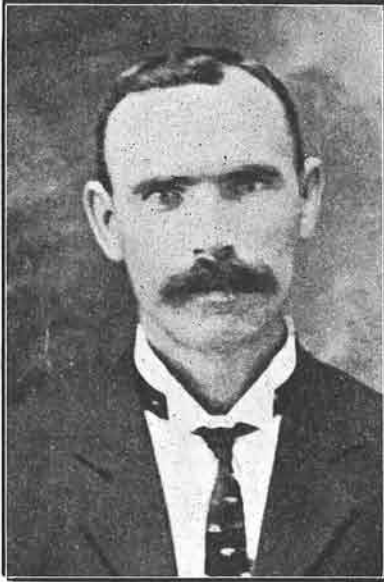


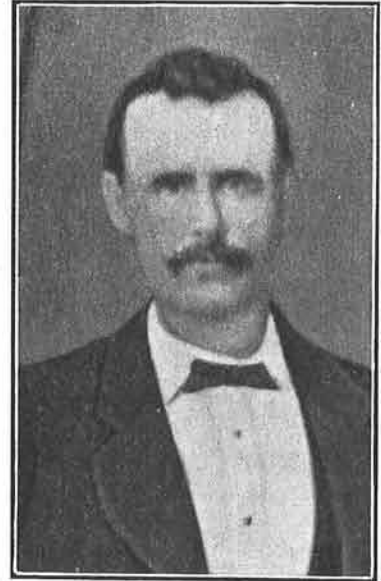
THOMAS DUFFY, "Mount Arthur," Barcaldine, was born at Annies, County Monaghan, Ireland, on May 28, 1873, and is the fifth son of the late Patrick Duffy, a



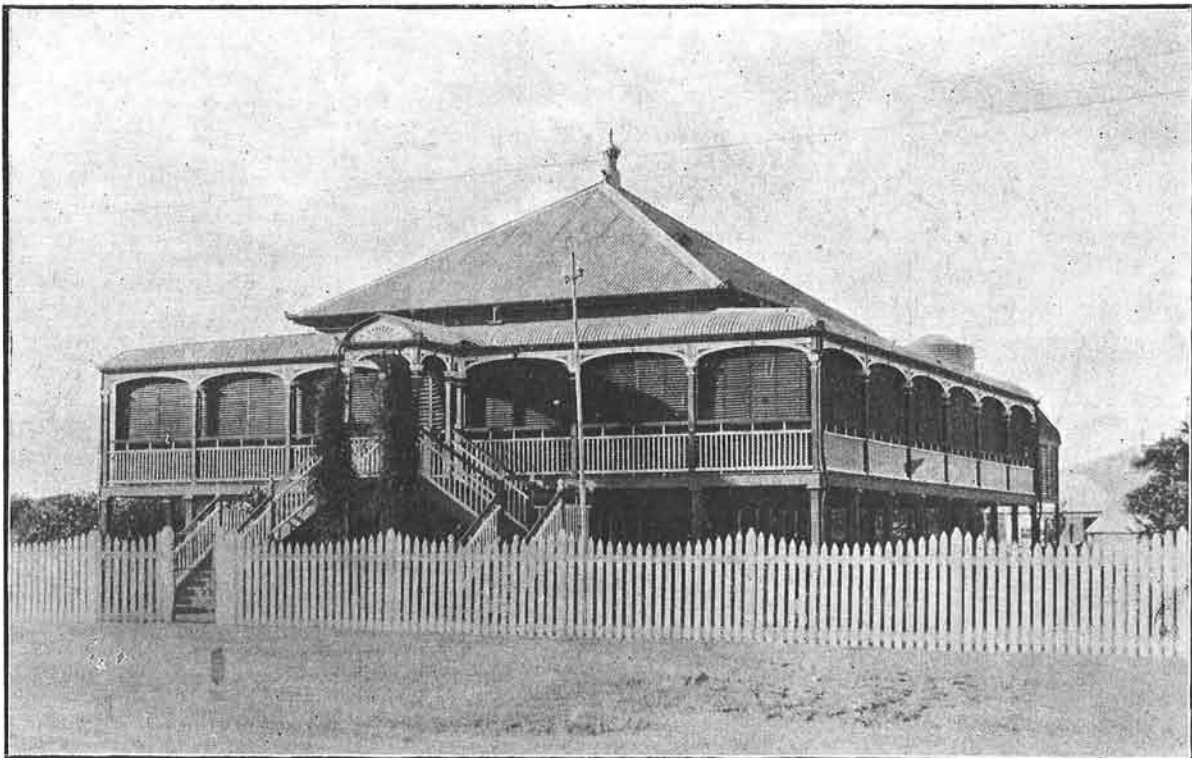
MR. T. DUFFY.

