

# Unit 3: New Settlements

Pp. 21--30

- | 25 years after the 1st settlements the way across the Great Dividing Range was open (the expedition of Lawson, Blaxland, & Wentworth)
- | The next 25 years, all areas were open to Europeans
- | Different parties like the overlanders, the explorers, the city businessmen, convicts, subsidized immigrants, & the native born contributing their sources with a common aim i.e. making Aust their new home taking European/English models, except a minority of colonists who accepted Aust. as a temporary residence

- | But the social life & the way they expressed themselves went beyond European rules of 'decorum' & 'gentility' like the newspaper biting attacks on the British colonial ruling government & the local politicians
- | Writers like W. C. Wentworth (*Statistical, Historical and Political Description of New South Wales* in 1819), John Dunmore Lang (*Historical and Statistical Account of New South Wales* in 1834), & Caroline Chisholm (*Female Immigration* in 1842) intended to develop & encourage pride as growing among the people in Aust but some others like Thomas Wells (*Michael Howe, the Last and Worst of the Bushranger* in 1818) & James Hardy Vaux (*Memoirs of James Hardy Vaux* in 1819) simply highlighted the sensation & unique in the colony.

- | Besides, there was broadsheet literature used to express honest confessions of the prisoners about to be executed.
- | Despite these opposite ideas and debates, a poet like Wentworth and, to some extent, Robinson give the colony true dignity developed from the land itself by dismantling their past memory & accepting Aust's life. Barron Field tries to capture Australian nature by dismantling the romantic influence in his works.

## Charles Tompson (1807—83)

- | Born in Sydney, the 1st native-born white poet to attempt an appreciation of the beauty of the local landscape
- | His collection *Wild Notes, from the Lyre of a Native Minstrel* appearing in Sydney in 1826 was the first volume written by Australian-born poet published in Australia.
- | Starting to recognize the Aborigines as human rather than as a problem by showing his condemnatory tone towards the destructive effects of progress on both nature & the Aboriginal race
- | The 1st nationalist poet who invented the adj. 'Australian'
- | Describing Aust in Eur'pean writing convention

# Literature of the Convict System

- | The writers on convictism recounting the violence & brutality & the self-righteousness against them as expressed in the literature
- | The memoirs of convict experience as seen in Joseph Holt & James Hardy Vaux, & the bushranger Michael Howe express the violence & brutality that the convicts experienced. However, this violence & brutality could only get a weak voice in literature.

## Henry Savery (1791—1842)

- | The 1st Aust'n novelist & essayist born in England, transported to & arrived in Van Diemen's Land in 1825
- | *The Hermit of Van Diemen's Land* published in Hobart Town in 1829 recording the manners & morals of the replica of English society in Aust, the 1st book of Aust'n essay revealing the gap between the pretensions of colonial society and its real basis
- | *Quintus Servinton* (1831), the 1st Aust'n (autobiographical) novel relating the convict transportation to Aust.
- | Wishing an authentic local culture, like Tompson, rather than an imitation of English models but both failed as their aspirations were still dependent on domination imposed from England
- | They made their works as a satire to attack the 'corruptions of power' hidden in the 'masks of gentility'.

## Louisa Ann Meredith (1812—95)

- | Born in Birmingham, England, married her cousin Charles Meredith (1839), a successful squatter & went to NSW & in 1840 moved to Tasmania
- | *Notes and Sketches of New South Wales* (London, 1844) recounting her voyage & experiences living in NSW
- | Finding Aust.n life as not part of her, but finding its fascination of colonial life & society, native flora & fauna
- | Adapting English to interpret Aust'n nature
- | Addressing an English audience, thus not intending to write on Aust, but contributing to fixing the image of Aust.

