The paper of 19/3/1878, however, said, "In consequence of the high price of fodder I am compelled to make an advance on the rate of fares:

Wollongong/Kiama, 8/-, and a corresponding advance to other places on the route.

Parcels up to 20 lb. weight, 1/-
Parcels up to 50 lb. weight, 1/6
Parcels up to 100 lb. weight, 2/-"

Mercer’s address was at Albion Park.

NOTE: Bus fare today is 7/- return and second class rail 8/8.

"THE LATE STORM" — FROM THE ILLAWARRA MERCURY" OF FRIDAY, 29/4/1870:

Seldom for years past has the East Coast been visited by so severe a storm as that which raged during the early part of this week. The rain descended in torrents for hours together, and at times the wind blew with fearful violence. Fortunately on land no injury of a very serious nature has been the consequence. But the damage, however, has been considerable, as there is scarcely a house in the town that has not been more or less injured. Chimneys, and chimney-pots, slates, shingles, in fact all that goes to make a house complete has received some injury. In Kembla Street, the gable end of the house occupied by Mr. Martin Quilty fell completely out, and a wooden building, belonging to Mr. Zlotkowski, was levelled to the ground. The creeks were all rendered impassable or were crossed by travellers only at the risk of life. We have heard of numerous narrow escapes, but so far as can at present be ascertained, no lives have been lost. There are rumours of loss of vessels at sea, but, from the interruption of all communication either by land or water, we are unable to speak with any certainty. We had it, however, on good authority, that the beach near Woonona is strewn with oranges, the tops of butter kegs, dead fowls, and other indications of some catastrophe having taken place. From the South we learn that a large quantity of maize has been washed ashore near Kiama, which is supposed to have been brought down the Shoalhaven by the flood. But the truth is, that communication has been so nearly stopped that it is impossible to ascertain the facts with any certainty. As the weather cleared up on Thursday, a day or two will put the public in full possession of all information; but we fear that the disasters at sea will be many. As indicative of further disasters, we may mention that a portion of a small boat with "Hannah, Sydney; Peter Johnston, master;" painted on the stern, has been picked up at Bulli, and also the figure head of a vessel, being the representation of a female, and painted white. Mr. Rownley found, in a creek near Bulli, a cask of tallow with the name "Berry" on the lid; one of the ends of the cask was out. Scattered along the beach are a number of staves belonging to butter kegs.

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