

JOURNAL OF WALTER ROBSON'S VOYAGE TO AUSTRALIA
October 1867 to March 1870

Notes on the Text

Walter Robson (1842-1929) was a British Quaker who acted as secretary-companion to his cousin, Joseph James Neave (1835-1913), when the latter made a lengthy journey to Australia in the years 1867 to 1871.

Neave had been dispatched by the London Yearly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers) to report on the condition of the fledgling Quaker community in Australasia, and to attempt to reconcile differences among members of the Sydney Quaker Meeting.

For an overview of the work of Neave and Robson in Australia, see: William Nicolle Oats, *A Question of Survival: Quakers in Australia in the Nineteenth Century* (St Lucia: University of Queensland Press, 1985), pp. 272-275.

The following transcript was made in 1963 from the original journals, in two volumes, which were then in the possession of a descendant of Walter Robson. A microfilm copy of the manuscript is held in the Friends' House Library in London (MIC 206), along with a copy of the transcript (L 092.3 ROB).

Robson's journal complements the journal simultaneously written by Joseph James Neave. Neave's journal is preserved in the Mitchell Library, Sydney, in the records of the Society of Friends in New South Wales (MLMSS 3842, box 17).

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JOURNAL OF WALTER ROBSON'S VOYAGE TO AUSTRALIA.

Typed from the original in the possession of Mary Evelyn Robson Rees
by Michael Harry Ford-Smith. Teddington, Middlesex, April 1963.

Part Second
South Australia.

Wednesday Oct 23rd: My beloved Cousin quite poorly today, in bed or on the sofa all day. I went to call on Henry Watson, a ~~sharkey~~ chemist in North Adelaide, once a Friend of Liverpool meeting; then to see his sister, the wife of John Barton Mack. She is a very nice old lady who well remembers my late grandparents & Aunts Margaret & Elizabeth & Uncle Isaac. She says the Watsons used to be related to the Robson & Backhouse families. I had much pleasant converse with her & then went down into the town to finish up our luggage, arrange bundles of tracts for distribution & then indulged in a Turkish bath, which in this very hot dusty weather seems occasionally an allowable luxury. Spent the afternoon in getting letters ready for the English mail, & retired at about mid-night, Joseph feeling rather better.

Thursday, Oct 24th: I posted letters & my diary of the voyage & called at G. Phillips shop & then at the Hodgkins lodgings. They spent yesterday with E. Malcomson at Mt. Barker and have engaged lodgings not far distant. Home to dinner at one & at three, Joseph & I left Adelaide on the top of the five-horse coach for Mt. Barker. It is a very splendid drive up a sort of gorge of Mt Lofty, up very steep long hills, richly wooded & the banks grand with wild flowers. In all the woods round this part, the one tree which seems universal is that called the Gum-tree. It yields no gum, with long narrow evergreen leaves & as it sheds its bark yearly, the trunk has a peculiarly naked, dismal look. A very great many of them are ringed - that is, a circle cut all round near the ground & ~~that is~~ thus the sap is stopped & the tree dies & is left in all its gloomy ugliness till after many years it rots. We passed several on fire, that being a quicker way of getting rid of them. The views on the road, looking over the bush, forests interminable & the bright sunny ocean miles away, made the drive very enjoyable. In the woods we saw innumerable paroquets, jackasses & other birds, some love birds, cockatoos & c of most brilliant exquisite plumage. The paroquets seem more plentiful than sparrows in England, but make a queer noise. The laugh of the jackasses & the loud shriek of the cockatoos have a very foreign effect. Our dear Friend Frederic Mackie met us at the little township of Mt Barker with a dog-cart & after calling on a friend, drove us to Fairfield the lovely home of Joseph May & his son-in-law F. Mackie, his daughter Rachel Ann Mackie, his now widowed daughter Lucy Coleman & her three little boys & one little girl! A drive of a mile & a half brought us this exquisite spot, truly a garden of roses. The house is large & convenient & the grounds extending all round it are brilliant with some of our choicest hot-house flowers. We are over 2000 ft above sea-level here & the temperature is much lower, which is most refreshing, than at Adelaide. The dear old head of the house, Joseph May is feeble, but very bright & in a very heavenly state, waiting to join his late dear wife who has gone a little before him, in her home above. We spent a quiet evening with these very choice friends.

Friday Oct 25th: F. Mackie drove us to Mt Barker, where we made several calls & arranged with the Presbyterian minister to hold a meeting in his church next Monday evening. Back to dine & afterwards F.M. went a long walk thro' the bush with us, guided by my compass,

to call on a Friend, once a member, named Joseph Watson. He, poor man, has fallen a victim to strong drink, but now seems penitent & is a total abstainer. He is a brother of Samuel Roslin, who sends him just enough to keep him. He lives with his wife & four children in most wretched little mud hut, without any floor but the loose earth no ceiling & almost no furniture. We sat on a log of wood on legs & Joseph addressed them & I ~~fix~~ felt drawn to pray for them. They never go to a place of worship & his poor little ones are growing up in ignorance. A truly lamentable picture of what drink will reduce family to, once in good circumstances & the head of it well educate. He has promised to join us at meeting on Sunday. The walk to his house is richly strewn with flowers - orchises, violets, ~~xxx~~ spider orchises & many brilliant flowers only known to us as hot-house rarities. Spent a quiet evening writing &c.

Saturday, Oct 26th: After our reading before breakfast, dear F. Mackie supplicated very sweetly for us all & particularly for the two missionaries. Joseph & I started off thro' the scrub & along some lovely lanes rich in exquisite wild flowers, which delayed us by their beauty, and after a walk of four miles came to the secluded pretty little township of Echunga. Here we called on William Sweetapple, a nephew of Robert Allsop's first wife. He is a church man but was exceedingly kind & gave us a hearty welcome. His wife is a connexion of Stephen Dean. W. Sweetapple is a church ward & kindly offered us the use of either church or school for a meeting. We chose the latter & fixed for a meeting for next Tuesday. W.S. walked with us two miles further thro' the bush to call on a Friend Jonathan Sanders, one of the Whitby family, with whom we dined. W.F. left us there & J. Sanders walked three miles with us to some gold diggings, where we have also planned for a meeting. J.S. took us back to Echunga to tea & taking leave of these truly kind people, we walked back to Fairfield just at dusk, after some 15 or 16 miles thro' the woods, which we most thoroughly enjoyed. I could long to let my dear ones see the grand beauty of some of the flowers growing so luxuriantly in the bush around us. The paroquets, all colors of the rainbow in countless numbers, the Australian robins whose breasts are a sort of rich magenta, the great magpies, jackasses & cockatoos make the woods here a scene altogether new to me.

Sunday Oct 27th: The little meeting house is just at the extremity of Joseph May's estate. About 20 met there, W. Sweetapple & his assistant among the number. F. Mackie exhorted to a close exercise & waiting on the Lord. Joseph soon after knelt in fervent prayer; he & I both spoke at some length & F.M. closed the meeting in prayer. William May & wife joined us to dine. All the vocal service in the afternoon meeting fell on me, both in preaching & prayer. After the evening reading, dear Joseph addressed particularly our aged host in a very comforting manner & afterwards prayed for us all. So closed our second ~~xx~~ sabbath in the colonies. Friends in S. Australia are much to be felt for, they are so scattered about - 10, 12 or even 16 miles did some drive today to meet with us here. All seem disposed to give us a hearty welcome.

