Editorial

PRESERVE OLD RECORDS FOR POSTERITY

On page 402 of the current Journal is published an article written by Mr. Brian H. Ford (President of the Miles and District Historical Society) on the Condamine Bell. In an accompanying letter to the Editor, Mr. Ford expresses a thought and desire that is uppermost in the minds of all of our members who are deeply concerned in the preservation of the worthwhile records of our past from the bottomless bin of Time. Mr. Ford says: "... Lying in boxes and trunks, oftentimes called 'Grandfather's junk,' by today's generation, is a wonderful store of untouched, and consequently unrecognised historical fact, and diary and manuscript. If only these, provided they are not essentially of a personal family nature, could be presented by people to groups and societies who are working to save this material for posterity, what an exciting addition to our folklore and district history would become available!"

That is why Mr. Ford has sent along the true story of the Condamine Bell, the research for which was done by members of the Miles and District Historical Society.

A wealth of authentic detail was obtained as the result of a letter to the "Courier-Mail" and from this was gleaned the story of the Condamine Bell. I endorse Mr. Ford's hope that it will encourage an active awareness by members and by the general public of the need to preserve the relics of a not so far distant but fast-receding era, and ensure their preservation in local and district archives and other repositories.

EDITOR.
A photographed copy of a portrait of George A. F. Elphinstone Dalrymple and his sister, Henrietta, painted in 1832 by their sister, Mary Francis.