

Milltown.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

February 17.

A very severe accident has occurred to Mr. Robert Barclay. He was assisting in loading piles on a large truck at the railway station, when by some means his canthook slipped, which caused him to overbalance and he fell over the end of the truck on to the sleepers, causing a very large cut on the left temple, breaking some ribs, while both hands were badly strained and cut. He will unfortunately be some time before he will be fit for work again.

The residents in this part have made a raid on the rabbits by putting out poisoned wheat, which in some cases has had a deadly effect. A few land owners, I hear, have not done anything yet towards destroying the pest, which is to be regretted, as it is hard to get a holding cleared while the next neighbor is doing nothing. Those that can destroy and will not, should be made to is my opinion.

The dry weather appears to be set in now, and bush fires are making their appearance, but no damage has been done yet beyond clearing off a lot of rough undergrowth. I notice, however, that the rifle butts are burnt to the ground, and I question very much if ever they will be put up again, as I have not heard of any rifle matches being fired on them for over a year.

I notice that the saw mills are working at present and seem to be sending away large quantities of timber. They are at present drawing timber from McKinnon's at Darlot's Creek about six miles, where it is said the best sample of logs are to be got for many miles, and they are not to be beat for quality on this side of the Otway Forest.