Monday Oct 28th: After breakfast got letters finished & ready for the English mail which leaves Mt Barker early tomorrow morning. Then Joseph & I went into the township & posted them & called on a Friend named Lydia Wood, whose sorrows are too terrible

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to be described minutely here, but suffice it to say she has a wretched husband, but withal she keeps up a cheerful exterior & seemed much pleased to see us. Back to Fairfield to dine. Afternoon went to call on Mrs Frederic May; they live in the next "section" to this & a footpath joins the two estates together. F.M. was out but his wife took us a very pretty walk of 2 or 3 miles to see a giant gum tree. I measured the trunk 59 feet in circumference & its shadow at 5 p.m. reached full 100 yards. It is healthy but quite hollow & a shepherd lodged in its ample interior for several weeks. Our meeting at Mt Barker was not very large but we were favored to feel the presence & power of our Divine master to be with us. We both had much vocal service & F. Mackie a little also. Had supper at Lydia Wood's & a very solemn time of devotion afterwards in which we all three had something to deliver & Joseph concluded in prayer. Home about 11 o'clock.

Tuesday, Oct 29th: Leaving Joseph to write letters &c, I walked into the township to call on our kind friend who had lent us the chapel & had a nice chat with him. After dinner a gentleman & lady called on us to ask us to hold another meeting in Mt Barker, which we have not decided about yet. Joseph & I walked to Echunga to our very kind acquaintance the Sweetapples, to tea; F & R.A. Mackie & a servant driving over in time for the meeting. The school room was crowded & I think it is not too much to say we had a glorious meeting & the dear people have pressed us to come again. The Mackies drove home after meeting, leaving us to lodge at the Sweetapples, where we both had much vocal service.

Wednesday, Oct 30th: Early this morning a swift messenger from Adelaide brought to Echunga the tidings that the longed for "Galatea" had been sighted, bearing our Prince Alfred. We are glad to be out of the excitement which the constant firing of distant cannon proves to exist at Adelaide. After breakfast we took leave of our kind Friends & walked thro' the woods to Jonathan Sanders. Their two younger brothers who have a "section" near by came to dine with us here, & we had a very open time with them. The family are some of the earliest settlers in this colony & during their father's life time kept to the principles professed by us, but are now more unsettled & their mother living in Adelaide, these two young single men living in a wretched hut with one man servant claim largely our sympathy. They are far away from outward spiritual help, yet there is much to like in their simple-hearted open way. Jonathan is a very nice ~~man~~ man. His wife was a Keckwick from Ackworth. After dinner, we walked to the brother's hut to endeavour to see their man servant, a member of our society & of ~~great~~ a great family in our country, Richard Marriage. He had been repeatedly asked to join us at Jonathan's but declined to meet ~~us~~ us. However I laid wait for him, followed him & finally caught him & shook hands & then the ice once broken, he thawed rapidly & we had much conversation with him & he took us indoors & we had a sitting with him, wherein I trust we were faithful with this poor drunken, swearing man, who has indeed found that "the way of transgressors is hard". After tea J. Sanders kindly walked with us 3 miles thro' the bush to the gold diggings, where we found the mission hut full or nearly so, & a very solemn contriving time we had, & I believe many of those who are digging for gold are seeking very earnestly the pure gold of the kingdom. As we walked home bon-fires on all the

heights round us, glared forth in ~~the~~ a celebration of the Prince. We had a dark walk home to J.S.'s thro' the tortuous windings of the track thro' the bush, but thankful for the mercies of the day

Thursday, Oct 31st: After breakfast J.S. kindly walked with us ~~far~~ as far as Echunga & after a call at the Sweetapples we walked to Joseph May's & finding the family at meeting, joined them there, dear F. Mackie offered prayer & Joseph spoke. After dinner J & I walked to Mt Barker township to accept the offer of the Methodist Chapel for next Thursday. F. Mackie followed us in his dog-cart & drove us some 6 miles towards Tapton, we walking the remaining 3 or 4. Here we found a very hearty welcome at the comfortable home of Benjamin & Elizabeth Sanders, the former a brother of Jonathan's & his young wife a daughter of Joseph Barrett of Lyadock Valley, once of our country. They have one little girl, about 14 years old. Spent a quiet evening with these very nice young friends. The country here is very unlike Echunga, all the gum trees having died & a great many shea oaks & wattles flourish round. We are somewhat bitten by mosquitos but they are not so bad as I feared.

Friday Nov 1st: Walked round B. Sander's section & spent the morning quietly indoors as a most oppressive north wind like a furnace was blowing, making it unsafe to be out in the sunshine. After dinner B.S. drove us in his buggy to Kanmantoo to his brother George Sanders to tea. The meeting was at seven in a handsome Methodist Chapel. We both had much vocal service, but it felt as if amidst a very high profession there was but little vital godliness among them. G.S. is a storekeeper at Kanmantoo. We all lodged at his house. It has been very instructive to me to notice that in places where a Friends meeting has never before been held, the people all settle down, after a few words explanatory of our views, as quietly as possible - no hurry to leave after prayer at the close, no fidgetting or whispering, but very great attention.

Saturday Nov 2nd: G. Sanders took us ~~x~~ a lovely walk over the hills to call on a farmer, a very pious man belonging to a little sect called "Christian Disciples". He was busy sheep shearing but willingly left his work & came in doors, where we had a few words to express to him. Benjamin Sanders drove us back to his house at Tapton to dine, where William May joined us & in the afternoon drove us to his beautiful home near the great Lake Alexandrina & the River Murray. Here we are comfortably located in this very nice family. Mary May, W.M.'s wife, is a daughter of Francis Cotton of Tasmania. Thus ends the first week of labour in the colonies, a week of many mercies & renewed cause of gratitude to our merciful Lord. We have had some conflicts, some low seasons, but help has been given in our time of need.

Sunday, Nov 3rd: A sabbath spent quietly under the hospitable roof of W & M May. They are so many miles from meeting that they sit down to worship in their own house. We were permitted to feel the refreshing presence of the dear Saviour in great mercy, to be with us by His Holy Spirit in both our meetings. We do feel much for our scattered members in S. Australia, so far removed as many are from any fellowship with brethren in the Lord. We have hitherto been most kindly welcomed among them.

Monday Nov 4th: W. May kindly drove us back to Fairfield, and after dinner Joseph & I walked over to Echunga Creek to see our dear friends the Hodgkins, E. Malcomson & J.B.N.'s companion Mr Heath.

They are in very comfortable lodgings with a nice garden, close on the bush where they can roam about at their pleasure. They have a horse & gun each & can ride about, shoot opossum, parrots &c as they may incline. We had a very hearty welcome from them & it was a comfort to me to see my very dear Wilfred in better health than I have before seen him. E. Malcomson is much better than when he first landed. Our Friends kindly provided us with a bed.

