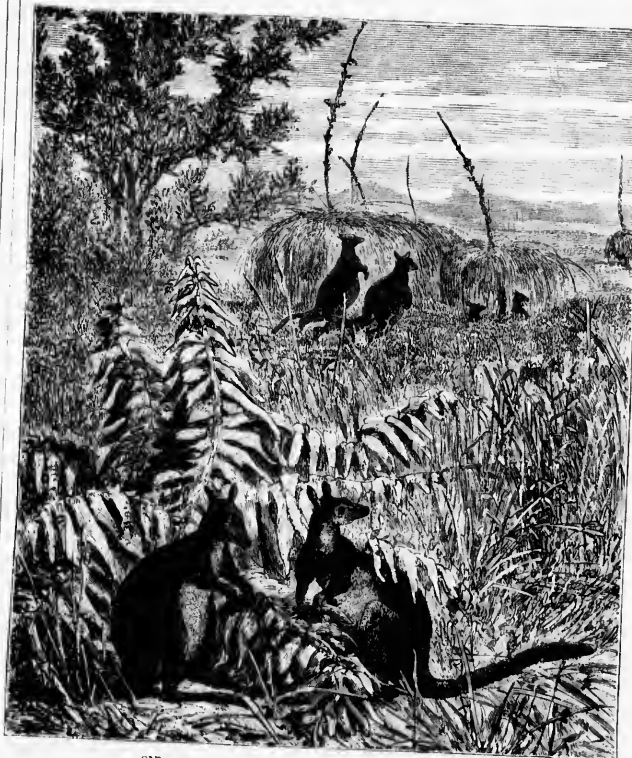




817. THE KANGAROO—AN AUSTRALIAN LANDSCAPE.

801. The Philippine Islands belong to Spain; the others belong principally to Holland, except the northern portions of Sumatra and Borneo, which are independent.

802. Sumatra is over one thousand miles in length. Java is noted for the abundance of its vegetables, fruits, and flowers. Its most important export is coffee. Batavia is the capital of the Dutch possessions, and the most important commercial town in Malaysia.

803. Borneo has a very luxuriant vegetation. It is one of the largest islands in the world.

804. Celebes is very irregular in form. In the interior are

grassy plains, which sustain large herds of wild horses and buffalo.

805. The Moluccas yield the finest cloves, nutmegs, and other spices.

806. The Philippine Islands are subject to violent storms. The most important exports are cigars and Manila hemp. Manila is the capital of the Spanish East Indies.

AUSTRALASIA.

807. Australasia comprises the four large islands *Papua* or *New Guinea*, *Australia*, *Tasmania*, and *New Zealand*; and also many small groups, of which the *New Hebrides* are the most important.

808. Australia, Tasmania, New Zealand, and part of New Guinea, belong to Great Britain.

AUSTRALIA.

809. Australia is the largest island in the world, having an area equal to the Dominion of Canada. It is sometimes called a continent.

810. This island was discovered about two hundred and fifty years ago, and has been occupied by the British about one hundred years. Great Britain first used portions of it as places of exile for criminals. Since it has been discovered to be a good agricultural country, well suited to the raising of cattle and sheep, and rich in gold, many colonists from the British Islands, and from other countries, have settled in different portions of the island.

811. Australia includes five British Colonies, which are here given:—

Colony.	Capital.
QUEENSLAND	Brisbane.
NEW SOUTH WALES.....	Sydney.
VICTORIA.....	Melbourne.
SOUTH AUSTRALIA.....	Adelaide.
WEST AUSTRALIA.....	Perth.