Edward Yeates

Born: 20 May 1829 in Kendal, Westmoreland, England

Died: 30 June 1856 near the Goulburn River, Victoria, Australia.

Edward Yeates emigrated to Australia on board the Clipper “Marco Polo” in April 1853 at the age of 24. Arriving in Melbourne he appears to have established himself as a gold prospector in partnership with a friend called Lowson Salmon, who he met on the voyage to Australia. They appeared to have been based in Meggelty Gully, Rushworth which is described as about 100 miles north of Melbourne. The site is also described as near the Goulburn River.

In 1856 Edward inherited a legacy from his great great grandfather Anthony Yeates. Edward travelled to Melbourne to receive the Bills of Exchange and on his return appears to have met his death while attempting to cross McBean Creek at it’s junction with the Goulburn River. The letters contain a detailed account of the incident. It appeared that he had been robbed.

This file contains correspondence sent by Clipper ship from Melbourne to Liverpool from Edward Yeates to his brothers John and William. It also contains correspondence from Edward’s friend Thomas Finlayson in Melbourne as well as letters from Edward’s business partner Lowson Salmon.

Some of the letters are on very thin transparent paper and are difficult to read. Some pages have been cross written. These pages have been copied and rotated by ninety degrees to make them easier to read.

John Yeates Yeates Esq.
Pt Head
Mr Milnthorpe
Westmoreland
England

DEAL
SHIP LETTER

Edward April 8th 1853.

MILNTHORPE
APR 18

Marco Polo April 8th 1853
Lat 1 North.

My dear Brother

There is a ship bareing down which the captain thinks is an English homeward bound one, therefore almost all on board are taking advantage of the chance of sending letters, I expect that she will soon be here so that it will not allow us much time so I will give you an account of what is worth relating. You will have heard from Willy that the Marco Polo started from the Mersey on Sunday the 13th March at about 10.30 Am every one was on deck & in the greatest confusion as the government agent was examining the tickets, after this was over there was some fun caused by the finding of six or seven Stowaways that had got on board some way or other, the steam tug "Independence" left us some distance past the Formby light we had a nice light breze, I found it hard work eating for the meat was dreadful stuff indeed it appears that it is some that she had out last voyage, I have eaten nothing except soups & biscuits since I came on board there is bad grumbling & dissatisfaction, there is an other thing which I was sorry to find which is that we have got a gang of thiefs on board they must be about 40 strong and are all pretty well known there are some in the 1st Cabin some in the 2nd & some in the 3rd articles are missing every day, but I must not confine ourselfs to the dark side of our fine ship, there are some very gentlemanly people on board, every ship that we have come in sight of we have passed, we had

a capitle trial with an american "the "Martha"
of & from Boston to Port-Phillip with provisions
but we soon passed her. March 15th we had a dead
calm and saw ships in all directions, the coast of
Wales & the Gallers covered with snow were both visible
on the 16th a light breeze sprung up, we passed the
Tuscan light off the Wexford coast saw the villages
in Ireland very distinctly this was our last peep at
Great Britain in the afternoon we spoke the barque
"Delhi" from Calcas to Glasgow she told us that
she spoke the Antelope off Cork on the 13th the 17th
18th 19th & 20 we saw nothing but porpoises. 21st we
saw a vessel some distance ahead of us we signaled her
and in passing found her to be the "Mary Wheel" Captain
Forbes' own property she left Port-for Calcas 5 days
before us, we published a manuscript newspaper
to day which is continued weekly. I have got some
now before me which I was writing when they came
to tell me that a ship was in sight. On the 24 our
first death occured a child 6 months old son of
Francis James Hilton Esq a gentleman in the 1st Cabin
it was buried the same evening, on the 28th we lost
a poor girl, it was a most melancholy case, it was
when we had been out about 2 days she went into
her berth ~~the~~ as she supposed, after the lights were
put out it so happened that it was the wrong one
and she put her hand onto an man which so frightened
her that it sent her silly, she was continually screaming
and would eat little or nothing poor girl it was a
relief when she died, she was buried the same
night, and a very solemn sight it was for it was
the roughest night we have had yet on the 28th

we signaled a Dutch vessel, 27th was Easter Sunday and the prayers of the Church of England were read at the captain on the quarter deck, but so badly that we have them in the 2nd Cabin every Sunday morning that is to say about 40 of us. the Captain is a Scotch Church man, we saw a great many whales and other kinds of fish. flying fish &c on the 29th we sighted Cape de Verds (the Island of St Antonio & St Vincent) I have now taken some extracts out of my journal but I shall not have time to say much more as the ship is getting very near us we have been becalmed for the last 5 days which is no joke with this hot sun, I get up every morning at 5 o'clock and get a bath on the forecastle, I must finish this as the mate has just come to say that letters must be put in the bag as it will be closed directly so good bye God bless you all & remember me to all and believe me to remain

Your most affect. Brother

Edward Yeates

Wm Y Yeates Esq

Rockhead

Marco Polo April 8th 1853

Latitude 1° North

My dear Brother

There is a ship bearing down which the Captain thinks is an English homeward bound one, therefore almost all on board are taking advantage of sending letters. I expect that this will soon be here so that it will not allow us much time, so I will give you an account of what is worth relating. You will have heard from Willy that the Marco Polo started from the Mersey on Sunday 13th Marchat about 10.30 a.m.. Every one was on deck and in the greatest confusion as the government agent was examining the tickets, after this was over there was some fuss caused by the finding of six or seven stowaways that had got on board some way or other. The Steam Tug "Independence left us some distance past the Formby light. We had a nice light breeze. I found it hard work eating for the meat was dreadful stuff indeed it appears that it is some that she had out last voyage. I have eaten nothing but soups and biscuits since I came on board there is sad grumbling and dissatisfaction. There is an other thing I was sorry to find which is that we have got a gang of thiefs on board they muster about 40 strong and are all pretty well known, there rae some in the 1st cabin, some in the 2nd & some in the 3rd. Articles are missing every day, but I must not confine myself to the dark side of our fine ship, there are some very gentlemanly peopleon board. Every ship that we have come in sight of we have passed. We had a capable? Trial with an american "The Martha" of & from Boston to Port Phillip with provisions but we soon passed her.

March 16th we had a dead calm and saw ships in all directions, the coast of Wales and the Galters covered with snow were both visible, on the 16th a light breeze sprung up, we passed the Tuscan light of the Wexford coast and saw the villages in Ireland very distinctly. This was our last peep of Great Britain. In the afternoon we spoke to the barque "Delhi" from Calais to Glasgow. She told us she spoke to the "Antelope" off Cork on the 13th.

The 17th, 18th, 19th and 20th we saw nothing but porpoises. 21st we saw a vessel some distance ahead of us, so signalled her and in passing found her to be the "Mary Winch" Captain Forbes own property. She left Liverpool for Calais 5 days before us. We published a manuscript newspaper today which is continued weekly. I have got some [?] now before me which I was writing when they came to tell me that a ship was in sight. On the 24th our first death occurred; a child 6 months old, son of Francis James Hilton Esq. a gentleman in the 1st cabin and it was buried the same evening. On the 28th we lost a poor girl. It was a most melancholy case. It was when we had been out about 2 days she went into her berth, as she supposed, after the lights were put out. It so happened that it was the wrong one, and she put her hand onto a man, which so frightened her that it sent her silly. She was continuously screaming and would eat little or nothing. Poor girl, it was a relief when she died. She was buried the same night and a very solemn sight it was for it was the roughest night we have had yet. On the 28thwe signalled a Dutch vessel, 27th was Easter Sunday and the prayers of the Church of England were read at the Captain on the quarter deck, but so badly that we have them in the 2nd cabin every Sunday morning, that is today about 40 of us. The Captain is a Scotch Church man.

We saw a great many whales and other finds of fish, flying fish etc.. On the 29th we sighted Cape de Verde, the island of St Antonio and St Vincent. I have now taken some extracts out of my journal, but I shall not have time to say much more as the ship is getting very near us. We have been becalmed for the last 5 days, which is no joke with this hot sun. I get up every morning at 5 o'clock and get a bath on the forecastle. I must finish now as the mate has just come to say that letters must be put in the bag as it will be closed directly, so Good Bye, God bless you all, and remember me to all and believe me I remain

Your most affectionate Brother

Edward Yeates

choice ~~choice~~ of horses out of a lot that had just been brought in from the bush as wild as ever they could be I chose a young iron grey that had never had a saddle on his back before and you may suppose that I had enough to do for the 2 days, he nearly broke my neck twice, but however we started in sections of threes of to the Treasury where we were joined by our Lieutenant it was a miserable wet day. and the road with the exception of about six miles out of Melbourn are but waggon tracks over swamps and marshy ground, notwithstanding these difficulties our horses were fresh, and we managed to get to the Bush in a distance of 35 miles. So far there is little or nothing worth recording, the Wedge plains which we had crossed was more like a desert than anything else, the next day we started at five o'clock in the morning and soon got to the Black Forest, the roads here are worse than ever the mud was up to our horses girths at times. the trees are a pretty good size, but hardly anything else than gum trees & iron bark and here and there thick clumps of underwood we passed many parties both going to & coming from the Diggings, of which we had various accounts, some told us that they were in a complete uproar other again that they were uncommonly quiet but that they were making very preparation to oppose the government indeed we had so many accounts that we could give credit to none of them

John Yates Esq.
Parkhead
Milthorpe
Westmoreland
England

MELBOURNE
PAID

Bendigo Dec 16th 1853

My dear Brother

You will no doubt be long since astonished at hearing from me but I have been knocking about so much since I came into this colony that I have put it off from time to time, until now I am almost ashamed to own it my neglect. But however will now endeavour to make up for lost time. I directed a letter to you from the Marco Polo which sailed by the Erasmus. Little ship mentioned in which you have no doubt received the remainder of the voyage was but a repetition of the account I gave you. I had good health on board, never being once sick or even feeling so. We arrived at Melbourne on Sunday the 20th of May but it did not suit me to get all my luggage out of the colonial ship the same time so that I was delayed getting on shore until the 4th. The first thing I did was to get my boxes stored which I did although not at a very reasonable rate, but as I said I did not expect even that very cheap in this land of gold. The next thing was to get something to eat so at the Melbourne Hotel I ordered a large steak and potatoes which I found in my company good fare. We were soon served and I feasted on our last meal from the time we left Liverpool to that of our landing. I certainly felt rather lonely in the City of Melbourne without a single person I knew, excepting some Marco Polo people, I had a few acquaintances and did not think worth cultivating but however after dinner I had a glass of good ale which I drank your very good health and many happy returns of the day to you. And there set out to see the town, it is a fine place situated on two hills, the principal streets running down the sides of one to the top of the other, there are good warehouses, but unfortunately large vessels cannot come to form up the Yarra Yarra as the River is shallow, so that with the exception of Brigs, Schooners and other small craft, old good has to be brought up in lighters from the bay which is crowded with ships of every description, nations and size, some that have been there for upwards of a year as good many are used as stores, other as lodgings and in fact anything they can put them to. I suppose you will have heard that the Bark of Chatsmont was wrecked off the Port Phillip Heads. No lives lost, but the principal part of the luggage and cargo. The Antelope Steamer which left Liverpool a day before us did not arrive here until a week after us, so that I and I do made pretty sure of that £1000. I got some pretty good lodgings at a shilling a week and employed myself every day in looking out for a berth or some kind or other but I soon found out that it requires first rate interest to get into anything which in fact I had not got in this way I lost and for a time I was determined to do something or other for I found that my cash would not last for ever. I called at the Treasury to see Alfred Cuisitable but he could not do any thing for me, so I did not trouble him since

Well I jogged on for about a week longer, when after applying for every situation that was advertised in the Argus Newspaper without success I walked off to St Kilda's Beach in a pair of fustian trousers, Jim Crow hat &c and started as carter, for here I had with two horses, a dray and along ship carting timber from the beach the reason for my going there was to be in Melbourne as little as possible, not that I ought to be ashamed of it for now I find many of the most respectable people that I have met have begun just in the same way, indeed it is easily explained all the working classes go off to the diggings and there is no one left to fill their places excepting such unfortunate fellows as myself who come into any colony like this to make rapid fortunes. But I did not stay long in this interesting employment, for the roads were in such a fearfull state, and the weather so wet, besides I did not find myself too strong after a sea voyage and bad diet. So one day as I was with the cart up towards St Kilda with some goods for one of the Inspectors of Roads, who seemed to be a very nice person, and to know in a moment how I was situated, this gentleman after making a few remarks about the disagreeable employment I had got, asked me into the house, where he gave me a account of three or four friends of his who all had at first been situated in much the same way as myself but who at that time were doing very well in Melbourne before I went he offered to take me on to the roads as he told me that he has got a very select gang on a road a little way in the bush where I should not have much to do, bed found with tents, rations, and water and that I should then have more time to look about me. this I thought very kind of him, for the generality of people here are a selfish independent set so I accepted his offer, and accordingly called on him during the following week, he received me very kindly I had tea with him and we agreed that I should go with him on the following morning, I was not a little astonished to find such a select set of workmen, I was introduced to a Dr Marnel, a Dr Laurie, a Clergyman's son from Yorkshire and 3 or 4 others that had been brought up for the law you may guess that we had pretty easy times of it, but it did not last long, for before I had been employed here 3 weeks tenders were sent in to finish all the roads by contract so I did not wish to stay any longer, as we should have had a change of inspectors. So here I was all adrift again, and I remained so for nearly a fortnight trying the advertisements again but to no purpose. I was now quite at fault, I was going home one night when I met one of our first Class passengers who was keeping up appearances as well as he could, but he said it was of no use, for although he had got so many letters

and board exercise &c, since then I have been out after bush rangers, murderers thieves and the ring leaders of riots &c &c three of our troopers have been shot one of them dead on the spot, but the other two are expected to get over it I expect next month to be in Melbourne, then I shall try for my cadetship which I think I shall get, but at any rate I shall send over the power of attorney duly signed and witnessed. I now think that I have told you all my adventures in Australia, I see many difficulties before me but in the long run I think that it is a fine field for enterprise, and I have no doubt that if I mind my p's & q's that I shall in time be able to make a fortune in it, although it may take me the next twenty years or more to accomplish it, I have neither friends or interest here and both must be of my own making. Things are much misrepresented in the English papers, certainly the price of labour is high but the country seems over stocked with people that do not know what to do with themselves, and hence so much crime, I met a very nice young fellow, the day I entered the force, a Scotch man Ogelvy by name, we have been companions untill lately when he was sent further up the country to Mount Corong and I to Spring Creek he is the only person I have taken my fancy to, he is of a very respectable family from Dundee, I shall send you a couple of Melbourne papers with this so that you can judge yourself of the state of things here, mind you tell me how Willy gets on with the wood cutting &c tell him that I do not think that he ought to think of coming out here at least not at present, for the only woodcutting here goes on in the bush, at any rate I will give him an account of things in Melbourne. I suppose Harry has by this time left Mr Harris before the projected war between England and Russia I am very anxious to hear about so please give or send me an account of it, I do not think that I have much more to tell you now;

of introduction & could not get any situation fit for him
I take it he took me for one of the other passengers that came out in the
same berth as himself & had accepted a situation in
one of the Colleges. I had determined to enlist in the troopers at
Richmond Barracks & for that purpose determined to see Mr. Bowen
on the following morning. He wanted me very much to stay at the
same time, but I thought I would take a little time to reflect
& I had conceived I should have preferred a sheepless place, but
after enquiring found that it was anything but an enviable
one & as I thought I should not be able to see or hear anything
that would bring on what I would not have done for me as I
wished to have some idea how to lay out my money when I
get it, I decided to take a chance, so I decided the next morning
and made some enquiries at Richmond Barracks & there is a sort
of cross between the mounted police men & a trooper, but notwithstanding
consists of a most respectable set of young men. I introduced myself
to some of them and stated my reason for being there, they gave
me every information they could, and said that I should be sure to
get one of the troops. I had only two letters with me, that afternoon I called
on Capt. Powlett to whom I had a letter of introduction & he advised me to call on the day following
and bring with me any letter or papers I could, as he said he had
to be very particular as he admitted I will accordingly do
letters to show them & I had none to show, that the only paper I
which I could show was my articles of Apprenticeship & where I came from, was
a form of Attorney which I had drawed up, which after reading he
handed me back and wrote a note to a Lieutenant Wester
of Richmond Barracks he gave me, telling me that he would in
all probability grant me a few days leave to get my things
settled in Melbourne as I should be going into the country
very soon. Mr. Powlett seemed a very nice person, and through him
I applied for a Cadetship but was told that there were no
vacancies but however after some trouble I got my name down
for the first vacancy in the Supernumerary Cadets, little as this was
it was something. I soon found out that there was but very little difference
between a Cadet & a Trooper, only the name, they had to clean their
own horses & rub just the same as the rest of us as well as drill
& perform with us. It was only at Richmond a week or ten day
when twenty five of us were ordered off to Bendigo Diggings, as
they expected the diggers to stand out against paying any licence
at the same time the 40th Regt was ordered off to the same place
I must now give you a sketch of our journey although it was
not a very long one. Two days before we started I had my

