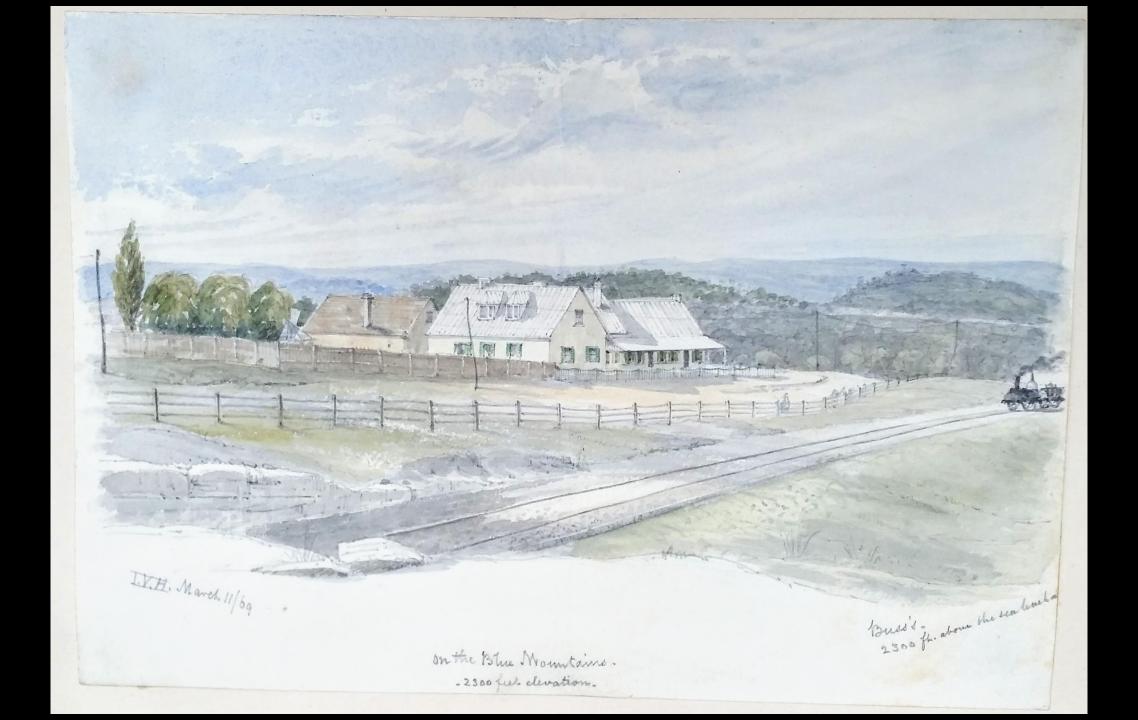


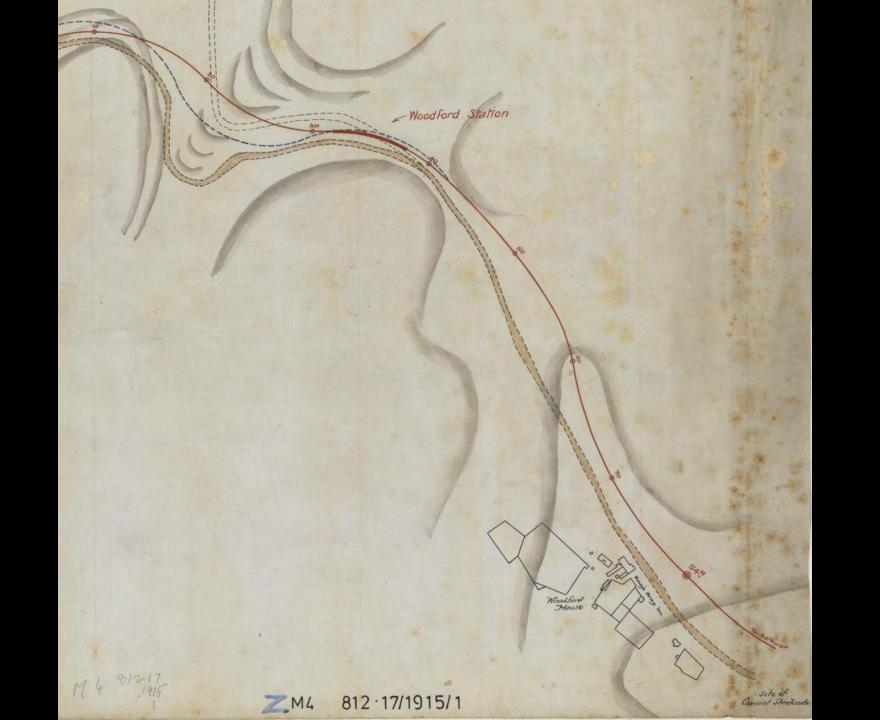
I watched the comet disappear to the tune of a luggage train puffing & blowing up the hill. You would really think it was gasping for breath & catching it spasmodically. When the train gets to top of hill it puts on a spurt, & there is quite a sound of relief. There is another luggage train going in the opposite direction down hill to Sydney. It has quite a different sound. It goes fairly quickly & again the idea of endurance as it lumbers along, with its wheels squeaking & occasionally bumping.

