

N eminent art critic has declared that the outlook to a me-  
tain is finer than the outlook from a mountain, because, fr

In the early spring the ever-curving stream is gloriously out with its fringes of golden wattle. The Upper Yarra (McVie Hotel (twenty miles), at the junction of the Yarra and Waiyeek, ends conveniently the first stage of a journey which may be described as two days of river scenery followed by two days of mountaineering. With the provision of camping-houses, tourists who take the trip on foot are able to regulate the journey as they please, to combine sport with sight-seeing, and to

**YARRA FALLS.**

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Lovers of the wild life of the bush will find this section of Yr typically interesting, for here they first get touch of a c-bird, whose dancing-movements are very graceful. Later on the trail, the black and white gophers, kangaroos and other birds which have the typical harshness of the mountains. Although the scenery along the valley is all beautiful, the passing at intervals—and wherever little mountain crests lie in—through fern bowers the first glimpse of the Yr. The mountain, which is the first sudden step to the uplands precipitous that from the lowest fall upward for 750 feet is a succession of white cascades, which, before the La

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MUSHROOM ROCK.

Down, continually down, goes the train until it drops by a series of rattling tracks, along awe-inspiring precipices, where passengers can look down into unknown depths on one side and on the other up beetling mountain sides that make the eyes ache, then on top of a high, jagged mountain, where the crossing is made by a bridge supported by cement pillars, which is a monument to the skill of the engineer who superintended the construction of the remarkable line, the train shortly afterwards enters the Stringer valley, where the high, jagged, steeply ascending peaks of mountains felt every step. With barely an hour's such a rapid descent the train caved into a series of joints, this remarkable track twisted and curviled alongside the narrow creek, the beetling cliffs towering above the train.

Wahalla is reached at length after a highly interesting journey of three hours, and the train draws up to the platform, which is built right across the narrow valley of Stringer's Creek. With its winding and narrow streets, formed almost in the bed of the

**LAMMER'S CREEK.**—This is situated due east from Walhalla a distance of a little over two miles. The route is from Maudslowi and down the Eureka Spur. The track is good until near the top of the ridge, where it is somewhat embarrassed owing to the steepness of the declivity. This creek is worth a visit to those who desire to find the roughness, lying as it does in its deep valley embowered in hazel and musk scrub and giant tree ferns, through which the crystal clear cold water trickles from pool to pool over its bed of granite and limestone. The forest is good. Some of the best specimens of ferns can be found here. From Lammer's Creek the sideling track to the right will take the visitor to the abandoned Eureka Gold Mine.

**LONG TUNNEL EXTENDED TRAM LINE.**—There are many miles of tram line in the neighbourhood of Waihalla, but none perhaps, offer more charming views than this one, constructed as it is close to the top of the range. As the line crosses the range, views of both valleys of the branches of Stringer's Creek are obtained. This tram line can be reached in five minutes' walk from the sports ground.

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THE LOCH VALLEY  
Warburton—Walsh's Creek—Neerim—Yarra Junction  
(71 miles).

Another picturesque trip through magnificent river valleys is the timber country in that which may be made by branching out on the Walsh's Creek—Walhalla track at Alderman's Creek about three miles beyond the Upper Yarra Hotel and bearing in mind the fact that the easily accessible crest of the cross ridge at Petch's abandoned selection on the crest of the ridge five miles farther on, after crossing which and passing a side track leading to the selection of Mr. J. Petch, a rapid descent is made into the valley of the Walsh's Creek. The bridge of the cross ridge, about 1½ miles the bridge over Skerry's Creek will be crossed, and then follows a beautiful walk—partly through beech forest—of six miles along the valley of the Loch River, which stream is crossed by a *scotch bridge* to the bridge just named, the bridge of the Loch River. Two and a half miles beyond the bridge brings one to the Noosie.

Easily accessible by rail from Melbourne, Noojee, the terminus of the branch line from Warragul, is situated between the Liffey and Torongone Rivers, on the fringe of a magnificent hardwood forest in a region hemmed in by the mountains and valleys of the Great Otway Range and the Blue Mountains, and from the south by the wealth of wild flowers. From Warragul the line passes through undulating country broken only by an occasional scrubber area, a homestead, or an orchard, and before Noojee reaches the some of the loveliest scenery in the State. The hills are covered with grass and are crossed by a few bridges. Around Noojee there is much to interest the eyes of nature. The call of the lyre-bird can be heard on the hills, and the platypus hides in the quiet places along the river. There is a newness and freshness to the districts, and from the hills and the banks of the river the vicinity magnificent views of the surrounding country are to be had.

The river is treacherous, which are easily negotiated, invite expeditions. A timber tram-line runs for about nine miles into the Lathrop Valley, and another traverses the Loch Valley. The banks of both rivers are thickly covered with the wonderful growth of the "tongue fern," which affords shade for the most desirable resting places. On the Tongue River are the beautiful Torongoro and Amphiphetos Falls, a favourite walking trip with tourists to the district.

