

ACACIA KARRW

1822

Thomas Fringle, 1835

April. In the Koonap River Valley, Adelaide, E. Cape.

p.126. "Among the mimosa trees (i.e. ~~the~~ trees) sprinkled over the meadows, or lower bottoms, the traces of their (i.e. elephant) operations were not less apparent. Immense numbers of these trees had been torn out of the ground and placed in an inverted position in order to enable the animals to browse at their ease on their juicy roots which form a favourite part of their food. I observed that, in numerous instances, when the trees were of considerable size, the elephant had employed one of his tusks, ~~xxx~~ exactly as he would use a crowbar, thrusting it under the roots to loosen their hold on the earth before he attempted to tear them up with his proboscis. Many of the larger mimosas had resisted all their efforts, and, indeed, it is only after rains that they can successfully attempt the operation".