

*Wednesday, May 11th.*—It had been settled that to-day should be devoted to an excursion by the new line of railway in course of construction. The special train of ballast-trucks which had been provided for us was to have started at ten o'clock. We found a pleasant party assembled to receive us. In due course we were all seated on two long planks, back to back, in open trucks, behind an engine and tender. The morning was simply



AN ABORIGINAL.

perfect. Our route lay over a sort of moorland, sprinkled with rare flowers, such as we carefully preserve in greenhouses at home. About nine miles out we came to a broad stretch of water. The train stopped for a few minutes to enable us to admire the view and to take some photographs. As we left the moorland and got into the real forest of grand gum-trees the scene became most striking. The massive stems of many of the eucalypti were between thirty and forty feet in circumference and over a hundred feet in height.