Tuesday, Nov 5th: After breakfast we walked to Echunga township accompanied as far by E.M. & Wilfred. Called at W. Sweetapple's and then on to Fairfield. Dined at Frederic May's & after dinner he kindly drove us in a dog-cart accompanied by his little son Arthur over 12 miles of very bad road (tandem) to a very outlandish "section" far up on the hills, the residence of Anthony Harris Taylor & family. F. May left us there to lodge. Our poor friend A.H. is in very poor health, but as we both thankfully believe, in a very sweet & humble state spiritually. He is a son of Elizabeth Taylor of Middlesbro & a nephew of the late A. Harris of Tottenham. His wife & family are not Friends, but very excellent Christian people, two sons & three daughters, well conducted & very seriously disposed. Their house is a thorough colonial one like most others we have visited, all on the ground floor, the door from outside opening at once into the sitting room & the bed-rooms branching out from the parlour & kitchen of the establishment. The roof is of bark & there are no ceilings & as it was a considerable frost, the place felt very cold. We were permitted to have some very precious times of devotion with these dear people for whom our sympathies are greatly drawn out, their position is so very isolated from all communion with any believer in Jesus. Lodged & breakfasted there, & after a very comforting meeting with them, took leave & left their house on foot accompanied by their son Henry on

Wednesday, Nov 6th: He kindly walked with us 4 miles to the house of our fellow-voyager Mr Lorimer, Wilfred's cabin companion. Here he left us & we called & found a cordial greeting from Mr & Mrs Lorimer. They live in a beautiful spot, about which we rambled & then accepted a very pressing invitation to stay dinner. Mr L walked with us a mile on our way towards Mt Barker. Following what we felt sure was the right track thro' the woods, we wandered on for 8 miles & just as we expected to enter Mt Barker, came into a little township which we had never seen, & to our great surprise Henry Taylor met us. He was also astonished & told us we had been describing nearly a circle, being only $3\frac{1}{2}$ miles from Lorimer's & 9 from Mt Barker. We were then at Oakbank, the residence of A.H. Taylor's wife's relatives, who most kindly gave us a cup of tea & insisted on our being driven home in a cart. Henry Taylor accordingly drove us to within a mile of Mt Barker. We called on the Stephenson a young man & his wife who keep a store at the township. He is a member of the English Church & his wife a Friend, one of the Coleman family. We had a second tea there & a religious sitting afterwards; in conversing with Sarah Stephenson, she asked me if I knew her Uncle Crafton. So we find family connections in this distant land. Home to Joseph May's to lodge, where we found Henry Phillips come to stay a few days. I wish I could give my dearest ones at home an idea of this vast country, in which our lot is now cast. The roads are very wide, even those leading from section to section, are by government regulation 66 ft wide, but the trees are not removed, on

the roots are fenced off from the paddocks, as all fields are here called. The passable road therefore is narrow, winding among the gums & wattles & very rough, so that one has to take tight hold of the vehicle or "trap" as they are here called, to prevent being tossed out. I know not what our English farmers would say to the slovenly way every farming operation is performed here. Nothing is done that is not absolutely needful, a fence is often formed of dead trees merely heaped up together without any order whatever. There are no farm-yards & the horses and cattoe are left to roam about merely "hobbled". A good horse ~~x~~ is worth £5. Provisions are very cheap, a fat sheep, prime, without fleece, is selling at 1½d per lb, fresh butter 7d, honey 2d. The common wages for farm laborers is 25/- per week, so that working men are better off generally than their employers. Grass hay is unknown, wheat being mown unripe for feeding the beasts. What wheat is left to ripen is, by a patent machine, in universal use here, combed out of the husk as it stands in the paddock, which is not a difficult process in this hot climate. The husks and straw are then set fire to as they stand & burned to get rid of them & clear the ground. Most of the corn paddocks are full of dead gum trees, or where the farmers have succeeded in burning them, only the stumps are visible all black and ugly. Round the houses are often beautiful hedges, composed of rich large double roses, which grow here in the wildest abundance. These are interspersed with the sweet smelling garden geranium, which makes capital thick hedges. The great cactus, so often used, looks ugly & peculiar - as it is not the ornamental kind, but a strange fleshy lumpy looking variety. But in the bush where the hand of man has only cleared a track, the beauty is indescribable. The hundreds of parrots & paroquets in all colors of the rainbow, the large magpies & jackasses calling in wild language to each other & the loud shriek of the cockatoo & curlews make a long ramble most interesting. Then the wild flowers at our feet are most tempting - but alas! like all things here they fade & the color loses its brightness in pressing them. We have seen some immense lizards 2 ft long, the fur lizard with a frill round his neck, & the long bodied guano lizard. We have only met one snake yet, about 5 ft long: it gave us no trouble, only endeavouring to make a very rapid escape into ~~k~~ its hole. Some very large moths & butterflies hover over us, but we do not attempt collecting them. The great want of Australia seems to be good rivers. They only possess one, the Murray, which is navigable for 1000 miles, but they honor every brook & ditch with the title of creek & these are often dry in the summer time. Thus I have tried to draw a picture of what we have already seen or heard during the 23 days since we landed. We find that our good captain Legoe has bought 4000 parrots to take home in the Yatala. They can be bought here for 6d each & I suppose are retailed in England for 21/- each. The kindness of our Friends cannot be exceeded, all we have visited give us a most hearty welcome & do all in their power to make us comfortable. But as we proceed with our work the feeling of burden & solemn responsibility increases, & the ~~worship~~ earnest desire that while we preach Christ to the people, as He may enable us to do we may not by our example become a stumbling block to any.

Thursday Nov 7th: After breakfast wrote till meeting time. We had a very nice meeting in which my beloved cousin F. Mackie & myself had much vocal service. After dinner I assisted Henry Phillip

to fix up a swing to the great bough of a gum tree for the use of the little Colemans & their cousins from next section, P. May's children. Our dear friends the Hodgkins & E. Malcolmson came over on horse-back to attend the meeting at Mt Barker in the eveng. This was a most relieving time. After a short silence my dear cousin spoke for some time very excellently, then I bowed the knee in prayer & afterwards addressed the congregation on the individual responsibility of every believer in Jesus. P. Mackie added a few words & Joseph closed in prayer. After all our meetings, I have hastily left the pulpit to get to the door to distribute tracts, which there is a great openness to receive. Our Friends from Echunga are lodged at an inn.

Sixth day, 11 Mo 8th: Rose at 5.30 & P. Mackie & Lucy (and) Coleman were up to get us our breakfast. Walked into the township intending to take the coach for Adelaide, but just before reaching the office a Mr & Mrs Barker drove by in a waggonette & most kindly drove us to Adelaide with them, 21 miles. These dear people are Methodists & Mr B on behalf of the body at Mt Barker has offered us in future the free use of their chapel whenever we can use it. My dear Wilfred saw us off for Adelaide. This city looks very gay now our Prince is here, the streets loaded with flags & festoons & many triumphal arches, bells ringing, guns firing & the people in a strange state of excitement, it being the first time royalty has visited our Australian Colonies. After leaving Joseph & our luggage at our kind hosts, A. Phillips, I went into the cricket ground where were several of our "Yatala" friends, watching a grand match. While I was speaking to one old friend, the Bishop, our young Prince Alfred came up to him & shook hands, giving me a kind bow. He is making himself exceedingly popular here with everybody. He drives in four in hand, the coachman sitting by his side. I then had a bath & came home to lunch, after which Maria Phillips kindly accompanied us to a show, an "Inter-colonial show of all in the way of arts, sciences & manufactures that S. Australia can produce. It was very interesting to see how many things this young colony can really excel in. The Prince gave away the prizes while we were there. Spent the eveng with Charlie Phillips, preparing for a Sunday school treat.

Seventh day 11 Mo 9th: Joseph & I called on Sarah Sanders the mother of the young men we visited at Echunga, Tapton &c. She is a widow & her daughter lives with her. We had a comforting time of religious retirement with them. Then we walked 5 miles to Magill to visit some connections of Friends, but found them away. In the eveng G. Phillips called & we called on John Barton Hack & his lady-like wife Bridget. Also called on G & Margaret Phillips. Find the Y.M. fixed for Melbourne in 4 weeks time.