after about twelve miles ride through the forest we again broke out into the open country, and after climbing over all rock & hills we came onto an other level or plain in the middle of which was a river, or more properly speaking a smaller stream which was deep enough however to make our horses swim we soon got over this difficulty, although some of the young horses were very timid as for the one I rode, when he found that I was determined to go across make a bound right into the middle of it like you see a dog going into a pond after a duck the consequence was that both the horse and myself went right over head but I stuck hold of him by a lock of his mane & he soon carried me out safe on the other side and as I was one of the first across I had the pleasure of enjoying the misfortunes of others, all of whom had had a hearty laugh at the disappearance of me and my horse. We arrived at Hanover that night about eight o'clock and were not at all lazy to get our things dried, and a good supper, for though we had only come 24 miles yet being the second days journey, and such a bad road both the horses & we ourselves were quite ready for a night's rest. In the morning we started again about five o'clock, the roads from here are much better but we only were to go as far as a head quarters that night. So pressing by Harpit gully we arrived at Castlemona Barracks early in the afternoon, only having travelled one and twenty miles. The next day we started for Sligo, the ride between these two places is more like a gentlemans park than anything else, the distance is thirty miles, and we arrived on the Sligo drill ground at about 4 o'clock in the afternoon where the first thing we saw was five or six officers and about a dozen gold commissioned, promenading about but we were drawn up in line and dismissed to our stables & the troops, and now begins the monotony of mounted drill every day

and roads &c &c, since then I have been out after bush rangers, murderers
thieves and the ring leaders of riots &c &c three of our troopers have been shot
one of them dead on the spot, but the other two are expected to get over it
I expect next month to be in Melbourne, then I shall try for my commission
which I think I shall get, but at any rate I shall send over the power of attorney
duly signed and witnessed. I now think that I have told you all my adventures
in Australia, I see many difficulties before me but in the long run I think
that it is a fine field for enterprise, and I have no doubt that if I succeed
in my object that I shall in time be able to make a fortune, although it may
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or interest here and both must be of my own making. Things are much
misrepresented in the English papers certainly the price of labour is high
but the country seems over stocked with people that do not know what
to do with themselves, and hence so much crime, I met a very nice young
fellow the day I entered the force, a Scotch man Ogilvy by name, we have
been companions until lately when he was sent further up the country
to Mount Korong and I to Spring Creek, he is the only person I have taken
any fancy to he is of a very respectable family from Dundee, I shall
send you a couple of Melbourne papers with this so that you can judge
yourself of the state of things here, mind you tell me how Willy gets on with
the road cutting &c tell him that I do not think that he ought to think
of coming out here at least not at present for the only road cutting
here goes on in the bush, at any rate I will give him an account
of things in Melbourne, I suppose Harry has by this time left Williams
~~Lane~~ The projected war between England and Russia I am very anxious
to hear about so please you or Jane me an account of it. I do not
think that I have much more to tell you now.

I have not been able to find out anything of any of the relations yet or of Mr Arundle Wright, who you will remember Mrs Cunningham gave me a letter to. I heard that he had retired from business and I believe he is in the country near Melbourne, perhaps Geelong or somewhere about there but at any rate I must make another trial at finding them when I go to Town again. Tell Aunt Lucy that I met a person the other day from the Cape of Good Hope who had seen at times Mr Arundale, which I supposed to be the same person whom I have heard her speak of. He told me that when he left the Cape that he was dangerously ill, which is now eight months ago. but I must finish this letter, remember me very kindly to all my friends and best love to all at home expecting to hear from you in the least possible time. believe me to be

Your most affectionate Brother

Edw Yeates

Yeates
Cooper
Richmond Barracks
Melbourne.

Now will direct my letters, Edw Yeates
Cooper
Richmond Barracks
Melbourne

and receive them all safely

Bendigo Dec 16 1853

My Dear Brother

You will no doubt have long since been expecting to hear from me but I have been knocking about so much since I came into this colony, that I have put it off from time to time until now I am almost ashamed to think of my neglect. But however I will now endeavour to make up for lost time. I directed a letter to you from the Marco Polo which I sent by the “Erasmus” a Dutch ship and which you have no doubt received. The remainder of the voyage was as but a repetition of the account I gave you. I had capital health on board never been once seasick or even feeling so. We arrived at Melbourne on Sunday, 29 May but I did not manage to get all my luggage out of the hold until 3 June, so that I was delayed getting on shore until 4 June. The first thing was to get my boxes stored which I did although not at a very reasonable rate, but of course I did not expect everything very cheap in this land of gold. The next thing was to get something to eat, so at the Melbourne Larder I ordered a beef steak and potatoes which I thought uncommonly good for we never tasted an ounce of fresh meat from the time we left Liverpool to that of our landing. I certainly felt rather lonely in the city of Melbourne without a single person I knew, excepting some Marco Polo friends or house acquaintances I did not think worth cultivating but however after dinner I had a glass of good ale in which I drank your very good health and many happy returns of the day to you and then set out to the town. It is a fine place and situated on the Hill is the principal streets running from the top of 1 to the top of the other, there are good wharfs, but unfortunately larger vessels cannot come so far up the Yarra Yarra as Melbourne. So that with the exception of briggs, schooners and other smaller craft all goods have to be brought up by lighters from the bay, which is crowded with ships of every description, nation and size and some that have been laying there for upward of the year as good many are turned into store ships, others into lodgings and in fact anything they can put there. So I suppose you will have heard that the “Earl of Charlemont” was wrecked off the Port Phillip Heads. No lives lost, But the principal part of the luggage and cargo. The “Antelope” steamer which left Liverpool four days before us did not arrive here until three weeks after us so that Kands & Co made pretty sure of that £1000. I got some pretty good lodging for 2 pounds a week and employed myself every day in looking out for a berth of some kind or other, but I soon found out that it required first rate interest to get into anything which interest I had not got time this way I lost a fortnight, then I was determined to do something or other for I found that my cash would not last for ever. I called at the Treasury to see Alfred Constable but he could not do anything for me, so I did not trouble him any more.

Well I carried on for about a week longer, when after applying for every situation that was advertised in the Argus newspaper without success. I walked off to Le Hardy's Beach in a pair of fustian trousers, Jim Crow had, and started as carter, so there I was with two horses in a dray and a long whip carting timber from the beach. the reason for my going there was to be in Melbourne as little as possible, not that I ought to be ashamed of it for now I found many of the most respectable people that I have met have begun just in the same way, indeed it is easily explained, the working classes go off to the diggings and there is no one left to fill their places excepting such unfortunate fellows as myself who come into a colony like this to make rapid fortunes. But I did not stay long in this interesting employment for the for the roads were in such a fearful state and this weather so wet besides. I did not find myself too strong after a sea voyage and bad diet. So one day as I was with the cart up towards St Kilda with some goods for one of the Inspectors of the Roads who seemed to be a very nice person and to know in a moment how I was situated. This gentleman after making a few remarks about the disagreeable employment I had got asked me into the house where he gave me an account of three or four friends of his who all had at first been situated in much the same way as myself but who at that time were doing very well in Melbourne before I went. He offered to take me onto the roads he told me that he has got a very select gang on a road a little way in the bush where I should not have much to do. We found with tent, wood and water and that I should then have more time to look about me. This I thought very kind of him for generally the people here are a selfish independent set, so I accepted his offer, and accordingly called on him during the following week. He received me very kindly I had tea with him and we agreed that I should go with him on the following morning. I was not a little astonished to find such a select set of workmen. I was introduced to a Dr Mamel, a Dr Laurie, a clergyman’s son from Yorkshire and two others that had been brought up for the Law. You would guess that we had pretty easy times of it, but it did not last long for before I had been employed here three weeks rendered we were sent into the Bush all the roads by contract, So I did not wish to stay any longer

as we should have have had a change of inspectors. So there I was all adrift again, and I remained so for nearly a fortnight trying the advertisements again but to no purpose. I was now quite at fault and was going by horse one night when I met one of our first class passengers who was keeping up appearances as well as he could, but he said it was of no use for although he had got so many letters of introduction etc he could not get any retention fit for him to take, he told me of another passenger that came out in the same berth as himself who had accepted a waiters place in one of the hotels. So he had determined to enter the troopers at Richmond barracks and for that purpose determined to see Mr Bourk. On the following morning, he wanted me very much to enlist at the same time, but I thought I would take a little time to reflect on it, I fancied I should have preferred a shepherd's place but after enquiring found that it was anything but an enviable one and in which I should not be able to see or hear anything that was going on which would not have done for me as I wished to have some idea how to lay out my money, when I get it, to the best advantage, so I decided to go next morning and make some enquiries at Richmond Barracks. This force is a sort of cross between a mounted policeman and a soldier, but notwithstanding consists of a mostly respectable set of young men. I introduced myself to some of them and stated my reason for being there, they gave me every information they could and said that I should be sure to get in if I had any good letters with me. That afternoon I called on Capt. Bourk and he advised me to call on the day following and bring with me my letters or papers I could, as he said he had to be very particular as to who he admitted. I call accordingly, letters I told him I had none to show that the only paper which he could see who I was anywhere I came from was a power of attorney which I handed him, which after reading he handed me back and wrote a note to Lt Weston at Richmond which he gave me telling me that he would in all probability grant me a few days leave to get my things settled in Melbourne as we should be going up into the country very soon. Mr Weston seemed a very nice person and through him I applied for a cadet-ship but was told that there were no vacancies but however after some trouble I got my name down for the first vacancy in the supernumerary cadets, little as this was it was something, I soon found out that there was but very little difference between a cadet and a trooper (only the name) they had to clean their own horses and kit just the same as the rest of us as well as the drill and parade with us. I was only at Richmond a week or 10 days when 25 of us were ordered off to Bendigo diggings, as they expected the diggers to stand out against paying any licence at the same time the 40th regiment was ordered off to the same place.

I must now give you a sketch of our journey although it was not a very long one. Two days before we started I had my choice of horses out of a lot that had just been brought in from the Bush as wild as ever they could be. I chose a young iron grey that had never had a saddle on his back before and you may suppose that I had enough to do for the two days he nearly broke my neck twice, but however we started in sections of threes off to the Treasury where we were joined by our lieutenant it was a miserable wet day, and the road with the exception of about 6 miles out of Melbourne are wagon tracks over swamps and marshy ground. Notwithstanding these difficulties our horses were fresh and we managed to get to the Bush Inn a distance of 35 miles. So far there is little or nothing worth recording, the Wheeler Plains which we had crossed was more like a desert than anything else. The next day started at 5 o'clock in the morning and soon got to the Black Forrest. The roads here are worse than ever, the mud was up to our horses girths at times. The trees are a pretty good size, but hardly anything else than gum trees and crow bark and here and there thick clumps of underwood. We passed many parties both going to and coming from the diggings of which we had various accounts some told us that they were in a complete uproar other again that they were uncommonly quiet but that they were making every perturbation to oppose the government, indeed we had so many accounts that we could give credit to none of them. After about 12 miles ride through the forest we again broke out into the open country and after climbing over all rock and hills we came onto another land of Plains in the middle of which was a river or more properly speaking a swollen stream, which was deep enough however to make our horses swim. We soon got over this difficulty although some of the young horses were very timid as for the one I rode when he found that I was determined to go across made a band right into the middle of it like you see a dog going into a pond after a stick; consequence was that both the horse and myself went right over head but I took hold of him by a lock of his mane and his ears so he soon brought me out. I came at the other side and as I was one of the first across I had the pleasure of enjoying the misfortunes of others all of whom had had no hearty look at the disappearance of me and my horse. We arrived at Kyneton that night at about 8 o'clock and were not at all sorry to get over things. Dried, and a good supper for though we had only come 24 miles yet being this second day is journey and such a load more bother. The horses and we ourselves were quite ready for a night's rest. In the morning we started again about 5 o'clock the roads from here are much better but we only were to go as far ahead as headquarters that night. So passing

by Sawpit Gully, We arrived at Castlemaine barracks early in the afternoon only having travelled one and twenty miles. The next day we started for Bendigo the ride between these two places is more like a gentleman's Park than anything else, the distance is 30 miles and we arrived on the Bendigo diggings at about 4 o'clock in the afternoon where the first thing we saw was five or six officers and about a dozen gold commissioners promenading about here and we were drawn up in line and dismissed to our stables, And now begins the account of mounted drill every day and forward ever else. Since then I have been out after Bush Rangers murderers thieves and their ringleaders of riots and three of our troopers have been shot one of them dead on the spot with the other two are expected to get over it. I expect next month to be in Melbourne, when I shall try for my cadet-ship which I think I shall get, but at any rate I shall send over the power of attorney duly signed and witnessed. I now think that I have told you all my adventures in Australia, I had many difficulties before me but in the long term I think that it is a fine field for enterprise and I have no doubt that if I mind my P's and Q's that I shall in time be able to make a fortune in it although it may take me the next 20 years or more to accomplish it. I have neither friends nor interest here and both must be of my own making. Things are much misrepresented in the English papers certainly the price of labour is high but the country seems over stacked with people that do not know what to do with themselves, and hence so much crime. I met a very nice young fellow the day I entered the force a Scotch man Ogilvy by name and we had been companions until lately when he was sent further up the country to Mount Corong and I to Spring Creek. He is the only one I have taken any fancy to. He is of a very respectable family from Dundee, I shall send you a couple of Melbourne papers with this so that you can judge yourself of the state of things here, mind you tell me how Willy gets on with the wood cutting and tell him that I do not think that he ought to think of coming out here at least not at the present, for the only woodcutting here goes on in the bush, at any rate. I will give him an account of things in Melbourne, I suppose Harry has by this time left Mr Harries the projected war between England and Russia I am very anxious to hear about so please give or send me an account of it. I do not think that I have much more to tell you now.

I have not been able to find out anything of either of the Wilsons yet, or yet Mrs Arundel Wright his wife you will remember. Mrs Cunningham gave me a letter so I heard that he had retired from business, and I believe he is in the vicinity of Melbourne, perhaps Geelong will somewhere about there but at any rate I must make another lane at finding them when I go to town again. Tell aunt Lucy that I met a person the other day from the Cape of Good Hope who had several times met Mr ands Dale, which I supposed to be the same person whom I have heard her speak of. He told me that when he left the Cape that he was dangerously ill which is some eight months ago. But I must finish this letter remember me very kindly to all my friends and best love to all at home expecting to hear from you in the least possible time. I remain

Your most affectionate Brother

Edward Yeates

PS If you will direct my letters “Edward Yeates, Trooper, Richmond Barracks, near Melbourne” to be forwarded if not there.

I think I shall be sure to receive them all safely so now Good Bye E.Y.

Melbourne September 3d 1854

My dear Brother.

