
Glossary

Australian League: An organization founded by John Dunmore Lang, Sir Henry Parkes, and James Wiltshire in 1850, aspiring towards a single independent nation, a 'United States of Australia'. The league also opposed transportation and advocated universal male suffrage. Adelaide dedicated her 1854 poem 'Thought for the Australian League' to its activities, urging "seize the freedom ye demand/ As the earnest birthright of a Nation!".

Beaver Hat: Contrary to the name, this versatile type of hat, popular in the early to mid-nineteenth century, was often made of both rabbit and beaver fur. An 1856 *Encyclopaedia Britannica* article described it as "the highest achievement of the hatter."

Beryl Stone: A gem, typically emerald green, traditionally believed to have magical properties and aid in visions. Its use also had Biblical associations, with Ezekiel 10:9 describing a vision of chariot wheels "as the colour of a beryl stone".

Brickfielder: An unpleasant and hot wind, named after Brickfield Hill, from which direction a heated wind blew into Sydney in its early days, and often carried red dust or sand. The term spread to Melbourne by 1850, and to central Australia by 1900.

Bruadarach: From the Scottish Gaelic: 'A dreamer or visionary'.

Carte de visite: A visiting card popular in the 1860s, most often with a small photographic portrait.

Chatelaine: A clasp or hook common in the nineteenth century, worn at the waist with a series of attached chains holding domestic goods from thimbles to keys to smelling salts.

Chlorodyne: A popular nineteenth-century patent medicine. Its combination of laudanum, cannabis and chloroform was intended as a sedative and treatment for cholera.

Civitavecchia: A coastal Italian town which served as a port for Rome. In 1859 the two were connected via railway. Nineteenth-century guidebooks occasionally refer to it as Civita Vecchia.

Corrine: The central character of Germaine de Staël's 1807 novel *Corrine, or Italy*, which proved deeply influential for its account of female artistic genius. De Staël's juxtaposition of Roman greatness and modern decline also influenced arguments for cultural revival and Risorgimento.

Currency Lads/Lasses: A term for colonial Australians born in the colonies rather than the United Kingdom. Originally intended as a derogatory label, it was soon reappropriated as a positive label, becoming so common that by mid-century, local vessels were dubbed 'Currency Lasses'. The term fell into disuse by the late nineteenth century.

Dover's powder: A traditional medicine against cold and fever, developed by Thomas Dover. It was derived from powder of ipecacuanha and opium, and most often used to induce sweating.

Dragon's blood: a red resin, from the fruit of the tree *Daemonorops draco*. It was employed as a medical tincture against digestive problems, as well as being used as a pigment, in the latter sense frequently being named in nineteenth-century artists' catalogues.

Eureka rebellion: A series of rebellions by Victorian gold miners, directed against British authorities. Beginning with protests against the imposition of new taxes, these culminated in the 3 Dec 1854 Battle of the Eureka Stockade.

Female School of Art: A pioneering London professional institution for training female students in art and design, originally founded in 1842, and by 1852 located on Gower Street. Its first superintendent was Fanny McIan (1814–1897), a painter of Scottish historical pieces.

Garibaldi Shirt: A popular red woollen shirt, inspired by Giuseppe Garibaldi (1807–1882) and achieving great popularity among women

in the early 1860s. One early biographer of Garibaldi refers to the shirt as "far-famed", and recognising Garibaldi's status as "always a favourite with the fair sex."

Guinea: An obsolete form of British coinage, replaced by the pound following the Great Recoinage of 1816. The term nonetheless enjoyed cultural currency throughout the nineteenth century, and as a unit of account, the guinea was conventionally valued at twenty-one shillings, or £1.05.

Hellebore powder: A substance with great purgative and violently narcotic properties. It was occasionally used in nineteenth-century medicine (or as a means of targeting caterpillars in one's garden), but aroused controversy, with some sources describing it as a powerful poison.

Hooper's pills: Dr John Hooper's Female Pills, an apothecary in Reading, England, patented his 'Female Pills' in 1743, among the first English patent medicines. Promoted as anti-hysteria pills, they were also used for stomach and period problems. Some studies believed they were largely derived from iron and myrrh.

Ideal: A purity of idea or form, and within movements such as Transcendentalism, often seen as entailing a connection with the divine. Emerson's 1844 essay 'Experience' defines it as "the heaven without rent or seam."

Jardin des Champs-Élysées: A major Parisian park, originally founded in 1667. It provided the site for the 1855 Paris International Exposition.

Jenny Lind: Lind (1820-1867) was an immensely popular Swedish opera singer, whose influence extended to fashion with the adoption of the 'Jenny Lind collar' in the late 1840s, which combined a standing and falling collar with a small frilled one over the dress neckline.

King Tenberry: Leader of the Ngaiawang people, father of Warrulan (c.1835-1855), and seen as a mediator between Indigenous and

colonial cultures. Some artistic depictions presented him as a symbol of the dignity of untouched tradition.

Laudanum: A tincture of opium and alcohol, widely prescribed for numerous medical conditions in the nineteenth century. An array of Victorian poets and artists were among its many users.

Mechanics' School of Arts: Founded in 1833 and inspired by John Dunmore Lang's wish for an 'Australian College', the School of Arts soon became ensconced on Pitt Street and sought the "intellectual improvement" of its members. In addition to offering public lectures and courses, it became Australia's oldest continuous lending library.

