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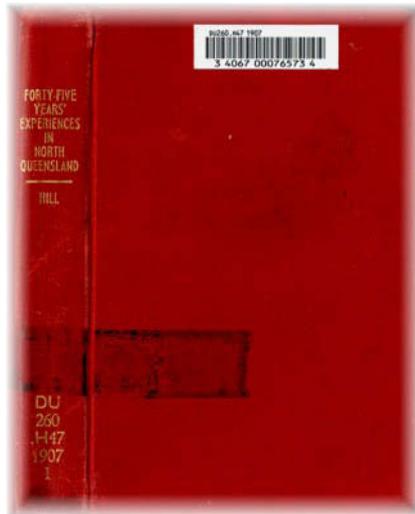
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Forty-Five Years'
Experiences in
North Queensland.

1861 to 1905.

With a few Incidents in England,
1844 to 1861. * * *

By W. R. O. HILL,
Ex-P.M. and Gold Warden.

Brisbane :
H. POLE & CO., PRINTERS.

—
1907.

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CHAPTER I.

MY EARLY DAYS, AND VOYAGE TO QUEENSLAND; 1844 to 1861.

I was born in the barracks of H. M. 10th Foot at St. Helier's, Jersey, C.I., in 1844, my father at the time holding a commission in that regiment.

Two years later he was offered, and accepted, the Governorship of a new model gaol called the "House of Detention," Clerkenwell, London; so the next thirteen years of my life may be said to have been "spent in gaol!"

I distinctly remember the "Bread Riots" in 1848, and they were vividly impressed on memory by my being taken and playfully tossed in the arms of several of the men of a company of the Coldstream Guards, who were camped within the prison walls to increase the strength of the gaol officials. Probably my pretty nurse Sanford had much to do with the many attentions I received on those occasions.

Seven years after this there were serious Bread Riots at Liverpool, and in Hyde Park in February and October, 1855. The year 1848 also saw the last great Chartist demonstration, when twenty thousand men assembled on Kensington Common, and the banks were fortified, and one hundred and fifty thousand special constables sworn in, including Louis Napoleon, afterwards Emperor of the French.

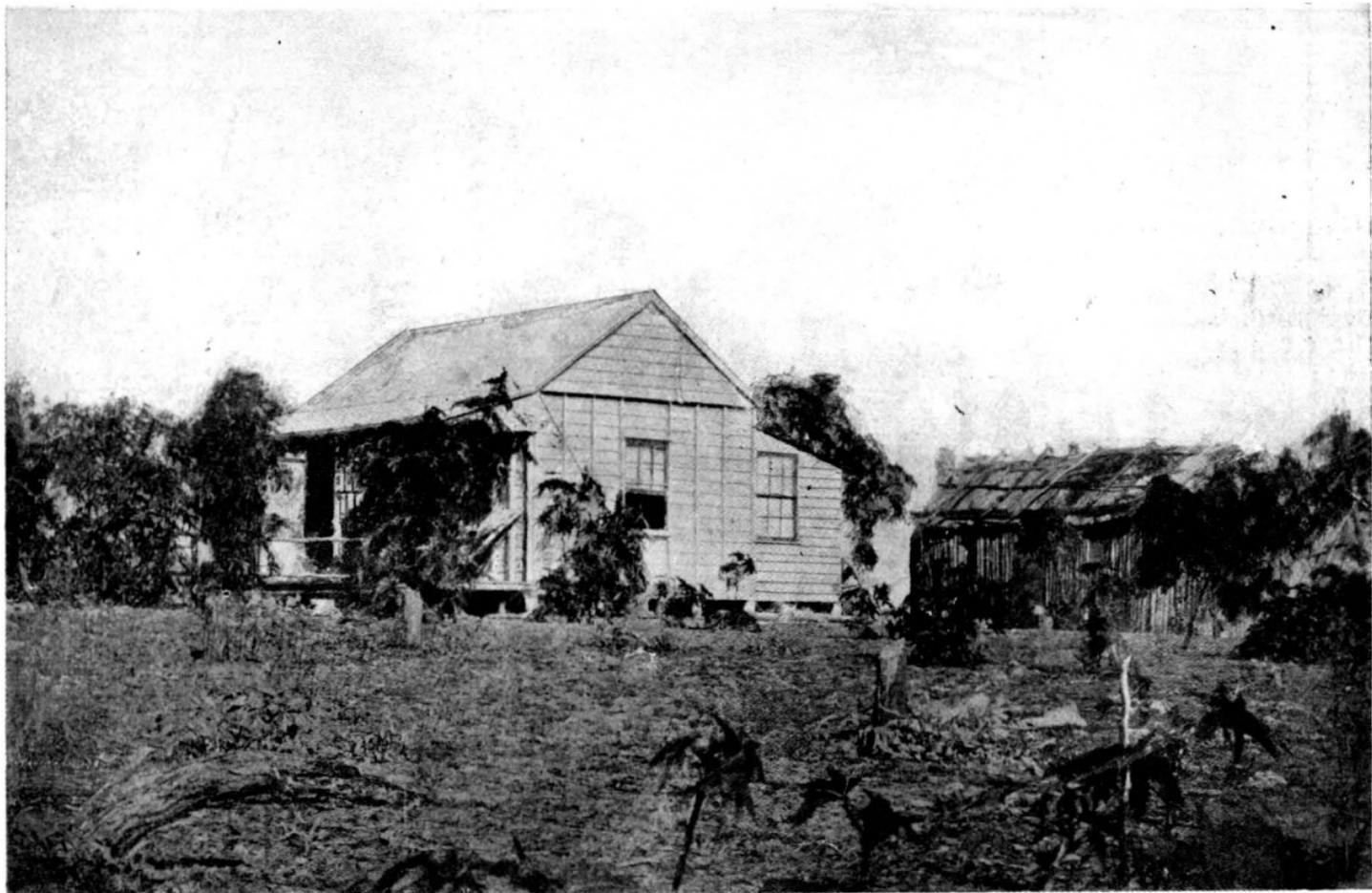
CHAPTER IX.

