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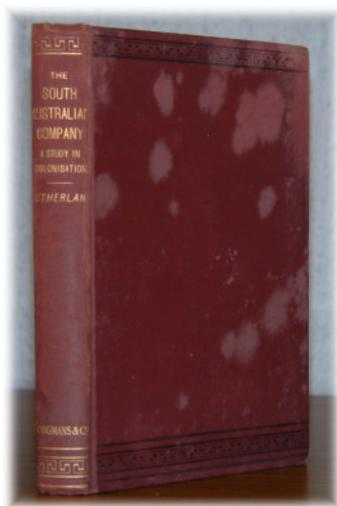
# The South Australian Company: A Study in Colonisation

Ref. AU5011

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THE

# SOUTH AUSTRALIAN COMPANY

## A STUDY IN COLONISATION

BY

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39 PATERNOSTER ROW, LONDON
NEW YORK AND BOMBAY
1898

# CONTENTS

## CHAPTER V

### PRACTICAL COLONISATION

ON a wild and stormy night, in the depth of the severe and tempestuous winter of 1836, the ship 'John Pirie' was beating to windward, against a furious gale off the Scilly Isles. She had on board, besides the officers and crew, a small company of twenty-eight labouring men, a few head of live stock and general stores and provisions. The storm increased in violence, and the captain put back to Plymouth in order to await calmer weather. This was the untoward beginning of a very long and tedious voyage which lasted from February 22—just one month after the legal formation of the South Australian Company, the vessel's owners—until the middle of August.

The 'John Pirie,' a schooner of 120 tons, was one of the three vessels already mentioned as having been unsuccessfully offered to the

Commissioners. Within the same week the
' Duke of York ' brig, of 191 tons, fitted up
as a whaler, and the ' Lady Mary Pelham,' of
201 tons, started on their eventful voyages,
and both of these turned up at Kangaroo
Island within three days of one another at the
end of July ; while the ' John Pirie ' did not
put in an appearance for over a fortnight later.
The ' Emma ' was also despatched and arrived
at Kangaroo Island without mishap.

A curious and interesting parallel to this
case of private enterprise, in its impatience of
official delays and dilatoriness forestalling the
action of recognised legal colonial authority,
was afforded eight months previously by the
unauthorised action of the Port Phillip Associa-
tion in taking their sheep across to the country
now known as Victoria. For seven years the
Government at Sydney had been unsuccess-
fully petitioned to permit the founding of a free
settlement at Port Phillip. But in Sydney as
well as in London there were strong opponents
of free colonisation in Australia. The prevail-
ing sentiments of the day in the senior colony
toward such enterprises have already been
indicated in the extract which has been given

# Getting around this CD

## Navigating Archive CD Books CDs

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Optical Character Recognition (OCR) technology has been developing over the years as a useful mechanism to convert images (as Archive CD Books pages are) into text which can be searched. The quality of the OCR can still vary, and hence the searchability can vary. Around 95% or 99% of the words in books with good type are searchable—or even higher with very good type.

*OCR is now a wonderful searching aid in many instances*
*but there is still no substitute for reading the book!*

## Different Versions of Adobe Acrobat Reader

Adobe Acrobat Reader 4 or later should be used. Adobe Reader 6 (as it is now named) in fact has considerably better searching options and is recommended.

- **Acrobat Reader v4** has both a "Find" and a "Search" tool. Those tools are two *totally* different things. Our CDs (that are searchable) work with the *FIND* tool
- **Acrobat Reader v5** has only a "Find" tool (not a "search" tool). Our CDs (that are searchable) work with the *FIND* tool.
- **Adobe Reader v6** has only a "Search" tool (not a tool labelled "Find"). HOWEVER — what is called "Search" is the same as the tool that used to be called "Find" Our CDs (that are searchable) work with the *SEARCH* tool

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- enter the MINIMUM number of characters needed to bring up the search results required.
- use Adobe Reader 6 to do some trial searches to try to identify the characters that may be misread. These can show up in the extra text in the search results list (Adobe 6 only). A few minutes trial will help you to avoid using characters that are more prone to being misread, e.g. try entering "rederi" if you want "Frederick", but find that the letters "F" "c" and "k" are sometimes misread.
- use the "Match whole word" option to eliminate unnecessary items in your results list, e.g. to eliminate all the blacksmiths and tinsmiths etc when you only want the name Smith.
- use the "Match case" option to eliminate all the occupations "smith" if you only want the name "Smith".
- don't just search for names. Search the book for other names, places and subjects of interest:
  - › look for others of the same name
  - › look for others who lived in the same place or street
  - › who was the postmaster or police officer in the town?
  - › how often and at what time did the coach arrive in town?
  - › what churches were there and what time were services held?
  - › what other activities were there in the community?
  - › look for others who had the same occupation of other interests
- all of this and more may be available in a seemingly mundane book such as a directory. You can learn much of the background of life at the time, even if your ancestor is not listed there.
- Many CDs have only one file, but some have the book content spread over several files. Adobe Reader normally searches in the file that is open at the time. If you wish to search ALL files at once choose the "All PDF documents in" option and select the CD drive or directory the files are in—Adobe Reader 6 only.

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