descendant of a long line of farming progenitors and a member of a family whose name has been borne by many Irishmen of professional and political distinction and several eminent Churchmen. The gentleman under review was educated at the National School at Bloomfield. At an early age he was contributing his share towards the upkeep of the paternal acres, and was so occupied until the completion of his seventeenth year, when, fully convinced that under conditions then existing in Ireland it would be impossible to make any headway in the agricultural industry, he decided to face the future abroad. Accordingly he set out for Australia, and in due course arrived at Brisbane, landing on May 28, 1888. Possessing but a trifling sum in the way of capital, he immediately sought such employment as might offer with the view of becoming familiar with his new environment, and very shortly obtained a junior post with the firm of W. H. Blaney, of South Brisbane. His first position in the city was followed by another before he became

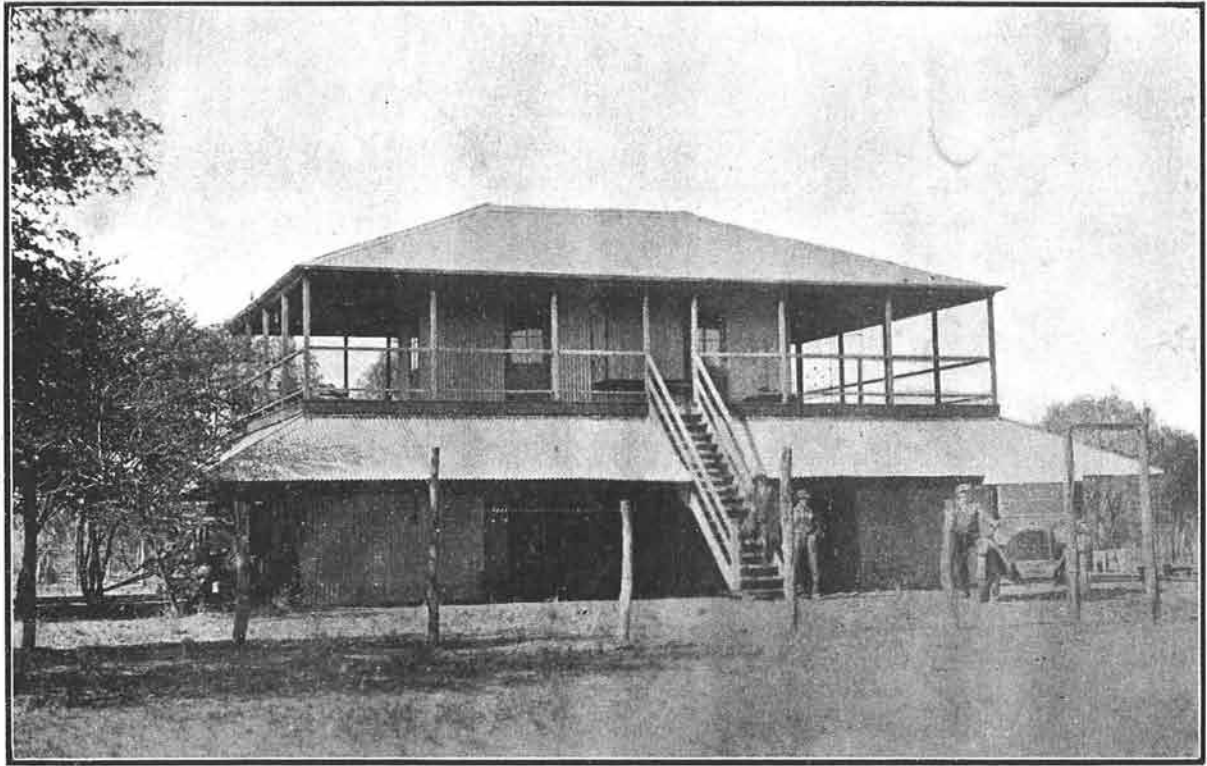
fully cognizant of the possibilities of various phases of bush life, which, ere he had been a year in the country, he determined to test. Accordingly, after railing from



