



Australia as it is; its settlements, farms and gold fields

F. Lancelot

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This historic book may have numerous typos and missing text. Purchasers can download a free scanned copy of the original book (without typos) from the publisher. Not indexed. Not illustrated. 1852 Excerpt: ...to rocks or gravelly sites, found to be so congenial to the vine in other countries." The vineyards in the wine countries of Douro, in Portugal, and where the port wine is made, "are on the slopes of schistous hills." Dr. Henderson, a talented writer on wines, says: "The soil on which the valuable wines of Burgundy are grown, consists, in general, of a light black or red loam mixed with the debris of the calcareous rocks on which they repose." In the province of Andalusia in Spain, where the fine sherry wines are grown, "the soils of the district have been divided by Don Simon de Roxas Clemante, into four orders--viz., 1st. Albariza, which chiefly consists of carbonate of lime with a small admixture of silex and clay, and occasionally magnesia; 2nd. Barros, which is composed of quartzose-sand mixed with clay, and red or yellow ochre, and forms horizontal beds extending along the coast from the Guadalquiver as far as the Conil; 3rd. Arenas, or pure quartzose-sand; and 4th., Bugeo, which contains argillaceous loam, mixed with carbonate of lime, some quartzose-sand, and a large proportion of vegetable mould. Of these, the first named is the best and most productive." Having chosen the site, and fenced in the land so as to prevent the ingress of all animals, you should next prepare the ground by trenching it to a depth of at least 2 feet: if more, all the better. If the soil is very poor, some well rotted manure may be buried at the bottom of the trenches as the operation proceeds. It must, however, be remembered that manure, even when well decomposed, is apt to impart a bad flavour to the wine, and as such it should always be used with great circumspection. Many of the most celebrated vineyards are never manured. The numerous...

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