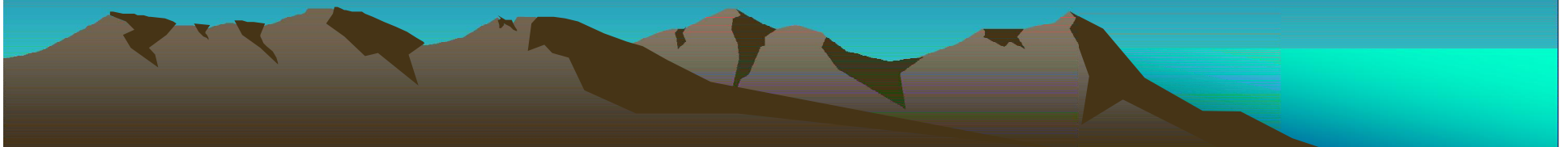


## Alexander Harris (1805—74)

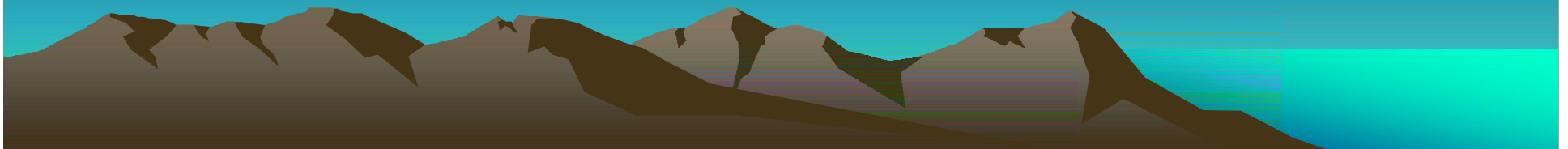
- | Born in London, secretly sent out by his parents to Aust in 1825 as a free labourer mostly as a cedar getter as he described in his Aust'n writings
- | Return to England in 1840 & in 1851 went to America & died in Canada
- | Much concerned with Aust.n physical characteristics & the themes of human adaptation to the nature, creating new forms of human fellowship developed through work & loneliness
- | The 1st writer to relate the concept of 'mateship' & recognize it as a human value transcending the deprivation that cut Aust. off from its European precedents .
- | *Settlers and Convicts*, his 1st autobiographical novel (London, 1852 & Melbourne, 1853) addressed to English audience & to encourage migration & to offer useful advice to migrants to ensure their success

# Unit 4: Far Horizons & Dark Clouds

Pp. 31—43



- 1851 marked a turning point in Aust'n history, i.e. the shift of the focus of colonial politics from London to the provincial capitals:
- Port Phillip District (Vict. Now) was separated from NSW & became the self-administrative colony of Victoria
- the south-eastern colonies of NSW, SA, TAS, VICT& the settlers of Western Australia & Moretan Bay (Brisbane now) were granted the right to establish their own legislatures
- Gold was discovered in NSW & Victoria



# The consequence of the policy:

- a great influx of immigrants & a new source of wealth
- a confidence in realizing the long delayed dream of a new nation (at least a new England)
- public facilities were established as required by the new status of capital cities of Sydney, Melbourne & Adelaide



# National Writing

- the new national confidence in writing was clearly seen to arise from the depression of the 1840s, and not from these changes
- the social prosperity brought by gold, the tradition of political debates in newspapers & the NSW legislative council about land policy, the relationship between British & colonial governments, the powers of governors, the transportation of convicts, the place of the different social classes & the nature of the rising Australian society were reflected in writing around the 1880s-1890s



- The Empire owned by Henry Parkes used as a vehicle for advocacy of Aust's place as a free member of the British Empire
- Freedom and Independence for the Golden Lands of Australia (London, 1852), essays by John Dunmore Lang focuses on establishing Aust. as a republic
- The Eureka Stockade (Melbourne, 1855) by Raffaello Carboni narrates the revolt of the miners (diggers) against licence fees imposed by the British govt.

