

## *Notes and Queries*

### **Pioneers and Settlers**

1974 WILL be the 150th anniversary of the establishment of the white trading settlement at Port Natal. To plan and co-ordinate a programme of suitable commemorative activities in the province, a committee has been set up under the chairmanship of His Honour the Administrator, Mr. W. W. B. Havemann. Those interested in the Natal heritage can look forward to a feast of exhibitions and entertainments.

Our own contribution to the occasion has been outlined in the editorial column of this issue.

By happy coincidence, the 1820 Settlers National Monument Foundation is organising a National Conference to be held in Grahamstown from 15-19 July, 1974. The Conference will follow upon the official opening by the State President of the 1820 Settler Monument on Gunfire Hill, Grahamstown. In the words of the Chairman of the Planning Committee, it 'will inaugurate the conference facilities to be provided at the Monument.' The theme of the Conference is 'English-speaking South Africa Today'. Distinguished scholars from many fields will be participating, and there should be much in the programme of lively interest to Natalians. Enquiries should be addressed to: The Secretary, 1820 Settlers National Monument Foundation, 42 Beaufort Street, Grahams-town, Cape.

### **Professor A. F. Hattersley: Settler Historian**

That patient recorder of Natal history, Professor Alan F. Hattersley, reached his 80th year last April. He was born at Leeds on April 6, 1893. The day, though not the year, is the one on which Van Riebeeck made his landing at Table Bay. Professor Hattersley's forebears were associated with the manufacture of textile machinery in the Yorkshire of the 1830s and suffered losses in the machine-breaking riots of out-of-work weavers.

After a distinguished career as a student of history at Downing College, Cambridge, Professor Hattersley emigrated to South Africa in 1916 to teach at the Natal University College. In 1923 he was appointed to the Chair of History and Political Science.

He has written 23 books, many of them authoritative works on Natal and the British settlement, and has made frequent visits to England to trace the background of settlers who emigrated to Natal in the mid-nineteenth century. His latest work is the *Illustrated Social History of South Africa* (Balkema, 1969), which has already exhausted its first edition. It is a substantial piece of scholarship. His own favourite is perhaps *Portrait of a Colony* (Cambridge, 1940), a charming and gently humorous account of Natal society in the 1850s.

Last year the city of Pietermaritzburg honoured him by inscribing his name on a special register of civic honours in recognition of his research into the city's history. He is also a Fellow of our own Natal Society.

When he was a schoolboy in the top form of Leeds Grammar School he regularly won the Henderson history prize. He recalls with a smile that one of these prizes was two volumes of Stubbs's monumental work *The Constitutional History of England*, published in 1874-78. He has come a long way since then. We salute him with affection and admiration.

Some of his books are:

*More Annals of Natal* (London, 1936)

*Later Annals of Natal* (London, 1938)

*Portrait of a Colony* (Cambridge, 1940)

*The Natalians: Further Annals of Natal* (Pietermaritzburg, 1940)

*John Sheddon Dobie — South African Journal, 1862-1866* (Cape Town, 1945)

*The British Settlement of Natal* (Cambridge, 1950)

*Convict Crisis* (Pietermaritzburg, 1965)

### More about Settlers

The Hattersley tradition is still strong in Natal. For the last ten years Mrs. Shelagh Spencer, working on a part-time basis, has been gathering information for the production of a *Register of British Settlers in Natal, 1824-1857*. Her aim is to provide a concise biography of each settler — dates of birth and death, ship of passage, date of arrival in Natal, career in the colony, name and dates and places of birth and death of wife, date and place of marriage. In addition there will be notes on historically significant aspects of the careers of the settlers and each article will end with a list of children, giving dates of birth, marriage and death, and the names of their spouses.

The period covered by Mrs. Spencer's work is the pioneer phase in which individual initiative and private enterprise were principally responsible for providing Natal with white settlers. She stops short of 1858, when the character of immigration changed with the arrival of the first shipload of settlers under a scheme sponsored by the Natal Government, in terms of which colonists could stand surety for the repayment of the passage money of relatives and friends in Britain desirous of coming to Natal.

In a note describing her work, Mrs. Spencer writes:

The settlers fall into various groups. Firstly the hunter-traders of 1824, then various other British subjects who made their homes in Natal before the large-scale immigration at the end of the 1840s — many of these from the Cape. The period 1849-1851 is significant because it saw the arrival of immigrants, over 2 200 in number, brought to Natal by J. C. Byrne & Co. These, together with settlers who came at this time under smaller projects conceived by people such as Richard Hackett, John Lidgett, Dr. Charles Johnston and G. P. Murdoch, and the co-operative emigration scheme organised by Henry Boast, considerably increased the European population of the young colony. Thereafter until 1858 when the *Phantom* brought the first of a new batch of settlers under the government-sponsored scheme, immigration continued on a much smaller scale.