First day, 11 Mo 10: In the morning meeting dear J. J. N offered prayer & we both had a good deal to say on the subject of the offices of our Lord, as the Redeemer, Counsellor & Sanctifier, as well as the saviour & sin-bearer. After meeting we found that W. Wood the unfaithful husband of Lydia Wood of Mt Barker was present & was observed to weep much. Oh how I long that our visit may be blessed to some poor wanderers such as this. In the afternoon we both spoke again & I closed the meeting in prayer. Went to John & Mary Bastins to tea & spent a very pleasant eveng with them.

Second day 11 Mo 11th: Went to the coach office in time to meet Wilfred. Then he accompanied us to the Post, where J & I

had a fruitless search after a young Friend from Yorkshire named Fowler, about whom Uncle Isaac had written to P. Mackie. We found he had left Port Adelaide 7 years & is living a long way off. Back to the city & W & I called to see the Bishop, but he was out. W went down to Glenelg Bay to lodge & J to tea at Sarah Sanders. I had tea at the great chapel, Presbyterian, with about 40 Sunday school teachers & afterwards addressed about 400 children & acted as showman for the views of a fine magic lantern. They were generally very orderly at least they minded me at once, so I had no trouble with them. Home to bed about 11 o'clock.

Third day 11 Mo 12th: The most trying weather in South Australia is the North Wind that occasionally visits us with clouds of dust & a sort of furnace heat, & today we have a sample of this. It feels like breathing hot air, & the only way to keep the eyes from the blinding dust is by wearing close fitting spectacles. Called on William Crabb & at the Phillips & cos, to get some more of our tracts to take north with us tomorrow. Four weeks today since we first set foot in Australia, not much work done at present, but I trust more opening will be found as we become better known & people are settled again & after the Prince has left. Daily trips on board the "Galatea" of which he is the captain & holidays every two or three days, have the effect of thoroughly unsettling everybody & everything in & round Adelaide. Met Wilfred again in town today & spent an hour or two with him. J & I went to tea at John Barton Hack's. They had invited several of their numerous family to meet us & we had a very enjoyable evening & concluded it with reading & a time of religious worship followed.

Fourth day 11 Mo 15th: Left our kind friends the Phillips at 6.30 & by train at 7 o'clock A.M. & travelled 50 miles northward to the thriving town of Kaunda. Here we called on the Congregational minister, Morgan Williams, late of Fordingbridge, who gave us a very hearty welcome & offered us his large church for a meeting. We planned one for the 21st inst. Lunched with him & then called at a store, where we were joined by John Bastin & leaving our knapsacks for him to bring on in his buggy, we walked 11 miles on the high road, resting by some water which like most of the ponds & streams in the colonies, was not drinkable. J. Bastin caught us up at Gilbert town & drove us about 100 yards to a small river. Here, to relieve the horse, J & I got our a waded thro', but J.B. drove thro' the water into a deep mud hole, a complete "slough of despond". Here the horse & trap sunk in & the former in trying to extricate himself broke a shaft & the harness. The other shaft was dirmly driven into the mire & it was impossible to move it. J.B. managed to get the horse loose & I soon caught hold of him & held him till help could be obtained. Two men came down to the river & by wading thro' the mud & water, drew the buggy back thro' the river, thus drawing the shaft out its fixture. J.B. rode the horse & we pulled the buggy to a blacksmiths 1/2 a mile off & a ~~kind~~ storekeeper asked us to tea while harness & trap were being set right. It hindered us some two hours & then we drove by moonlight to Ryley, where we lodged at a little public house. In Australia there is a law that every public house should ~~provide~~ be provided with a good sitting room & ~~bed~~ bed-chamber, suitable for the reception of decent people; this is greatly in our favor.

Fifth day 11 Mo 14th: Leaving J. Bastin to follow in the

buggy, we sallied forth along the hot dusty road & down to a creek or river - the latter dignified appellation being given to many little brooks in this dry land. Here I bathed & J put his head in & very luxurious we found it. J. Bastin caught us up soon after & drove us to Saddleworth, where we called on the Methodist minister & planned for a meeting next third day. Then on to Auburn, a pretty little township, where we dined & called on Mr Rock the Bible Christian Minister, who was very kind. We suggested a meeting for tonight but he thought we could not get the people together at so short a notice. We therefore accepted his chapel, a very nice & large one, for next 2nd day eveng. J. Bastin left us here & we staid tea with these dear pious loving people. They made us promise to be at the Bible meeting in their town hall tomorrow eveng. Walked 6 miles further to Water-vale, another pretty little spot where we have taken up our quarters for the night at "a public" & have a Friend to hunt up in the morning. We find that in towns of this kind the only plan that seems likely to answer is to push forward from place to place to arrange meetings & then hold them in returning. The fact is the people are so scattered, living miles away from their townships that it is impossible to get them together at a short summons. In short it is nothing very uncommon in this colony to pass a chapel quite out of sight of any other building & miles ~~xx~~ from any but a few straggling farm houses, yet we ~~xxx~~ are told they ~~w~~ fill well every Sabbath & the people observe that day exceedingly well. We are longing to get at our letters from our dearest ones, which we expect are waiting for us at the town of Karinga, where we ordered them to be forwarded & at which place we hope to spend our next Sabbath. We feel a great deal in the thought of visiting Sydney, as the meeting there is in a terrible state of party feeling. Truly a root of bitterness springing up has troubled them. We have seen several letters from some on both sides, they cannot even meet to worship. One who like Diotrephe loveth to have the pre-eminence has had a very nice young man disowned for using some rather strong expressions in reference to perfection while preaching in meeting one day. We have felt it right to write an epistle to them, as it will be some months before we can visit them probably.

Sixth day 11Mo 15th: John Bastin came to Water-vale & drove us 4 miles to a farmhouse to visit a Friend named John Sken from Cornwall. His wife is not a Friend & they are so far from any meeting that they generally attend a Bible Christian chapel in the neighbourhood. They are a dear old couple & we much enjoyed our visit to them. They are well reported for love & good-works & are alive to God thro' Jesus Christ. We dined with them & had a sitting with them afterwards, in which we both addressed them & Joseph was enabled to pray vocally for them. J. Bastin drove on to Clare & we walked ~~6~~ 5 miles to Auburn & had tea at Mr Rock's, the Bible Christian Ministers. Called at another Christian gentleman's after tea & then to the Bible meeting in the town-hall - not very large but a nice time. We both addressed the audience, but had to leave before the meeting closed, as it was a wet night & we had 6 miles to walk; staid till 10 o'clock & then walked to the inn at Watervale to lodge again. Got there at 11.30 & soon retired. The beds at the inns in the country townships are comfortable but rather apt to be troubled with the same insects that annoy us sometimes in London beds.

