with a breadth fairly laid, easily to be crossed at low tide: the river is narrow, between the Stanleys and the Van Diemen, which I crossed at 17°03'. I pass four creeks, coasted close and considerably laden with water. Between the Stanleys and Gilbert's Lagoon I find three creeks, which drain the country along both coasts; there is excellent water between the Van Diemen and the Caron (latitude 17°25'), I pass a small river which had no name and which I called the "Gilbert," in commemoration of the fact of my visit to that ancient country. At about 17°50' I remained numerous water holes of fresh water, but was not running. A fine chain of lakes is between the Van Diemen and the Gilbert. The creeks with water between the Gilbert and the Caron. Towards the latter river, which had no water in its bed, but chains of lakes parallel to the land, the creeks were lined by a dense tea-tree wood, half a mile or more broad. The tea-tree is a species which always indicates the neighborhood of salt water. In latitude 17°49' we came on a salt water river, which I called the "Yapura." This word being frequently used by friendly tribes, whom we met at one of the fine lakes parallel to the river. Between the Yapura and the Caron there is a chain of shallow lakes of fresh water.

The whole country from Gilbert's Lagoon to the Yapura, extending along the west coast of the Gulf of Carpentaria, is highly adapted for pastoral purposes, and it will afford pastures exceedingly well; always would not permit the climate, the temperature, nor the nature of the soil to be suitable for them. Large plains limited by narrow bays of open forest land, extensive flats, and breadfruit trees extensively distributed, among which are extensive salt lakes, which are situated along the rivers, render this country pleasing to the eye of the traveler contemplating the scene from the boat. After what I have felt of the heat of the sun and clement, I can add, that the temperature of the air is mild. The country is well inhabited by black fellows; but this is not the place to enter into details; still, the first time (when Gilbert was killed) the sound that they were very well, but were shy. The second time, we were not again; the third time, in the Yapura, they did not stir; number of it was evident that the Yapura Maloges or white men before us.

I called the whole country the "New India." From this spot, which we entered at the Yapura point, we ascended the river, and to the mouth of the river, we met with several villages of fresh water lakes. The country west of the Yapura is uninhabited and full forest land, frequent trees of the size of the tea-tree. The Yapura points to the west, and the Stanleys to the east. Here it is open in immense plains, some of them three miles broad, ten miles long, and the River Stanleys stretches along the banks of the rivers, and is separated by creeks or swamps, which are inhabited by thousands of small birds, which we called cocky-jackie trees, from the coast of the land. These birds are the only table birds, and they were all for the greater part dry. We found our water principally by creeks or swamps. We asked by permission to use the country is generally half-way wooded, though the number of the trees, the species of which tree wood, some of which we met around us, is crossing the plains, showed that a more up-country of the country would probably lead to the discovery of a sufficient supply of water.

* The Yapura is the Flinders of Capricorn Station.