

A long stick is cut and thrust into one end of the pipe whilst a bag is held at the other, and the Bandicoot is soon bagged. It does not attempt to bite, but requires to be held exceedingly tight or else easily escapes the hands by the power of its spring. Often the tree is too long for the stick, and then a hole has to be chopped to get the animal out. One female had three young in the pouch.

I made two excursions to Browera Creek, one of the many branches of the main estuary, or rather inlet, into which the Hawkesbury River runs. The creek is a place full of interest. Suddenly, after traversing a high plateau of the horizontal sandstone, the traveller meets with a deep chasm about 1,000 feet in depth, but not more than a quarter of a mile wide.

This chasm or channel has precipitous rocky walls on either side, with more or less talus slope, and at the bottom runs the river, a small stream, over which one can easily jerk a pebble when standing at its brink. The chasm or creek takes a winding course, so that only short sweeps of it can be seen at a time, and as it widens out and turns sharply or again contracts, one seems, when in a boat on its waters, to pass through a succession of long narrow lakes.

The river, or rather stream, at the place where we approached the creek, is tidal. It is impossible to say where the river ends and the sea begins. The main part of the creek is a long tortuous arm of the sea, ten or fifteen miles in length, and is itself provided with numerous branches and bays. These frequent branchings are perfectly bewildering to a man not accustomed to row on them every day in his life. The whole is, in fact, like a maze.

The side walls of the creek are covered with a luxuriant vegetation, with huge masses of Stagshorn Fern (*Platyserium*) and "rock lilies" (orchids), and a variety of timbers, whilst there are Tree-ferns and small palms in the lateral shady gullies.

The descent to the river is very steep, and it was a difficult matter to lead the horses down. As we descended, we heard the Lyre-birds calling all round; at the bottom, on a little patch of flat alluvium covered with grass, is a small house and barn, where a man lives with his family all alone, and shut out from the world. He is extremely industrious, and by fishing, wood-cutting, honey-gathering, and the proceeds of his farm-yard, must be doing well; we stopped at his cottage for two nights, and hired his boat.

Browera Creek is of varied interest. As an example of denudation, it appears to correspond exactly to what is seen at a much higher level in the Blue Mountains. The extraordinary proximity into which animals, found usually only in open sea,