

Mr. Oxley, the Surveyor General of New South Wales, has at last discovered a ^{very considerable} river of the first magnitude, with an embouchure to the sea. He has called it the Brisbane, after the present Governor of the Colony. It discharges its waters into Moreton Bay, four hundred miles to the northward of ^{the settlement at} Port Jackson. This valuable and unexpected discovery was made only in December last, in the course of a survey of Moreton Bay, with a view to form a convict penal establishment there, in pursuance of the recommendation of the Commission of Inquiry, Mr. Bigge.

The river flows through a rich country, and is navigable for twenty miles for vessels of considerable burthen, ^{if not drawing more than sixteen feet of water.} From this distance, the water is perfectly fresh. Mr. Oxley proceeded thirty miles further up the river, without finding any diminution in either the breadth or depth of it, except that, in one place, to the extent of thirty yards, a ridge of detached rocks stretches across, having not more than twelve feet at high water; and he obtained from a hill a view of its apparent course for thirty or forty miles further. As far as Mr. Oxley went, the tide rose four feet six inches. It was impossible

from sickness, heat of weather & shortness of provisions
to pursue the investigation then, but he was to renew his
Survey early in the autumn. The country was level
all round from South to North-west, in the apparent
South West course of the river; from which circumstance
and from the slowness of the current and the depth of the
water, M. O'Leary was led to conclude that the river will
be found navigable for vessels of burthen to a much great-
er distance, probably not less than fifty miles. There was
no appearance of its being flooded, and from the nature
of the country and other circumstances, he does not think
that the sources of the river will be found in a moun-
tainous region, but rather that it flows from some lake
which will prove to be the receptacle of those interior
streams to the South West, crossed by him during his
land expedition of discovery in 1810, namely ^{Parry's Rivulet} ~~Aspley~~
~~Bowen River, Field's River and Peel's River~~
~~River, Peel's River and Field's River~~. A paper has been
read before the Agricultural Society of New South Wales,
shewing that it is not probable that it can be the out-
let of that inland lake, in which the River Macquarie
was found to terminate, since the whole course of that
river for three hundred miles is North West, and it would
require an immediate regular diversion to the North East,

^{ready}
for ~~four~~ hundred miles to reach Moreton Bay;
and then the height of its head above the level of the
sea would allow the whole river only a fall of ~~a little~~
^{about two feet} ~~more than a foot and a half~~ per mile, whereas M.
Osley's measurements make the Macquarie fall in
one place 437 feet in little more than fifty miles, and
in another 750 in about fifty miles; and Sir Thomas
Brisbane's measurements make a fall in the river
of 1140 feet in only thirty miles. But this last is im-
possible, where there are no cataracts, and must be
attributed to some error in using the barometer.

Whatever may be its origin, it is the largest fresh-
water ^{hitherto discovered} river in New South Wales, and promises to be
of the utmost importance to the colony, as it affords
water communication with the sea, to a vast extent
of country, a great portion of which appeared to M.
Osley capable of raising the richest productions of
the tropics.

157.50
145.7
 11.80
 1.55 — 6.43
60
 403
55
 2015
2015
 60/22165
369

The following is a list of the names of the persons who have been admitted to the office of the Secretary of the Board of Education since the first of January, 1870. The names are given in the order in which they were admitted, and the date of their admission is given in parentheses. The names are given in full, and the date of their admission is given in parentheses.