You will see by the date of this letter that I have been obliged to come down to Melbourne after all, I arrived two days ago and shall stay for two or three days longer before I return to the country. It is now exactly twelve months since I left Scotland, but the place is wonderfully altered, that I might as well never have been there. I walked down from Bendigo in three days but it is a very bad road, in the state the roads are in just now. The diggings are at present very slack, in fact there is little or nothing doing, in consequence of the want of water, for I started yesterday about an acre and a half of ground set with potatoes, and about half an acre with other vegetables, and I am in hopes that they will turn me out about two hundred pounds and clear the expences as well. If so I shall not complain if I live so long. I intend then to sell my share of the land and settle down to victuals near Melbourne. There is no doubt, I can very truly say that we may have an honest living, when so inclined in town. I sent the boy to where I had left my mother to see if he could find her, but she had left Melbourne, and he could not hear where she was gone to. I left Bendigo by the coach and arrived in town, I went to a barber's shop but it was so late that I could not hear anything about my mother so I went to a hotel and dined, but afterwards had to go to Richmond to see one of my sisters to make the enquiry which was the very one I had been enquiring for to after, and I was very much disappointed

pardon, I was then informed that he lived in Prahran
about 3 miles from Melbourne accordingly I went there
& found I should have my trouble just as I had left them,
Fletcher is in partnership with a Mr Roper, they were
just instituting a to a public house the latter is a
solicitor, and all seem as well as respectable, so that I
have got him to witness the power of attorney, which
I send herewith I shall send it over land as that is the
quickest way and it is that you will use at the dispute
you can possibly come and with it as I shall be very anxious
in want of the money, about January next, and please
direct all letters to Mr Fletcher care Hotel, Middle
Dandelong Road, Prahran near Melbourne and he will
be able to send them to me, hitherto I have not received
a letter from any one, I am at present staying with
him but shall start up country again in about three days
time, I met a solicitor yesterday that came out in the
Marco Polo and he tells me that he has got an
action against Captn J. R. Forbes, who is now out
on bail for £500, it is for striking one of the seconds
in the face with a large glass lamp, I dont recollect
whether I gave you an account of it before or not but
it was a most disgraceful affair altogether and as
I was one of the first to see it at the time it
occurred I am afraid I shall have to appear as a witness
the case is to come off next November I believe but it will
make very little difference to me as I dispose of mine
[illegible] yesterday the locomotive
engine took the first Railway carriage down the Melbourne
& Hobson's Bay Railway, most of the directors went down
with it, they certainly have not got the Engine or carriages
to answer great pitch of perfection yet you must not expect
a very long letter this time for my stock of text is very

small, I know so few in Britain and as for hearing anything up in the Bush, news from new Melbourne hardly reaches us in less than a fortnight. We do not hear much about the war. I wish you would send me out some papers when you write next. The governor is taking a regular survey of the P. Crown lands. He has been to Geelong, and then to Balarat Castle mount the Loddon, and is expected up at Bendigo on the 4 Inst. The diggers at the latter place say they are determined not to pay another licence, so that I expect there will be a small row before I get back again they say that they cannot get enough to buy food, let alone pay the licence. and certainly to all appearance the Bendigo diggings seem to be failing fast, besides which there is at present a scarcity of water which makes the thing worse. I hear that there are some diggings, broke out on the Yarra, about eighteen miles from Melbourne but as they are of any account, (as they say) I do not know. A friend of mine, Mr Somerville a wine merchant has started to the mining to see what they are like, so that I expect to hear all about them tonight. When you write you will see me all that is going on in the neighbourhood of Newstead for although I do not expect to see the place again myself yet I shall always feel a very interest in it, indeed I expected it would be rather extraordinary if I did not. I must finish this as the mail closes today for the over land route, and I do not wish to miss it. So farewell all at home believe me to remain your affectionate brother

Edward Yeates

P.S. I wrote to the address you gave me with respect to Thomas Yeates but the letter was returned to my hands with the information that he was not there. I shall write to Thomas Yeates Farlaydon, Warwickshire, and may perhaps be able to give you a more satisfactory account of him next time.

John Yeates Yeates Esqr

small, I know so few in town and as for hearing any thing up in the Bush, news from even Melbourne hardly reaches us in less than a fortnight. We do not hear much about the War. I wish you would send me out some papers when you write next. The governor is taking a regular survey of the Colony, he has been to Geelong, and then to Balerat Castlemaine &c &c, and is expected up at Bendigo on the 4 [illegible] the diggers at the latter place say they are determined not to pay another licence, so that I expect there will be a small row before I get back again they say that they cannot get enough to buy food, let alone pay the fee per month. and certainly to all appearance the Bendigo diggings seem to be failing fast, besides which there is at present a scarcity of water which makes the thing worse. I hear that there are some diggings broke out on the Plenty River, about eighteen miles from Melbourne but whether they are of any account (as they say) I do not know. A friend of mine, Mr Somerville a Wine Merchant has started this morning to see what they are like, so that I expect to hear all about them tonight. When you write me you tell me all that is going on in the neighbourhood of [illegible] for although I do not expect to see the place again myself yet I shall always feel a very interest in it, indeed I supposed it would be rather extraordinary if I did not. I must finish this as the mail closes today for the over land route, and I do not wish to miss it, so with love to all at home believe me to remain

Your ever affectionate brother,
Edward Yeates

John Yeates Yeates Esqre

P.S. Since I wrote the above I have altered my mind with respect to the address which I wish you to put on my letters. I think that they would reach me safer if addressed to Mr Thomas Finlayson, Accountant, Melbourne & Hobsons Bay Railway Office, Flinder Street, Melbourne, he is a very old friend of mine and was in the Clearing House at the same time that I was myself.

E.Y.

Melbourne, September 3rd 1854

My dear Brother

You will see by the date of this letter that I have been obliged to come down to Melbourne after all. I arrived two days ago and shall stay for two or three days longer before returning to the country. It is now exactly 12 months since I was here last, but the place is much altered, that I might as well Never have been here at all period I walked down from Bendigo in three days, which I don't consider very bad word, in the state the roads are at present. The diggings are at present very slack in fact there is little or nothing doing, In consequence of the want of water, before I started I got about an acre and a half of land set with potatoes and about half an acre with other vegetables, and I am in hopes that they will turn me out about two hundred pounds and clear the expenses as well. If so I shall not complain if I live so long. I intend then to sell my share of the land and come and settle down somewhere nearer Melbourne, where I am sure I can very soon double any time that I may have at hand. When I arrived in town I went straight to where I had left my boxes as I had acquired my surprise when I found the house that was there when I left pulled down and a butcher's shop built upon its place, but this was not the worst for I could not learn everything about the persons with whom I have left them. I wandered about all the day hoping to see someone I knew, but all in vain so I went somewhere close by to order some dinner, but before I had time to do so, I heard someone mention the name of Fletcher, which was the very one I had been enquiring for so often. I very soon learned that it was the same person. I was then informed that he lived in Prahzan about 3 miles from Melbourne. Accordingly I went there where I found all my things just as I had left them. Fletcher is in partnership with a Mr Norton they however just finished a larger public house, the latter is a solicitor and well known as well as respectable, so that I have got him to witness the power of attorney, which I send here with. I shall send it over land as that is the quickest way and I Wish that you will use all the dispatch you can possibly command with it as I shall be very much in and out of the money about January next and please direct all letters to Mr Fletcher, Crown Hotel, Middle Dandelong Road, Prahzan, Melbourne and he will be able to send them to me. Hitherto I have not received a letter from anyone, I am at present staying with him but shall start up country again in about three days time, I met a solicitor yesterday that came out on the Marco Polo and he tells me that he has got an action against Capt JN Forbes who is now out on bail for £500, it is for striking one of the stewards on the face with a large glass lamp. I don't recollect whether I gave you an account of this before or not as it was most disagreeable affair altogether and as I was one of the few who were on deck at the time it occurred I am afraid I shall have to appear as a witness.The case now came up in November I believe. But it will make very little difference for me as I hope payments can make things pay my expenses and. Yesterday the locomotive engineer took the first railway carriage down the Melbourne and Hobson's Bay railway, most of the directors went down with it, they certainly have not got the engine or carriages to a very great catch to perfection yet. You must not expect a very long letter this time for my stock of news is very small. I know so few in town and as for hearing anything up in the bush, news from even Melbourne hardly reaches in less than a fortnight. We do not hear much about the war, I wish you would send me out some papers when you next write. The governor is taking a regular survey of the colony, he has been to Geelong, and then to Ballarat, Castlemain, McIvor, And is expected up at Bendigo on the fourth instant. The diggers at the latter place say they are determined not to pay another licence so that I expect there will be an awful row before I get back again. They say that they cannot get enough to buy food, let alone pay the 1 pound per month and pertaining to all appearance the Bendigo diggers seem to be failing fast, Besides which there is at present a scarcity of water which makes the thing worse. I hear that there are some diggers broke out on the plenum be would about 18 miles from Melbourne but if they are of any account (as they say) I would not know. A friend of mine Mr Somerville a wine merchant has started of this morning to see what they are like, so that I suppose I will hear all about them tonight. When you write me you tell me all that is going on in the neighbourhood of Kendal for although I do not expect to see the place Again myself, yet I shall always feel very interest in it indeed I it would be rather extraordinary if I did not. But I must finish this as the male closes today for the overland route and I do not wish to miss it so will with love to all at home believe me I remain

Your ever affectionate brother

Edward Yeates

PS Since I wrote the above I have altered my mind with respect to the address which I wish you to put on my letters. I think they would reach me safer if addressed to Mr Thomas Finlayson, accountant, Melbourne and Hobson's Bay railway office, Flinders Street, Melbourne. He is a very old friend of mine and was in the clearinghouse at the same time that I was myself. E.Y.

Bendigo July 17th 1854

My dear Brother, I received your letter which you sent by the "Clipper Ship" Blue Jacket and also Aunt Lucy's by the "Boomerang" and the same day your letter to me dated March 10th 1853 and March 4th 1854 — January 4th 1855 and March the 3rd 1855 I had a great deal of trouble in getting the one dated second last in which was the Legacy receipt, which I now enclose back to you and also a letter to Mr. Bardley Bennett to get put down in the above state a notice of it dated November 1st 1854 which is sent forth to the Bank Receive it for you, and when the money is paid to you, "Aunt" Harriet's Richard was very much pleased, and sympathises with her and feels upon the occasion too, that for a poor old woman in her troubles have fought against many trials but always found that he will be at his first and greatest friend, and most fortitude, and must obliged to pass from Creation, for all enquiries after much have been unclaimed within the one year of Years, that is notice probably for the nephew. I had a letter the day before yesterday from Stephen dated from Melbourne stating from Stephen dated from Melbourne he said that he was going up the Sherriff Hill, but he gives no address in Melbourne which, I find himself and for all other business not where it is Melbourne much, there is a age that he has left behind "Bates Down" for the dust, hot winds, it was quite of this we but has not yet found no enjoyment in Melbourne stay there". I should wish to see you, and Dick with your moustaches and whiskers grown must look very customers, and yet I suppose you are not so fright as you were when you left home.

I look quite as tanned for of course. I never share indeed it is very far that do here, and now digging and find it the most pleasant occupation that I have been at yet, it is the most independent and although they not come in so regularly, yet in the long run I think it will be the most remunerative. Bendigo is very much improved since I came here. Instead of tents there are some very good substantial stone buildings now such as churches, Banks, and stores, but business is in a shocking dull state, and every day there is a fresh "smash" as it is Colonially termed a case in the Bankruptcy Court, owing I suppose to the inferior quality of gold, to what has been. They are beginning to work the quartz reefs now with great spirit in the district and crushing machines are going up in every direction, I have been prospecting several reefs about here lately and think I know one now that will pay, but it requires a little capital to begin and I lost nearly all I had with that infernal piece of ground but thank goodness I have sold out now thought at a loss of twenty three pounds besides labour and time, but that can't be helped now and so I shall try something else not so like digging very much and have been better in health since I have been doing so, than before although I am continually in the sick room some time before but at least with very few exceptions for it is wet with us now and a very wet one too, we actually had ice the other morning as thick as a sixpence you will most likely laugh at my description of a cold wet, especially

after your having had a severe winter at home that when you come to compare the intense heat that we have to endure in the summer it is not at all surprising that we should feel the cold. I was much obliged to you for the Mercury's which you sent me, you may depend upon it, I devoured them with great gusto, especially the local news, I do not mean by that that I do not feel interested in the war news, for I'm sure every English man must. I only regret that I did not latter the time instead of coming out to this colony. but regretting is not part of my creed. at least shall not be that work on with my hut and cradle untill I can make some money and then make a stroke at something else. when I left my Australian estate I was down to my last shilling so I thought it time to stir myself and leave the potatoes, cabbages &c &c to take their chance. you will wonder how the deuce I managed to raise the wind, but as I wrote a few lines one the same night, I will enclose it, it will show you that no man need starve, that chooses to work. But I must not make a long letter of this for the mail goes off tomorrow and I do not want to miss it I have got a long letter under way for Bill, but I shall not finish it in time for this post, I suppose my last to him never reached its destination and I am sure I for get now whether I directed it to 69 or 96 Albert street. I enclose the Legacy receipt, and a letter for Mr. Rebeley authorizing him to pay the money to you, I should like it sent to the Bank of Victoria Melbourne, I might by that means perhaps get it up to Bendigo without the expence of a journey down to town, as there is a Branch Bank of Victoria up

after your having had a severe winter at home that when you come to compare the intense heat that we have to endure in the summer it is not at all surprising that we should feel the cold. I was much obliged to you for the Mercury's which you sent me, you may depend upon it, I devoured them with great gusto, especially the local news, I do not mean by that that I do not feel interested in the war news, for I'm sure every English man must. I only regret that I did not latter the time instead of coming out to this colony. but regretting is not part of my creed. at least shall not be that work on with my hut and cradle untill I can make some money and then make a stroke at something else. when I left my Australian estate I was down to my last shilling so I thought it time to stir myself and leave the potatoes, cabbages &c &c to take their chance. you will wonder how the deuce I managed to raise the wind, but as I wrote a few lines one the same night, I will enclose it, it will show you that no man need starve, that chooses to work. But I must not make a long letter of this for the mail goes off tomorrow and I do not want to miss it I have got a long letter under way for Bill, but I shall not finish it in time for this post, I suppose my last to him never reached its destination and I am sure I for get now whether I directed it to 69 or 96 Albert street. I enclose the Legacy receipt, and a letter for Mr. Rebeley authorizing him to pay the money to you, I should like it sent to the Bank of Victoria Melbourne, I might by that means perhaps get it up to Bendigo without the expence of a journey down to town, as there is a Branch Bank of Victoria up

Bendigo July 17th 1854

My Dear Brother

I received your letter which you sent per clipper ship "Blue Jacket" and also Aunt Lucy's per "Boomerang" on the same day. Your letter to me are dated March 10, 1853 - June 1, 1854 - January 4, 1855 and March 2, 1855. I had a great deal of trouble in getting the one dated June 1 in which was the Legacy Receipt, which I now enclose back to you and also a letter to Mr Barclay I had forgot to put down in the above list of your of yours dated November 1, 1844 which was the first which I received from you and which told me of the debt death of poor Aunt Harriet which I was very sorry to hear. I can truly sympathise with Mansfield upon so great a loss, he is now getting over her and no doubt will have to fight against many trials but so long as glad to hear he bore his first and greatest with so much fortitude. I am much obliged to Mr James Yeates for his enquiries after me.I received unclaimed letters but one for a G Yeates which is most probably for his nephew. I had a letter the day before yesterday from John Stephen Thomas dated from Melbourne. He said that he was going up to the Cheviot Hills, but he gives me new address in Melbourne which will find him sometime or other, he does not seem to like Melbourne much, for he says that he has left "Natale Soloun" for the dust, hot wins and mosquitoes of?? But has as yet found no inducement to make him stay there. I should now like to see you and Bill With your moustaches and beards you must look rum customers, and yet I suppose that I look quite as rum for of course I never shave indeed it is very few that do here. I am now digging and find it the most pleasant occupation that I have been at yet, it is the most independent and although the gold may not come in so regularly, yet in the long run I think it will be the most remunerative. Bendigo is very much improved since I came here instead of tents there are now very good substantial stone buildings now such as churches, banks and stores but business is in a shocking dull state and every day there is a fresh "Smash" as it is colloquially termed. A case in the Bankruptcy Court, owing I suppose to the inferior yield of the gold, to what has been. They are beginning to work the quartz reefs now with great spirit in this district and crushing machines are going up in every direction. I have been prospecting several reefs about here lately and think I know one now that will pay, but it requires a little capital to begin and I lost nearly all I had with that infernal piece of ground but thank goodness I have sold out now though at a loss of £23 besides labour and time, but it can't be helped now and so I shall buy something elsewhere. I like digging very much and have been better in health since I have been doing so, than before although I am continuously in the wet from sunrise to sunset at least with very few exceptions for it is winter with us now and a very wet one to. We actually had ice the other morning as thick as a sixpence you will most likely laugh at any description of a cold winter especially after you're having such a severe winter at home but when you come to compare the intense heat that we have to endure in the summer it is not at all surprising that we should feel the cold. I was much obliged to you for the Mercury's which you sent me you may depend upon it. I devoured them with great gusto especially the local news. I do not mean by that that I do not feel interested in the war news for I'm sure every English man must. I only regret that I did not enter the army instead of coming out to this colony. But regretting is not part of my creed, at least shall not be. I shall work with my tub and cradle until I can make some money and then make a stroke at something else. When I left my Australian estate I was down to my last shilling so I thought it time to stir myself and leave the potatoes, cabbages et cetera et cetera to take their chance. You will wonder how the deuce I managed to raise the wind, but I wrote a few lines on the same night. I will enclose it, it will show you that no man need suffer that chooses to work. But I must not make a long letter of this for the mail goes off tomorrow and I do not want to miss it. I have got a long letter underway for Bill, but I shall not finish it in time for this post. I suppose my last to him never reached its destination and I am sure I forget now whether I directed it to 69 or 96 Albert St. I enclose the legacy receipt, and a letter for Mr Reveley authorising him to pay the money to you. I should like it sent to the Bank of Victoria Melbourne. I might by that means perhaps get it up to Bendigo without the expense of a journey down to town as there is a branch Bank of Victoria up here. I must now conclude trusting you are all well at home with best love to Willie, Harry, Aunt and yourself

believe me ever I remain

your most affectionate brother

Edward Yeates

PS will you be kind enough to settle with Mr Wakefield for the money he lent me and also my expenses connected with the legacy after which I shall be very glad to receive the balance. Edward Yeates

