

## Historical Associations of Adventure Bay.

By CLIVE LORD, F.L.S., Museum, Hobart.

Adventure Bay is but one of many beauty spots which fringe the coast of Tasmania. Its historical associations, however, lend an added charm to the romantic grandeur of the scenery, for it is doubtful if in any other bay in Australia has its history been so interwoven with that of the early explorers of the Great South Land. The dusky aborigines, searching for shell fish on the shores of the bay as far back as 1642, probably witnessed Tasman's attempt to anchor in this Bay with his two quaint ships belonging to the Dutch East India Company.

Over a hundred years later the French explorer, Marion du Fresne, passed along the South Coast, but it was not until March, 1773, that the first ship, of which we have record, actually came to anchor in the Bay. The navigator was Captain Furneaux, in the *Adventure*, and he named the Bay from his ship.

The island at the southern extremity was named Penguin Island, owing to a Crested Penguin—a chance bird—being captured there. Penguin Island, therefore, is the type locality of *Eudytes chrysocome*, and the Bay itself is also the type locality of many species, both botanical and zoological.

In 1777 Captain James Cook, during his third and last voyage to the southern seas, anchored in the Bay, and eleven years later the First Fleet sailed by on their voyage to found the first settlement in Australia. A few months later Captain Bligh, who had previously visited the Bay as Cook's sailing

master on the *Resolution*, anchored the famous *Bounty* here in August, 1788, Adventure Bay being her last port of call previous to the mutiny at Tahiti. Captain Cox, in the brig, *Mercury*, passed along the southern coast in 1789 and in 1792 Bligh once more anchored in the Bay. In the following year the French Admiral, Bruny D'Entrecasteaux, who had discovered the Channel a few months after Bligh's visit, anchored in Adventure Bay during the course of his second visit to Tasmania. Hayes (1793), also Flinders and Bass (1798-99) both passed by Adventure Bay without anchoring, but the Frenchman, Baudin, in 1802, remained here for a few days in the *Geographic*.

Another item of interest is the fact that at Adventure Bay were planted the first fruit trees in Tasmania, for Bligh planted apples and other trees along the shore during his stay. At a later period, during the twenties and thirties of last century, there were various bay whaling stations established, and on the shores of Grass Point there are to be seen to-day the remnants of old stone chimneys, etc., which mark the site of the old stations.

Adventure Bay, guarded at the northern end by Cape Frederick Henry and on the south by the great stony bastions of Fluted Cape, is worthy of note, therefore, for more reasons than one. Whilst the naturalist searches the shores or timbered slopes for specimens, he can ever and anon glance around and observe scenes of inspiring grandeur, whilst, letting his mind fall back through the past, he can reconstruct certain of the events which go to form the romance of the early history of our Commonwealth.

### White's Journal of a Voyage to New South Wales.

By W. B. ALEXANDER, M.A., C.F.A.O.U., Sherwood,  
Brisbane.

Read at Annual Congress, Hobart, Nov., 1923.

This well-known work, published in 1790, is of interest to students of Australian history, because it contains the journal of John White, the first Surgeon-General of the Port Jackson settlement, and contains one of the few first-hand accounts of the voyage of the first fleet, and of the happenings during the first six months of the new colony.

It is also of interest to naturalists, because it contains figures and descriptions of a number of the animals (birds, reptiles, fish), and plants met with at Port Jackson. It has generally been assumed that these descriptions were written by White himself, and the few scientific names proposed in the book are usually quoted as of White.

I have recently perused a copy of this work, kindly lent me by Dr. E. Marks, of Brisbane, and have discovered that this