# The squatters versus the diggers

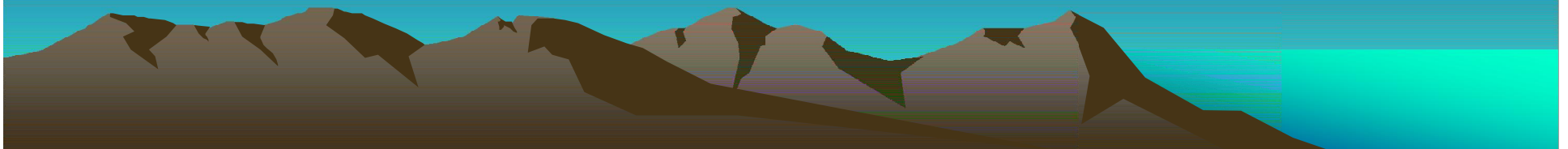
- The gold bringing about a vast influx of free immigration & providing the financial & industrial foundations of Victoria, but the squatters still held their social & economic powers & the diggers' hopes of fortune were reduced because of their dependency on these squatters
- This all is recorded in the writings of Parkes, Lang & Carboni
- The bush ballads appeared to further the image of the bushman against the hardship of the nature
- Minor verses on English nostalgia were used to escape from the daily hard work

# Charles Harpur (1813—68)

- born in Windsor of emancipist parents, used the pseudonym 'A Hawkesbury Lad'.
- Ambitious to establish himself as Aust's first authentic poetic voice who spent most of his life in the country & publishing political poems in *The Empire*
- Major works: *Thoughts: A Series of Sonnets* (1845), *The Bushranger, A Play in Five Acts*, and *Other Poems* (1853), *The Tower of the Dream* (1865)



- Relying heavily on traditional English poetic techniques while describing & interpreting the colonial Aust'n scene as his nature poem "A Mid-Summer Noon in the Australian Forrest"
- Dreaming to be acknowledged as 'the Muse of Australia'
- The most influential figure in the mid-century colony



# Catherine Helen Spence (1825—1910)

- Born near Melrose, Scotland & migrating to SA with her family in 1839
- Responding to the materialism of the Aust'n colonies during the gold-rushes in her major works
- Making a contribution to colonial Aust.'n fiction through *Clara Morrison* (1854), focusing on women's independence against the forces of patriarchy & snobbery that continue to oppress them.



# Henry Kingsley (1830—76)

- The younger brother of the English novelist Charles Kingsley
- Born in Northhamptonshire, England & migrating to Aust. in 1853
- Re-establishing male supremacy & European assumptions, thus making himself distance from the hard life of Aust
- His characters come to restore fortunes ruined in England & wish to return to England once they achieve their material ends
- Major work *The Recollections of Geoffrey Hamlyn* (1859), completed on his return to England, about the impact of the Australian dream on members of English society



# Journals of Later Explorers

- By the end of the 1840s, the boundaries of settlement had been established
- Later explorers were found more resistance from the Aborigines
- Their dreams of establishing European settlements was discouraged when further exploring the land
- Most journals report either matter-of-fact travels through the country of no particular interest or epics of survival



# The Burke & Will Expedition

- The expedition left Melbourne in August 1860 led by Robert O'Hara Burke (1821—61), an Irish-born superintendent police and others in the party included the surveyor William John Wills (1834—61)
- Reaching Cooper's Creek 6 weeks later & continuing to Carpentaria
- The most famous journey recorded in the journals of William Wills: finding one of the members, Charles Gray died from dehydration, learning to survive from the Ab's, reporting his own dying moment with stoic faith & undiminished loyalty to Burke, who was finally also found dead.