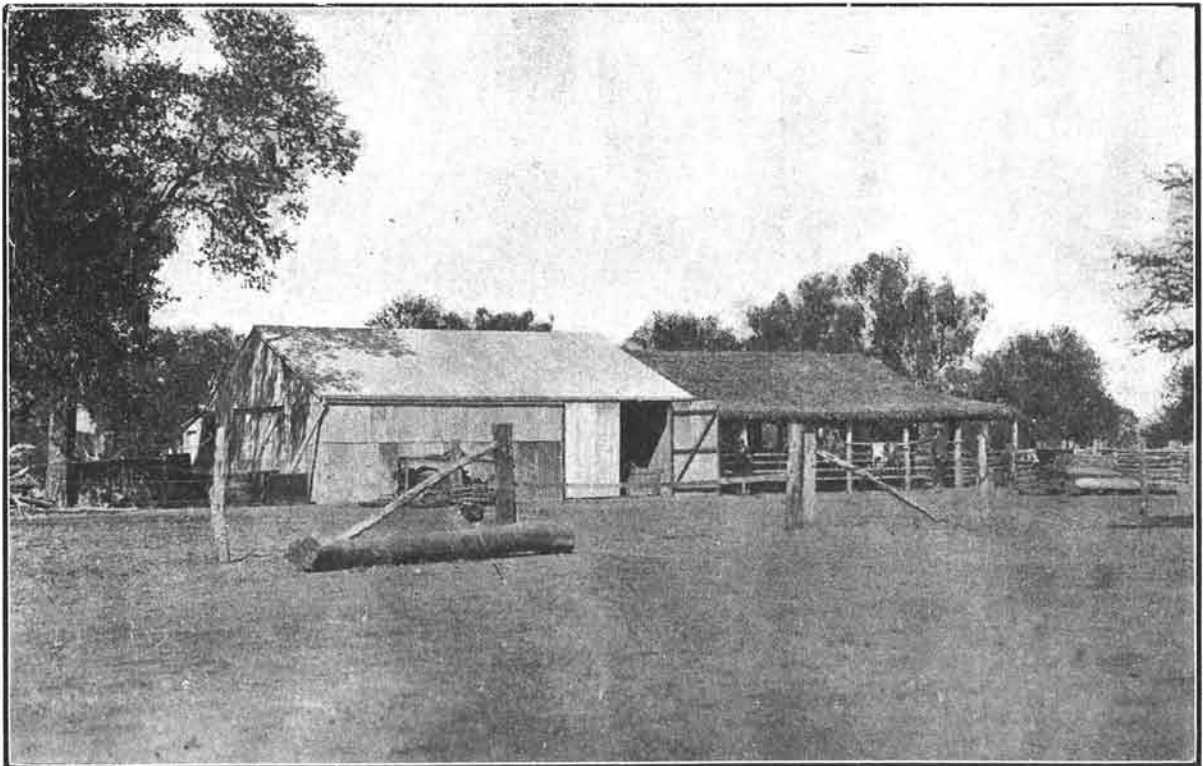
MR. M. LYNCH.



RESIDENCE OF MR. T. DUFFY AT BARCALDINE.



