**Outside the museum is the Alexander Munroe fountain which originally stood at the corner of George and Campbell Streets outside Munroe’s hotel, the Caledonia. Alexander was a prominent member of the community and the first Mayor when the town was incorporated in 1866. It is reported that after the declaration of the Poll at the courthouse ‘the newly elected aldermen …proceeded to the Royal Hotel where the health of the returning officer, the newly elected aldermen…were drunk in bumpers (?)’ after which they were ‘unceremoniously seized’ and drawn through the town in a vehicle by the local populace. [[1]](#footnote-1) He was responsible in 1881 for the installation of a coal-gas plant which some eighty years later had 780 consumers and over twenty kilometers of pipeline. Alexander was also a noticeable vigneron so much so that a newspaper report of 1876 stated the he was the proud ‘possessor of 46,000 gallons of wine or say half a bottle per head for the entire population of New South Wales’**

1. Anon., The First Year of the Municipality of Singleton 1866. , p.p. 5-6. This copy in Newcastle Library. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)