A Poor Breakfast but a good Dinner

Twas on a Winter's evening, my daily toils were done
And as within, my tent so thin, I thought myself alone
I laid me down, upon my bed, to sleep I was not willing
For what I'd spent, and what I'd lent, I'd only one last shilling

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The next days grub I had to get, but how I did not know
I could not prig, I'd have to dig, to some gully I must go
At the bottom of the Sheep Wash Creek, I think there's something yet
So with my cradle, if I'm able, I'll try what I can get

The morning came, and with the dawn, I started with good will
To try to find, those things that shined, my belly soon to fill
Twelve hoppers, yes, or more, went thro', but very little gold
I topped on the Slide, and then I sighed, for I was wet and cold

---

The next one now, I did begin, th° I was getting thinner
I want the price of something nice, in fact I want my dinner
And now into the slide again I fix my anxious stare
And to my surprise, before my eyes, little nuggets thick lay there

---

Another & another, I've hit the spot is see
And in an hour, or little more, I had of ounces three
So to the nearest Resterant, I went you may be sure
And since that day, I safe can say, I never was so poor

E.M.

A Poor Breakfast but a Good Dinner

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and as within, my tent so thin, I thought myself alone
I laid me down upon my bed, to sleep I was not willing
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at the bottom of the Sheep Wash Creek I think there's something yet
so with my cradle, if I'm able, I'll try what I can get

The morning came, and with the dawn, I started with good will
to try to find, those things that shined, my belly soon to fill
Twelve hoppers, yes, or more went through, but very little gold
stopped on the slide, and then I sighed, for I was wet and cold

The next one now, I did begin, though I was getting thinner
I want the price of something nice in fact I want my dinner
and now into the slide again fix my anxious stare
and to my surprise, before my eyes, little nuggets thick lay there

Another and another, I've hit the spot I see
and in an hour, or little more, I had of ounces three
so to the nearest restaurant, I went you may be sure
and since that day, I safe can say I never was so poor

Edward Yeates

but it quite slipt my memory and I never once thought of it since until about a week ago. I suppose Harry is at school in Lancaster now tell him that I shall write to him as soon as I am a little settled, and shall expect him to write to me. If Willy was here he could range on nearly every tree that we have been fetching

MILNTHORPE
OCT 1854

LIVERPOOL
SHIP
OCT 3
1854
A

PAID AT
SANDHURST

Charles Yates Esq
Parkland
near
Westhorland
England

SANDHURST
JY 25
VIC

MELBOURNE
SEP 29
VIC

lately the day before yesterday they brought home a large box of tree about three feet and a half through without a crack or split in it at all by the way I could forget Willy's address so I shall enclose a

letter to him in this, if you write to him you may tell him I wish he knew that I could tell him stories of the Indians and how we used to hear the war whoop and how we used to see them creeping about the house at night, but I suppose he would have no time to read such a long one now that the war has broke out, but I suppose that it is in every paper in the country if you see any thing one of these days in the papers about the Indians you must go on out here and make the best of it

Strathfieldsay Bendigo
July 25th 1854

My dear Ann

I have been expecting to hear from you for some time, having written three letters to you since last Christmas. I am now at a place about eight miles from the Bendigo diggings, called Strathfieldsay where I and an Irishman of the name of Hight a clergyman's son have bought some land at a sale that took place a short time ago. We intend turning it into a vegetable garden which I think will answer very well, vegetables having hitherto been at an enormous price, there were some Cabbages sold on the Bendigo last year at 20 shillings a head, potatoes one & sixpence to two shillings per lb, Cabbages from two and sixpence to five shillings a piece, according to size, and indeed every thing is in about the same ratio. Flour has of late been selling as high as £15 per bag (ie 200 lbs) owing to the wretched state the roads are in at present. So that living is not altogether very cheap. The land that we have bought is situated on a very pleasant creek, which is a great thing, as water was sold at B—go last summer at one and sixpence per bucket, and that so thick that I am quite sure that you would not wash your hands in it, however it is to be hoped that things will not always be so. I have written twice to Melbourne about my boxes but as yet have heard nothing about them which I think very hard. I want to send that

When I am down in Melbourne I shall fix some place for my letters to be directed to, either to Alfred Constable who is in the Treasury, or some one who can forward them to me, but if you should write before I have done so please direct to the Post Office Bendigo. I see by the papers that Captain James Nicol Forbes has got command of the Great Britain and was unfortunate enough to have to put back on account of something going wrong with her screw pipe, there are two small men of war lying in the Bay, both sloops I think, one the "Electra" and the ship the "Phantom" but as I never remember hearing you speak of either I suppose you never saw them.

Tell Aunt Lucy that I met with a young man of the name of Stuart in the mounted police force, that knew Stuart Ansdale at the Cape, Stuart was a Lieutenant in some regiment there, he was a perfect gentleman, poor fellow, he was taken ill with inflammation of the bowels, and died in four days. The young fellow that I told you about that was shot by a bush ranger, is perfectly recovered, and has been promoted to Lieutenant. Thompson the other one that was shot first, and through the lower part of the lungs has gone home to England with a pension of ~~xx~~ fifteen shillings a day

Dear Pa & Attorney I as soon I can
one fine day stock of money in nearly impossible to
under it and not safe like I have will to sell the
goods myself. Melbourne and Sydney is dear
there. I wish I could avoid the expense of the
walk down 128 miles to the conveyance
which would cost me £2 as well as the expense
on the road. Perhaps you will advise me against that. At any rate you
will hear from me again. Our house of
lumber will not be ready for us for some days
Engineer people that are to do it. Our comfort
in the house is a small bell tent, one bed for
Ma made of two feather, with a couple of sacks
nailed across them, we live miserably. Mother
and Emily with her are down at Williamstown
very ill. Yesterday we dined at a great hall of
a very wealthy Jew merchant. When we
can get a change of food we do. Shot at a kangaroo
and a couple of ducks
of fresh meat. Potatoes are dear. Flour is
plenty of Potatoes and cattle. Hard work
make excellent pies. The worst thing is that
are the wild dogs, native cats and Possums.
Last night the latter gave us a fright in the night
without giving one or two of them off
Your loving son W.
Write soon. Kiss Mother & Sister for me

sick up a dreadful pour in the night hours.
Snakes are very plentiful in the summer time
especially about the house. I attempted to take
some home with me, but they died before we had
rode fifty miles, with my whip it measured
nine feet, what they called the black snake, a
native black man told me that it would make
very good eating, but did not like to take it
and offered it to ~~him~~ him. He gave me to
understand that he never eat them unless he
killed them himself, for he said if you take
a snake it will turn and bite the place that
it touched, which ought to be cut out directly.
The natives are a curious people, some
of the men are finely built, but the women are
as wretched looking as well, there and prob-
ably never will be more ugly heard little about me
the war for I hope God will send me out
soon, as I should like to hear all about
it. Colonel Charles Hostmann has arrived, and I hear he
has gone home to the no little satisfaction of the
people of Victoria, he is styled in the papers as
~~"a Plumber"~~ "a regular muff" and the Colonel
declares (Mr Foote) a humbug. I shall be
sold to hear that you have lost a cousin
in the person of Mrs Armedee Wright, so that
Mrs Emma Jones letter still remains with
me. Let us hear from you soon. Tell Mary William to
pay Mr. Jones ten shillings out of my money
I intended to have remitted it home to pay

Then I am down to Melbourne I shall fix some place for my letters to be directed to, either to Alfred Constable who is in the Treasury, or some one who can forward them to me, but if you should write before I have done so please direct to the Post Office Bendigo. I see by the papers that Captain James Nicol Forbes has got command of the Great Britain and was unfortunate enough to have to put back on account of something going wrong with the screw pipe, there are two small men of war lying in the Bay, both sloops I think, one the "Electra" and the other the "Thorndon" but as I never remember hearing you speak of either I suppose you never saw them. Tell Aunt Lucy that I met with a young man of the name of Shaw in the mounted police force, he met Frank Ansdale at the Cape, Shaw was a lieutenant in some regiment there he was a perfect gentleman, poor fellow, he was taken ill with inflammation of the bowels, and died in four days. The young fellow that I told you about that was shot by a bush ranger is perfectly recovered and has been promoted to lieutenant. Thompson the other one that was shot first and through the lower part of the lungs has gone home to England with a pension of ~~xx~~ fifteen shillings a day

I see that ships are daily arriving here with emigrants whatever they will do, I am sure I cannot think, for my place is over stocked and the diggings are almost at a standstill just now every body rushing for new one about out there was certainly what they call a rush at a Gully to the N.E. of the Sandhills which I went to the other day but there not more than a dozen out of about two thousand people are making more than will keep them, the luckiest that came there were some sailors they left Canton that one fort of them digging to go down to town and get a ship and there nearest way lying in the direction of the above mentioned rush they thought they could make a last trial and so they and two other sailors that they were acquainted with, sunk a hole and in two days turned twenty pounds weight out of it but taking them altogether it is the dearest place I know it is as good as any and I'll see if I cannot turn the marbles into nuggets, I do not know whether I will be able to make out all the scrawl, for the rush accompanying it was so great I am now writing that on the leg of a boot boot laid across my knee for the want of a desk

but as soon as we can get the hut up which we are
again to build, I shall have my house up too, so that
we shall get more comfortable by degrees. But I must
finish this letter as it is getting late, and I have got to
make a damper for dinner, Webb being gone to Bendigo
and if he comes home and finds none made it will be
rather a damper to him as he is hungry
Give my love to Aunt Harriet and Hannah the
next time you write. You can tell Mr James Yates that
the basin of soup which he gave me is in my box yet
it was stowed away at the bottom, and there it left it
I shall come up into the bush but I shall most
certainly have the curiosity to try it when I go down
I forget what sort it is but at any rate it tastes
as it is out right I suppose that it will be good
stuff. So now I will say good bye, remember me
kindly to all enquiring friends, not forgetting old Joe
Jackson and all the rest, all of which I

but it quite slipt my memory and I never once thought of it since untile about a week ago. I suppose Harry is at school in Lancaster now tell him that I shall write to him as soon as I am a little settled, and shall expect him to write to me. If Willy was here he could [illegible] on nearly every tree that we have been felling lately the day before yesterday we brought one large box tree down about three feet and a half through without a crack of split in it at all by the way I quite forget Willy's adress so I shall enclose a letter to him in this, if you will be good enough to forward it to him. I wish to heaven that I could have entered the army a year or two ago there would have been some chance of getting one now that the war has broke out, but I suppose that it is no use [illegible] now, so I must jog on and hope and make the best of it.

hope to see alive and hearty ere ever I return to old England which I hope may do some day or other but that will not be before I have made my fortune I suppose, if ever that comes to pass, and now with love to Aunt and Harry and yourself believe me to remain

Your ever affectionate Brother
Edw Yeates

John Yeates Yeates Esqr
Parkhead
nr Milnthorpe
Westmorland
England

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PAID AT SANDHURST

SANDHURST JY 25 1854 VICTORIA

MELBOURNE JY 29 F

1854 VICTORIA

LIVERPOOL SHIP OC 15 1854 A

MILNTHORPE OC 17 1854

Strathfieldsay, Bendigo

July 25th 1854

My dear John

I have been expecting to hear from you for some time, having written three letters to you since last Christmas. I am now at a place about 8 miles from the Bendigo diggings, called Strathfieldsay, where I found a freshman of the name of Webb, a clergyman. Now I bought some land at a sale that took place a short time ago, we intend turning it into a vegetable garden which I think will answer very well. Vegetables having hitherto been at an enormous price, There were some cauliflower sold on the Bendigo last year at 20 shillings a head, potatoes one and sixpence to two shillings per pound, cabbages from two and sixpence to five shillings a piece according to size and indeed everything is in about the same rate. Flour has of late been selling as high as £15 per bag (i.e. 200 lb) owing to the wretched state the roads are in at present. So that listing is not altogether very cheap. The land that we have bought is situated on a very pleasant street which is a great thing as water was sold at Bendigo last summer at one and sixpence per bucket, and what thus so thick that I am quite sure that you would not wash your hands. I learnt however it is today hoped that things will not always be so. I have written to Melbourne about my boxes but as yet have heard nothing about them which I think is very odd. I want to send that power of attorney off as soon as possible for my small stock of money is nearly exhausted and I should not at all like to have to sell the land. I shall now be under the necessity of going myself to Melbourne to see after things which I wished to avoid as it shall either have to walk down 120 miles or go in the conveyance which will cost me £12 as well as the expenses on the road, board, lodging etc etc. At any rate you will hear from me again soon our mode of living here would rather astonish some of your English people that are so fond of comfort. Our house is a small calico tent, our beds are made of two poles with a couple of sacks nailed across them, we live principally on mutton and damper with the addition of tea, which beverage we drink a great deal of, when we can get a chance shot at a Turkey he makes a capital feed for us, or a couple of ducks if we fail to get either of these. We can always get plenty of parrots and wattle birds as which make excellent pies. The worst things about here are the wild dogs, native cats and possums. As for the latter you cannot wake up in the night without finding one or other of them either on your bed or up the tentpole trying to get at the meet, damper candles or anything they can eat. The dogs do not annoy us as much although they sick up a dreadful flow in the night howling. Snakes are very plentiful in the summer time especially about the creeks I killed one last summer while riding with my whip it measures 9 feet, what they call the black snake native black man told me that it would make very good eating but I did not like to tackle it and offered it to him that he gave me to understand that he never eats them unless he killed them himself for he said if you strike a snake it will turn and bite the place that wounded it which ought to be cut out directly. The natives are a curious race of people, some of the men are finally built, but the women are as wretched looking fat, small thin and proud ugly. We have as yet heard but little about the war so I hope you will send me out some papers as I should like to hear all about it. Sir Charles Horsham has arrived, and Sir frolic has gone home to the? Lip little satisfaction of the people of Victoria, he is styled in the papers here as a regular muff and the colonial Sec Mr Foster humbug I think I told you in my last I could find out nothing about Mrs Arundel Wright, so that Mrs Cunningham's letter still remains with me. I wish you would pay William would £7.10 shillings out of my money. I intended to have remitted it to him from Liverpool. When I am down in the Melbourne I shall fix someplace for my letters to be directed to, either to Alfred Constable who is in the Treasury, or someone who can forward them to me, but if you should write before I have done so please direct to the post office Bendigo. I see by the papers that Capt James Nickell Forbes has got command of the Great Britain and was unfortunate enough to have two put back on account of something going wrong with her screw pipe, there are two small men of war lying in the bay, both sloops I think, one the "Electra" and the other the "Phantom" but as I never remember hearing you speak of either I suppose you never saw them. Tell Aunt Lucy that I met with a young man of the name of Shaw in the mounted police force, that knew Frank Ansdale at the Cape. A Shaw was a lieutenant in some regiment there, a perfect gentleman, poor fellow he was taken ill with inflammation of the bowel is and died in four days. The young fellow that I told you about that was shot by a bush ranger is perfectly recovered and has been promoted to lieutenant. Thompson the other one that was shot first and through the lower part of the lungs has gone home to England with a pension of 15 shillings a day.