THE BRISBANE RIOTS, 1868.

These so-called "riots" at the time, caused the authorities much anxiety, and great preparations were made to deal with them. Hundreds of Government officials were sworn in as special constables. Batons made expressly were supplied, also white calico sashes to distinguish them from the mob, making them look very like undertakers' assistants.

One night the alarm was given that a mob intended sacking Government House. The Artillery were stationed at the gates under Godfrey Geary and Harry Webb, and it was only by a merciful act of Providence that they did not blaze into a mob of specials who were hurrying up in anything but order to the rescue! Poor old Bob Gray was hit with a pebble on the forehead, and a streak of blood ran down his cheek, and this same mark of glorious war was left on for at least three days, for Bob was proud of that blood! The ladies were most sympathetic, and there was an amateur ambulance with headquarters at Bob Little's house, George Street.

One night Police Magistrate Massie got on the top of a cask near the bridge to read the Riot Act, when a stone was thrown by a boy in the rear of the crowd and hit him fair in the eye. The Commissioner at once shouted. "At the double! charge!" and charge



MY FIRST HOME RAVENSWOOD 1870

CHAPTER XV.

MY WORST ACCIDENT.

After two months in Brisbane and Sydney I thought of a trip to Ravenswood and Charters Towers to see some old friends.

H. H. Barton kindly gave me what he considered a good hack, to go from Ravenswood to the Towers, but this peerless steed proved to be a vicious brute, very thin skinned, and so got badly girth-galled. On my return trip I put the girth round his shoulder, but he resented this and promptly bucked me off. On remounting he repeated the performance, and threw me a clean somersault, striking me in the middle with his head as I was falling. The brute then galloped off towards Ravenswood, which was fourteen miles distant.

A man who was with me asked if I was hurt, and I said "No," so he galloped after the horse, but when I tried to get up my limbs were apparently useless, so I dragged myself off the road into the shade of a tree, where I remained half-unconscious for about four hours, when Barton came out post haste with a buggy and drove me to his house.