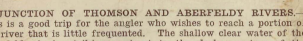
Both the Lathrobe and Loch Rivers are good fishing streams, and trout may be shot in the clearings and wallabies in the bush.

If a horse should be desired, however, to continue the journey on foot, there is a track, which runs westward by a little north, following the valley of the Lathrobe River, thence by an easy climb takes the road to the ranges into the Little Yarra Valley, and so on to Junction.

Before leaving Noojee a visit should be paid to the famous Gay Hook, which is about three quarters of a mile from the Nayook wharf. By the construction of tracks this beautiful dell is rendered easily accessible, and, for the convenience of tourists, two rest houses, with tables and seats and detached cottages, have been provided. A brook courses among the rocks, which are covered with most beautiful mosses, and staghorn ferns, many of the tree trunks.

The distance from Nayook to Yarra Junction is twenty-se-

ments, and throughout the route is one of scenic beauty.



There is practically no shooting in the district, there being little game of any sort. A few brownwing pigeons are sometimes found at the head of the gully and on the ridges, but the thickness of the scrub prevents good sport. A few rabbits and hares may be found in Moondarra.

The Thomson River has been stocked with English and Rainbow trout, and some good catches have already been made in this stream. In the upper waters of the river good black-fishing may be had.

**SPECIAL NOTES FOR THE GUIDANCE OF TOURISTS.**

Shelter-Houses.

(1) Below Yarra Falls.—Two rooms; six wire stretchers.

(2) On Mount Whitelaw.—Two rooms; four wire stretchers.

(3) On Balhat Peak.—Two rooms; six wire stretchers.

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### RAILWAY TICKETS.

Passengers holding return halves of tickets issued Melbourne Warburton may return from Waihalia on payment of the fare for the extra mileage travelled; and those holding return halves of tickets issued Melbourne to Waihalia may return from Warburton without extra payment.

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WARBURTON TO WALSH'S CREEK AND WOOD'S POINT  
(58 Miles).

Travelling for twenty miles along the winding road that dips out of the pretty town of Warburton and slavishly follows the course of the Yarra, the tourist arrives at Walsh's Creek, and is fully for the opportunity it affords of discovering what a wonderful stream this young and lusty Yarra is, the trip is well worth making, for it is certain that this twenty miles of Yarra Creek, shaded with big timber and moss-grown undergrowth, reveals at every turning delightful views of as pure a stream as ever mirrored the smiling face of nature.

Big Pat's Creek, a favorite camping ground, is crossed from north over Warburton, and thence on the road, crosses many small creeks and ferny hills of seasonal growth. After crossing Starvation Creek it gradually rises over the "Peninsula" where the river has cut its way through the hills, and then descends gold mining purposes—and quickly descends again to river level some six or seven miles farther west. The trail goes on another four miles southwards McMahon's, thirteen miles from Warburton, where it crosses the river and ascends the hillsides to the saddle and again returns to the river three miles farther on to the mouth of the Yarra. From there it follows the river nearly its course for another four miles till the Upper Yarra (Veigh's) hole, which nestles among the mountains just below the junction of the Yarra with the Murrumbidgee.

The road here leaves the Yarra, and is a gradual climb up to hoppers, sheltered by thick scrub to the top of the ridge above the camp. It is a very good road, and can be made quite comfortably easy. On the crest of the ridge it junctions with the road to Mayra's, and comes down to the river at the mouth of the Yarra, eighteen miles to Matlock. On that stretch overlooking Jordan Valley some beautiful views of the distant mountains are seen from Matlock, and the road quickly reaches Wood's Point.

MARYSVILLE TO WOOD'S POINT (51 Miles).

The road from Marysville to Wood's Point lies for practically the whole of the distance along the crest of the Great Dividing Range, and as the accommodation houses that at one time existed here are now all gone, the close of the journey can only be undertaken by caravan, or by those who choose to carry a sleeping-bag and sufficient provisions to last throughout the journey.

On leaving Marysville the traveller begins to ascend Mount Sturt, the road traversing part of the mount known as R-bley's Spur. At first the densely timbered valley of the Stears' river, on the right, is overlooked, with Mount Kitchener forming a background to the picture. As the road winds round the mountain side the view changes, and the river valley is only

is obtained of the hills beyond—the Cathedral Range, and a peaceful and verdant valley of the Taggerty, with Mt. Margaret in the distance. An elevation of over 3,000 feet is attained, and the road then becomes comparatively level.

Shortly after passing Tommy's Bend—a celebrated bend in the road crosses the Divide into the southern (Yarra) watershed. The O'Shannassy River is crossed, and the road begins to ascend the Divide near Mount Arnold, where it attains an elevation of about 3,700 feet. Crossing the road to the north, the Yarra and Gungahlin creeks, many magnificent ferns of mountain ash grow alongside the road, and at about half a mile from the road—to which a track has been laid—is the giant tree King Edward VII. It is a gnarled specimen, with a circumference of 87 feet at the base; growth of myrtle trees in the same locality is also very rapid.