# Ernest Giles (1835—97)

- born in Bristol, England came to Aust. in 1850
- in the early 1860s explored the pastoral potential of the western areas of NSW beyond the Darling River
- having knowledge of Aust as well as the Ab's
- the 1st white man to cross Aust. from east to west
- what he recounted in his journals was the culmination of the Aust'n exploration: providing the images of the dead heart of Aust & the lonely individuality of human existence, within the boundaries of the settlements, people still struggled to adapt the land to their purposes and realize the dream of a society with room for everyone
- the explorers sought the answers outside the confines of the society, the artists tried to find the causes of their frustrations in the conditions of social existence

# Henry Kendall (1839—82)

- literary reputation, like Harpur, resting on lyric poetry which is authentic & sincere interpretation of his boyhood experiences in the bushland
- “The Glen of Arrawatta” is almost a reworking of Harpur’s “The Creek of the Four Graves”
- his affectionate though sharp commentaries on the colonial outback types, e.g. ‘Bill the Bullock Driver’ & ‘Jim the Splitter’ portraits of similar bush characters
- Poems and Songs, his first vol. (1862) & Leaves from Australian Forests his second vol. (1869)
- influenced by Emerson & Poe

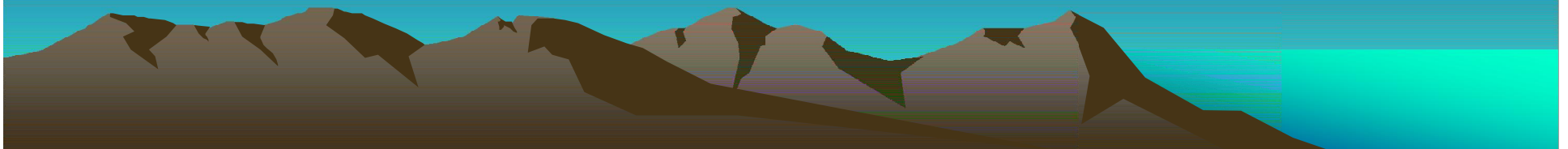


# Adam Lindsay Gordon (1833—70)

- born in Fayal in the Azores, completing education in England & came to Aust to redeem a misspent youth
- the only Aust'an poet to be included in the Oxford Standard Authors series & have been placed in the Poets' Corner of Westminster Abbey (1934)
- English balladist in a colony than an Aust'an national poet
- “The Feud” (1864), “Ashtaroth” (1867), “Sea Spray and Smoke” (1867) & “Bush Ballads and Galloping Rhymes” (1870)
- his poetry very little reflects the sense of Australianness but mostly are about:



- a reconstruction of doubtful quality of the chivalric atmosphere of old England
- a spiritual longing for England
- Australian flavour present only in “A Dedication”, & “The Sick Stockrider”, which is recognized as the poem sketching in broad line the territory which later balladists filled with profuse and picturesque detail
- popularity resting on his ability to express in simple lines a simple philosophy of life
- his Australian appeal to be seen from his portrayal of the outback way of life
- mostly modelled upon the conventional verse which his English education and background had instilled in him



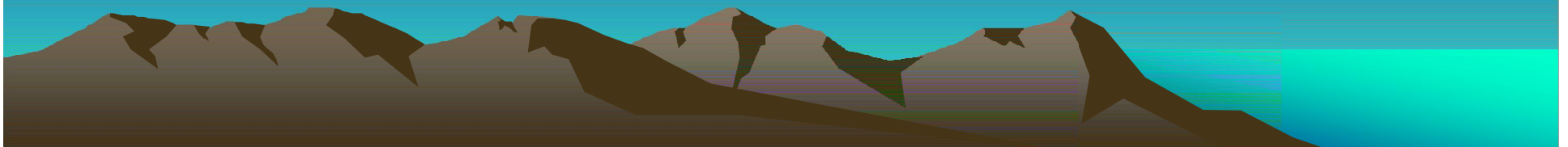
# Bushranger

- Kendall & Gordon drew on the folk tradition that had been established in convict times
- “Wild Colonial Boy”, “Bold Jack Donohue” & other ballads based on the experiences of the small miners, selectors, and traveling workers shared the convicts’ hostility to the authority, including the squatters who, with their gold, had been able to re-established the English society & rejected & driven them forth into new lands
- The bushranger became their natural symbol for feelings & rebellion, of which qualities perceived in Ned Kelly



