

"To one who, like myself, remembers this once lovely valley as it used to be, with its bush and bird life, there could not have been a more striking illustration of the results of our utter want of care or foresight of even the most elementary kind. This bush is declared a Reservation. But leaving it to be destroyed in this manner, by deer, goats, and other agencies, which prevent the replacement of the dead growth by younger trees—could a worse way be found to deal with such Reservations?

"Would it be possible to fence off a smaller area, and so allow the second growth to have a chance of survival? The vermin that have destroyed the bird life (such as stoats, ferrets, weasels, opossums) will never be eliminated—they should never have been allowed to enter the country in the first instance, but now they are in, they will never be eliminated. But, surely, it should be possible to protect in some degree the native bush. At present, efforts in this direction are imperceptible."

THE MURDER OF NATIVE BUSH IN PROCESS.

