EXTRACTS FROM "THE ILLAWARRA MERCURY":

FRIDAY, JULY 13, 1866 — TOTAL WRECK OF THE SCHOONER "TIGER" AT BULLI — THREE LIVES LOST

We regret to record the total loss of the Tiger, schooner, at Bulli, about 3 o'clock on Wednesday afternoon. It appears that she was moored by two warps to a buoy at some distance from the Bulli jetty. The Corio being engaged in taking in coal, and the Woniora, steam collier, was at anchor to the south of the Corio. When the indication of the weather was such that it was deemed desirable to get out to sea, a couple of warps were passed from the Woniora to the Tiger, with the intention of towing her away. and they were on the point of starting, when the Corio, which was also in a dangerous position, got up steam and made for sea; a heavy roller, however, struck her, and she was for a while in danger of going ashore, but an anchor was let go, which brought her head to seaward and she steamed out. Her position, however, was such as to necessitate her passing between the Woniora and the Tiger, and in doing so the warps by which they were attached gave way, as also those by which the Tiger was fastened to the buoy, and the consequence was that she immediately drifted ashore. When it was found that there was no hope of saving the vessel, a boat was launched, and five hands got into her, leaving the captain only on board, who intended to let go an anchor. The boat, however, soon captured, and three of the five persons in her were drowned. Those who lost their life were a man named Jackson, aged 26, a native of New York, an Englishman named Hamilton, aged 19, and a youth named Purcell, aged 14, a son of a widow residing in Clarence-street, Sydney. Those saved were a man named Nelson, and the cook named Pitchen. Captain Robert Smith, who remained on board, was also saved. Senior-sergeant Sheridan and several of the police were out yesterday searching for the bodies, but without success. The Tiger was a very old vessel and uninsured. She was 76 tons burden, and was the property of Mr. James Shoobert, of Sydney. The two men who were washed ashore were very slightly bruised.

FRIDAY, JUNE 24, 1870 — WOLLONGONG RIFLE CORPS

WOLLONGONG RIFLE CORPS—The steamer which arrived yesterday afternoon brought the long-awaited rifles and but little time was lost in distributing them. About seven in the evening the work of unpacking commenced and it was not until nine o'clock that they were ready to be distributed. Meanwhile the Council Chamber and verandah presented a very gay and animated appearance being crowded with Volunteers dressed in their neat and becoming undress uniform. Since the formation of the Corps the attendance at drill has been very good and for the most part the members are pretty well up in the earlier exercise. The arrival and distribution of rifles will enable them to be carried on another step in the art of warfare.

APPEAL COURT—The appeals against the assessment on certain properties within the Borough of Wollongong, were to have been heard yesterday, but owing to there being no magistrates on the Bench who were qualified to hear the cases the business was postponed until Thursday next. Owing to a decision in a court of law that no magistrate who is a ratepayer can adjudicate in a court of appeal within the Borough of which he is a ratepayer, there must be some difficulty in obtaining a Bench unless specially requested to attend, as all the magistrates in district are either ratepayers or liable to be
rated with the exception of two or three. The gentlemen alluded to will be specially requested to attend on Thursday next.

THE THETIS—The Government steamer Thetis arrived at Wollongong early on Thursday morning, having on board Mr. Moriarty, Engineer-in-Chief of Harbors and Rivers; Captain Hixon, Superintendent of Pilots and Lighthouses; and Captain Smith, Captain Watson, Captain Fox and Captain Mudie, all of the Pilot and Marine Board. The object of the visit was to determine on the best site for the Lighthouse, and they unanimously decided that the site selected by Mr. Moriarty is the best for erecting it. The site selected is at the outer end of the Breakwater which is now consolidated, and from observations made it has been ascertained that the sea during the late gales had done little or no damage. Workmen are now at work at the foundation, and the Lighthouse itself, which is of iron and made in Sydney, is now ready to be brought to Wollongong. We also understand that the lantern, which is made on the newest principle, may shortly be expected from England. The Thetis was leave this morning for Ulladulla for the purpose of determining the site of a Lighthouse at that place.

"SYDNEY'S FIRST FOUR YEARS"

The reprint, sponsored by the Royal Australian Historical Society, of the two books by Captain Watkin Tench, describing the first four years of the settlement at Port Jackson, is now available. These works, "A NARRATIVE OF THE EXPEDITION TO BOTANY BAY" and "A Complete Account of the Settlement at Port Jackson", have long been out of print, and are expensive rarities on the second-hand market. Annotated by L. F. Fitzhardinge, Reader in the Sources of Australian History, at the Australian National University, and combined in a single volume entitled "Sydney's First Four Years" (368 pages, price 50/-, plus 1/8 postage) they make a valuable addition to the library of all interested in Australian history.

Available from the Hon. Secretary, R.A.H.S., History House, 8 Young Street, Sydney.

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