Seventh day 11th Mo 16th: Walked 5 miles towards Clare, then J. Bastin met us & drove us to the Burra, we only walking up & down bad hills & accross fords, or places where the floods had made the road nearly impassable - indeed the road most of the way would be considered ~~impassable~~ impassable for English traps. This land is supplied with strong hickory-wood vehicles from America. The road to the Burra is a very wild one, hills of considerable height covered with brown grass, hardly a tree or shrub of any kind on them, no houses & only an occasional skeleton of a starved horse or ox to relieve the monotony & loneliness of the scene! I never passed over such a road as the 25 miles from Clare to the Burra. The Burra as it is called is a great mining district with a large population. There are two townships, about 2 miles apart, the larger one Kooringa at which we staid, & the other Redruth. The copper from these places is excellent & abundant, but the mines are now closed owing to the great difficulty in procuring firing for the furnaces - every tree & inflammable bush in the neighbourhood having been used & a load of wood now costs £3 delivered at the Burra. Went to the inn to tea & discovered that Edward Hampden the only friend here, is now in Adelaide, where we met him last week & he told us he would be home in time to see us. Discovered my dear Wilfred in the inn. He is visiting this part of S. Australia with Mr Marchant, ex "Yalata" & leaves here with him early tomorrow morning. Wilfred & I went a walk in the eveng.

First day 11 Mo 17th: A son-in-law & daughter of E. Hampden kindly offered J. Bastin & us the use of their parlour to hold our own meeting in & here we were favored to feel the presence of Jesus to be with us very sweetly. The good host & hostess are firm Wesleyans & on their return from chapel the former, Mr Roberts, gave us a glowing account of their morning service & told us he longed to give a good roar. We dined, tea'd & supped with these good folks who seem ~~to~~ living very near their saviour & accompanied them to their service in the afternoon & eveng. It was their "anniversary" & the services were conducted by Mr ~~Wattsford~~ Watsford from Adelaide, a very excellent earnest & ~~an~~ powerful preacher. We were introduced to him & the Burra minister, both of whom regretted we could hold no service there & gave us warm invitations to use their chapels or schoolrooms when we have opportunity. The eveng service was a revival one, concluding with a prayer meeting & the careless were invited to come to the penitent banch, but I fancy most of that class had previously withdrawn. After this, we visited the father of our land lady at the inn. He is almost a dying state & I asked him concerning his soul. He said "much remains to be done. I have not perfect faith that my sins are foregiven". He confessed to having been a great sinner & told us he had no wish to get better, lest he should be tempted to go back into the pleasures of the world. We both addressed him & prayed for him & I trust strengthened his faith. Thus our visit to the Burra, tho' not spent as we expected, did not prove altogether in vain, we thankfully believe. Our kind friend Mr Roberts & both of us were engaged in vocal prayer at his house after supper. Retired with a peaceful mind.

Second day 11 Mo 18th: I omitted to say that Mr Roberts gave us a very striking account of his own conversion. It was in the silence of night; he was powerfully visited & for days & weeks was in a very wretched state, going alone for prayer & not daring to tell

his wife or anyone about it. At last, again in the night, he thought he saw his Lord on the cross & a voice saying to him: "poor-sinner". He was then enabled to put his trust in Jesus and told his wife & to his great rejoicing found that she had been passing thro' the same terrible conflict for sin & dared not tell him. Before this he was a ~~an~~ dissolute character. Thus God works. We had asked our land lady to call us in time for the mail this morning, but she forgot & we were up just in time to see it drive off without us, at 5.15 a.m. We therefore hired and were driven to Black Springs to breakfast & then on to Waterloo, where live William & Elizabeth Sander & where we staid & took a second breakfast. W.S is the last of the 6 brothers we have visited & probably the eldest. His wife, a daughter of our dear Friend Joseph May is terribly crippled with rheumatism. We had a sitting with them & W.S drove us over to Saddlemorth, called there to ask leave of the minister who has lent us his chapel here for tomorrow, to lend us the one at Waterloo for the next eveng; Then to Hazeleigh, the pretty estate of the late Arthur Coleman. It was sad to be there & feel all that had made it so happy & bright a home for his wife & young children was gone, never to return; Lucy Coleman has kindly ordered the people in charge to do all they can for us & has told us to make it our home wherever we incline. Took leave of W.Sanders & walked 7 miles to Auburn where we took up our quarters at Mr Rock's. He welcomed us back most kindly. The meeting in his excellent church was a season of peculiar favor. We had both felt very poor in spirit & void of all good, & had sat down by the road-side for awhile in earnest longing for divine help. We both had much to say, both as ministers & in prayer & after we concluded, Mr Rock rose & expressed his very full unity with us & our mission, speaking at some length of his earnest prayer that our labours here & all thro' the colonies might be largely blessed. After supper I felt constrained to return vocal thanks for the blessings of the day & to pray for our dear friends here.

Third day 11 Mo 19th: After the morning reading, at Mr Rocks, my dear cousin bent the knee in prayer & soon after we bid adieu to these dear saintly people & walked back to the Coleman's, distributing tracts & giving notice of the meeting at Saddlemorth (two miles from Hazeleigh) this eveng. After dinner wrote up our diaries &c. Our English letters were forwarded to Burra & I have the unutterable pleasure of welcoming ~~the~~ "The Friend" & sweet letters from my precious Father, Mother, Joseph, Caroline, Priscie, Harriet, Alice, Uncle H.N(?) and Mary. Oh! I can never tell how welcome these are, no one knows till they are thus isolated from their own dear homes by many thousands of miles. Every item of information is interesting. "As cold water to a thirsty ~~man~~ soul, so is good news from a far country". (Prov.) Joseph drove me & the good people who have charge of this house to Saddlemorth, where we were both greatly helped in setting forth to the people who filled the chapel the practical nature of true faith in Jesus.

Fourth day 11 Mo 20th: After breakfast, wrote letters. I believe I have not yet described the general appearance of colonial country houses. They are almost without exception of only 1 floor & generally surrounded by a verandah, which tends to keep the house cool. Fire places are uncommon & as everybody burns wood, the old fashioned "~~ank~~ x "dogs" are universally to be found in the open

chimney, unless the inmates be too poor & then a few bricks take the place of iron dogs. Most of the furniture - & this is usually very scanty - is from America & generally consists of ~~x~~ iron bedsteads, cane-seated chairs & some large boxes ~~x~~ covered with drapery which hides a multitude of untidy lumber. A rocking chair is common ~~x~~ & a "colonial sofa" with 2 ends & no back, which if the house be full, serves the purpose of a bed. The gardens are very full of gay flowers in rich profusion, but we miss the neat tidy look of our English gardens, with their box borders, grass plots & gravel walks none of which are known in S. Australia. About 11 o'clock the minister from Saddleworth rode over & leaving his horse at Hazeleigh, drove us in the Coleman's trap to Waterloo, where we dined at William Sander's. The minister kindly gave notice to his people of a meeting to be held in the Waterloo chapel tonight & left us to return home to tea. We had a nice meeting in this little township, numbering probably about 50 souls, but several rode & drove over from a distance. Our Friends William & Elizabeth Sanders live in a very small house & keep the post office & general store for Waterloo. They have 5 nice little children, the eldest about 9. They kindly made us up beds in their sitting room where we slept well.

