

The Moreton Bay District is the extreme northern portion of the settled Colony of New South Wales, and this Dr. Lang proposes to designate Cooksland. To this sponsorial right which the author has assumed, we have on a former occasion objected.

The Northern District extends from the 30th parallel of south latitude to the Tropic of Capricorn. It will, therefore, present a coast line of 500 miles to the Southern Pacific, while its superficial extent will be nearly equal to that of New South Wales Proper, or the Middle District. Its present population does not exceed 5,000 souls.

Rivers of Cooksland.

"There is no part of the territory of New South Wales so well supplied with streams of water and navigable rivers as Cooksland. A bare enumeration of these rivers, of some of which a more particular account will be given hereafter, will satisfy the reader that this is no exaggeration. The *first*, therefore, of the rivers we meet with in Cooksland, in travelling northward, and the largest yet discovered on the east coast of Australia, is the Clarence River, which empties itself into the Pacific at Shoal Bay, in latitude $29\frac{1}{2}^{\circ}$ S. This river is navigable for steamboats of 100 tons, for upwards of eighty miles from its mouth, and has various tributaries navigable also for many miles. The *second* of these rivers is the Richmond, of which the embouchure is in latitude $28^{\circ} 55'$ S., only forty-five miles to the northward of the Clarence. This river is navigable also for fifty miles from its mouth, while its capabilities in other respects are of the highest order. The *third* of these rivers is the Tweed, which falls into the Pacific at Point Danger, in latitude $28^{\circ} 8'$ S. forty-seven miles to the northward of the Richmond, and is navigable also for some distance from its mouth, but how far I have not been able to ascertain, as it has hitherto been resorted to only by casting vessels from Sydney engaged in the Colonial cedar trade. In latitude $27^{\circ} 55'$ S., in Moreton Bay, we find the *fourth* of these rivers, called Kumera-Kumera or Arrowsmith, which is navigable for small vessels fourteen miles from its entrance; the *fifth*, also within the Bay, and a much larger river, being the Logan, in latitude $27^{\circ} 45'$ S., of which the principal tributaries form the drainage of Mount Lindsay, and the country towards the coast-range. To what distance from its mouth this river may be navigable for steamboats, I have not ascertained, as it is still very much out of the usual track of persons visiting Moreton Bay. The *sixth* river is the Brisbane, in latitude $27\frac{1}{2}^{\circ}$ S.; it is navigable for steamboats, and actually navigated by these vessels for seventy-five miles from its mouth, to the head of the navigation of the Bremer river, one of its tributaries which lies more directly in the course of persons travelling to the interior than the principal stream: the latter is navigable for a considerable distance, at least fifty miles higher up. The *seventh* is the Pine River, in latitude $27^{\circ} 10'$ S., and is similar to the Arrowsmith. The *eighth* is the Cabulture or Deception River, towards the northern extremity of the Bay, but whether it is navigable or not, I have not ascertained. The *ninth* is the Marcotchy-Doro or Black Swan River in latitude $26^{\circ} 45'$ S.,—evidently, from the width of its estuary, a considerable stream, and available for steam navigation, but as yet unexplored. The *tenth* is the Wide Bay River, in latitude $25^{\circ} 55'$ S. It is navigable for fifty miles from its mouth. The *eleventh* is the Dunkelba River, unvisited as yet by any white man, with the exception of a Scotch convict from Moreton Bay, who had lived for many years among the black natives of that part of the Colony. According to that individual, of whom I shall have occasion to speak more particularly hereafter, it is a considerable stream, available for steam navigation, and remarkable for the quantity of cedar on its banks. The *twelfth* is the Boyne River, which falls into the sea at Port Curtis, or Keppel Bay, in latitude $23^{\circ} 59\frac{1}{2}'$ S. This river was ascertained to be navigable in the lower part of its course, by the late John Oxley, Esq., Surveyor-General of New South Wales, so long ago as the year 1823; but so little interest has been taken since that period by our Colonial authorities in the progress of geographical discovery along the coasts of Australia, that it remains as yet unexplored. It rises far inland to the southward, and must pursue a course of at least 300 miles."

Touching the proposed Colony of North Australia, we have the following remarks; and it is to be regretted the preliminary surveys suggested had not first been made, so as to have all things in readiness for the settlement, instead of the Irish fashion adopted, of sending the expedition, stores, settlers, &c., to an unknown spot to look out for a suitable location, resulting, as might have been anticipated, in a ruinous expense and total failure, the abandonment of the project having been resolved upon.

"Presuming, therefore, that it is the object and desire of Her Majesty's Government that the future Penal Colony of North Australia should eventually become a free Colony,