STAINED GLASS WINDOWS:

One of the earliest stained glass windows erected in Australia appears to have been placed in Wollongong's first Anglican Church of St. Michael opened in Corrimal Street in 1847, according to researches by Dana Giedraityte of 12 East Street, Arncliffe, who has been at work on a university thesis on that subject. He has asked for help in attempting to find what became of the window when the church was dismantled and parts used in construction of the present St. Michael's opened on December 15, 1859.

"I went to Wollongong, but in vain," he writes, "The ... church does not exist any more, nor does the original chancel of the second church which may have contained the original window from the old church."

It appears, he states, that a document in Ely Cathedral, England, written by the hand of a window designer, Thomas Willement (1786-1871) notes, "Wollongong Ch., Sydney. a 3-lancet window, sacred emblems, scroll ornament and borders. for William Cam (?) Esq." (He states that the name may be Camb or something else for whom the window was installed).

"If Willement's window turned up, that would really be something to crow about to the world," he states.

Giedraityte's letter was accompanied by lists of stained glass windows located in Illawarra, with some references to his sources, and gives the names of probable designers of them during the previous century.

It should be appreciated that any information be sent direct to our correspondent. His material will be placed in the Society's archives in Wollongong City Library for reference.