Fifth day 11 Mo 21st: Left Waterloo at 8.30 by coach for Kapunda. The mail coaches here are very unlike any English conveyance I ever saw. They are open except a roof which covers them, but there are no sides & rows of seats across the conveyance ~~forming~~ form the "insides". Only the drivers ~~six~~ seat outside. The vehicle is swung on leather springs like our old "C" & spring carriages. When the coach drove up to Waterloo this morning two things were obvious: 1st that it was full inside & out & that Mr Marchant & Wilfred were two of the passengers. As we felt we must go, Joseph & I mounted on the roof & by means of a rope to hold on by, managed the 27 miles from thence to Kapunda without accident & no other inconvenience than being almost choked with dust & rather sore from the tossing about over these bad roads. Saw Wilfred & Mr Marchant off ~~x~~ by rail for Adelaide & then came to the hotel, a very excellent one, to dine; wrote our journals in the afternoon & went to tea at our kind friends Morgan Williams, the congregational minister. At his suggestion we retired alone into his study for $\frac{1}{2}$ an hour before the meeting. We both felt very low in looking towards this meeting & we ~~were~~ never felt more sensible of help from our blessed Lord in setting before the people the high standard of the gospel of Christ. The chapel was very crowded & the audience as quiet as if they had been used to Friends. It is a very new experience to us thus from place to place to have to introduce our mode of worship to a people where Friends meetings were never held before. After meeting the dear people made ~~x~~ such a rush for tracts that my stock was soon exhausted. Mr Claxton the Baptist minister joined us at supper at Mr Williams & prayed very sweetly for us both. The Williams having no family of their own, have adopted a sweet little ~~x~~ orphan girl as their own daughter. Lodged there.

Sixth day 11 Mo 22nd: Called on the Claxtons & to see the copper mine & left Kapunda at noon by rail for Ganler where we arrived at one o'clock. Called on James Mold & family, members (or some of them) of our society. Dined there & then called on the Congregational minister, Mr Evans, but he was out - however his very kind young wife told us she would arrange a time & place for a meeting

for us there & write & let us know. Called on David Joslin, a friend from Chelmsford, who has relations there now. Walked 10 miles to the beautiful residence of Joseph Barrett, late of Essex, whose present wife is a daughter of Joseph May. He has 8 children. J.B. has greatly prospered in the colony & has an excellent mansion-like house. He is much respected & has been a member of Australian parliament. Here we take up head quarters for a few days.

Seventh day 11 Mo 23rd: The grounds of this estate are very beautiful, including with 1/4 mile from the house, a river rushing over rocks & forming in places deep gullies. This winds among high banks of rock, so as to be invisible from the house. Spent the morning gathering vegetables & walking about this lovely place. After an early dinner Joseph Barrett drove my dear cousin in a buggy 12 miles to Auguston, I riding on horse back by the side. A very rough road with great holes, but my steed was very steady & cantered along to my heart's content. Called on John Gibson, Independent Minister at Auguston & arranged with him for a meeting for Wednesday night. Came home by way of Angus Park, to see a friend, William Turner, but had not time to sit with him, but hope to do so on Wednesday. Joseph rode my horse "Robin" part of the way home as I was getting rather stiff. Before we went out, a gentleman - Mr Wilkinson - called on us about a meeting at Lyndock Valley, saying we might have the service the following evening if we did not object to commencing with singing & reading & prayers. This we agreed to do & so notice was given of the meeting.

First day 11 Mo 24th: Commenced our family meeting with reading the Bible & Joseph & I were both largely engaged in ministry & myself in prayer. After tea, J.B.'s eldest son, Charles a youth of probably 20, drove Joseph & me 3 miles to Lyndock Valley. J.B. drove his wife & one child & the servants drove another trap. The chapel was at 1. Valley was well filled. A deacon gave out "Come Holy Spirit, Heavenly Dove" after which I read a chapter & asked for a short time of silence, which was soon broken by my beloved companion in earnest prayer. We both were greatly helped to preach to the people & I closed in prayer. After meeting Mr Wilkinson came to me & said that in future we were welcome to the chapel any time. He was only fearful about our having this meeting because he had heard that Friends did not pray in their meetings. We were most cordially received after the meeting, many pressed to shake hands with us & told us they had never attended so solemn & impressive a service before. Several came from Sandy Creek 6 miles off & at their earnest solicitation, we have agreed to have a meeting there next Tuesday. Drove home feeling very thankful for the mercies of today & for these Joseph returned vocal thanks after the evening reading.

Second day 11 Mo 25th: Joseph & I rose early & had a very refreshing bath in the river before breakfast. After this meal our very kind host drove Joseph nine miles to Rankaparinga, I on "Robins" back as before. At Unkaparinga lives John Edward Coleman & family. He is a brother of the late Arthur Coleman of Hazeleigh. He was from home, but his wife & children kindly welcomed us & we dined & had a time of prayers & preaching with them. Stopped on our way back at Lyndock Valley to have tea with a dear Christian family, who belong to the chapel where we had our service last night, Mr & Mrs Sandland. Louise Barritt accompanied us so far in the morning

on her horse & she spent the day there. Mr Sandland is a very excellent gentleman, who from an accident, 5 years ago, is deprived pretty much of the use of one side, but he bears it very patiently. After tea I walked about the grounds with Mrs Sandland & her daughters, serious girls of 23 & 16. Came indoors & had reading, after which Joseph addressed us at some length & I engaged in prayer. It is rather queer work riding at night along these terribly uneven roads, but I let my horse follow Louise Barritt's bothas to pace & path & we reached home safely about 10 o'clock. Here a note from Mr Evans waited for us, to tell us the chapel at Yawler(?) was at our service & notice given from all the pulpits about it. It has been a great blessing to S. Australia that after a long conflict, & all religion is free from state patronage, so that now there is no "church & dissent" no one sect being able to look on others as dissenters. When this colony was first established many denominations used state aid & it was found to be a great hindrance to the spread of gospel truth. Here I must stop this journal for the present & post it for next mail. Our intention is to be at the two months meeting for discipline at Adelaide next first day & to go to Melbourne some time between that & the following sabbath. Then new Yearly Meeting is to begin the 9th of next month. My dear cousin joins me in dear love to all our Friends. They are often in my thoughts with deep affection & very often does the prayer ascend, that the richest choicest blessings may descend upon them from Him who is a prayer-hearing & a prayer answering God & that they may often remember in prayer their absent & attached friend

Walter Robson.

Received at Saffron Walden July 13 1868.

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Part Third: South Australia continued and
Victoria Commenced.

Tuesday November 26th:1867: we rose early this morning & had another most delightful bathe in the river before breakfast. Afterwards we prepared our letters for the English mail. Had an early tea & then Joseph Barrett drove us 6 miles to Sandy Creek, a little scattered settlement; only one house in sight from the schoolroom, where the services are held. Here we met Mr & Mrs Sandland who had kindly driven over from Lyndock Valley to be at our meeting, their two daughters Emily & Ellen riding on horse back. We waited a long time before anyone came, the meeting being planned for 7 O'clock, but it was about 8 o'clock before the room filled. The evening hymn was sung & I read a chapter in Epistles to Ephesians & afterwards offered prayer; we both spoke at some length & the meeting was closed by Joseph in prayer. It is very new to me to see the horses & traps all tied round outside the chapels, while their owners are worshipping. Most chapels we have seen have sheds to accommodate them, but at Sandy Creek they had to be tied to a fence. Our dear friend J. Barrett is so nearly blind that in driving us home tonight he ran the vehicle onto Ellen Sandcastle's horse, causing it to plunge & nearly throw its rider. However no harm was done.