I see that ships are daily arriving here with emigrants. Whatever they will do I am sure I cannot think for every place is overstocked and the diggings are almost at a standstill just now everybody wishing for new ones to break out. There was certainly what they call a rush at a gully to the

north-east of Bendigo which I went to see the other day, but there not more than a dozen out of about 2000 people are making more than will keep them, the luckiest that are there were some sailors. They left Cangroo Flat one part of the diggings to go down to town and get a ship and there nearest way lying in the direction of the above-mentioned rush. They thought they would make a last try at it and so they and two other sailors that they were acquainted with Cinque a whole and in two days turned £24 weight out of it, but taking things altogether diggers that I am at is as good as any and I'll see if I cannot turn the Murphys into nuggets. I do not know whether you will be able to make out all the scrawl for the Bush accommodation is very bad I am now writing this on the leg of a long boot laid across my knee for the want of a desk. But as soon as we can get the hut up which we are beginning to build I shall have my boxes up to so that we shall get more comfortable by degrees. But I must finish this letter as it is getting late and I have got to make a damper for dinner. Webb having gone to Bendigo and if he comes home and finds none made it will be rather a damper to know if he is hungry.

But it quite slipped my memory and I never once thought of it since, until about a week ago. I suppose Harry is at school in Lancaster now? Tell him that I shall write to him as soon as I am a little settled, and shall expect him to write to me. If Willie was here he could engorge on nearly every tree that we have been felling. Lately the day before yesterday we brought one large box tree down about 3 feet and 1/2 through crack of split which. By the way I quite forgot Willie's address so I shall enclose a letter to him in this if you will be good enough to forward it to him. I wish to hear that I could have entered the army a year or two ago there would have been some chances of getting one now that the war had broken out, but I suppose that it is no use regrets now so I must jog on out here and make the best. Give my love to Aunt Harriet and Mansfield when next you write to them. You can tell Mr James Yeates that the Casson of soup which he gave me is in my box yet it was stowed away at the bottom and there I left It when I came up into the bush but I shall most certainly have the curiosity to try it when I go down. I forget what sort it is. but at Any Rate It's Labelled and As Its Airtight I Suppose That It Will Be Good yet. So Now I Will Say Goodbye, remember me kindly to all enquiring friends not forgetting old Joe Jackson and all the gentry all of which I hope to see alive and hearty if ever I return to old England, which I hope I may do some day or other but that will not be before I have made my fortune. I suppose if ever that comes to pass and now with love to Aunt and Harry and yourself

believe me I remain

your ever affectionate brother

Edward Yeates

Bendigo July 10th 1850

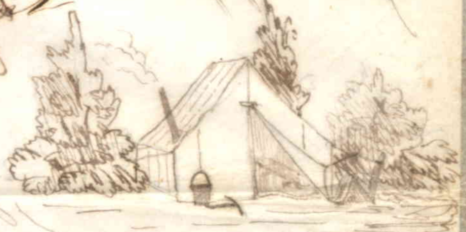
My dear Bill

I have received your letter and was pleased to see that you are quite well. I have not addressed to it to Sandy Bar, but have made your letter go thither, lest you should think that I had forgotten you. I have been under a little weather myself, but I have got quite well again. I have not been digging much, it is very heavy work, but it is very remunerative. Here I give you a rough sketch of the diggings as they are at present. There is an immence flat of digging worked on the Bendigo, but I have settled myself down on the Back Creek not because it is the richest but because it has generally paid most equally.

This is my tent situated between two gum trees which are joined together by an American store rigged inside which carries capitally and has a few articles in it. The greatest number here is the "China men" I give you a sketch of three that are working just opposite the tent. I send these as the "China" are the most curious people in all ways. They have a disease resembling of the "Ind" but go where you will, you are sure to find these celestial devils, they cut up the ground most infernally, and spoil a great deal of workable ground by exploring it

with water which is a very scarce commodity
especially in the summer months, last summer we
had to be up before sun rise and go with a bucket and
pannikin and dip up as much as we could but I
certainly cannot complain about it now for we
are all but swamped out. The diggings are crowded
with all kinds of machines, for both puddling, and
"quartz crushing" for it is now hard to find places
to put the pick and shovel to get. I told you in my
last about Tom Finlayson being in Melbourne, and of
Dexter Clark, George Brown went to New Zealand [illegible]

[illegible] happened here so much that it would take
[illegible] or [illegible]
[illegible] There is a great deal
of [illegible] the diggings
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible] I have camped
[illegible] the diggings [illegible]
"new rush" at [illegible] Blackwood, about eighty miles
from here, and I think there is only another
[illegible] creek [illegible]
[illegible] the first [illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible] coming
here stood
[illegible]



fellows
their country

[illegible] happen [illegible] these [illegible] and [illegible]
I have given you some sort of a sketch of the [illegible]
[illegible] about this quarter, [illegible]

sex, "Women" it is a name that they hardly deserve
or [illegible] [illegible] is wrong for them [illegible]
to [illegible] Californians I suppose that married
they care little whom, there [illegible] but [illegible] husbands [illegible]
of them [illegible] generally take quarterly changes, [illegible]
give it [illegible] that [illegible] stay longer than
three months [illegible] then begin to change [illegible]
which [illegible] of a woman, acting
the wife of a dozen different [illegible] space of three
months. you will think it odd that [illegible]
take [illegible] I should [illegible] such a year [illegible]
[illegible] here, but I thought [illegible]
disgusted with them [illegible] in New England
[illegible] enabled to find out their deceit [illegible] hypocracy
[illegible] deceipt or hypocracy
[illegible] you might [illegible]
for [illegible] in the middle of [illegible]
to [illegible] population [illegible]

I had a letter the other day from Tom [illegible]
which rather surprised me, from his letter it seems that
he is at [illegible] Station, [illegible] at [illegible] Hills. he was
[illegible] mines, and I [illegible] not
surprised at it, for it is a miserable place to
say the best of it. I told you about my land
speculation, at Strawberry field [illegible] Creek
but it turned out bad, and I was glad to get out
of it with [illegible] loss, [illegible] on the
[illegible] for [illegible] quartz [illegible] which if it
succeeds I shall get every thing ready to [illegible] machinery
on it as soon as I can receive some money

About half a mile from where I am camped there are about sixty aboriginal natives, they often come down the country in gangs like this, to beg, and pick up gold, which they invariably lay out in grog, and return to their mia-mias which are little miserable huts built of branches and leaves, which they live in, here they polish off the brandy, and then begin to dance and shout and fight this last they invariably keep up until daybreak. Taking them all together they are a harmless, idle set of fellows, and have been very much corrupted in their morals by the white people. Most of them take European names with some title affixed such as King Billy, Queen Betty, Prince Peter and Princess Wanga-Wanga this latter I should say was some worthy decendant of some British Dredge, being very young, and of a much lighter complection than the rest, and good features withal, I had some conversation with the aforesaid "King Billy" who is rather an intelegent fellow, amongst other things he told me that, since the white men had taken up their country they have always in their tribe killed the female children as soon as they were born, on enquiry I found that this was in consequence of their young women being invariably seduced by the white men; I asked him if they followed the same practice in other tribes then he told me, they did, I told him that it was a most barbarous affair and that they

[illegible] ate be wrong, for it is but twenty eight feet
"Blackwood" [illegible] been good [illegible] quite good no longer it
so you see how much they were benefitted by it
[illegible]. You will no doubt have heard plenty about
the Quartz reefs of Australia; there is a complete mania
at present on the diggings for quartz mining, and
[illegible] [illegible], but that [illegible] [illegible], as I [illegible]
myself. I see by to-day's paper, that ten tons, from
one of the reefs in New Chum, Bendigo produced 1103
ozs, and in the Melbourne Argus, there are also
accounts of the reefs on the Blackwood diggings
that are paying very well, although not quite so
good as the New Chum quartz. As for the alluvial
diggings they are about worked out, certainly a man
may make a living, (or tucker as we call it) upon the
old ground but nothing more, which is not quite
sufficient to induce a person to stay in the Colony
for he might stay home. "Gold" is the only attraction
[illegible] Tinley and is the only person that I correspond
with in Melbourne, he always sends my letters up to
me, as I have them all directed to him. He has got
a very snug little place, at Prahran near Melbourne
I [illegible] [illegible] him twice when last in town, he brought
his sister out with him, who was [illegible] [illegible].
We do not hear much about the war now, but
I suppose that by this time something will have
occurred worthy of recording. They are getting up a

patriotic found on Bindigo post, and I think it is about time they should be only hope that they will all stamp out according to their meanness. I think I told you that Hollis coming up to Bindigo without cart and horses but I suppose you will not regret being in the R.C.H. I saw and in the "Erasmus" and hilst we were lying anchored on the lines came on board of the "Naiad" H.M.S. amongst, I dare say it did not give him a pain and I would mention this circumstance longer and remark, but there is really so little to talk for taking it altogether it is a dull subject, certainly now and then a man breaks his neck with falling down a hole drunk or a hole falls into some point pellow that working it. Then again sometimes a wild horse will run away with a spring car recently thro the garrison, which of course always ends in the horse being killed, the car being smashed and I have to be contented enough to settle at the trouble for the trouble and loss. This last is an occurrence which very frequently happens and is a trifle, for no one horse out of one hundred is properly broken in.

I was very sorry to hear of poor Aunt Harriet's death, she must have gone off very suddenly. Mansfield must feel it very much, certainly dad seems to feel it of her, but I have not yet received any

and if I'm not very much mistaken will out rather wild, I only judge from the last time I saw him at Parkhead, but I might be mistaken and I hope I shall be. Have you ever heard anything of Willy Gandy. I should like to hear how he is getting on at the Seat of War. Henry always seemed to have an inclination to come out here but I am sure I should not advise him.

But I must finish this and get it sent off for I cannot sit still long together, for whilst at the Sheep wash about twelve months ago I strained my back with lifting a log, and to tell you the truth I have never been right since, and a little extra exertion last week strained the old place, and I have never been out of the tent since, but I suppose if I keep quiet for a day or two I shall get over it again soon, so good bye for the present. and God bless you, send my love to all at Parkhead and believe me to remain

Your most affectionate Brother

Edwd Yeates

William Yeates Esq

Hobart

Direct your letters to the Care

of Tom Finlayson

Accountant

Melbourne & Hobsons Bay Railway Office

Flinders Street

Melbourne

Bendigo July 16th 1855

My Dear Bill

I fear my last letter has not reached you and I am quite sure that I forgot how I addressed it.It was to some number in Albert Street either 69 or 96 I think, but however I trust you will get this one, I shall send it via Park Head which will be the simplest. I have got a letter nearly ready for John and another for Mr Reveley and I see the post closes tomorrow for the "Marco Polo" so I shall send them off and finish yours after. I am digging now it is very heavy work but at times very remunerative.Here I'll give you a rough sketch of myself on a cash mean. There is an immense blast of digging work on the Bendigo, but I have settled myself down on the back creek not because it is the richest but because it has generally paid most regularly. Twigg my tent situated between two gum bushes I have got an American stove rigged inside which cut cooks capably and has an oven attached to it. The greatest nuisance here is the China men I give you a sketch of those that were working opposite the tent and are evidently new on the diggings. They look very curious dressed all kinds of ways but go where ever you will, you are sure to find those celestial devils, they cut up the ground most inferior early and spoil a great deal of workable ground by overflowing it with water which is a very scarce commodity especially in the summer months, last summer we had to be up before sunrise and go with a bucket and panic in an dip up as much as we could but I certainly cannot complain about it now for we are all but swamped out. The diggings are crowded with all kinds of machines for both paddling and quartz oars bring for it is soon hard to find places to pay the pick and shovel digger, I told you in my last about Tom Finlayson being in Melbourne and Dick Oliver, George Oliver went to New Zealand as I suppose he found out that it would take him some time to make his fortune at digging. There is a great want of acuity on the digging at least so far as I found at my new companions the Salmon's who were shipmates of mine and alongside of whom I have been camped since on the diggings here some things "new rush" at Mount Black born, about 80 miles from here, and think there is only another on the Back Creek worthy of associating with the rest are either convicts or fellows who in coming here have saved their country the expense of sending them out And now as I have given you some sort of a sketch of the mates about this quarter, let me comment on the opposite sex. "Women" It is a name that they hardly deserve or at least those as very few should do, they seem to come into the cool Anglo, I suppose to get married,, they care little to whom those that their husbands bring to them diggings, generally make quarterly changes

[Several lines illegible]

... from his letter It seems he is at a station up at the Cheviot Hills. I'm not surprised at it for its miserable place today the best of which I told you about my land speculation at Strathfieldsay on the Sheep Wash Creek, but it turned out bad and I was glad to get out of it, although at £32 loss, at present I am on the lookout for a payable quartz reef which if I succeed I shall get everything ready to start machining on it as soon as I can receive some money. About half a mile from where I am camped there are about 60 aboriginal natives staying. They often come down. The country in gangs like this to beg and pick up gold, which they invariably buy out in grog and return to their mie-mie's which are little miserable huts built of branches and leaves which they live in, here they polish off the brandy and then begin to dance and shout and fight this row they will invariably keep up until daybreak. Taking them all together they are a harmless idle set of fellows and have been very much corrupted in their morals by the white people. They most of them take European names with some little affected such as King Billy, Queen Betty, Prince Peter and Princess Wanga-Wanga. This latter hat I should say was a worthy descendant of some British digger being very young and other much lighter complexion than the rest and good featured with all, I had some conversation with the aforesaid "King Billy" who is rather an intelligent fellow, amongst other things he told me that since the white men had taken away their country they have always in their tribe killed the female children as soon as they were born, on enquiry I found that this was in consequence of their young women being invariably seduced by the white men I asked him if they followed the same practice in other tribes. When he told me that they did I told him that it was a most barbarous affair and that they might all be hung for it but he only replied "Black man been fool too long, be fool no longer". So you see how much they have benefited from civilisation. You will no doubt have heard plenty about the quartz reefs of Australia, there is a complete mania at present on the diggings of quartz mining, I do not know but shall I say soon, be at it myself, I see by today's paper that seven tons from one of the reefs in new churn, Bendigo produced 116 ounces and in the Melbourne Argus there are several accounts of the reefs on the Blackwood diggings that are paying very well although not quite so good as the one above quoted as for the alluvial diggings they are about worked out certainly a man may make a living (as Tucker as we call it)

upon the old ground but nothing more, which is not quite sufficient to induce a person to stay in the colony for. I must say that Gold is the only attraction left. Tom Finlayson is the only person that I correspond with in Melbourne, he always sends my letters up to me and I have them all directed to him, he has got a very nice little place at Prarhan near Melbourne. I dined with him twice when last in town he brought his sister out with him who was in a decline, we do not hear much about the war now, but I suppose that by this time something will have occurred worthy of recording they are getting up a patriotic fund on Bendigo now and I think it is about time the should. I only hope that they will all stump up according to their means I think I told you that I saw Holly's coming up to Bendigo with a cart and horses but I suppose you will not recollect him he was at the RCH. He came out in the "Erasmus" and will start we were calmed on the lines came on board of the "Marco Polo" but amongst so many I did not see him I am afraid I am spinning this epistle rather long, but there is really so little to relate for taking it all together it is a dull place certainly now and then man breaks his neck with falling down a whole drunk or a whole falls onto some poor fellow whilst working it then again sometimes wild horses will run away with a spring car across the diggings, which of course always ends in the horse being killed the car being smashed and whoever is embarked enough to be in at the many a few. This last is an occurrence which very frequently happens and no wonder for not one horse out of 100 is properly broken in. I was very sorry to hear of poor aunt Harriet's death she must have gone off very suddenly, Mansfield must feel it very much, he hardly did so so fond of her, but however he has now got fairly (illegible) and if I'm not very much mistaken well out rather field I only judge from the last time I saw him at Park head, but I might be mistaken hope I shall be, have you ever heard anything of Willie Gandy, I should like to hear how he is getting on at the seat of war, Henry always seemed to have an inclination to come out here but I am sure I should not advise him.