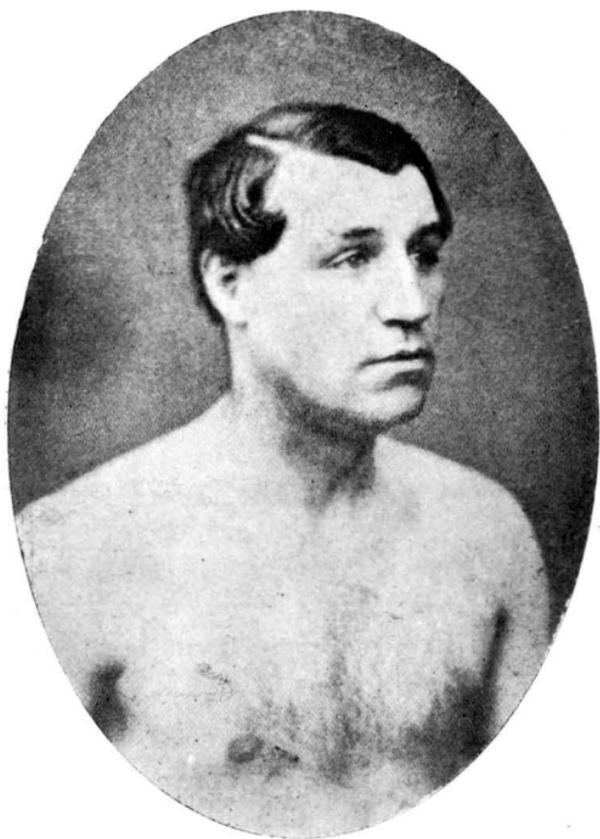
A doctor examined me, and I heard him say I "had only a few hours to live!" I remember

CHAPTER XXXI.

SAYERS AND HEENAN FIGHT FOR THE CHAMPIONSHIP of BRITAIN and AMERICA.

The following is the London *Times* account, the best that was written. It came out as a special edition on the day after the fight, April 18th, 1860 :—

“Time was when the Championship of England was an office which conferred honour on the highest, when “Marmion, Lord of Scrivelhaye, of Tamworth tower and town,” held a grant of the land of the Abbey of Polesworth on condition of doing battle in single combat against all knightly enemies of his King. The fashion of this office, however, has passed away with the days of chivalry, and lance and battle-axe have been laid aside to become mere things of show and no more used by men. The Dymocks are still extant, but the modern Champions of England know them not, and the pageant warrior who threw down the gauntlet to some hundred ladies and gentlemen in court dress at a coronation, has been succeeded by a race of brawny and muscular fellows, men who “mean fighting, and nothing but it,” and who vie with the *athletes* of old in their rigidity of training and immense power of endurance. At first there was no lack of Royal patronage for the new race



TOM SAYERS,

Who gave the Author Lessons in the Noble Art in 1854.

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- **Acrobat Reader v4** has both a "Find" and a "Search" tool. Those tools are two **totally** different things. Our CDs (that are searchable) work with the **FIND** tool
- **Acrobat Reader v5** has only a "Find" tool (not a "search" tool). Our CDs (that are searchable) work with the **FIND** tool.
- **Adobe Reader v6** has only a "Search" tool (not a tool labelled "Find")
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- enter the MINIMUM number of characters needed to bring up the search results required.
- use Adobe Reader 6 to do some trial searches to try to identify the characters that may be misread. These can show up in the extra text in the search results list (Adobe 6 only). A few minutes trial will help you to avoid using characters that are more prone to being misread, e.g. try entering "rederi" if you want "Frederick", but find that the letters "F" "c" and "k" are sometimes misread.
- use the "Match whole word" option to eliminate unnecessary items in your results list, e.g. to eliminate all the blacksmiths and tinsmiths etc when you only want the name Smith
- use the "Match case" option when you want to eliminate all the occupations "smith" if you only want the name "Smith"
- Don't just search for names. Search the book for other names, places and subjects of interest:
 - look for others of the same name
 - look for others who lived in the same place or street
 - who was the postmaster or police officer in the town?
 - how often and at what time did the coach arrive in town?
 - what churches were there and what time were services held?
 - what other activities were there in the community?
 - look for others who had the same occupation or other interests
- All of this and more may be available in a seemingly mundane book such as a directory. You could learn or write much of the background of life at the time, even if your ancestor is not listed there.

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