

Captain Matthew Flinders

The following address was given by Cr J. P. Story at the unveiling of the plaque at the Franklin Harbour Institute, on Monday, 14th June:—

We are gathered here this afternoon to honour the name of one of Australia's greatest explorers, Captain Matthew Flinders. As you all know, Flinders was a navigator, and we in South Australia particularly, remember him for charting and naming all of our coastlines in South Australia. Many coastal towns in this State have honoured this great man by erecting memorials of one kind or another, and now Cowell has fallen into line, and erected a plaque on our local Institute.

We in Cowell, have not used the name of Flinders for any of our local places, but instead, we seem to have used the name of Franklin. This

came about in the following way:— Flinders, on his memorable exploring voyage of 1801—1802, when passing northwards along this gulf, noted and marked our Harbour from the masthead of his ship, Investigator (no name was given), but in later years, after South Australia had been settled, Colonel George Gawler, second Governor of this State, on visiting our Harbour, bestowed on it the name of Franklin Harbour. It is interesting to note, that Franklin, who was a midshipman on the

who was a midshipman on the Investigator, later became Sir John Franklin, governor of Tasmania, and noted Arctic explorer.

It is not my purpose to give a long address, nor yet a history lesson, but I would like to impress on the children in particular as they are to be the future citizens, that we must not just glory in the brave deeds of explorers and pioneers, but earnestly endeavour to carry forward the work so admirably performed by them.

This State, in a little over a cen-

tury, has made outstanding progress, and it is up to every one of us to see that it continues on its forward march, and maintain its place as a leading world nation. It is indeed a great honour for me to perform this ceremony today, and I take great pleasure in now unveiling this memorial plaque and reading to you the inscription.

The inscription on the plaque was published last week.