

YACHTING.

HOLIDAY CRUISE OF THE PASTIME.

A few days ago Mr. Justice Bunday's clipper yacht *Pastime* returned to her berth in the Port River, having just completed a holiday cruise of a month's duration, the greater portion of which was spent in those "happy hunting grounds" so dear to our yachting spirits, Boston Bay and its enchanting vicinity. Those of our yachtsmen who are fortunate enough to have the time for an extended cruise now and then could hardly find a more picturesque and congenial scene for their pleasure than the waters of Port Lincoln, and it is not to be wondered at that there the Judge determined to sail his craft on her first venture outside St. Vincent's Gulf. The *Pastime* is only 11 tons in yachting measurement, but the general behaviour of the craft throughout the whole of the trip and the sailing record she has brought back with her fully entitle her to the description of "clipper" given at the outset. The Judge is more than pleased with her in every way. She has carried her full sail all the time, her owner purposely hanging on to her to see what she really would do. Many thought her such a long and narrow boat that she would prove to be a "wet 'un," but on the contrary she has kept very dry, and at times was doing her 8 knots. It is the first opportunity she has had of really proving herself in a seaway, and to use the words of the Judge's "old hand" on the trip, "she never had a drop of water aboard, and ran splendidly—very clean." The crew consisted of three men, of whom the one just alluded to has been a long time with the Judge. The *Pastime* left home on Friday, December 16, but put into Edithburgh with a strong southerly wind on the following Sunday morning. She stayed at this "sanatorium," as the residents like to term it, till Monday evening, and again getting under way did some very smart sailing. She completed the run from Troubridge Light to Port Lincoln in sixteen hours, thus averaging eight knots per hour. The Judge did not sail in the yacht, but with his associate (Mr. Castle) and Mr. R. Cruickshank, solicitor, of Port Adelaide, joined her by the *Ferret* at Port Lincoln, on the 21st, the day after her arrival there. During the holidays the *Pastime* was kept cruising about the bay, Port Lincoln proper, and the islands adjacent. Later on there was another addition to the party in the person of Professor Bragg. The *Pastime* was a portion of the time in company with Mr. Munton's *Alfreda* and the *Edith*, the *Protector's* tender, the latter having quite a party of gentlemen on board, who evidently knew where real pleasure is to be found. There was plenty of fishing, and many good hauls were recorded. The *Pastime's* party captured snapper in profusion, besides whiting and flounders, in the net. On the islands dotting that portion of the Gulf good

whiting and flounders, in the net. On the islands dotting that portion of the Gulf good shooting was also found, rabbits and redbills being the victims. The stay in Port Lincoln waters was altogether enjoyable, and probably before long the *Pastime* will renew her acquaintance there. On Saturday, the 14th inst., with only the Judge and crew of three aboard, she somewhat reluctantly began a course home again. However, strong south-east and south winds were encountered, accompanied by a heavy swell, and the craft put back to Spalding's Cove. Here she waited till Monday, when another start was made, but again she had to put back. On Tuesday morning, the 17th, the sea was very heavy, with strong winds, but at 4 o'clock a third start was made, the craft managing to beat away to Thistle Island. This was a dead beat against a strong head swell, but about 5 o'clock she brought up at the Thistle, in Whalers' Bay. On Wednesday morning, the 18th, at 4 o'clock, she made another start, with a fine southerly wind, and passed between North Island and the Wedge at 7 a.m. The gunboat *Protector* was seen brought up under the Wedge. At 11.15 a.m. passed the Althorpes, and saluted the *Edith* on her way to the Thistle. Passed Troubridge with a strong south-west breeze at 5.30 p.m. The vessel averaged 7½ knots at this time. After passing Troubridge the wind hauled east and fell light. Large Bay was reached a quarter of an hour after (Wednesday) midnight, or 12.15 a.m. On Thursday, the 19th, at 5 a.m., left Large Bay for the Port with very light wind and a strong ebb tide, so that it was 11 a.m. before the *Pastime's* snug home berth was again reached. It was generally agreed that no craft of the *Pastime's* measurement could have done better, taking the whole trip. The following record of her sailing is worth publishing:—From the Thistle to the Wedge 14½ miles, thence to the Althorpes, 21 miles; from the Althorpes to Troubridge, 50 miles, and from Troubridge to Large Bay 36 miles, or a total of 121½ nautical miles in twenty and a quarter hours. This is a record highly satisfactory to the Judge, and one that will convince the critics that the *Pastime* is a decidedly good seaboat, wind and weather as they come.