

BOOLBOONDA GOLD FIELD.

(From Our Own Correspondent.)

Sunday.

The whole of this neighbourhood has had its full share of the tremendous rainfall. I will not attempt to give the amount of points. This, naturally, takes us back to the drought. Such deluges that are productive of causing Sandy Creek to flow 30ft. over its allotted span deserves better acknowledgement. Personally I find that the rainfall for the week was one foot. An odd inch or two does not matter, as a flood that can float big gum trees, carcasses of bullocks and demolished fences, usually out of the line of route merits profound respect. Even now, some of my friends who have been sufferers will think I am unduly moderate in this computation, and would substitute the plural to foot.

I notice we have an unwelcome visitor in the form of prickly pear. There are about 60 plants in a flourishing condition near Cambria Flat. A few hours would be sufficient to deal effectively with this pest at the present time. No doubt our Kolan Shire Council will promptly act when notified. Perhaps this hint is sufficient, as the "Mail" is in extensive evidence locally.

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It is with pleasure we note that Miss Annie Campbell (a Boolboondaite), has been given the position of teacher at Goondoon. As this lady is a native of this place, being the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. P. Campbell, Cambria, we feel some satisfaction in contributing our share of assistance to the education of the young Queenslander. Her eldest sister, Miss Helen Campbell, took over the control of Moolboolaman school a little time previously. Both being favourites of all classes in this community, they leave with generally expressed wishes of success.

A meeting of parents of the children attending the New Moonta school was held in the schoolroom on the 19th. Despite the rain, a majority of the parents attended. The Secretary (Mr. Noonan), showed a credit balance of £4 existed. After fully explaining receipts and expenditure, he thanked all subscribers for their warm support, enabling him to produce such a satisfactory balance sheet. The business of the meeting being to appoint a new committee, the old committee stated that up to the present time they had been endeavouring to provide a residence for the teacher on the school grounds. They had been so far successful as to receive a definite promise of a monetary grant from the Department of Public Instruction. Some £12 were needed, and they trusted their ac-

needed, and they trusted their actions in this matter met with the endorsement of those present. The meeting at once testified their approval of the new residence, and promised whole hearted co-operation to the scheme. The committee then formally resigned. The business of electing a new committee was proceeded with, and resulted in the return of Messrs. Dunphy, as chairman, T. Noonan as secretary, H. Killer as treasurer, James Louis, and Archibald Sivyer, the latter being a new member. The committee appointed are fully representative, and may be trusted to perform their duties to as high a degree of efficiency as has been the case in the past.

At last one of our residents is endeavouring to bring our milking herds to a higher standard. In several cases we have had bulls coming on the reserve that for useful or ornamental purposes were valueless. I have seen cases of multifarious breeds which were a blot on the landscape. The resident in question, (Mr. Dunphy) has been the owner of a herd of cattle with a strong Ayrshire strain, equal for milking purposes, if not superior to any herd for some distance round. Wishing to still further improve his stock, he has through the instrumentality of Mr. John White, M.L.A., secured a very handsome pure bred Ayrshire bull from Gatton College. The animal is beautifully

College. The animal is beautifully marked, and of perfect symmetry. Although not yet two years old, he gives promise of developing into a fine animal. Bonnie Chiel is the name of the new importation, and if its ancestry counts for quality his pedigree spells superfine. The owner, although having paid a big figure, says he has secured a sound bargain, and pays unstinted praise to the selectors of his new acquirement. Befitting the rearing of aristocratic blood, Bonnie Chiel will occupy secure and secluded quarters, free from contaminating influence.

Mr. Andre Tolstoi, of Cambria Flat is successfully demonstrating the utility of the local soil for fruit and vegetable growing. Lately acquiring a five acre homestead lease, he has erected a windmill over a well that apparently is inexhaustible. Nor is this surprising when it is observed that this alluvial flat is the natural drain course of the surrounding ranges. Of course the critics have had their prophesies, but the varied contents of the garden is sufficient refutation of adverse criticism. Mr. Tolstoi, like his compatriot, has had an uphill fight, although in a humble sphere. As was to be expected from a man who had been a professional strong man of European repute, and likewise a lion tamer to boot, difficulties were only met with to overcome.

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Mr. McLaughlin, senr., owner of the Welcome Stranger mine, half a mile from New Moonta, has taken Mr. R. McAlister into partnership. The crushing last year can be counted as very satisfactory, averaging gold 2 ozs., copper 7 per cent, silver 15 ozs.

The floods are a great drawback now, many of the mines requiring constant baling. But I do not intend to occupy your valuable space with uninteresting complaints, as no doubt it will be useful for the same purpose in the industry.

Mr
Drot