But I must finish this and get it sent off for I cannot sit still long together, for what will start at the sheep wash about about 12 months ago I strained my back with lifting a log and to tell you the truth I have never been right since, and a little extra exertion last week strained the old place and I have now been out of the reef since, but I suppose if I keep quiet for a day or two I shall get over it again soon, so goodbye for the present, and God bless you, I send my love to all at Parkhead and believe me to remain

the most affectionate brother

Edward Yates

Direct your letter to the care of Tom Finlayson, Accountant, Melbourne and Hobson's Bay Railway Office Flinders St, Melbourne.

Melbourne and Hobson's Bay Railway Company,

OFFICES—FLINDERS STREET,

Melbourne, 26th Oct 1855

John Y Yeates Esq

Dear Sir/

By the "James Baines" I have yours of the 3rd Augt

I have not had the pleasure of seeing your brother since he wrote you to address his letters to my care but we have regularly corresponded his last letter to me is dated ~~about~~ 12th September last, he was then at Bendigo, and I believe is still there, he is in company with two young men (mates as they are styled here) digging. he writes very favourably of their "claim" and was of opinion it would turn out well. he has engaged

very good health, and so far as I can learn is steady and desirous to succeed. I wrote him yesterday enclosing yours to me and I have no doubt you will hear from him by the next mail. All letter I have received for him have been forwarded to & received by him, but as the Post Office here cannot be depended on I think his letters to you must have been mislaid as he mentions in one of his letters he wrote you by the same post

It will always give me great pleasure to be of service to you in communicating

with your brother or in any other way you may require

I remain

Yours truly

Thomas Paulayson

P.S. I send you a newspaper

Mr. Finlayson
Edward

-155

Melbourne and Hobson's Bay railway company

Melbourne 26th of October 1855

John Y Yeates Esq

Dear Sir

By the "James Baines" I have yours of the third August.

I have not had the pleasure of seeing your brother since you wrote you to address his letters to my care but we have regularly corresponded. His last letter to me is dated 12th of September last he was then at Bendigo, and I believe is still there, he is in company with two young men (mates) as they are styled here, digging he writes very favourably of their "claim" And was of opinion it would turn out well. He has enjoyed very good health and so far as I can learn is steady and desirous to succeed. I wrote him yesterday enclosing yours to me and I have no doubt you will hear from him by the next male. All letter I have received for him have been forwarded to and received by him, but as the post office here cannot be depended on I think his letters to you must have been mislaid as he mentioned in one of his letters he wrote you by the same post.

It will always give me great pleasure to be of service to you in communicating with your brother on any other way you may require I remain

Yours Truly

Thomas Finlayson

PS I send you a newspaper

MILNTHORPE
SP 11
1856
13

AUSTRALIAN PACKET
LIVERPOOL
SP 11
PAID
PAID
PACKET

John G. Yates Esq.
Parkhead
Milnthorpe
Westmoreland
England

E.M.

Melbourne June 24th 1856

My dear Brother

The date of my last letter was from Melbourne, and you will perceive that this one is the same, but between the two dates I have travelled a good many miles and at last settled down on the Goulburn diggings about a hundred and twenty miles from Melbourne I have there put up a machine for washing gold by horse power, and as horses are bringing an exorbitant price up in this part of the world, I was obliged to come down again for one or two more, so that this accounts for my being in town again so soon. I have laid out every penny of the little legacy, in the above mentioned machine, and cannot reproach myself for spending a single pound foolishly so far

wife say that there is great reform in me, I said that all my money had been spent in erecting this machine. I must also tell you that the horse that I have now bought and which will take me up country tomorrow (value £60) has been bought from the proceeds of the machine over and above expences, so that I have not been idle since I last wrote, so please let this be an excuse for my not having written before, this will not be a very long one, for I have just taken the horse to get shod, and have to make some purchases in town (saddle bridle &c) and get every thing ready and start by day-break in the morning, but as the mail closes for England today I thought it was a pity to miss the opportunity, it is a long time since I have heard from home, the day before yesterday two mails were in but no letters for

me, but I suppose that it is my own fault for not writing oftener myself, and of course there is no allowance given for me, working from an hour or some times two hours before the sun rises, until dark. I must not forget to tell you that I am enjoying good health, and as yet have no particular wish to leave the colony, when with you will tell me something about William I do not think you mentioned him in your last, I must now conclude for want of a topic for there is nothing I know to relate, that will interest you, so with love to all at home, in which Amelia joins with me believe me ever to remain

Your most affectionate brother

Edward Yates

J. Yates
Port Phillip

Melbourne, Jan 24th 1856

My Dear Brother

The date of my last letter was from Melbourne, and you will perceive that this one is the same but between the two dates I have marched a good many miles and at last settled down on the ghoul but on diggings about hundred and 20 miles from Melbourne. I have there put up a machine for washing gold by horsepower, and as horses are bringing an exorbitant price up in that part of the world, I was obliged to come down again for one or two more, so that this accounts for my being in town again so soon. I have laid out every penny of the little legacy in the above-mentioned machine and cannot reproach myself for spending a single pound foolishly so you Will say that there is great reform in me. I said that all my money had been spent in erecting this machine. I must also tell you that the horse that I have now bought and which will take me up country tomorrow (value £60) has been bought from the proceeds of this machine over and above expenses, so that I have not been idle since I last wrote, so please let this be an excuse for my not having written before, this will not be a very long one, for I have just taken the horse to get shod, and have to make some purchases in town (saddle and bridle) and get everything ready and start by daybreak in the morning, but as the male closes for England today I thought it was a silly to miss the opportunity, it is a long time since I've heard from home, the day before yesterday two males were in but no letters for me, but I suppose that it is my own fault for not writing oftener myself, And of course there is no allowance given for me, working from an hour or something sometimes two hours before the sun rises, until dark. I must not forget to tell you that I am enjoying good health and as yet have no particular wish to leave the colony, when next you write tell me something about William I do not think you mentioned him in your last, I must now conclude for want of a topic for there is nothing I have to relate, that is of interest to you so with love to all at home, in which Amelia joins with me. Believe me ever remain

your most affectionate brother

Edward Yeates

Melbourne March 15th
1856

My dear Brother

You must not expect a long letter, I am only going to write this, just to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, containing the Bills of Exchange, which I have also got changed into money, and safely lodged in the Union Bank of Australia, in my next, which will be dated from Bendigo, where I shall have more leisure, I will be able to let you know what I purpose doing with my little Legacy it won't go very far in this country, but however I must do the best with it, I can, I was very sorry to hear of your account of Will I felt almost jealous that he would make a better use of his, than I should be able to do with mine, for although we have been both of us launched out to world long since, still this legacy, seemed to be the only rope that held us safe, now that this rope is cut of course we are adrift altogether, and must either make a good or a bad voyage. If I make the former I may see England again, if the latter of course I never shall, this must be my punishment or reward. – I was glad to

hear that Beaufield was getting on so well
I only wish that I had entered the army years
ago, but it is no use regretting now, as it is
I think I should do best for digging the trenches
or doing the navy work, as I should like to
show you some of our work here, I am
now working a 60 feet hold which is the
deepest I have had yet, but I must look
sharp and post this and want to send it
per "George Marshall", so I shall have, the
rest for my night letter which I shall
try and dispatch by the "Marco Polo"
which sails on the 25th inst, tell Aunt Lucy
that I shall write to her by the same ship.
and now God bless you all, and best love to
you all, and believe me ever to remain
Your most affectionate Brother
Edw Yates

Mrs Yates Yates Esqr.
Park Lane

Melbourne March 15th 1856

My Dear Brother

You must not expect a long letter, I am only going to write this just to acknowledge the receipt of your letter containing the bills of exchange, which I've also got changed into money and safely lodged Union Bank of Australia in my next which will be dated from Bendigo, when I shall have more window, I will be able to let you know what I propose doing with my little legacy. It won't go very far in this country but however I must do the best with it I can, I was very sorry to hear your account of will I felt almost jealous that he would make a better use of his than I should be able to do with mine, for although we have been both of us launched into the world long since, still this legacy seemed to be the only rope that held us safe, now that this road is cut of course we are adrift altogether and must either make a good or a bad voyage. If I make the former I may see England again. If the latter of course I never shall, this must be my punishment or reward.I was glad to hear that Mansfield was getting on so well I only wish that I had entered the army years ago, but it's no use regretting now as it is I think I should do best for digging the trenches or doing the many work in which I should like to show you some of our work here. I am now working a 60 foot hole which is the deepest I have had yet but I must look sharp and post this. I want to send it her "George Marshall" so I shall have the rest for my next letter which I shall try and dispatch by the "Marco Polo" which daily on the 25th inst. Tell aunt Lucy that I shall write to her by the same ship and now God bless you all and best love to you all and believe me ever I remain

your most affectionate brother

Edward Yeates

Per R.M. Clipper Ship "Lightning" Na L'pool.

Edward Gates Esqr.
care of Mr. Thos. Finlayson
Melbourne & Hobson's Bay Railway Office
Flinders Street.
Melbourne
South Australia.

Lutherville Md
May 2nd 1856

My dear Edward

By this time you will have received the letters & papers I sent out to you per "Marco Polo" and I hope safely. Dec. 5th 1855.

I calculated as Father & Sophia say you might receive them about the middle of March. I so allowing for the average speed of clipper ships. I hope they have arrived safely to hand and that you have had no difficulty in making them useful. Take care of your money my dear brother & it will be of use to you in an hour of need.

I shall be most happy when I hear from you again to say all is right. I am looking forward to a letter about the middle of July to hear of your welfare & trust you will prosper with your business. I hardly know how to commence my budget of news but when I shall know how to end it so many events have passed since I last wrote. Charity begins at home and so I think does letter writing to absent relatives & friends. I am glad to say we are all well at home. Mary & Sarah the only occupants of Parkhead + the servants. as Mary is still at Lancaster School from which I intend to remove her this midsummer. Mr Carey expressed a great wish to join the Royal Marines and I am going to try to get him a cadetship at Portsmouth after he has been with me about six months. I mention this because I can't get the best part of the drill. Make him stand upright upon "eyes right & left" & teach him the military exercise. I have already taken three last Easter holidays just run through a course of Geography & Cæsar with him. We go to school & feel sure he will pass for

Mr Hickey Mr Wm Hickey
Lockhart Jacques
Mr Carey

the Entrance Examination on board the Excellent Gunnery Ship. They are very strict in that department & woe betide the unlucky youngster who is turned back twice. With regard to William this is strictly private but I am sorry to say he has made a sad squander of his money & has enrolled himself so much difficulty by running the dogs. However he has again returned to the Dalgleis & hope he will not again forfeit their confidence & kindness. It will be a serious lesson to him for the future. His conduct to me has been such as to prevent my having any further communication with him until he proved himself worthy of any notice from me. It is a great pity with the talents he has got they should be thrown away. He was on his last legs when seeing an advertisement in a newspaper of a vacant post in a coffee shop in London where he had got down to spend his last to a pint of Porter having been all day on his pins without food he yielded to Aunt Lucy's persuasion in a pre-prandial letter sent to the Dalgleis once more to ask them for a recommendation to this place in Edinburgh as he had no proofs to send them of his abilities. They strongly dissuaded him from such a step & had him immediate employment. Much to their credit for kindness & good temper. But I will say no more on this painful subject. I do not wish to expose any one's faults but as we are brothers there need in this case be no concealment between us. All I ask from you is that you will not mention I have told you anything about him but you must have thought it strange if I did not. I am only telling the truth concerning him. I had a letter from Mansfield about a fortnight ago. Poor fellow he is still glued up in Malta and from what I can see from the Army Reports is likely to remain there for some time yet. I have been there for

four months on a stretch and have been most heartily sick of the place You may remember Lord Byron's celebrated "La Valetta". We were in hopes of being sent to Canada but the regiments lately in the Crimea are apportioned out for that place, Gibraltar, & W. Indies leaves us to the 42nd. Highlanders have but a small chance of seeing Foreign service. I send you a paper containing the items of the splendid Naval review held by her Majesty at Spithead on the conclusion of the War which I have no doubt you will peruse with interest. Such a fleet never has & perhaps never will be seen on the face of the Waters again. Upwards of 300 Sail of steam Wells. 26. screw line of Battle ships about 50 heavy armed frigates from 51 to 40 guns. besides Block ships. Mortar Vessels. Gun Boats 164. Despatch gun Boats &c &c not including corvettes & sloops all steam screw. The aspect of affairs with America is anything but cordial but I hope no collision will o[illegible] It would be madness in the Americans just at present to provoke John Bull. The sea board of the U.S. would look rather foolish within 3 weeks of a declaration of war with Great Britain. The gun boats & Mortar Vessels carry a most tremendous weight of Artillery and only draw from 3 to 4 feet of water. capital for shallow rivers the best ordnance we have ~~[illegible]~~ shell guns carry a distance of five miles I cannot give you details of all our news at home. I must send you a paper as often as I can. Mrs. Cunningham has returned from India overland with her son. Captain Cunningham is expected by sea shortly. Poor man he has invalided (insane) Lucy had a letter yesterday morning from Mrs. C. Mrs. Etheridge says she is looking very miserable & thin poor thing & dont wonder at it. Her married life though short has had many ups & downs I have no doubt

Poor little Ee must have been comfortable in England although on half pay. Poor poor Ellen but she speaks in the most rapturous & romantic terms of her husband and seems to think there is not another man like him in the world. Mrs. William Wood was the cause of some little coolness between the Gunningham's & Lucy by telling Mrs C. she did not much like Mr. Cunningham however I hope poor fellow he may recover but insanity I suppose is in his family. You will be surprised to hear that my Cook Jane is going to be married although she is a good 50 year old to one Samuel Dowker a servant of the Jackson's. They are about to emigrate to America. Really old elderly persons set such an example. I shall be going next. Between ourselves I have a nice little lady in view but must wait a bit. Some day soon you may receive some wedding cards. I won't say any more on this point. Excuse me. You would know the Widder the Bookseller in Skendals. He has had a sad accident the other day being thrown from his Phaton down the Bear Bank. The horse having taken fright & run away. His wife was with him but a day or two afterwards poor Lucy became insane caused by the horse & chaise being thrown upon her. The same day all

Accidents occurred to the Poor Beasts of Prey Bank Meals Dear Brother
the horse took fright at a dog jumping out of the hedge and went off at full
speed the concern went upset & the unfortunate Gentleman received a sore
outdoor of the Brain. I have a splendid Mare now she would do for the
Australian Transport she is nearly throughout. Next I paid 31. Pounds for her
but people say I have got her cheap for the article. At all events I was told
the other day she was worth £45. with the keep she has had. I would have
done to a Gentleman as I am going through Milthorpe this afternoon
and will take Poor Letter myself. Keep your Mind easy Dear Brother
and Believe me my dear Brother