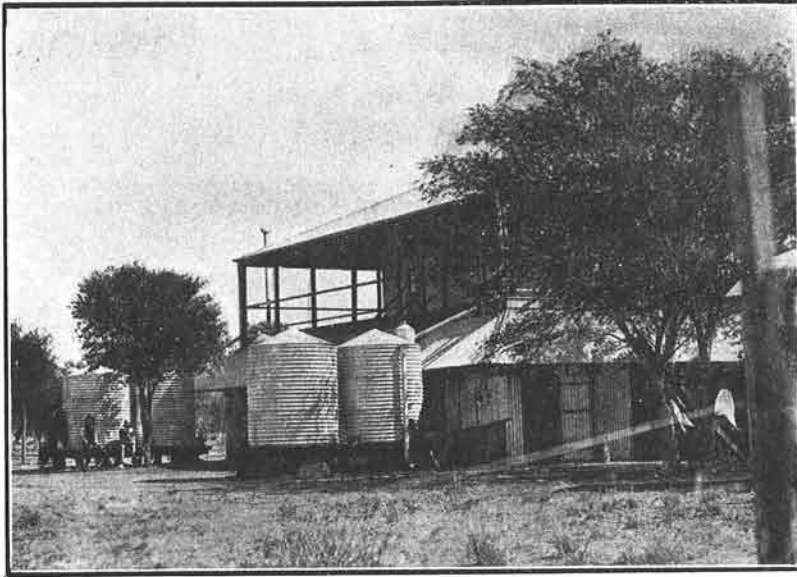
"MT. ARTHUR" HOMESTEAD.



OUTBUILDINGS AND YARDS, "MT. ARTHUR."

Brisbane to Mitchell, he proceeded to the Barcoo in search of employment, and finally obtained work as

his shearing connection extended considerably, his qualities of tact, energy, and industry, and the

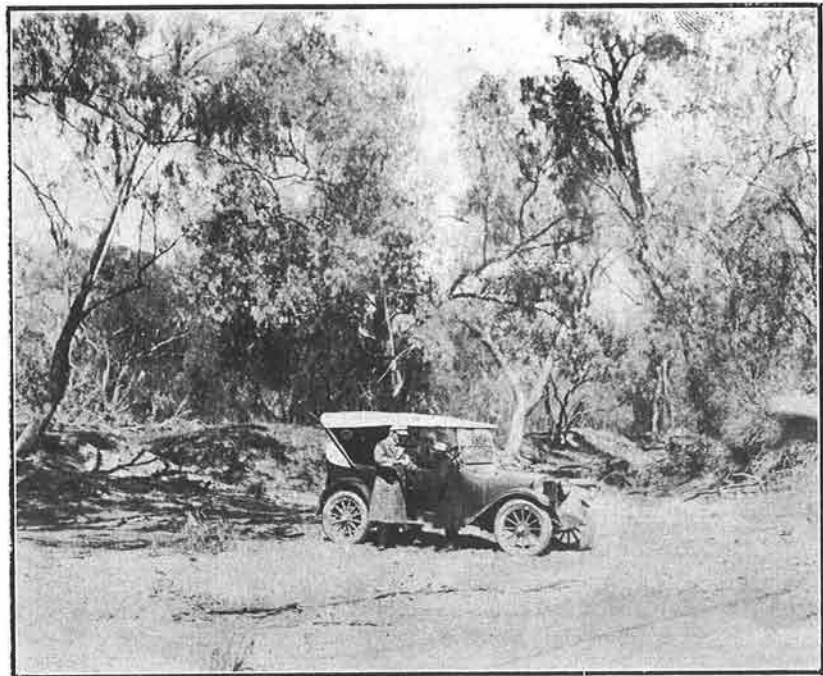


THE NORTHERN CORNER OF "MT. ARTHUR" HOMESTEAD, SHOWING WATER-SUPPLY TANKS.

