

grounds, for the introduction of the camel, especially for exploring purposes! We should then not imperil the lives of those bold explorers who go forth to trace out the unknown parts of that great island-continent, destined to play hereafter a prominent part in the roll of history, and whose coasts are now being rapidly filled up with population, while sheep and cattle are depastured by millions over its widely-extended plains.

Other suggestions are thrown out by Mr. Wilson deserving notice, and certainly there is no reason why the table of the colonist should not be supplied with an occasional hare or pheasant, or why the alderman of the antipodes should not have his salmon cutlet, or his slice of venison, as well as his English *confre*. The introduction of game-birds has not yet been very successful; but then the attempts made have been only partial, and on a limited scale. It is of no use to turn adrift a dozen pheasants in the woods, and to call that trying an experiment, in the proper acceptation of the term. The game of Australia is at present very limited, and getting more so, as the natives depend entirely upon them for their support. Kangaroo tail soup is not bad; and the popular colonial dish called a "steamer," which it furnishes, is well known. The flesh of the wombat, the bandicoot, and even of the opossum, may do for the bushman. The flesh of the emu is passably good; but this bird, the kangaroo, and the other native animals, are becoming rare as settlement advances, a war of extermination seeming to have been declared against them.

It is satisfactory to find that a zoological society has been formed at Melbourne, which has received from the Government a valuable tract of land, and a grant of £3,000, for the introduction of new animals.

Besides the broad question of interest and profit to be gained by individuals in this movement, we heartily concur in the desire "to see the good things of the earth spread as rapidly as possible over every portion of its surface, and to find every reasonable effort made to multiply, as far as can be, the legitimate enjoyments of mankind."—*Mark Lane Express*.

#### PROFESSIONAL TERMS IN STOCK-BREEDING.

Columbella asks me to define what I understand by the term "breed" as applied to the propagation of live stock; and at the same time he gives the following definition of the word as he understands it:—

"A recent variety made up by crossing and mingling the blood of two or more races, thus producing what is called a hybrid, a mule, a cross, a grade, of a peculiar type, like the Ayrshire, which was unknown until within a few years, and whose tendency is to return to its native elements or run out."

This definition of the origin of a *breed* of live stock, and of the meaning of the word, strikes me as being singularly defective and faulty. It is true that a new breed may originate in a cross or grade, but not necessarily in either. To each of the words *race*, *breed*, *hybrid*, *cross*, and *grade*, the writer attaches separate and distinct meanings, which is something like the following: A *race* is a large division of a species which is always produced by nature. A *breed* is always the product of domestication and breeding, operating on the natural susceptibilities of every race and species. It is therefore the work of art. A *hybrid* is always the offspring of parents whose sexes belong to different species, as a mule, which is the product of the mingled blood of the ass and horse. A *cross* is never a hybrid, but always the offspring of sexes belonging to different breeds or different races of the same species. A *grade* is the offspring, not of different breeds or races, but of a breed which possesses pure or comparatively pure blood, and of the impure blood of a common herd. The grade is higher or lower, according to the amount of pure blood in the veins of the offspring.

Like the white inhabitants of the Caucasian race of Europe, its domesticated neat cattle all belong to one race. To attempt to divide the Caucasian race of the human species into sub-races, would obviously lead to confusion of terms, and a worthless nomenclature, which all sensible writers on the subject will be careful to avoid. Precisely the same objections exist to the multiplication of races in treating of neat cattle and of other domestic animals. The small hump-backed cattle of the Ganges and Central Asia, whose hides are often sent to this country under the name of "Calcutta