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## XI. AUSTRALASIA.

Amongst the congregation which assembled to hear the General in the Edinboro' Castle, Stepney, then used by him, one week evening in 1868, was a wild profligate milkman who had wandered far from God, but who came brokenhearted that evening to the penitent-form, where he sought and found mercy, and proved his sincerity by throwing up his situation rather than continue to do Sunday work, against which his conscience revolted.

In 1879, the milkman, who had meanwhile by godly living and hard labor raised his family into comfortable circumstances, emigrated to Adelaide, South Australia, together with a builder who had been converted at our services in Bradford, Yorkshire, and finding there other old Mission Soldiers, they united in establishing a Mission Station, and immediately reported to the General their first services, urgently calling for Officers to be sent them.

So, at the beginning of 1881, Captain Sutherland, commonly known as Glory Tom, with his valiant wife were sent out to take command, and from the date of their arrival to that of our latest intelligence "advance Australia" has been a fair description of the manner in which our troops on the other side of the water have carried out the Colonial motto.

So rapid was the extension of the work from the beginning, that in 1882 it was found necessary to send out Major Barker, with several other officers, that the work might be the more perfectly organised, and advanced with a rapidity equivalent to our evidently grand opportunity. After setting things in order in the four South Australian Corps, the Major, who had already obtained financial help for this purpose by means of a brief visit to Melbourne, sailed for that city, in which our Australian Headquarters must needs be established, and there on the Collingwood Flats, with his wife, and a few friends made during his previous visit, he unfurled The Army flag.

The great Temperance Hall was soon taken for the Sunday Services, and the vast audiences assembling there Sunday after Sunday ever since have shown what a hold we had on the masses of that city. Before the close of 1883 we had a large Headquarters and Printing Office for the Colonies in Melbourne, 14 Corps in South Australia, 9 in Victoria, and 5 under the



# The *General Railton* Collection



superintendence of Major Sutherland in New South Wales; 3 distinct "War Crys" being issued weekly in the three Colonies, and meanwhile an even more romantic advance had been made.

On April Fool's Day, Captain Pollard, a delicate youth of 20, whom we had sent to New Zealand with no great hopes of any great work, on account of his health, still thinking that it might be improved and that he might be able to do good service at any rate in a limited way in that Colony, with a Lieutenant Wright, age 19, commenced the attack. They broke into their last sovereign to pay in advance the rent of the largest Hall they could secure in Dunedin, and so complete was the success of this effort that with the assistance of a couple of Officers sent on from Australia, Auckland was attacked the next Sunday, and before the year closed we had ten Corps in New Zealand.

At the end of 1884 we had in South Australia 35 Corps, in Victoria 21, in New South Wales 21, in New Zealand 23, and in Tasmania 3.

Meanwhile there had been established in Melbourne a great new work, the Prison Rescue Brigade, which attracted to The Army the attention and sympathy of all classes in the Colony. Ex-convicts, met at the prison gate, were in scores of cases led not only into the path of honesty, but into one of thorough devotion to the Saviour, some of them becoming honored and useful Officers.

Almost at the same time a Refuge for fallen sisters was established and filled, with efforts that dragged to the light many of the foul spots in Melbourne life, and thus again there can be no doubt assisted in giving to The Army in these Colonies a position for influence and general respect such as many years of harder toil failed to obtain for it elsewhere.

To the honor of Colonial common sense and outspokenness be it said, that from the first the Press and men of influence in Australasia have not hesitated to express a hearty admiration for the character and labors of The Army. The Government of Melbourne has the honor to have been the first on earth properly to recognise and assist us, having devoted to our use at a nominal rental an old detective office in Melbourne, which we transferred into a Rescued Prisoners'





# The *General Raiton* Collection



Refuge, and having afterwards granted us £1,000 towards the cost of a Rescue Home for the women.

So grand a work as that which had been accomplished in Australia demanded no ordinary attention. The General himself could not see his way to so long a voyage, but in midsummer, 1884, sent his second son, together with Major Howard, to visit the Colonial forces.

The reception they met with, not only in Melbourne but wherever they went, from the day of their landing to the day when, in a Government vessel, escorted by another steamer crowned with people, Marshal Ballington Booth left Sydney for San Francisco, on his way to the International Congress, not only demonstrated the perfect union of heart prevailing between Headquarters and Soldiers at no matter how great an instance from it; but the hearty appreciation of The Army which must come wherever its work is fairly looked at by people sufficiently at liberty to express their real opinions.

