* corrected Australian references in its copy (*E2*): ‘the great watershed’ (192:10) became ‘the great Manero [i.e. Monaro] Plains, the watershed’; the ‘Belloury’ River (192:10) became the ‘Belloury or Tuross’. *TJ* was the only state to correct ‘baskias’ (332:24) to ‘banksias’ and to spell correctly ‘Macquarrie’ and ‘Hargreave’s’ (263:5, 265:11); and *TJ*’s spelling of ‘mischievous’ (214:8) as ‘mischievious’ captures a once-common Australian pronunciation.

The novel’s account in III. 1 of colonial Victorian politics was heavily edited in *TJ*. (See the discussion in Historical Background, sect. 3 and the Historical Collation entries for 420:3–422:35 for the deletions and for the adaptations that accommodated them). The reason for this is unclear. Anxiety about legal action is one possibility; deference to Irish-Catholic sensitivities in the sister colony is