Tourists must not pass on without visiting the Cumber Falls. They are about a quarter of a mile from the road, here is a good walking track, indicated by a finger-post on roadside. The scene which presents itself is one of fascinating beauty. It is a mist-filled gorge, with rugged sides, clad to summit with giant eucalypts, stately tree-ferns, and luxuriant undergrowth, and down a zig-zag course, over huge boulders and fallen tree trunks, the torrent rushes with a mighty and deafening roar.

Leaving the falls, mile upon mile of corduroy road is traveled and the character of the country changes somewhat. It is verdant, and the trees are neither as fine nor as varied. It is not far to a regular road, and the road is good. The road is from Wood's Point to either through Mansfield or Warburton. Twenty-nine miles from Marysville the road to Warburton joins the Marysville-Wood's Point road, and from there to Matlock, about eighteen miles, the track is rough in places, but is a good one. The road is a fine one, and the view from the road of the magnificent Jordan Valley, a sight that will live long in the minds of those who view it. Six miles out of Matlock a fine spring will be found close to the road.

Half a century ago Mount Matlock was the guardian of several mining towns, most of which have now disappeared, just below the crest of the mount is the village of Matlock, which, from its proud eminence, looks round on a great mountain sea, stretching away on every side. Sixty years ago its life was at its zenith, but its material well-being depended on the gold of the surrounding country. When the gold was gone the population decreased, and its homes were abandoned, till but a few houses remain, and of these some are untenanted. From Matlock to Wood's Point is a distance of four miles, on a rapidly descending grade.

Wood's Point is the small and lofty centre of the district known as Upper Goulburn. A mining township on the Goulburn river, possessing a couple of hotels, post-office, and a population of about 150 souls, it would, were it more accessible, rival some of the better known mountain resorts of the State. Being upon the side of a very steep hill, the township presents a unique appearance, many of the houses standing upon sites elevated above the roadway. The principal hotel is a structure of two stories in height in front, and each story, owing to the building standing so close to the hillside, at the rear, is practically

According to unwritten history, the population at one time numbered some thousands, but as the gold yield diminished, the people deserted the town. The search for gold still goes on, but the returns are small and the seekers few.

WOOD'S POINT TO WALHALLA (46 Miles).

Having reached Wood's Point by either of the little-frequented roads that lead in through invariably picturesque country from Warburton or Marysville, the tourist leaves it by the still less frequented, but exquisitely beautiful, track through Jericho, Red Jacket, Aberfeldy, and thence down the valley of the Aberfeldy River to Walhalla, forty-six miles distant.

Returning from Wood's Point through Matlock, the track, or wild mountain country, leads down through what remains of the once busy little villages of Jericho (Jordan), eight miles, and Reckart, two miles farther on, at the foot of Mount Matlock. To reach the former place, the traveller has to cross the Jordan River, and if he is wise, he will stop for a swim in the fine pool which it forms near the middle of the town. Jericho is a small mining township, with post-office, store, and State school, but chiefly noted for the comfort of its hotel.

The houses that lined the road—once a busy highway—between the two places are now nearly all gone, and on the one hand the mountain side is a wilderness of glinting saplings and wattles, while the opposing slope stands up boldly with its regiments of thousands of forest trees.

It is a stiff climb out of the Jordan Valley, and a ten-mile tramp over mountainous country brings one to Aherfeldy (or, as it was once called, Mount Look-out), high up in the mists that defy the sunshine of early summer, and from it one looks down on the hills round Walhalla, twenty-six miles distant. Along the way the scenery is superb, and over it passed the transport section between Wood's Point and Walhalla, and though tradition tells of the prosperous days and gaudy nights of Aherfeldy, its glory now depends on its natural beauties. Comfortable hotel accommodation is to be obtained here.

There is little or no settlement on the section from Aberfeldy to Waulahalla. It is a fairly good riding track, being mostly on cutting, with a little corduroy, undulating in places, but the grades are slight, and the length of the road, and the variety of scenery encountered, make a very interesting ride. The road winds round spur after spur of the Great Divide, and at every turn one gets a new one, if possible, more delightful vista than the last. Peak towers on peak, with the unusual heights of the Bay of Islands forming a magnificent background. The trees are magnificent, and there frequently comes into view a fern gully which is simply a bower of beauty.

Across a valley hundreds of feet deep, one gets a glimpse of a waterfall—a streak of silver amid the dark-green of the forest. From the top of the ridge the cutting winds down to the river, which is crossed by a shallow ford, about fifteen miles from Berfeldy, and this spot provides a suitable site for a camp. Should this section of the trip be made to cover two days.

From the river there is a long ascent of about four miles to the top of the eastern ridge. The roadway in the cutting is in rough condition in places, and at certain points only about five feet in width. Then comes the gradual descent on a wide road turning into Walhalla, a township of unique attractions, most picturesquely situated on Stringer's Creek, a tributary of the Thomson River.

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