acquirements has induced me so frequently to recommend the employment on this service of Navy Surgeons in the habit of superintending large bodies of men at Sea. I have to add that the expenses attendant upon the treatment and final disposal of the Emigrants by the "Lady Macnaghten" will reach a very heavy amount; but they are amply justified by the paramount considerations of regard to the health of the Colony, and compassion for the sufferings of the Parties under Quarantine. I propose (with your Lordship's approbation) to defray them out of the Funds appropriated for Emigration. Some part of the expense has been caused by the erection on the Quarantine Ground of wooden Houses for the reception of the Sick. This has been the third case of sickness on board Ships conveying Emigrants rendering Quarantine necessary, which has occurred within the last five years; and the number of these disasters may thus appear trifling, yet, as the embarkation of Emigrants for this Colony is likely to be more frequent in future years than heretofore, and as the dread of contagious disease is much felt by the Colonists, I think it will be necessary to propose to the Legislative Council at its next sitting the appropriation of a sum of money for establishing a convenient Lazaret. This measure may, in a course of years, prove the most economical arrangement, as the expense, incurred by temporary expedients resorted to under the hurry and apprehension of the impending case, is usually of large amount.

I have, &c.,
Richd. Bourke.

WOLLONGONG LIGHTED WITH GAS

Further to Geoff Brownrigg's instructive and entertaining talk at our annual dinner, it seemed appropriate to give some thought to the history of our own town of Wollongong. Central Wollongong was not lighted with electricity until 1912, and then only by private enterprise to those businesses on the southern side of Crown Street between Church and Keira Streets, [Illawarra Mercury, 6th February, 1912]. However it was lighted by gas, again by private enterprise, as early as 1883, and still depended on gas at the time of Australian Federation. The Illawarra Mercury of Friday, August 24, 1883, carried a lengthy description of the opening of the Wollongong Gas Works which took place on the previous Monday evening. This topic has been carried over to our next edition. Meanwhile, try this bit of gas:

The Scrap Album

The "Scrap Album" page of the same paper (Illawarra Mercury, August 24, 1883, mentioned that some enterprising fellow had already found a novel use for gas:

"Juanita" writes:-- The new light has been utilised in a way little dreamed of by the Gas Company. A Wollongong clerk -- matchless in more senses than one -- was on Tuesday night seen climbing a lamp post with an agility truly marvellous, and igniting his cigar from the gas light.