# Rolf Bolderwood (1826—1915)

- pseudonym of Thomas Alexander Browne, a Police Magistrate, born in London, England & arrived in Aust. in 1831
- Major work Robbery Under Arms (1882—83 in Sydney Mail), published in London in 1888 showing the problem of making authority rather than outlaws heroic
- Celebrating the ideals of pastoral life



# Marcus Clarke (1846—81)

- born in Kensington, London & emigrated to Aust. in 1863
- one uncle had been governor of WA
- modeling after Dickens, showing his awareness that Aust.'s promise of the freedom where individuals can make their own lives is an illusion
- major work *For the Term of His Natural Life* (1874)





# Unit 5: A Little Radicalism

Pp. 44-62

# Technical Terms

- Radicalism:

*“extreme views or principles, esp. leftwing political parties”*

- Radical:

(a) *”thoroughgoing or extreme, esp. towards reform”*;

(b) *“favouring drastic political, social or other reforms”*

(Debridge, eds, 1991:1452)

# Background

- By the end of the 1800s, Australia beginning to enter a period of high literary consciousness: Aust writings serially published in either domestic or overseas newspapers & periodicals, the most famous & significant of which is the *Bulletin*
- In the 1880s, Aust national literature recognized to form, i.e. short stories & bush ballads
- In the 1890s, significantly reaching its abundant peaks with verses and short stories

# The Bulletin

- a weekly paper appearing in Sydney on Jan. 31, 1880 by J.F. Archibald & John Haynes in a time when the Aust population predominantly urban to voice the truthful life on the Aust. bush with its people and the problems they faced presented in an amusing & clever way & known as “the bushman’s bible”
- portraying the image of the true Aust. characterized by
  - its hostility to the cruelties of the social, politic, & legal systems, like capital punishment
  - the ideas against “capitalism” & corrupted officials & public figures presented in the image of Mr. Fat, who tied Aust with British interests & ideas
  - creating the images of an innocent & independent Aust represented by the ‘Little Boy from Manly’ (cartoon) & the ‘bushman’ (ballads & short stories)



- represented by the 'Little Boy from Manly' (cartoon) & the 'bushman' (ballads & short stories)
- a major inter-colonial publication encouraging local writers & artists by providing itself as a regular outlet for their works
- Intended for drovers, shearers, miners (diggers), fencing-contractors, bullock-team drivers ('bullockies') & small famers
- 'demonology' including John Bull, the Chow, the new Chum, & the Fatman capitalist
- 'angelology' centering on the bushman—tall, athletic, hard working, sceptical of bosses & imposed creeds
- opposing capital punishment & 'flogging'
- politically & economically chauvinistic
- satirically opposing to colonial pretentiousness (affection)

§ favouring the federation of the Aust colonies, republicanism, Home Rule for Ireland, a White Aust Policy, & protectionism

§ bohemian (person with artistic or intellectual tendencies who lives and acts without regard for conventional rules of behaviour) , radical, socialist, Anglophobe, pro-Irish

§ sympathizing with the dying-out Aborigines as they were believed to lack the capacity to survive in the new society

- excluding the Chinese & the southern European who were regarded as a threat of their working conditions & standards of decency (politeness/morality)

- Constructing the ideal of true Australian by inviting its readers to shares with its invented image of the bushman, although the invention was conceived and constructed in city (Sydney)

# Ballads & Yarns

- § used to articulate the ideal of the true Aust'n as a battler (an itinerant worker reduced to living as a swagman)
- § originated from oral lit to become the dominant form
- § focusing on the concept of Aust'lianness: egalitarianism, being more practical, love of outdoor life, freedom & self-reliance
- § female roles not treated special
- § myth-makers: Paterson, Lawson, Furphy etc

# Andrew Barton ('Banjo') Paterson (1864—1941)

- § born at Narambla Station, near Orange, NSW & growing up in the bush on Illalong Station near Yass, NSW
- § well-known as the bush balladist & collector & admirer of bush songs & ballads
- § spending most of his life in the city & once labeled by Henry Lawson as the 'city bushman'
- § romanticizing & a glamorous view of life in the bush