Your most affectionate

John Yates

Sunnyside

Parkhead, Milnthorpe, Westmorland

May 2nd 1856

My Dear Edward

By the time you will have received the latest papers I sent out to you her "Marco Polo" and I hope safely December 5, 1855 I calculated as brother Jonathan says you might receive them about the middle of March 1856 allowing for the average speed of clipper ships I hope they have arrived safe to hand and that you have had no difficulty in making them useful. Take care of your money my dear brother and it will be of use in an hour of need. I shall be most happy when I hear from you again to say all is right. I am looking forward to a letter about the middle of July to hear of your welfare and trust you will prosper with good cold luck. I hardly know how to commence my budget of news and when I shall know how to end it. So many events have passed since I last wrote. Charity begins at home and so I think does the letter writing to about relatives and friends. I am glad to say we are all well at home. Lucy and I are the only occupants of Parkhead and the servants as Harry is still at Lancaster school from which I intend to remove him this Midsummer. He has expressed a great wish to join the Royal Marines and I am going to try to get him a cadetship at Portsmouth after he has been with me about six months. I mention this because I can teach the best part of the drill make him hold himself up "eyes right and eyes left" teach him the recovery exercise. I have already these last Easter holidays put him through a course of geography logarithms and I feel sure he will pass for the entrance examination on board the "Excellent" Gunnery ship period they are very strict in that department and woe betide unlucky youngsters who is turned back 3 June. With regard to William this is strictly private but I am sorry to say he has made a sad squander of his money and has enrolled himself in much difficulty by receiving the riggs. However he has again returned to the Dalziels and hope he will not again forfeit their confidence and kindness. It will be a serious lesson to him for the future. His conduct to me had been such as to prevent my having any further communication with them until he proved himself worthy of any notice from me. It is a great pity with the talents he has got they should be thrown away.He was on his last legs when seeing an advertisement in a newspaper in a retired coffee shop in London where he had sat down to spend his last on a pot of porter having been all day as he says without food he by aunt Lucy is persuasion in a previous letter went to the Dalziels once more to ask them for a recommendation to this place in Edinburgh as he has no proofs to send them of his abilities. They strongly dissuaded him from such a step and gave him immediate employment much to their credit for kind nurse and good temper. But I will say no more on this painful subject. I do not wish to expose anyone's faults but as we are brothers they need in this case be no concealment between us. All I ask from you is that you will not mention I have told you anything about this but you must have thought it strange if I did not and I can not tell the truth concerning him. I had a letter from Mansfield about a fortnight ago. Poor fellow is still glued up in Malta and from what I can see from the army reports is likely to remain there for some time yet I have been there for four months on a stretch and have been most heartily sick of the place.You may remember Lord Byron's celebrated "La Valetta". He was in hopes of being sent to Canada but the regiment lately in the Crimea are apportioned out for that place, Gibraltar, East and West Indies so the 42nd Highlanders have but a small chance of seeing foreign seas. I sent you a paper containing the items of the splendid Naval review held by her Majesty at spit head on the conclusion of the war which I have no doubt you will peruse with interest such a fleet Never has and perhaps never will be seen on the face of the waters again. Upwards of 300 sale of steam vessels 26 screw line of battleships about 50 heavy armed frigates from 51 to 40 guns. Besides block ships. Mortar vessels general boats hundred and 64 dispatch gunboats and et cetera et cetera Not including corvettes and sloops all steam screw. The aspect of affairs South America is anything but cordial but I hope no collision will occur. It would be madness on the Americans just at present to provoke John Bull. The seaboard of the US would look rather foolish within three weeks of adult declaration of war with Great Britain. The gunboats and mortar vessels carry a most tremendous weight of artillery and only draw from 5 to 4 feet of water, capital for shallow rivers the best ordnance we have shell guns carry a distance of 5 miles I cannot give you details of all our news at home I must send you a paper as often as I can. Mrs Cunningham has returned from India overland with her son Capt Cunningham is expected by Sea shortly. Poor man he has invalided (insane) Lucy had a letter yesterday morning from Mrs C Mrs Everage says she is looking very miserable and this poor thing and don't wonder at it her married life though Short has had many ups and downs I have no doubt. They will be much more comfortable in England although on half pay. I pity poor Ellen but she speaks in the most rapturous and romantic terms of her husband and seems there is not another man like him in the world. Mrs William Wood was the cause of some little coolness between the Cunningham's and Lucy by telling Mrs C we did not much like Mr Cunningham. However I hope poor fellow he may recover but insanity I suppose is in his family. You will be surprised to hear that my cook Jane is going to be married although she is a

good 50 years old to one Samuel Dawker a servant of the Jacksons and they are about to emigrate to America. Really if elderly persons set such an example I shall be going next. Between ourselves I have a nice little lady in view but I must wait a bit some day soon you may receive some wedding cards. I won't say any more on this topic. Excuse me you would know that Haddon the bookseller in Kendal. He had had a sad accident the other day being thrown from his Phaeton the horse having taken fright and run away. His wife who was with him died a day or two afterwards from serious injuries caused by the horse and vehicle being thrown upon her. The same day an accident occurred to Mr Foster Bearthwaite of meal bank, meal near Kendal. The horse took fright at a dog jumping out of the hedge and went off at full speed the concern was upset the unfortunate gentleman received a concussion of the brain. I have a splendid Mare, she would do for the Australian pampas. She is hearty throughout I paid £31 for her but people say I have got her cheap for the article at all events I was the other day told she was worth £45 with the keep she has had. I must now draw to a conclusion as I am going through Milne Thorpe this afternoon and will post the letter myself. Lucy joins me in kindest love to you and believe me my dear brother

your most affectionate

John Y Yeates

Muggelty Gully, Fleetwoorth
Colony Victoria
July 8th 1856

Dear Sir

It is with feelings of the most heartfelt and inexpressible sorrow that I have to perform the melancholy duty of informing you of the death of your poor Brother Edward (my Partner) who was unfortunately drowned last week (Monday 30th June) whilst endeavouring to cross a Creek called "Mc Beans Creek" near to the junction of the same with the Goulburn River, he was on his way from Melbourne on a young Horse purchased for the Puddling Mill, but just finished by us at this place — he left me on Sunday 15th June, to proceed to Melbourne & was consequently on his return here.

I did not hear of the melancholy accident until Thursday (3rd July) when accompanied by my other

Pattison I drove off, but owing to the dreadful state of the Country (although the distance was only 25 miles) I did not reach the fatal water until Friday at mid day; - on arriving I had the satisfaction (tho' an unhappy one) of finding that his poor Body had been recovered the day before & an Inquest held by Dr Lumsden J.P. & the particulars of the evidence forwarded to the Attorney General of the Colony; His Body not having been interred I identified & claimed it, I got a Coffin made & placed his remains in it myself and buried him on the Banks of the Goulburn River, reading the Church of England Service over him; although he rests in unconsecrated ground (a matter quite unavoidable up the Country here) I am sure you will feel with me that it matters but little what becomes of the frail & perishing tenement, when the immortal Spirit has

winged its flight to his Heavenly Father

All his Papers, letters from home &c are in my possession in a writing desk bearing your own name and will be forwarded to you by me thro' Richard Stanwers Ward Esqr. Solr. Temple London now holding my power of attorney, I shall also forward full particulars to my friend Richard Bowerbey Solr. Bishop Auckland Co. Durham, with whom please put yourself in communication on receipt of this.

Whilst in Town he stayed with Mr. T. Finlayson of the Hudson's Bay Co. Way Co. to whom I have written requesting him to come up here as soon as he can, on his arrival I shall again write to you, some time however may elapse, as all the boats are out, & Finlayson not much of a Backman.

In concluding I can only sympathize with you in the loss of an affectionate brother, & express my

our unfeigned sorrow at this most fearful finale to poor Ned who was our companion from Home in the "Marco Polo" and the inmate of the same Cotton Tent for many a long day in this Country.

I am Dear Sir
Yours most faithfully
Lewis Salmon

Jno Yeates Yeates Esq.
Parkhead
Malmesbury

P.S. The Enclosed Documents embody the whole of the information I have been enabled to get.

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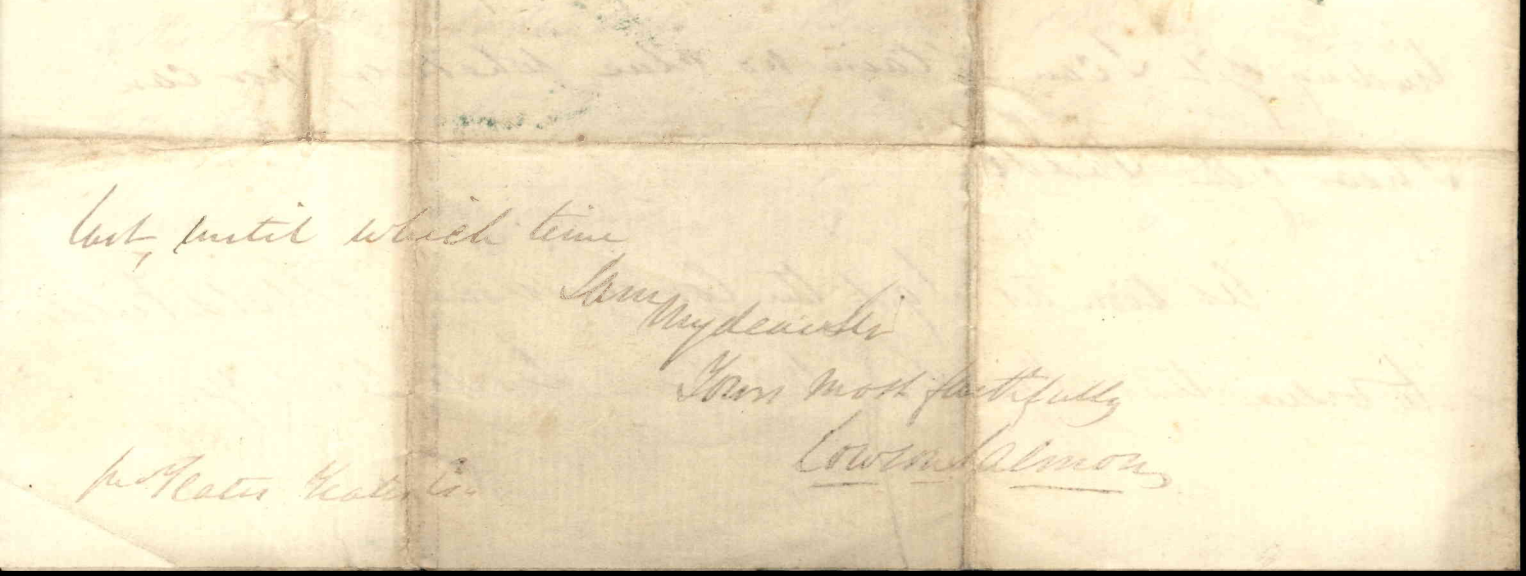
an account of poor Edwards worldly affairs since the receipt of his legacy of £284 from home in March



last, until which time

Yours Affectionately

Yours most faithfully

Cowan Salmon

pr Peter Keith Esq

Nuggetty Gully, Rushworth, Colony Victoria

July 8th 1856

Dear Sir

It is with feelings of the most heartfelt and inexplicable sorrow that I have to perform the melancholy duty of informing you of the death of your poor brother Edward (my partner) who was unfortunately drowned last week (Monday 30th of June) whilst endeavouring to cross a creek called "McBean Creek" near to the junction of the same with the Goulburn River. He was on his way from Melbourne on a young horse purchased for the paddling mill but just finished by us at this place-he left me on Sunday, 15 June to proceed to Melbourne and was consequently on his return here.

I did not hear of the melancholy accident until Thursday, 3 July when accompanied by my other partner, I drove off, but owing to the dreadful state of the country although the distance was only 25 miles I did not reach the fatal water until Friday at midday; on arriving I had the satisfaction (but an unhappy one) of finding that his poor body had been recovered the day before and an inquest held by Dr Lumsden JP the particulars of the evidence forwarded to the attorney general of the colony. His body not having been interned I identified and claimed it, I got a coffin made and placed his remains in it myself and buried him on the banks of the Goulburn River, reading the Church of England service over him. Although he rests in unconsecrated ground (a matter quite unavoidable up the country here) I am sure you will feel with me that it matters but little what becomes of the frail and perishing tenement, when the immortal spirit has winged its flight to its heavenly Father.

All his papers, letters from home are in my possession in a writing desk bearing your own name and will be forwarded to you by me through Richard Danvers Ward Esq solicitor, Temple, London now holding my power of attorney. I shall also forward full particulars to my friend Richard Bowser Esq solicitor Bishop Auckland County Durham, with whom please put yourself in communication on receipt of this.

Whilst in town he stayed with Mr T Finlayson of the Hobson's Bay railway company to whom I have written requesting him to come up here as soon as he can, on his arrival I shall again write to you, sometime however may elapse as all the coaches are out and Finlayson not much of a backman.

In concluding I can only sympathise with you in your loss of an affectionate brother and it express my sorrow at this most fearful finish to poor Ned who was our companion from home in the "Marco Polo" and the cellmate of the same collon tent for many a long day in this country.

I am Dear Sir

Yours most faithfully

Lowson Salmon

Muggetty Gully
Castlemaine July 18th 1856

My dear Sir

From the annexed you will perceive that no one was in any way instrumental to poor Edwards death. I have myself followed the tracks of his Horse's feet to verify the facts, & forded the River at the same place on the same Horse with 3 feet more water the day before yesterday. It was God's will.

From the deficiency in Cash found viz £9-7-6 having sold 17oz. of Gold for £64-12-0 almost the first produce of our labours here, I am disposed to think may one have his Body robbed, but not having been present at the finding of it I can obtain no clue whatever, nor can I hear of the Saddle

As soon as I get the Commissioner of Gold Fields to value this Puddling Machine I will send you

his
partaking of one Glass of Spirits, he McB sent his Son with him
to the Ford & he passed safely, that instead however
of taking the track he followed the Bank of the River
& by some unaccountable mistake crossed it to the
Brant Side, (it was at this time he met with Mr Bailey)
again following the Creek down he attempted the lower
Ford whence unfortunately he never came out.
Five Men were employed dragging for his Body & three
Aboriginals engaged diving but did not succeed in
finding it until Thursday, (the day before my arrival);
£9-5-6, (cash handed to the Coroner); a Brokers Receipt for
£64-12-0 (for the Gold he took from here for Sale)
& a receipt for £30 some odd Shillings, the price
of the Horse he rode, with a Revolver & Pocket Compass
were found on the Body, but the Saddle & Bridle in
front never were found

No 2

Mr Banks an intelligent Settler on the Goulburn River informs me that he met your late Brother on the Banks of the Creek called Mc Bean's Creek, & that he Enquired for the ~~[illegible]~~ proper fording place, he (Mr B) refused to shew him any such as he did not consider the Water in a safe state to cross. The aforesaid was one of the Jury Empannelled on the Inquest.

Mr Vanzelicon the Landlord of the Seymour Inn states that on Saturday night ~~[illegible]~~ June 26th poor Edward stayed at his House, left on Sunday Morning for Mc Bean's the "Freeburn Inn" against his strongly urged advice the Rivers being then frightfully swollen.

Mr McBean says he (Edward!) arrived on Sunday about 3 o'clock & finding that he could not reach his own Tent the same day (say 25 miles) he stopped all night, on the following morning after Breakfast &

Melbourne 28 July 1856

Dear Sir

It is with great reluctance and with sad and sorrowful feelings that I now address you, ~~for~~ to inform you of the melancholy death of my dear friend your brother Edward who was drowned while crossing a Creek on the 30th Ultimo, and I enclose you copies of documents from which you will see all that has been done. He came to Town about 14 days before (to purchase a horse) and remained with me till the Wednesday previous, left in perfect health and high spirits. he had every prospect of succeeding in the world he having become very steady & persevering and one of his remarks to me a short time since was "that the hardships he had undergone since coming to the Colony had made him a changed man". to me he was almost a brother and indeed would had he live have been so he having been engaged to my

sister, and he would have married her had I not objected to him taking her to a tent and when he left it was agreed he was build a wooden house. my poor sister has suffered more that language can convey and for the last two weeks her medical attendants almost despaired of her reason but thank God she is slowly recovering

What amount of property he may have left I cannot say and you must entirely depend on his partners for that information (his partner as you will see is to write you). he however said, long that the machine entirely belonged to him and I am sure his partners had no money when he rec.d the remittance from you about 18 months since, as he sent £10 to keep them he having resided with me for a month then, he spoke of his partners as honorable men and placed the utmost confidence in them but did not seem acquainted with their previous history except that ~~the~~ L Salmon (the one who is to write you) had been extravagant and that his estates in England were held for his creditors - I intend visiting his partners in about

two months and will endeavour to have poor Edwards body removed to a graveyard and I would like to know if you would wish a stone erected at his grave

Before leaving me the last time it seems he presented his watch to my sister and as it is the only thing belonging to him she has (besides being of no great value) she would not like to part with it and hopes you will allow her to keep it, I have a coat waistcoat & Trousers belonging to him but as he lost his boxes some time ago he was not well supplied

I will write in about a week by the "James Baines" and if I can in any manner ~~can~~ be of use to you you can have my best services -

I took the liberty of opening your letter to him by the advice of some of my friends and now return it

I remain
Dear Sir
Your faithfully
Thomas Emlayton

John Y Yeates Esq
of Parkhead

Melbourne, 28 July 1856

Dear Sir

It is with great reluctance and with sad and sorrowful feelings that I now address you, to inform you of the melancholy death of my dear friend your brother Edward who was drowned while crossing a creek on the 30th ultimo, and I enclose you copies of documents from which you will see all that has been done. He came to town about 14 days before (to purchase a horse) and remained with me till the Wednesday previous, left in perfect health and high spirits.He had every prospect of succeeding in the world he having become very steady and persevering and one of his remarks to me a short time since was "that the hardships he had undergone since coming to the colony had made him a changed man". To me he was almost a brother and indeed would, had had he lived would have been so he having been engaged to my sister, and he would have married her had I not objected to him taking her to a tent and when he left it was agreed he would build a wooden house. My poor sister has suffered more than language can convey and for the last two weeks her medical attendance almost despaired of her reason but thank God she is slowly recovering.

