their approval and sympathy in a substantial and practical manner with Mr. B. Rixon and his companions.

* * *

Recovery of Mr. Quin.—We are glad to observe that a requisition is in course of signature, requesting the Warden to call a public meeting to consider the propriety of presenting some suitable testimony or reward to Mr. B. Rixon and his companions, for their efforts in effecting the recovery of Mr. Quin. This is as it should be, and we have no doubt but that the public will meet the call as promptly as it deserves. It is proposed that the meeting be held in Mr. Johnson’s large room, at the Brighton Hotel, on Monday next, at a convenient hour.

—“Illawarra Mercury,” April 20, 1857.

EXCURSION TO ST. GEORGE AREA

The Society excursion to the St. George area will take place on Sunday, 5th June.

The bus will leave Cross Roads, West Wollongong, at 9 a.m. and travel via Crown, Kembla and Bourke Streets, Princes Highway and Bulli Pass.

Fares (bus only) will be $6.50 for adults and $3.00 for children.

We will be met by Mr. Arthur Ellis, a member of the St. George Historical Society, who will take us to Lydham Hall. Admission 50c.

Books on sale.

Following a picnic lunch in Carss Park we will visit Carss Cottage, occupied by the Kogarah Historical Society. Admission 30c.

For bookings please phone Mrs. McCarthy (29-8225) or book at the June meeting.

DR. ELLIS, BOTANIST

[Miss Annette Onslow (Member), writes that she has discovered a letter from William Macarthur to his sister-in-law Emily (Mrs. James Macarthur), dated 1st September, 1854, which makes further reference to “the accomplished medico.”]

William Macarthur writes about the rain-forest brush near Wollongong and Jambrero, where he was identifying and collecting plants, and says: “I have not got on so fast as I might have done for want of ‘Dr. Ellis’ who has been ill, or is ill, and has not joined me.”

He goes on to write of one particular brush where he had been on an earlier expedition with George Macleay when, after collecting twenty-three species of plants, they thought they had exhausted it. “This time,” he says, “with the aid of an opera glass, I have been able to find 12 fresh species not before got . . . besides these we have got much finer specimens of a good many we had before—but I sadly miss ‘Dr. Ellis’ who could give me the aboriginal names for almost every tree.”

[Dr. Ellis has figured in the Bulletin before (in May 1976, and, less favourably, in October 1981). Major E. H. Weston in his reminiscences said “Dr. Ellis, a pure-blooded aboriginal . . . had received a good education, and was the most intelligent and polished native I ever met.”]