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## ROUND THE WORLD,

*A Run through the OCCIDENT, the ANTIPODES,  
and the ORIENT.*

(Extracts from a series of letters written to the employés of  
the Massey Manufacturing Co., by W. E. H. MASSEY, Esq.)

### AUSTRALIA.

*Seventh Letter, dated S.S. "Lusitania," Lat. 10.18 N.  
Long. 53.47 E. March 10th, 1888.—(Concluded.)*

Having nothing special to detain us in Sydney,  
and desiring to get away from the  
hot city, we embraced the opportu-  
nity to see the Blue Mountains, and  
the following day took the train for  
Mount Victoria—a favorite resort of  
Sydney people during the hot wea-  
ther—and spent the Sabbath there.  
Mount Victoria station (3,422 feet)  
is on one of the main lines of railway  
extending into the back country,  
which crosses the level Emu Plains  
and then ascends and crosses the Blue  
Mountains, thence onward. So ab-  
rupt is the range of mountains that  
the engineers resorted to "zigzags"  
to get up on the one side and, after  
crossing the range, to descend on the  
other—the train climbing the first  
ascent, backing the second, and then  
proceeding again.

As the ascent of the first, known  
as the "small zigzag," is made, there  
is a most pleasing view of the broad  
and extensive plains below, crossed  
by the Hawkesbury River. From  
the summit of the range were to be  
seen in every direction charming  
well-wooded hills and mountains,  
which, though less beautiful, brought  
to my mind the Black Forest country  
—the one thing wanting was variety  
in vegetation; one gets so tired of  
the very common *eucalyptus*. There  
were some picturesque rocky preci-  
pices near Mount Victoria.

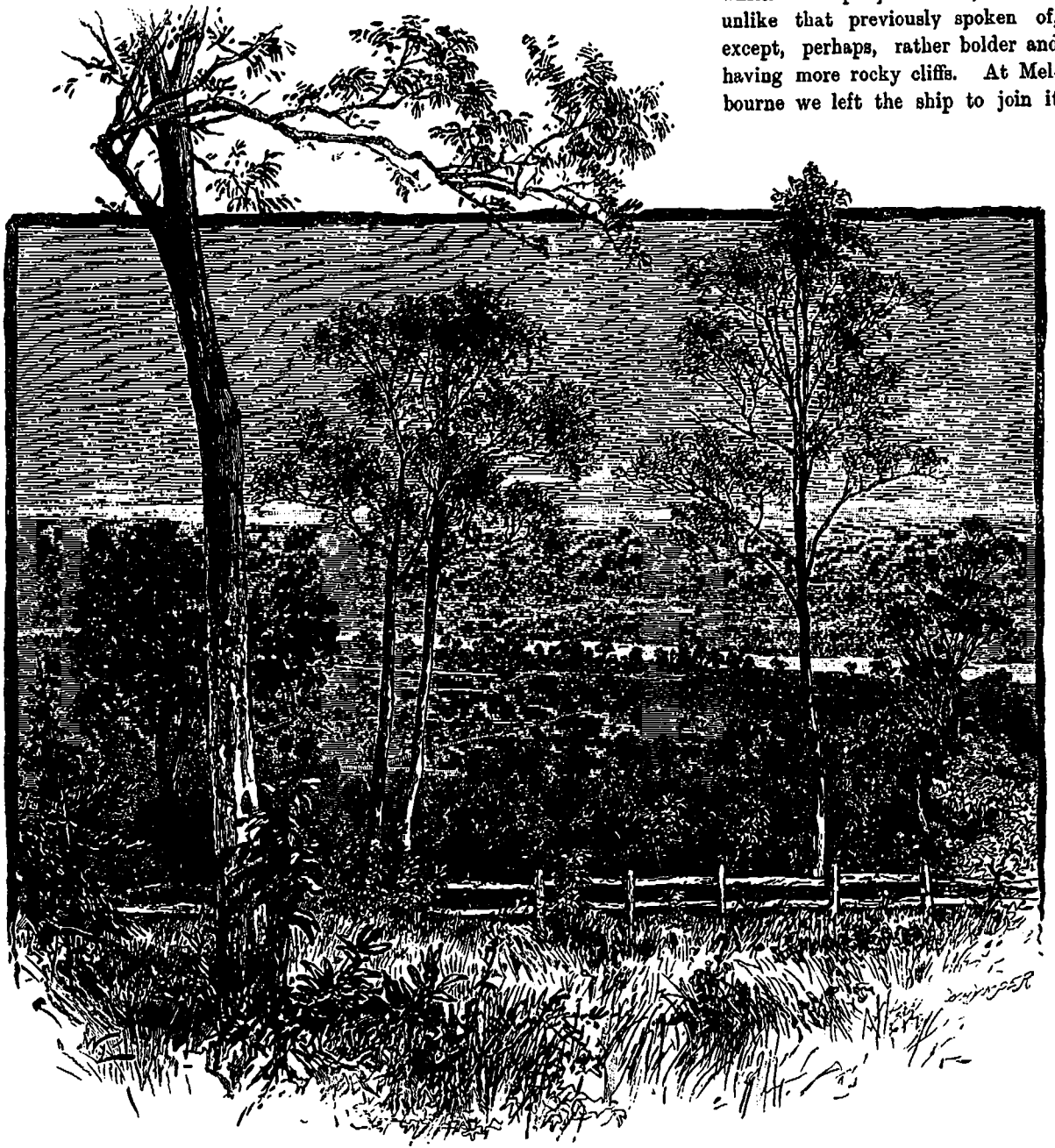
Australia can boast of but little in  
the way of the very beautiful or very  
wonderful in nature, and on this  
score the pleasure traveller to the  
island continent will be greatly dis-  
appointed. Her mountain scenery is  
nothing extraordinary, and as for  
natural wonders, except the series of  
Fish River Caves, which are truly

wonderful, and the giant trees in the forests of  
the Gippsland District, Victoria, there is little or  
nothing. These giant trees of the *eucalyptus* family  
are the tallest in the world, overtopping the "big  
trees" of California by many feet. One fallen tree  
with a considerable length of the top missing,  
measured 378 feet. Others still standing are said  
to be 471 feet high and over. Our time, however,  
would not admit of our seeing either the Caves or  
the giant trees, unfortunately.

Before returning to Sydney on Monday we des-

cended the Great Zigzag. Owing to the steep  
descent and narrow defile, through which it was  
necessary to construct the road, two tunnels and  
three large stone viaducts had to be made. This  
is an admirable piece of engineering, and viewed  
from one point these viaducts and three banks of  
tracks make a pretty picture.

We embarked from Sydney in the splendid  
steamship *Lusitania*, of the Orient line, having  
taken passage by her for Egypt. Two days sufficed  
to bring us round to Melbourne. The coast, to  
which we kept quite close, was not  
unlike that previously spoken of,  
except, perhaps, rather bolder and  
having more rocky cliffs. At Mel-  
bourne we left the ship to join it



EMU PLAINS, NEAR SYDNEY, NEW SOUTH WALES.