Wednesday Nov 27th: Had another bathe before breakfast in the river. After breakfast J.B drove Joseph & I rode "Robin" over to Kingsbelt to see Samuel Smith, brother to Charles Smith of Kelvedon. Found he had left this part of the colony, having taken a public house 50 miles farther north. His son Henry was there & we staid & talked awhile with him. On to Nain to dine. Nain is a German settlement, hardly any English in the place & second rate "Table d'hote" served us for a dinner. I changed seats with Joseph, feeling rather sore with many miles on a very uneasy tho' steady little horse. Proceeded to Angas Park & called again to see our friend William Turner & wife, but he was so busy we could not get a time of worship with them. On to Angaston to tea at John Gibson's the Independent minister. He is from near Street in Somerset & we had a note of introduction from the Clarke's for him. He had invited quite a party of his friends to meet us to tea, the Baptist minister among the rest. After tea, ~~the minister~~ J. Gibson asked us whether we did not wish to retire for a time. This offer we gratefully accepted. The chapel was well filled & we were both made sensible of great help in preaching to the people & in prayer - all was conducted as a Friends meeting. Joseph lodged at Mr Salters, father of Mrs Gibson; J. Barrett at the Baptist ministers & I at ~~the~~ Mr Gibson's. ~~xx~~ Sat talking with him in his verandah till near midnight. He is a very excellent man & thoroughly unsectarian. He told me he longed to see a thriving church of Friends in the colony, believing it would do much good.

Thursday Nov 28th: A hot, furnace-like wind, but it turned cooler as the day advanced. Drove back to Joseph Barrett's to dinner. Information received from Mr Barker that Lucy Coleman, widow of Arthur Coleman, has a little daughter. We are entreated to visit Angaston when again in the colony & at present have met with great kindness everywhere. In the afternoon J. Barrett drove us over to Gawler where we will went to tea at Mr Evans, the Independent minister's & then to a meeting at his large chapel. There felt to

a great deal of high profession, with not much of real religious life & it was hard work, but we left feeling relieved. We must not expect all meetings to be alike comfortable, for not only must we feel an opening to preach but the hearts of the people must be made willing to receive the word preached. After meeting Joseph Barrett walked with us to the magnificent residence of Walter Duffield, M.P. He is one of the richest men in the colony & has the best house except Government House. Tho' we were quite unexpected, we received a most hearty welcome from this excellent gentleman. He is from Essex & has wonderfully prospered here. J.B. & he are great friends. W. Duffield's wife & some of his family are in Adelaide, but his three daughters who were at home are most agreeable young ladies. They have been honored by a visit from our Prince Alfred, who was so pleased by his reception there that he gave each of them his carte, on which at their request he had written his own name. We lodged in the bed chamber where he had been accommodated. He spent about an hour with them, staying to lunch & have a wash. Of course the family were very full of his visit, but to their humbler guests showed great kindness. We had reading with them & prayer was put upon their behalf by me before we retired.

Friday Nov 29th: W. Duffield had to leave early this morning but his daughters showed us no little kindness. J. Barrett & ourselves went over the beautiful grounds, picking & eating loquats & for the first time in my life, fresh from the trees, ripe oranges. Called again at Mr ~~Evans~~ Evans, then J.B. left us for home & we had religious sitting with our friends James Mott & family & David Jesclin & family, the latter a precious time. Left for Adelaide by train & after taking up our abode again at the Phillip's, called on Mary Ann Smith, a nice old lady, an occasional man attendant of our meeting, & had a nice time with her. Back to dine. Adelaide looks so different now that all the decorations are removed & the Prince gone. King William St stretching the whole length of the city, look very fine now that the balconies & flag staffs are gone. This & many other of the Adelaide streets are 132 ft wide. A belt of park land incloses the city & however large it grows is never to be built upon. This will be a great advantage if Adelaide grows to be a really large place - at present only about 30,000 inhabitants live in the city, but there are many more in the suburbs.

Saturday Nov 30th: Did some shopping in Adelaide & secure places in the "Aldinga" for Melbourne for next Wednesday. Called on some Friends & people ~~was~~ connected with Friends in Adelaide; among the rest, ~~was~~ Sanderson Lloyd, a nephew of the late D. & M. Lloyd of Birmingham. F. Mackie & wife & one of the little Colemans came in to call & be in readiness for the meeting tomorrow. I went after tea to call on Joseph Phillips.

Sunday ~~was~~ Dec 1st: We mustered about 60 Friends & attenders at meeting this morning, the two months meeting for discipline. We were permitted to have a nice meeting. ~~was~~ F. Mackie said a few words; Joseph & I spoke at some length, both feeling a great concern that our dear Friends of South Australia might feel more of the ~~privilege~~ privilege of doing something for the Lord & Saviour, that they might be more willing simply to devote themselves to Jesus & under the gentle drawings of the Father's love, be led to labor for the good of each other & the world at large. The meeting for trans-

actianing the affairs of the church was then held. William May was clerk. There is now women's discipline & the female members keep their seats. The first business was to re-unite John Bastin as a member. He was disowned in England for failing in business. Then our certificates were read & much unity with us expressed. The queries for our next Y.R. was in London were answered & then all the unanswered queries were considered. Then Joseph spoke for some time & we adjourned till 3.30, only allowing an hour for refreshment. The Hodgkins & E. Malcolmson dined with us at H. Phillip's. Wilfred seems much better since we landed in this colony. In the afternoon meeting for worship William Crabb spoke at some length. F. Mackie & Joseph also spoke & I engaged in prayer. After the remaining business had been disposed of, I laid before friends the idea of dear John Hodgkin in relation to forming an Intercolonial Friends School, after Ackworth in style. This suggestion I left for their consideration as also that it would be more to profit to read only one of the unanswered queries at a meeting, instead of all four. Friends seemed surprised & pleased to find that this would be in order, having always supposed that it was their duty to read & consider them all at the same meeting & as that when the queries were answered. I hope our being here may be helpfull in some ways to our Friends. After tea Wilfred & I went a walk & to hear Mr Fletcher from Melbourne at Christ Church. Wilfred & his companions are lodging at the "York Hotel". On my way home again I saw a fearful fire sending up its ruddy glare into the evening sky. It was many miles distant, & probably some great farm or bush fire. H. Phillips, Joseph & I sallied forth to the top of a hill to view it.

Monday Dec 2nd: After breakfast I went to the "York" for Wilfred & I rode Jonathan's horse & W. his own 7 miles to Glenelg. This is a pretty little sea-side place & much resorted to by Adelaide people. Called while at Glenelg on Mrs Cullin & her sister, Miss McMinn. After a pleasant visit there called at Mr Marchant's where we lunched. He was out but his sister-in-law Miss Phillips & Miss Peachy, with dear little Annie & Edie gave us a hearty welcome. After returning to Adelaide, took leave of Jonathan & his companion, Mr Heath & of my dearly loved Wilfred, not expecting to meet them again till we return to England (D.W.) They had taken berths in the "Yatala" but she sails so early they will go I expect by the next of the same line of vessels. I felt bidding good-bye to this dear boy, for whom I have long entertained a brotherly affection; dear fellow I wish his health may be really permanently established. They left for Renunga about 4 o'clock. We had tea & spent a very pleasant evening at George & Margaret Phillip's. They & their 5 children are a nice Xtian family, the elder ones engaged in the Sunday School teaching & the hearts of them all I verily believe dedicated to the Lord. Joseph addressed them & I prayed before we left their abode. They live within a few yards of our kind host.

