

1889. His journal records scenic descriptions and accounts of the social life which he fully entered into, particularly anything of a military or sporting nature. His first impression of Australia was not however auspicious for as they approached King George Sound at night 'a few oil lamps on the buoys did not prepossess us with the resources of the great continent we had reached'.

While Turnbull was collecting published works about Australia he was also interested in acquiring authors' manuscripts. Although most are literary there are several general items. Robert Dawson had been a farmer and estate manager in England when he became Chief Agent for the Australian Agricultural Company and was sent out to Sydney. As he travelled up through the bush to Port Stephens where he founded a settlement he had excellent opportunities for observing the conditions in the area and amongst the assigned convicts and aborigines he worked with. In 1830 his *Present state of Australia* was published.<sup>12</sup> The Library holds his private journal which is incorporated as Chapter Two of the book. The journal was obviously adapted for publication; several pages were not used and the text was refined and expanded in places.

In 1850 Benjamin Peck published a limited edition of his *Recollections of Sydney; capital of New South Wales*.<sup>13</sup> His manuscript journal is an odd mixture of copies of letters to his family and friends, financial accounts and examples of his attempts to transform the daily Collects into verse. In his letters to a friend J. H. Gregory of Sydney he includes extracts from his manuscript recollections. There has been some re-arrangement of the wording in the published form and some material from published sources has been included to give a general background. Peck's journal is of importance in providing biographical background and the bibliographic history of the book. Letters to publishers and friends soliciting subscriptions are included.

Although the papers and proceedings of the South Australian Parliament 1868-1870<sup>14</sup> contain reports on the progress and results of the Surveyor-General's survey of the Northern Territory, a copy of G. W. Goyder's rough journal provides additional useful information, demonstrating how necessary his organizational talents were to co-ordinate the many diverse activities involved.

The Fisher family papers contain a section of letters from Australian politicians to George Fisher, the Mayor of Wellington and M.P. W. A. Watts in a letter to Fisher of October 1914 says:

privately I can endorse your sagacious diagnoses of our situation Fusion is in disrepute, its only hopes of recovery are either the failure of the Labour folk to redeem their prodigal promises, or the death or removal of some leading old hands of our crowd