Another important constituent in the composition of the white population of the new colony was the discharged British soldier. The 45th Regiment (the Nottinghamshire) in particular, on its departure from Natal in 1859 after a sixteen-year period of service here left behind many N.C.O.'s and men who had taken their discharge and become colonists. Another regiment which

provided Natal with a number of settlers was the 27th (Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers), two companies of which, under the command of Captain T. C. Smith, had been involved in the battle of Congella in 1842.

Sources used for the project include: the Natal Archives with its vast collection of official documents and early newspapers; the family papers, diaries and letters housed in the Local History Museum and Killie Campbell Library in Durban; church registers; official government registers of births and deaths kept in the various magistracies; memorial inscriptions in cemeteries; wills filed in the office of the Master of the Supreme Court; and last, but by no means least, family Bibles, diaries and scrapbooks kept by descendants of settlers.

As the last sentence indicates, the success of Mrs. Spencer's endeavours depends very materially upon the help given to her by persons possessing family records. Through the good offices of Professor K. H. C. McIntyre of the History Department, University of Natal, Durban, monies have been made available by the Natal University Research Fund and by the Oppenheimer Trust, enabling Mrs. Spencer to employ student assistants, particularly for research in outlying districts. But, valuable as such aid is, it will not produce the rich dividends that Mrs. Spencer's project deserves unless those who possess documents and information come forward to help, too.

Correspondence should be addressed to Mrs. Spencer at 371 Loop Street, Pietermaritzburg.

#### **The Four Books of the Prophet Ignoramus**

That the *Prophet Ignoramus* should be another of Mrs. Spencer's interests is not mere aberration. This rare work, a satire on life in Natal under Lieutenant-Governor R. W. Keate (1867-1872), first appeared in instalments in the *Natal Witness*, beginning in July 1869. Later it was published by the Pietermaritzburg firm of Keith & Co. in a paper-bound volume of 132 pages, the full title being *The Four Books of the Prophet Ignoramus; being the Chronicle of the Reign of Er Keet in Ophir*, by 'Eureka'. The Natal Society Library and the Natal Archives both have copies of this edition. But such deliciously scurrilous writing was bound to be in great demand, and it also appeared in another format. It is this that interests Mrs. Spencer, who writes:

The first and second Books also appeared in pamphlet form in 1869. Both were published in Maritzburg, the first by Keith & Co., and the other by Peter Davis & Sons. The Natal Society Library has a copy of the former and I have a defective copy of the latter. Presumably the third and fourth Books were similarly published, but I have been unable to establish this or to ascertain whether any copies are extant. I should be very interested to know of the existence of an unspoiled copy of the second Book, and of copies of the third and fourth.

#### **Beyond the White Horizon**

After all that has been said about settler history, it is only right to record that pioneering of a new sort is well under way in Natal. The University History Department in Pietermaritzburg, in its teaching programme as well as in a number of research projects, is exploring the history of the indigenous peoples

of the province. A special field of interest is the study of the part played by environmental factors in shaping the history of the inhabitants of south-east Africa. In addition, a documentation programme has been launched, the purpose of which is to assemble, and ultimately if possible to publish, an 'archive' of source materials relevant to the history of the Zulu people in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. While oral traditions feature prominently in this project, they are not the only source. Much evidence of great value is tucked away in the papers of missionaries, traders, magistrates, farmers — indeed all who have been closely associated with the indigenous peoples. To facilitate the programme, such material is photocopied in the University Library and then returned to the owners. Any reader who knows of diaries, letters or other papers that might be relevant to the project is asked to write to: Professor C. de B. Webb, Department of History, Natal University, Pietermaritzburg.

### **Langalibalele and the Hlubi**

With attention already focusing on settler commemoration in 1974, it has gone almost unnoticed that 1973 is the centenary of the so-called Langalibalele revolt. We understand that the Ladysmith Historical Society is planning to mark the occasion, and we wish them every success.

Much has been written about the crisis and its aftermath. It was precipitated by Langalibalele's refusal to comply with instructions for the registration of guns, but was clumsily handled by the Natal government. It brought down bitter retribution on Langalibalele's Hlubi and their neighbours, the Putili, who were driven from their lands in the foothills of the Drakensberg. It brought Bishop Colenso into the field as the champion of the Hlubi-Putili cause. It led to the recall of the Lieutenant-Governor, Sir Benjamin Pine. And it brought to Natal the redoubtable Sir Garnet Wolseley, whose 'sherry and champagne' campaign ended in the Natal colonists signing away a large measure of their legislative independence.

