MORE ALBION PARK DEVILRY

It appears that the part of Illawarra really deserving the name of Hell-hole is Albion Park. Within the last few years, that locality has gained most unenviable notoriety for house burning, shed burning, threatening letters, and such assassin perpetrations. In fact, it is only a few issues ago that we had to record the burning of Mr. Calvert’s buggy shed in that quarter, it being the third loss by incendiary fires suffered by the same gentleman. It would seem now that the despicable creature or creatures by whom those fiendish acts have been performed are turning attention to public men and matters, as well as to private individuals. On Monday last, Mr. Thomas Armstrong, J.P., of the same place, and who now is Mayor of the Shellharbour municipality, in which it is situated, received an anonymous letter of which the following is a copy:—

“If you don’t abolish this by-law, your blood will feed the dogs, and your bones will light the sky, and your friend W will share the same fate.”

The missive was without date or signature, and was left on Mr. Hurry’s gate post, some distance away. The envelope was addressed to Mr. Armstrong, as Mayor of Shellharbour, with an intimation thereon to Mr. Hurry that if he did not deliver it, death to him would be the result.

It is presumed that the by-law referred to is one prohibiting the depasture of stock upon the roads within that municipality, and which the Council has been petitioned recently to enforce. (See report on Council’s proceedings in last Friday’s “Mercury”). The “friend W” referred to is understood to mean Mr. Walmsley, J.P., of the same locality. As Mr. Armstrong is not on unfriendly terms with any one, and as he is addressed in this instance as Mayor of the borough, it is presumable that it is in his official capacity only that he is threatened.

—“Illawarra Mercury,” March 7, 1884.

THROSBY PARK

Too late for inclusion in our April bulletin came a notice that Throsby Park at Moss Vale was to be open for inspection on five days during Heritage Week. However, many of our members familiar with this historic homestead may still be interested to hear that the house is being restored under the auspices of the National Parks and Wildlife Service of New South Wales.

Under the chairmanship of Rachel Roxborough, the Throsby Park Advisory Committee has published a ten-page booklet outlining the history of the Throsby family and listing the furniture, most of which was purchased with the house.

It is indeed good news that this early example of Australian architecture, begun in 1834 and completed in 1837, has been saved.