Ettie McManamey 1910

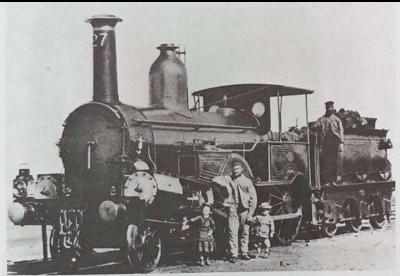












Above: The trim C79 class, built by Beyer Peacock from 1877, was the first regular 4-4-0 passenger type on the Blue Mountains. RTM collection.

Left: Crewman of a G23, the earliest four-coupled passenger loco. to brave the mountain grades, shows his family the works. RTM collection.

MOUNTAIN AIR.—J. SHIELS begs to inform his numerous patrons that he has taken, in connection with REGENTVILLE, the house so well known as BUSS'S, on the Western Road, which will in future be called WOODFORD.

The excellent apartments, situation for health, and convenience of access by rail, present advantages to families and invalids unequalled in the colony.



WOODFORD HOUSE, IN THE BLUE MOUNTAINS, NEAR SYDNEY.



CHRISTMAS IN AUSTRALIA.

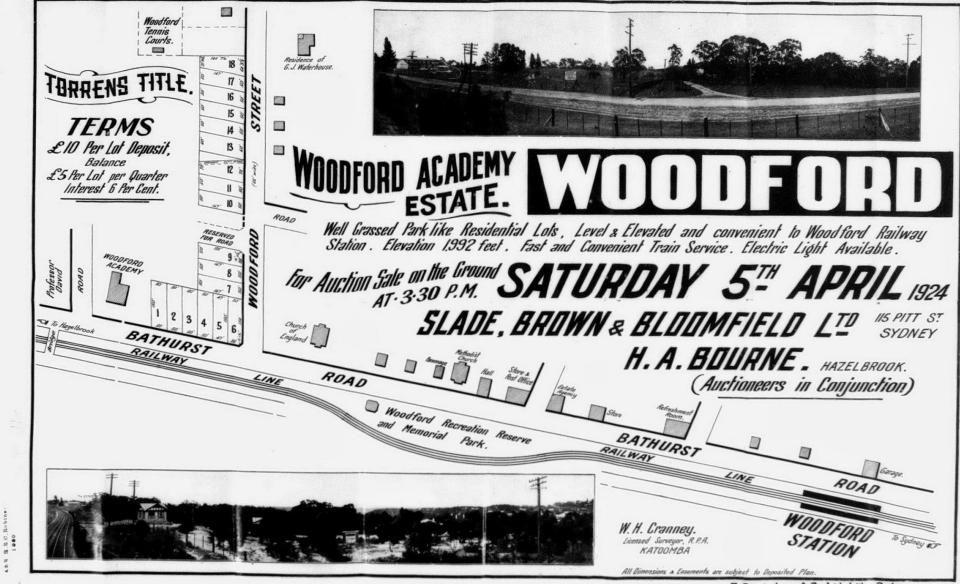
December at the Antipodes is the summer month corresponding to our English June. Christmas Day in Australia is an outdoor festival, and by far the larger number of Christmas parties are rural pienies. In Victoria, these are favourite resorts. It is difficult to conceive a scene or a party more unlike what we should associate with our idea of a family gathering on Christmas Day; but everything is turned topsy-turvy on that side of the globe, and summer reigns in all its glory there while winternips and freezes the old folks at home. But the ancient traditions of our race are nowhere more dearly cherished than they are in Australia: so kindly thoughts and winged words still prevail, and, clasping hands of friendship across the sea, the cry is still "A merry Christmas to you

In the journey from Melbourne to Sydney, the stations are somewhat far and wide apart, and for the convenience of squatters and others platforms have been erected at spots where the traffic would not warrant the expense of a station and its staff. Intending passengers, even when ladies and alone, have to be their own station-master, porter, and signalman all in one. A tin flag is provided and hung up in the shed; and the notice directs passengers to wave it, if they wish the express or any train to stop for them. Those represented in our Artist's Sketch may be on their journey to meet friends at a Christmas party.

Wellsonma has on the Varra bank a long spries



CERRITMAN IN AUSTRALIA: STOPPING THE TRAIN TO GO TO A CHRISTMAN PART











May I go to lunch Meet as usual C.F. McManamey

From: Redfern Rail Station
To: Arthur Fry
Correspondence Branch
GP op

April 11th 1890 11:10

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