Some of the descendants of Langalibalele and the Hlubi are, for the moment, still in occupation of lands in the Drakensberg. Theirs is an unusually interesting history, and we hope they will find an historian equal to the task of telling it.

#### **Suggested Reading:**

- Brookes, E. H. and Webb, C. de B. *A History of Natal*, (Pietermaritzburg, 1965).  
 Colenso, J. W., *Defence of Langalibalele*, (Bishopstowe, 1875?).  
 Colenso, J. W., *Langalibalele and the Amahlubi*, (London, 1874).  
 Guest, W. R., *The Langalibalele Rebellion and its Consequences*, (Unpublished B. A. Hons. dissertation, Natal University, 1962).  
 Preston, A., ed., *Sir Garnet Wolseley's South African Diaries (Natal) 1875*, (Cape Town, 1971).  
 Welsh, D., *The Roots of Segregation*, (Oxford, 1972).

### **If Thine Enemy Thirst Give Him Drink**

While on a visit to Stirling Castle Museum, Mrs. M. H. Bush of Pietermaritzburg noticed a medal presented by J. J. Prinsloo to Captain J. Paton of the Argyll & Sutherland Highlanders. The inscription reads:

In appreciation and personal respect for honourable and humane services bestowed towards women and children during the Boer War.

Professor R. G. MacMillan, vice-principal of the University of Natal, Pietermaritzburg, to whom Mrs. Bush conveyed this information, writes that near Loch Awe at St. Conan's Kirk, he came across the following epitaph:

In loving memory of Ian Alastair Campbell  
Mortally wounded at the close of the Victory of Elandsplaagte  
While giving water to a wounded enemy foe  
October 21 1899  
If thine enemy thirst give him drink

The war on the Natal front must have been the occasion for many similar acts of common humanity across the battle line. One hopes that the clashes between black and white had their moments of compassion, too. We look forward to hearing from readers who know of such incidents.

### A Bright Little Light

The magazine *N.E.O.N.* published by the Natal Education Department is now in its third year of existence, having first appeared in December 1969. Its main purpose is to provide the public with information about schools and the educational facilities and services supplied by the various administrative sections of the Natal Provincial Administration. But it also publishes articles of general interest. A recent issue contained articles on Australia's 60 000 aborigines, on Africana in the school libraries, on a South African emigrant's impressions of New Zealand society, and on Alfred County as a relatively unknown part of Natal. Well-illustrated and produced, it appears three times a year and is distributed free of charge among professional people, mostly.

### Blue-Chip Investment

Africana is a subject of such wide interest that it has even come to the notice of the South African financial press, the reason in this case being that it falls under the heading of a blue-chip investment. Recent prices in dealers' catalogues confirm that within the last twelve months a massive move upwards has taken place in the value of books, pamphlets, maps and other items connected with African history. From recent catalogues the following titles and prices have been selected to show what is happening;

<i>Ten Weeks in Natal.</i> J. W. Colenso. 1855	R60,00
<i>My Early Life.</i> W. Churchill. 2nd Imp.	R37,50
<i>More Annals of Natal.</i> A. F. Hattersley	R15,00
<i>History of the Colony of Natal.</i> Rev. W. C. Holden. 1855	R50,00
<i>The Kafirs of Natal and the Zulu Country.</i> Rev. J. Shooter. 1857	R100,00
<i>Long Long Ago.</i> R. C. Samuelson. 1929	R72,00

Gone are the days when the youthful Miss Killie Campbell browsed among the shelves in the London second-hand bookshops spending her dress allowance not for the purpose it was meant, but on such gems of Africana as *The Kaffirs Illustrated* for which she paid £12.0.0.

If these inflationary trends are to be regretted, so are two other current phenomena — the unscrupulous dealer, and the indiscriminating buyer. Both

have been much in evidence at recent sales in Natal, the one buying in bulk in the hope of cornering the market, the other bidding well beyond the mark at which identical items are to be obtained in reputable bookshops. We urge our readers to use discretion at so-called 'Africana' sales, and to compare catalogues carefully. Some traders in Africana offer a far better deal than do others.

### Zulu War Artists

In 1969 the University of Natal Press published the Zulu War drawings of John North Crealock. About the same time, as so often happens, the Africana Museum, Johannesburg, acquired an album of Zulu War sketches by Captain Edward Thomas Henry Hutton, 3rd Bn., 60th Rifles. Some fifty water-colours and pen and ink drawings illustrate the activities of Major-General Henry Hope Crealock's right-hand column. Included are sketches of Wolseley, John Shepstone, John Dunn, Cetshwayo, and others. These works are fully listed, and reproduced in miniature, in the *Catalogue of Pictures in the Africana Museum*, Vol. 7, published by the Museum in 1972.