Commissioner Howard, who remains for the present in charge of the work throughout Australasia, reports that we have now 177 Corps under 317 Officers, five "War Crys" with an aggregate sale of 75,000 weekly, and a hold upon the populations of each colony far beyond anything that even these figures can convey.

Let no one imagine, however, that all these vast conquests have been won with less effort or in face of a less violent opposition than has had to be encountered elsewhere. On the contrary, larrikinism, (the Australian form of rowdyism,) is dangerously rampant, even in the Colonial capitals. Strong young men, accustomed for years to the entire absence of home or any other restraint, too easily able to earn money to be readily brought into any degree of dependence on, or respect for, others, and too numerous in most localities to be effectually restrained by the ordinary police force, are allowed frequently to act in a spirit of disregard for all law and authority; and from such a state of things our Officers are naturally the first to suffer, We have few Corps in Victoria or New South Wales which have not had to fight their way to victory through months of the most violent opposition.

In Sandhurst a Captain was so severely hurt as to have to be taken home in a cab.



# The *General Railton* Collection



In Newcastle the Soldiers were pelted on a Sunday morning with tins, bones, and stones.

At Liverpool, similar showers of missiles mingled with eggs outdoors, were followed up by the letting loose of an opossum, a bear, and a rat in the indoor meetings, where the Officers and Soldiers who attempted to keep order were very roughly handled.

"Hundreds of eggs are being thrown at us," writes a Captain from another place, "but, Hallelujah, we go marching along."

In one of the latest "War Crys" to hand, we read how at Waterloo, New South Wales, one Saturday, three drunken men attacked the ring while a drunken woman danced inside it. This poor creature was led to the indoor meeting, however, where she sought Salvation, and just so, day by day, scenes of uncontrolled rowdyism have been followed by glorious spiritual victories, so that some of our best Colonial Officers to-day are men who have fought against us with characteristic vigor when first brought in contact with our services.

Nor have the rowdy and the lawless been left alone to oppose our advance. In out of the way towns and villages, as well as in Melbourne and other large centres, over-wise men have thought it necessary to interfere with our open-air services by the misapplication of old bye-laws, or the invention of new ones, but since it has been found that Colonial Officers accustomed to respectability and comfort are as certain to go to prison as the poorest of our English Soldiers rather than surrender the right to proclaim "The Lord reigneth" everywhere, the miserable attempts to misuse authority have, as in the old country, pretty nearly come to an end.

It is most difficult to convey anything like a fitting impression of the extent of the success with which God has blessed us in these distant colonies, where the very godlessness of many populations has given to us an opportunity for victories beyond any that we have enjoyed elsewhere, and where the comparative absence of stilted classes and opposition have found it possible for men of every rank honestly to recognise the great work done.

There are many towns and villages in which no other religious services than those of The Army are regularly held, and in which, with the addition of persons coming in from surrounding hamlets





# The *General Railton* Collection



or farmsteads, we have frequently at our Sunday evening meetings a larger number than the resident population of the place. No wonder that Australian ex-Premiers and Chief Secretaries should think our great demonstrations worthy of their personal presence, and an Army which in five years has attained such proportions, worthy of their warm and hearty recognition.

And yet what is this Army on the other side of the world? Are its leaders learned, its proceedings respectable, its teachings toned down, its songs, its music, its language, refined, to curry favour with the wealthy and influential? Nothing of the kind. The songs and the music with which our processions of saved drunkards sweep the streets into their hired theatres, sheds, and barracks in the Southern world are precisely the ones which we use on the banks of the Thames.

It was amidst a number of Hallelujah lasses waving bannerets and sounding tambourines, whilst a dozen brass bands combined their music, that "under the Blood and Fire Flag," after volleys of amens and wavings of handkerchiefs, that Mr. Graham Barry (then Chief Secretary of Victoria), standing before a crowd of several thousands of citizens, declared his sympathy with The Army, and his confidence in its leaders.

No; it is by "Glory Toms," and "Happy Dinahs," by converted ex-convicts, transformed drunkards, and sanctified servant girls, that God has wrought all these respect-compelling wonders in Australasia; and if, in older countries, where there ought to be more wisdom, and more knowledge of Christ, we are less respected and honored and helped, it is only because of the greater strength of old, fashioned prejudices, and the greater fear of fashionable opinion! May God bless the Colonial Exhibition of 1886 to the minds and hearts of many Europeans, and may men of influence and property at length wake up to see the value of a force that can conquer as well as confront all the most disorderly and dangerous elements of society.

A number of Maoris have been saved in connection with our meetings in New Zealand and in the colony of New South Wales. Our first step towards the invasion of China has been taken in the shape of the formation of Chinese Corps. We reproduce on a later page our first Chinese bill.