What amount of property he may have left I cannot say and you must entirely depend on his partners for that information (his partner as you will see is to write to you). He however said to me that the machine entirely belong to him and I am sure his partners had no money when he received the remittance from you about 10 months since as he sent £10 to keep them he having resided with me for a month then, he spoke of his partners as honourable men and placed the utmost confidence in them but did not seem acquainted with their previous history except that L salmon (the one who is to write you had been extravagant and that his estates in England were held for his creditors) I intend visiting his partners in about two months and will endeavour to have poor Edwards body removed to a graveyard and I would like to know if you would wish a stone erected at his grave.

Before leaving me the last time it seems he presented his watch to my sister and as it is the only thing belonging to him she has (besides being of no great value) she would not like to part with it and hopes you will have allow her to keep it. I have a coat waistcoat and trousers belonging to him but as he lost his boxes some time ago he was not well supplied. I will write in about a week by the "James Baines" and if I can in any manner be of use to you you can have my best services-

I took the liberty of opening your letter to him by the advice of some of my friends and now return it I remain Dear Sir

Yours faithfully

Thomas Finlayson

Melbourne 26 Augt 1856

J. J. Leaker Esq

Dear Sir

I wrote you by the Formosa and intended to have written by the James Baines but was obliged to leave Town with my Sister the Doctors being afraid if kept at home her reason would not stand the shock I think the travelling has done some good to her

In case you may not have rec.d my letter by the Formosa I again enclose copies of the evidence at the inquest and of Mr Salmons correspondence I will not repeat what I then wrote as you will have received either it or Mr Salmons letter and I can give no further

information. From all I see
of Mr Salmon I have no doubt
he is a Gentleman and
I think you may place
full reliance on him for
your dear brother has full
confidence in him

It was my intention
to have gone up and arrange
with Mr S. his affairs but my
sisters illness has prevented me
and I will not be able to do
so before December. if therefore
you write on receipt of this
I will endeavour to carry
out any instructions you
may give, I remain

Dear Sir
Yours Sincerely
Thomas Wallaydo

Melbourne 26 August 1856

J Y Yeates Esq

Dear Sir

I wrote you by the "Formosa" and intended to have written by the "James Baines" but was obliged to leave town with my sister. The doctors being afraid if kept at home her reason would not stand the shock. I think the travelling has done some good to her.

In case you may not have received my letter by the "Formosa" I again enclose copies of the evidence at the inquest and of Mr Salmond's correspondence. I will not repeat what I then wrote as you can well have received either or Mr Salmond's letter and I can give no further information. From all I see of Mr Salmon I have no doubt he is a gentleman and I think you may place full reliance on him for your dear brother had full confidence in him.

It was my intention to have gone up and arranged with Mr S his affairs but my sister's illness has prevented it and I will not be able to do so before December, if therefore you write on receipt of this I will endeavour to carry out any instructions you may give,

I remain

Yours sincerely

Thomas Finlayson

Bishop Auckland
8th Nov 1850

Sir -

I have received an letter from Mr Salmon as well as my brother in law Mr Bowes - to the effect that - I may expect to receive some papers &c. the property of his deceased friend your brother -

Having recently come to reside here Salmon letter was sent here at Lambton but if anything comes for you I will take care it shall be instantly forwarded

I have written seldom by this mail

Yours truly

R Danvers Grand

To S. G. Geale Esq

Mr. Dawes Ward.
about Edwards's effects

Bishop Auckland

8 November 1856

Sir

I have received a letter from Mr Salmon as well as my brother-in-law Mr Bowser, to the effect that I may expect to receive some papers, the property of his friend your brother.

Having recently come to reside here Salmon letter said I am at London but if anything comes for you I will take care of it and forward it

I have written Salmon by this time

Yours truly

R Danvers Ward

John. T. Gales Esq.
Parkhead
Milnethorpe
Westmorland
England

Moggetty Gully
Cherworth Jany 11th 1857

My dear Sir

I received yesterday a letter from Mr. Wilson with Enclosure from you addressed to me, also containing Extracts from your letter addressed to himself — all business details I shall leave as directed to Mr. F. — and shall lend him my best assistance — I wrote to him in the first instance, had hoped to have seen him ere this, but his time is not his own, and a journey of the Hundred & twenty miles in the Bush an undertaking to one not accustomed to it.

Touching the manner of Edwards' death I am quite convinced that the Natives had nothing

to do with it, the steepness of the Bank where he attempted to bring his horse out was quite suffi-
-cient to account for his being thrown back over, having heavy leggings on he was unable to swim, with respect to the Blanket he had rolled in front of his saddle I am not so clear, the articles it contained were invaluable to a Bushman, besides there was a great deficiency in his money, I can however gather no information, the horse was caught nine miles down the River before I even knew of the accident, at Mr Banks a Gentleman so who owns fifteen miles of pas-
-tage on the Goulburn River who rendered me every assistance in his power but without result. The money Edward had on him was

not the Evening after the Will but the price
Jack Maggie Gold found by any other Partner
Richard without digging with Pick & Shovel
but of course common Property.

Official documents are difficult to procure
in a place like this, which although a de-
-Claimed Township, containing no magistrate no
Collector of Customs no clergyman no church or consecra-
-ted Grave Yard not even a single Policeman
or a recognised authority of any description except
the warden of Chatham 35 miles distant.

I shall endeavour to do what I can as I suppose I am
the only person who can prove his Friend, having
with my own hands placed them in the Coffin myself
If God spares my life it is my intention to

Nuggetty Gully, Rushworth

11 January 1857

My Dear Sir

I received yesterday a letter from Mr Finlayson with (illegible) from you addressed to me, also containing extracts from your letter addressed to himself, all business details I shall leave as directed to Mr Finlayson and shall lend him my best attendance. I wrote to him in the first instance I had hoped to have seen him ere this but his time is not his own and a journey of 120 miles in the bush and undertaking to 1 not accustomed to it.

Touching the manner of Edward's death I am quite convinced that the Italians had nothing to do with it the steepness of the bank wary attempted to bring his horse out was quite sufficient to account for his being thrown back over, and having heavy leggings on he was unable to swim, with respect to the blanket he had rolled in front of his saddle I am not so clear the articles it contained were invaluable to a bushman, (illegible) there was a great deficiency in his money, I can however gather no information. The horse was caught 9 miles down the river before I even knew of the accident, at Mr Banks and gentlemen who owns 15 miles of frontage on the Goulburn River and who rendered me every assistance in his power but without result. The money Edward had on him was not the earning of the mill but the price of a nugget of gold found by my other partner Richard which digging with pick and shovel but of course common property.

Official documents are difficult to collect in a place like this, which although a declared town but containing no magistrate, no solicitor, no clergyman, no church or consecrated graveyard not even a single policeman or Recognised authority of any description except the loading Heathcote 35 miles distant. I shall however do what I can as I suppose I am the only person who can prove his burial, having taken his remains and placed them in the coffin myself. If God spares my life it is my intention to be at home again in the early part of next year when perhaps I may be better able to meet any of the nice acquaintances of the English law, not to be done just in a state of society but little removed from the savage prowling account

Believe me

Yours Very Truly

Lowson Salmon

Mr Finlayson

Edward

Melbourne and Hobson's Bay Railway Company,

OFFICES—FLINDERS STREET,

Melbourne, 27 January 1857

My Dear Sir

On receipt of yours of the 20th Nov I wrote Mr Salmon and almost in course received a reply with the enclosed for you. He states that "the mill has been a ruinous "failure as I am worse off "than I was nine months ago "in fact I have not been working "it for some weeks both horses "are in a paddock at grass "as this being the dry season "and sale is out of the question" - Such is the present state of poor Edwards affairs and I fear it will be some time before I can visit Mr S

and from enquiries I have made
I find ~~be~~ it would be throwing
away the Machine to dispose
at present - but as yet I do
not know what I may do
. Dr Wilmot the Coroner for
Melbourne called on me about 2 months ago
with two Ladies (friends
of your family) and offered
to assist in wind up Edward
affairs but having no authority
to act for you I could
I could not accept of his
offer. I intend however now
to avail myself of his
kind offer as from his position
I hope he will save a great
deal of time, I have called
twice on him without
meeting him when I do
I will have him for perusal
all the papers relating
to poor Edward death and

get his opinion and advice
and if possible get him
act with me. Would
you inform me in some
what legal document
are required, and I will
have them sent you.
I am sorry I cannot
give you more satisfactory
accounts but you may
depend I will do all
in my power for you
. I am glad to hear that
William has reformed
and I have no doubt he
will yet prove an honor to
himself and family. William
will remember me we knew
each other in London
tell him poor Ted often
spoke about him. I have
as you requested destroyed
all the letters. ~~as you~~
~~requested~~.

My sister desires me
say she will reply to Miss
Copelands kind letter by
next mail she attempted
to write but could not
. I was sorry after opening
her Miss C. letter it affected
her greatly ~~but~~ but I am
very glad to say it has
done her a great deal
of good and I think she
is more cheerful than
she has been ~~for~~ ever
since.

Remain
My Dear Sir
Yours very Sincerely
Thomas Dunlaughton

J Y Yeates Esq
of Parkhead
Milnthorpe

Melbourne 27 January 1857

My Dear Sir

On receipt of yours of 20 March I wrote Mr Salmon and almost in courde received a reply with the enclosed for you. He states that "the mill has been a ruinous failure and as I am worse off than I was nine months ago in fact I have not been working it for some weeks, both horses are in a paddock at grass and this being the dry season and sale's out of the question"

Such is the present state of poor Edwards affairs and I fear it will be some time before I can visit Mr S and from enquiries I have made I find it would be throwing away the machine to dispose of it at present. But as yet I do not know what I may do.

Dr Wilmot the coroner for Melbourne called on me about two months ago with two ladies (friends of your family) and offered to assist us wind up Edwards affairs, but having no authority to act for you I could not accept of this offer I intend however now to avail myself of his kind offer as from his position I hope he will save a great deal of time, I have called twice on him without meeting him. When I do I will have him for perusal all the papers relating to poor Edwards death and get his opinion and advice and if possible get him to act with me. Could you inform me in course what legal document are required and I will have them sent you.

I am sorry I cannot give you more satisfactory accounts but you may depend I will do all in my power for you. I am glad to hear that William has reformed and I have no doubt he will yet prove and honour to himself and family. William will remember me we knew each other in London tell him poor Ted often spoke about him. I have as you requested destroyed all the letters.

My sister desires me says she will reply to Miss Copeland's kind letter by next mail. She attempted to write but could not, I was sorry after giving her Miss Copeland's letter it affected her greatly but I'm very glad to say it has done her a great deal of good and I think she is more cheerful than she has been ever since

I remain

my dear Sir

yours very sincerely

Thomas Finlayson

Melbourne and Hobson's Bay Railway Company,

OFFICES—FLINDERS STREET,

Melbourne, 22 July 1857.

My Dear Sir

My Sister duly received Miss Leopelands letter and will be happy to do all in her power for Miss Smyth the ship "Sir John Franklin" arrived two days since at the Heads (60 miles from here) she has not yet been able to get up to Hobsons Bay there being no wind

I can assure you I have replied to all letters I have received from you and I am surprised you have not rec'd my last.- I mentioned in it that Mr Salmon had lost the horses and I am now glad

to be be able to inform you they found them about 70 miles from his place 1 week since. I have merely a short note from him saying they were found with a promise that he would write the particulars in his next I have not heard from him since.

It has been out of my power to carry out your request regarding poor Edwards body as I have not had a single days leave of absence since and Mr Salmon altho does not object to it. ~~he has~~ says the difficulties as such that he would prefer I would superintend it myself and you may depend that the first chance I get I will

attend to it personally for you cannot be more anxious about it than we are

As to property left by poor Edward, I cannot say how it is to be realized as Mr Salmon is not able to pay, and his letters state that he has not been fortunate he is anxious I would visit him and he thinks we could come to some settlement

My sister I am happy to say is well and desires me say she will write Miss Copeland by next mail

Remain
Yours very truly
Thomas Fulayson

John J Yeates Esq
Parkhead

Melbourne 22 July 1857

My Dear Sir

My sister duly received Miss Copeland's letter and will be happy to do all in her power for Miss Smyth. The ship "Sir John Franklin" arrived two days since at the heads (60 miles from here) she has not yet been able to get up to Hobson's Bay there being no wind. I can assure you I have replied to all letters I have received from you and I am surprised you have not received my last. I mentioned in it that Mr Salmon had lost the horses and I am now glad to be able to inform you they found them about 70 miles from his place four weeks since. I had merely a short note from him saying they were found with the promise that he would write the particulars in his next, I have not heard from him since.

It has been out of my power to carry out your request regarding poor Edwards body as I have not had a single day's leave of absence since and Mr Salmon although does not object to it says the difficulties as such are such that he would prefer I would superintend it myself and you may depend that the first chance I get I will attend to it personally for you cannot be more anxious about it than we are.

As to the property left by poor Edward, I cannot say how it is to be realised as Mr Salmon is not able to pay and his letters state that he has not been fortunate. He is anxious I would visit him and he thinks we could come to some settlement.

My sister and I am happy to do this as well and desires me to say she will write Miss Copeland next mail.

I remain

Yours very truly

Thomas Finlayson

Mr Finlayson

Edward

July 1/57.

Melbourne and Hobson's Bay Railway Company,

OFFICES—FLINDERS STREET,

Melbourne, 24th April 1860

John Yeates Esq
Parkhead

Dear Sir

I send by this mail a newspaper containing a notice of Mr Lowson Salmon's disappearance from Rushworth - I trust however he has long ere this accounted to you for the property left by your brother Edward. The last letter I had from Salmon he stated that he had sent you the Deed and that ~~the~~ he had instructions from you to realize the property and remit the proceeds to you this coupled with your continued silence to my letters led me to believe his statements to be correct but from what has now occurred I fear I have been mistaken

Little if anything can now be recovered but I will wait on the Bank Inspector so soon as he returns and will write you the result by next mail

Salmon has not yet

(1860)

Milayson
Edward

been found

Seaman

yours truly
Thomas Walmyson

Thomas Walmyson
Br. 1 B.G. R.C.
Mac.
Recd
1860

Melbourne 24 April 1860

Dear Sir

I send by this mail a newspaper containing a notice of Mr Lowson Salmond's disappearance from Rushworth. I trust however he has long ere this accounted to you for the property left by your brother Edward. The last letter I had from salmon he stated that he had sent you the desk and that he had instructions from you to realise the property and remit the proceeds to you this coupled with your continued silence to my letters led me to believe his statements to be correct but from what has now occurred, I fear I have been mistaken. Little if anything can now be recovered but I will wait on the Bank Inspector so soon as he returns and will write you the result by next mail.

Salmon has not yet been found.

I remain

Yours truly

Thomas Finlayson