§ the most representative writer to emerge in the bush ballad writing tradition

§ expressing every element of the bush legend & his “Waltzing Matilda” has become a symbol of national identity

§ in “Clancy of the Overflow”, he portrays the images of ‘the dusty, dirty city’ and the ‘language uninviting of the gutter children fighting’ in contrast with the beautiful, pleasing, friendly and kindly life in the bush

§ “The Man from the Snowy River” is his most popular work in which he invents memorable images of the Aust.’n character

# Henry Lawson (1867—1922)

- § born on the goldfields at Grenfell, NSW
- § Reputation resting on poetry (the bush ballads) but later on short stories
- § refusing optimistic romanticism & depicting romantic imaginary
- § bitterness & heroism of endurance or even romance of love & mateship
- § loneliness & isolation but can be gregariousness & mateship

§ All works are based on three period that he distinguishes (1) the 'roaring days' of the gold-rushes—a heroic` age when the promise of wealth offered hope to all, (2) the period when this hope was blighted (destroyed) when the diggers became selectors, (3) the time of defeat when the selectors have abandoned their farms to tramp in search of casual work or accept the ultimate (decisive) defeat of labor in the cities

§ The first Aust.'n author to write without European illusions whose famous works are "The Drover's Wife", "The Union Buries Its Dead", "The Bush Undertaker", "Past Carin", "A Day on a Selection", "The Roaring Days"

# Lawson's Contemporaries

Two of Lawson's contemporaries divided his image of the alienating bush into two separate aspects:



# Barbara Baynton (1857—1929)

- born in Scone, NSW & brought up on the Liverpool Plains
- describing gloomily realistic view of life in the 'bush' with its sense of vulnerability & horror which is scarcely redeemed by any human value
- unrelieved focus on the women of the bush with their endurance amidst hardships & their resourcefulness
- *Bush Studies* (1902) presents six situations that completely isolate the individual in a hostile environment

# 'Steele Rudd' (Arthur Hoey Davis, 1868—1935)

- Born in Drayton on the Darling Downs in Queensland
- The bush brings about horror, but overlays (covers) the frustrations caused by it with the bitter humor of farce
- *On Our Selection* (1899) has the authenticity of bush experience
- comic sketches of the disasters either trivial or major but out of optimism
- stated moral: bush learning always superior to book-learning

# Joseph Furphy (1843—1912)

- § born at Yering in the upper Yarra valley in Victoria
- § the most gifted novelist with the penname ‘Tom Collins’
- § speculations on determinism, Christianity, socialism & Aust. nationalism
- § avoiding romantic clichés but supporting democratic & radical in spirit
- § *Such is Life* (1903) was first published by the *Bulletin* & read as an autobiographical report of his life in the Riverina

# Christopher John Brennan (1870—1932)

- Born in Sydney & educated at the University of Sydney & winning a scholarship to the University of Berlin
- not belong to the nationalistic strain
- uninterested in Aust., he created a universal context of culture
- centering on the lost of 'Eden', the notion of spiritual drifting, & his struggle towards understanding & harmony
- concerning with a feeling of emptiness & hopelessness metonymically represented by the landscape surrounding & pressing in on the speaker

# Louis Stone (1871—1935)

- born in Leicestershire, England & was brought to Aust. in 1884
- *Jonah* (1911) is set in Redfern & Waterloo, the poorer suburbs of Sydney where he lived for some time & whose characters were taken from the larrikin pushes (gangs of vicious city hooligans) ã larrikin: a sub-group produced by poverty and distinguished by a brutality
- Portraying the brutal life of the city not the gang but the family of working class background
- Employing cockney, dialect originally from the eastern part of London

# C. J. Dennis (Clarence Michael James, 1876—1936)

§ born in Auburn S.A.

§ remembered by his *The Songs of a Sentimental Bloke* (1915), a story of the young larrikin Bill, who is enticed from his life with the push to domestic bliss on a berry farm

§ like *Jonah*, it also uses cockney