In *Africana Notes and News*, No. 19, 6 June 1971, Major Southey commented on the historical inaccuracies perpetrated by Alphonse de Neuville in his two Isandhlwana paintings 'Saving the Queen's Colour' and 'Last Sleep of the Brave'. This was followed by 'Henry Charles Harford's Account of the Finding of the Queen's Colour after Isandhlwana' with notes by Daphne Strutt in issue No. 20, 1 March, 1972.

It should be of interest to many people in Natal to know that the originals of these two paintings are now in the province. They were recently acquired by Mr. R. E. Levitt of Westville. They measure 90 × 125 cm and were lost sight of until 1969, when they came into a Johannesburg sale room from a deceased estate (the owner had bought them in London about 1937).

Oleograph copies of these two paintings (50 × 68 cm) were made in 1882 by the National Fine Arts Association. It has not yet been discovered how many copies were made, but there are several scattered in different parts of South Africa, and one set hangs in the entrance of the University of Natal Library, Pietermaritzburg.

A composite copy of the two pictures with de Neuville's signature hangs in the Grahamstown City Hall, but until someone is available to spend a considerable time looking through the municipal records, its provenance will remain unknown.

The original of 'Rorke's Drift' by Alphonse de Neuville is in the museum of the 24th/41st Foot (Royal Regiment of Wales) in Brecon. Etchings of this painting made by Leopold Flameng can also be found in South Africa. One measuring 90 × 60 cm is in the possession of the Natal Parks Board. These etchings were made by the Fine Art Society. The original prices were: Artist's Proofs £10.10.0; Lettered Proofs £5.5.0; and Prints £2.2.0. A copy of this painting was made by Vyvyan Relph for the Natal Carbineers in 1958 and is now in the possession of Captain Tod Newey of Stutterheim.

Elizabeth Butler's painting of the 'Defence of Rorke's Drift' is now at the Staff College, Camberley.

Though not an artist, the photographer George T. Ferneyhough should not be forgotten. He published an album of 55 views of the Zulu War in 1886 entitled *Catalogue of Photographic Views of the Zulu War*. Further details can be found in *Africana Notes and News*, No. 20, 5 March, 1973.

### Listing Natal's Artists

In *Natalia* No. 1 we published 'A First List of Natal Artists 1824-1910', compiled by Mrs. J. A. Verbeek. A supplementary list appeared in this column in our 1972 issue. It seems Natal has inspired more artistic endeavour than we imagined. The list continues to grow, and must now be supplemented by the following names:

ANDERSON, Andrew Arthur  
 AUSTIN, W.  
 BANTJIES, Mrs. Max  
 BUCKLE, Katherine Mary Helen  
 BUTLER, Lady Elizabeth  
 CHRISTIE, Ella  
 CHRISTOL, Frederic  
 CHURCHILL, Sarah  
 CLAYTON, Ida May  
 COLENZO, Frances Ellen  
 COLENZO, Harriette E.  
 COLENZO, Mrs. Sarah Frances  
 DADD, Frank  
 DE BRUIN, Cornelius  
 DINLAY, Dr. Archibald

DUNSTONE, Albert Edward  
 EGGERSDORFER, Heinrich  
 ERSKINE, R. H.  
 FOGG, Carl  
 FOWLER, William James  
 FRIPP, Charles Edward  
 GRAY, Sophia  
 LEGAND, Jules  
 LANDSBERG, Otto  
 SHAKERLEY, C. H.  
 TULLOCH, Lt.-Col. Alexander Bruce  
 WALKER, (pseud. P. J. W.)  
 WATSON, Coral  
 WIGRAM, Mrs. Eliza  
 WILLIAMS, Antonia

Any information about these artists and their works, or about those listed in earlier issues, or about others whose names have not yet been listed, will be very welcome, and should be addressed to: Mrs. J. A. Verbeek, c/o University of Natal Library, P.O. Box 375, Pietermaritzburg.

### Local History Societies

We welcome *CABO*, the journal of the new Historical Society of Cape Town. Amongst other journals of a similar nature the following must be mentioned:

*Botswana Notes and Records*  
*Coelacanth* (East London)  
*Lesotho Notes and News*  
*Looking Back* (Port Elizabeth)

As a glance at the 'Register of Societies and Institutions' will show, Durban and Pietermaritzburg, unlike many of the smaller towns of Natal, still lack local history societies. It is our hope that they may be formed, and that *Natalia* will serve as a forum for all such bodies in the province.

Compiled by R. A. BROWN  
 J. CLARK  
 C. de B. WEBB

THE EDITOR WILL GLADLY RECEIVE NOTES AND QUERIES ON  
 ANY TOPIC OF NATAL INTEREST