THE SYDNEY MAIL, SATURDAY, AUGUST 31, 1912.

"THE ROCKS" RESUMPTIONS.
WITH CAMERA AND PENCIL.

One of the most amusing experiences at the present time is an examination in "The Rocks." A walk from the electric trams to the great shops and offices of George-street plunges the visitor in the midst of the jostling, bustling traffic of the thoroughfares of the present day. Ten minutes afterwards, the point of interest of the class of architecture known familiarly as "early colonial," brings one to that district in the rear of the great buildings, which has almost in some respects of it is concerned, for generations. A stone's throw from doorstep, and the paths and ways of its quaint old houses, are hewn in the native rock. In many cases the steps hewn in the native rock jutting out into the street, children take possession of the public ways as play-grounds, the family washing hangs across the street, children take their lessons beneath the door-sills, the window reminiscents of the days when only one size of pane was obtainable, and that was scarce and dear, quaint hardwood doors, and walls cut from the rock around. Or, at the other extreme, great four-storey buildings with pillared porticos and gardens in which exotic trees still survive, hewn stone gateways surmounted by stone balls, all much battered by the elements and suffering from neglect—the memories of the past, in the days when Dawes Point was the only headquarter of Sydney—now tenement hives.

This view looks down Harrington-street, with St. Patrick's Church, Monastery Schools, and Darling-harbour in the background. Among the length of the street and of Gelgelina-street, which lies further, can be noted the wonderful disparity between the size and character of the buildings, old and new, side by side. To the left are Gelgelina and Oxley-street, parallel with Harrington-street.