a station hand on "Northampton Downs." He continued as an employé amongst the stock here until given an opportunity of joining a tank-sinking staff then operating on the run under the direction of the Stratford Bros., whose early pioneering experiences are recounted in another part of this work. Subsequently he took to shearing, being initiated to the use of the shearing machines in the "Terrick Terrick" sheds in the early part of the year 1890. Thereafter, for some considerable time, he followed the calling in various parts of the Commonwealth and New Zealand, his journeys being largely actuated by the definitely formed objective of gaining a knowledge of the pastoral conditions of both countries before finally investing in landed interests the capital he was slowly accumulating. In 1906 he started as a contract shearer in partnership with Messrs. Sinclair and Kerr. The connection continuing for one season only, he subsequently entered upon an independent career as a shearing contractor, starting in a comparatively small way, and, in the beginning, widening his sphere of operations by taking on various building contracts in partnership with Mr. George Butler, of Tambo. In time

reliability and capable workmanship for which he was noted, strongly commending him to the large landowners

Queensland. It may be safely said that few men in that or any other independent calling have so completely won the confidence of employers and employés alike, a fact which, the outcome of consistently upright dealing, accounts for the almost immediate settlement of difficulties of a kind that in the history of the industry have often grown to lamentable dimensions. He made Barcaldine his headquarters, and in the early part of his residence there interested himself in the pastoral industry, and, apart from "Mount Arthur," which he acquired in the year 1916, owns other grazing interests, both in the Central and Southern districts of the State. "Mount Arthur" covers an area of over 25,000 acres and is situated on the Alice River, at a distance of 40 miles from Barcaldine. Originally a portion of "Abington" Station—from a resumption of which it was selected by Mr. Thomas Burns, who sold it to Mr. Duffy—it is a most highly-developed block and amply watered by two sub-artesian bores and several holes in the bed of the Alice River which have never



ALICE RIVER BED, "MT. ARTHUR."

and winning for him the most extensive connection held by any individual shearing contractor in

been known to fail. To the bores are attached all necessary equipment in the shape of up-to-date windmills,



troughing, etc., and the stock, comprising sheep, cattle, and horses, are most conveniently served. The sheep, which are of the popular merino strain, are the mainstay of the place, the present flock having been founded with ewes from "Minnie Downs" and rams imported from the South. The run is capable of carrying a flock of 8,000 in an average season. At time of writing a modern homestead is in course of construction, though the original dwelling erected by the previous owner still stands. Mr. Duffy well exemplifies the type of citizen who, while avoiding publicity, unobtrusively accomplishes a great deal for the good of the community. He has ever actively interested himself in the welfare of the districts in which he has at different times resided, and during the late war was instrumental in forwarding various patriotic movements, giving generously not only of monetary support, but of his time and well-known gift for organization. It should be mentioned that he originated the idea of giving a day's pay to the Red Cross funds, his suggestion being warmly responded to by the shearers

by various other industries, with the result that many thousands of pounds found their way to the funds.

his desire to widen the movement. He generously assists all charitable projects. Bodies for the furtherance



ONE OF THE MANY FINE BILLABONGS ON "MT. ARTHUR," A STRETCH OF PERMANENT WATER OVER 10 FEET DEEP AND ABOUT 800 YARDS IN LENGTH.



ANOTHER PERMANENT WATERHOLE ON "MT. ARTHUR," 8 FEET IN DEPTH.

under him at "Thornleigh," and afterwards taken up by nearly all the sheds in Queensland, as well as

At "Terrick Terrick" he subscribed £1 for every £1 offered by the woolshed labourers there, so great was

of clean manly sports have his whole-hearted co-operation, and, in his younger days in the Old World, he was considered fast between the lines in first-class football. Ever since his advent to Central Queensland he has actively supported amateur racing, and in annual events in the district his horses have met with marked success. In the year 1906 he married Mary Ellen, daughter of the late Michael Lynch, of "Porcupine Plains," an old Queensland pioneer and one of the earliest Irish settlers here. Hailing originally from the South of Ireland, the late gentleman was a contractor on the Queensland Central Railway line for many years. During his long connection with this branch of development he made many friends, the good which he performed in conjunction with his wife, who survives him, in what were then mere outposts of civilization, being constantly referred to when old memories are recalled by his contemporaries of the early days. Mrs. Lynch now resides in Barcaldine. Mr. and Mrs. Duffy have a family of three sons and three daughters.