Middy Blouse: A loose blouse typically worn by women or children, with a sailor collar. This garment achieved its greatest popularity in the late-nineteenth and early twentieth centuries.

Myall Creek Massacre: The notorious killing of at least twenty-eight Indigenous Australians on 10 June 1838, at northern NSW's Myall Creek. The killings lead to indignation, trials (seven perpetrators were hanged) and a public outcry expressed in such documents as John Dunmore Lang's sermon *National sins, the cause and precursors of national judgments*.

Nozze: An Italian word meaning 'wedding'. Adelaide used it as a name for her 'The Marriage at Cana', as expressed in her correspondence.

Ossian: The 'ancient' poetic persona of James Macpherson (1736–1796), used to narrate a cycle of epic poems on Gaelic history, including *Fingal* (1761) and *Temora* (1763). Although the authorship of these poems proved deeply controversial, they also influenced movements (most famously Romanticism) and writers into the nineteenth century and beyond.

Paris Exhibition: The *Exposition Universelle* was an immensely popular world's fair held in May to November 1855. Following the 1851 London Great Exhibition, its organisers displayed works of industry along with art from twenty-nine countries and sought to outdo London's Crystal Palace with the Palais de l'Industrie.

Pelerine: From the French "pèlerine" (pilgrim): a small cape that covers the shoulders, and which had become popular female fashion by the mid-nineteenth century.

Pius IX: Pius (1792-1878) served as Pope from 1846-1878. Originally championed as a liberal reformer, the events of 1848 saw him begin upon a more conservative path, and he is perhaps best remembered for his 1864 *Syllabus of Errors*, a scathing attack on modern 'innovations'. Adelaide met him in 1861.

Pre-Raphaelite Brotherhood: A famed nineteenth-century art movement founded in 1848 by artists including Dante Gabriel Rossetti and William Holman Hunt. Its proponents idealised fifteenth-century art, disapproving of what they considered excessively rigid Classical influence as epitomised by the doctrines of Raphael.

Presbyterianism: A Protestant form of religion, its name derived from the form of church government by representative assemblies of elders rather than by bishops. As a movement, Presbyterianism was heavily influenced by John Knox and John Calvin.

Quince rod: A long rod used as a means of corporal punishment for errant schoolchildren. Some accounts describe several as bundled together, although such practices were considered unusually cruel.

Rappings: A mysterious noise allegedly made by spirits, most famously reported by the Fox sisters, helping them gain influence as mediums. After debate surrounding their origin, Margaretta Fox described them as produced by tying an apple to a string.

Risorgimento: The great nineteenth-century movement for Italian cultural revival and national unification, culminating in the proclamation of the Kingdom of Italy on 12 March 1861, and the incorporation of Rome in 1870.

Scrying: The practice of gazing into a smooth surface to derive messages or strange visions, most often via crystal balls. It is famously

associated with the Elizabethan astronomer and mystic John Dee (1527-1608/09).

Skiff: A collective term for small coastal or river-based boats, typically operated by a small crew, sometimes as few as one person. One mid-century account proudly refers to "a group of young ladies, attended by their servants...fishing in gay skiffs near the water-gates of their houses."

Sirocco: A Mediterranean wind, originating in the Sahara, and typically associated with warm and wet weather.

Syrup of buckthorn: Extracted from the berries, leaves and seeds of the sea buckthorn plant (*Hippophae rhamnoides*), a small Himalayan shrub. Sometimes referred to as the holy fruit of the Himalayas, sea buckthorn can be applied to the skin or ingested for medicinal purposes. In the Victorian period it was often given to children as a purgative.

Topper: Nineteenth-century slang for a top hat. In American usage, occasionally also used for a sort of coat.

Transcendentalism: A nineteenth-century American literary and philosophical movement, that aspired towards notions of independence and inherent virtue. Its most eminent members included Ralph Waldo Emerson (1803-1882) and Margaret Fuller (1810-1850), whose *Woman in the Nineteenth Century* (1845) passionately argued for the right "to live freely and unimpeded".

Universal Love: A mystical vision of an all-encompassing divine love, most often associated with the doctrines of Emanuel Swedenborg (1668-1772).

Vaucluse: Today an affluent eastern Sydney suburb on Cadigal land, Vaucluse in the nineteenth century was most typically associated with William Charles Wentworth (1790-1872) and the Wentworth family, who lived at Vaucluse House from 1827-52.

Waterview House: Nicol Drysdale Stenhouse (1806-1873)'s Balmain home. Stenhouse accumulated a substantial private literary collection,

and Waterview became a site for literary salons across the 1850s and 1860s, attended by writers from Daniel H. Deniehy to Charles Harpur and Sir Henry Parkes.

Wherries: A type of boat, which by the 1850s shipped cargo and operated passenger traffic between Sydney, Balmain, and the North Shore.

Wine of opium: a solution of opium in aromatized sherry or diluted alcohol, having the strength of ordinary laudanum.

Worm lozenges: two kinds of lozenge – yellow and brown – that had to be taken at different times of day as a ‘treatment’ for stomach ailments. Both contained white panacea of mercury, with one 1842 *Guide to Trade* telling confectioners that each lozenge ought to contain half a grain.