Tuesday Dec 3rd: Spent the mornigg at G. Phillip's warehouse, packing up our varied belongings for Melbourne. Emma May came to dine at H. Phillip's. wrote in the afternoon. We both went to John Bastin's to tea, where we met Mary Bastin's brother, Sanael Cornish. Then held a public meeting in the great Wesleyan school-room, North Adelaide. It was for many years the chapel, whose pulpit was so faithfully occupied by Mr Draper, who my friends at home will reme-

ber was returning to this country, & after leading many fellow voyagers to Jesus, went down with them in the "London". The room was well filled & we had a very solemn & relieving meeting, many very warmly thanking us afterwards & asking us to come again. So ends our public services in this colony at present. During the 7 weeks spent in it, we have experienced numberless mercies from our gracious Lord, help at times when we have felt helpless, strength in our weakness & riches in our poverty. "Oh! magnify the Lord with us & let us exalt His name together." The kindness we have everywhere experienced, the truly Xtian hospitality does call for our devout gratitude. Frederic & Emma May attended our meeting, as did our friend F. Mackie.

Wednesday Dec 4th: Joseph & I made several parting calls & had lunch at noon. Then our dear friends George & Margaret & Joseph & Maria Phillips journeyed with us down to Port Adelaide. Here we went on board the dear old "Yatala" to take leave of her & Legoe & the various officers & sailors who were to be seen. Then on board the "Aldinga", a very screw steamer, & left Port Adelaide at about 6 o'clock bound for Melbourne. A lovely wveng on board followed by a rough night & many on board suffered from the usual malady. We kept well, but both feel the most uncomfortable jerking of the screw very unpleasant & long to be on board a good sailing vessel. Writing legibly is no light task.

Thursday Dec 5th: Woke to find the "Aldinga" lying in & Victor harbour, taking in hundreds of balls of wool. Did not leave this spot till 2 p.m. We have on board Mr Fletcher from Melbourne, who is travelling on Bible society work; he is a clergyman, a very agreeable man. Then we have a daughter of a Scotch minister of Adelaide, a Miss Gardner, who with Fletcher & myself occupied part of yesterday singing many hymns on deck. They are both unwell today; indeed a very select party of us meet at table. Watched a glorious sunset tonight from the deck.

Friday Dec 6th: A most lovely day at sea, most people ill & as the wool on deck prevented any exercise, spent most of the day reading.

Saturday Dec 7th: Rose at 6 o'clock & came on deck. The "Aldinga" swiftly steaming in smooth water inside the great basin known on maps as Port Phillip. Steamed up the river to the capital of Victoria, the splendid city of Melbourne. Here to my surprise we found our cousin Thos. Binns Robson on the quay to meet us. He helped about the luggage & breakfasted with us on board. Then we took a car to Kilda about 4 miles from Melbourne & took up our abode at Edward Sayce's. Here a very cordial greeting awaited us & we are to make this comfortable house our home while in this city & locality. E. Sayce's daughter Indiana is to be married next Wednesday to a Frier from Ireland named Joseph Fearson. After dinner we went by rail into Melbourne, to call on a clergyman Mr Beecher, with whom Mr Fletcher is staying & had a very pleasant visit there. The object of our call being a proposition from Dr Tucker of the B&F Bible Society for us to join him in a tour to some of the remote settlements after a few months. Home to tea & in the evening we called on Samuel Levitt & wife. Our dear old friend from Hobart Town, Francis Cotton, called to see us here. He has come to attend this Y.M. & visit S. Australia with a minister.

Sunday Dec 8th: Went by train to meeting this mornng. A very capital & stylish meeting house, not over large but thoroughly comfortable. About 80 friends & others present in the morning. W.M. offered prayer, then F.Cotton preached a good old testament quaker sermon from the text: "Keep silence before me O islands". Joseph spoke at some length on the practical bearing of the petitions: "Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done". Then a friend who 16 years ago lived in the employ of R.G & R, James Swinborn, knelt in prayer & after I had expressed a little of what was on my mind, we broke up after a very favored meeting. J.S has had many trials which have been greatly blessed to him. He has not long spoken in meetings. ~~James~~ Introduced to many Friends after meeting. Home to dine. All M.Syces children at home today, except one who is the inmate of an asylum. He has 9 children living. Read in the verandah in the afternoon. To meeting by train at 7 o'clock. F.Cotton laboured at some length excellently. I had much to say in the ministry & Joseph closed the meeting in very solemn prayer. He & E & Deborah Sayce went home by train & the rest of our party walked. It was a very lovely moonlight eveng & we greatly enjoyed ~~xxxx xxx~~ walking thro' parks & ds to this pretty suburb. Reached home at 9.30; Indiana played some hymns on the piano & I sang with her as an accompaniment. After reading dear E.S prayed very sweetly for us & our dear ones at home for whom our prayers very often ascend.

Monday Dec 9th: E.Sayce & Indiana went with us by train into Melbourne, where we spent the morning arranging tracts. Home to dine & after dinner wrote & read. Melbourne is a grand place. with its suburbs it contains 150,000 inhabitants. The streets are wide & the public buildings would not disgrace London. From the higher parts of the city & from St Kilda where E.Sayce lives is a beautiful view over the bay. The "Calatea" lies in the bay, but its Royal Captain Prince Alfred is not now in town, but visiting the interior of the colony of Victoria. Many illuminations, triumphal arches & speak of the loyal feeling with which, to quote a motto on a banner in town, "Victoria welcomes Victoria's son". The Annual Meeting began at 7 p.m. It is the first ever held in Melbourne. Men & women sit together. About 60 were present. After a solemn pause I knelt & earnestly invoked the Divine Presence in this assembly. E.Sayce ~~acted~~ acted as clerk & Samuel Isaac Levitt as assistant. After reading an opening minute, some extracts & old minutes of the M.E were read relative to the formation of such a meeting. It is not to have disciplinary power at present, not until all the colonies can unite in an Intercolonial Yearly Meeting, and from the expenses of traveling &c, this does not seem likely at present. Then F.Cotton's & our certificates were read & much unity expressed & gratitude to God for sending labourers among Friends here. J.Swinborn returned vocal thanks on this account. Some Friends were nominated to appoint a clerk for the Annual Meeting. Just before the minute of appointment was read, dear F.Cotton bowed the knee in thanksgiving for the sense of Gods presence which been wonderfully felt among us. After the meeting closed many Friends said they never remembered a time of so much favor. Dear Joseph had been engaged at some length very excellently as a minister.

Tuesday Dec 10th: Cooler today than yesterday, when a hot wind blew and the thermometer was 110° in the shade. ~~James~~ Joseph & I rose at 6.30

& walked to some bathing houses, from which steps descend into the sea. Greatly enjoyed our dip. went into Melbourne & called on Maurice Taylor, a son of Eliz. Taylor of Midalesboro'. Then to see Lucy Birchall, a near relative of the Marriages of Chelmsford. She is much to be felt for. Her husband just embarked for England to try to get a living, but leaving his wife & family in pecuniary difficulties. We dined at John Horsefalls, Thos B. Robson joining us there. After tea walked again into Melbourne to the next sitting of the Annual Meeting. This sitting was devoted, after appointing E. Sayce & S. J. Levitt to the table, to the consideration of addressing epistles to the other colonies. Joseph offered fervent prayer for a continued blessing & near the close J. Swinborn followed in the same strain. Joseph & F. Cotton are on a Committee for an epistle to the scattered Friends in New Zealand, Queensland & Sydney, while E. Sayce, W. Robson & several others, to prepare one for Tasmania & S. Australia. I trust we may be helped in these little labors of love.

Wednesday Dec 11th: Rather singular, that the first wet day we have seen since landing should be a wedding day. Our dear host & hostess wish us to be part of the family today. No friends at the house before meeting, so that 3 carriages conveyed the 4 inmates of "Earlhamhope" to the meeting house. Here we met the bride-groom & the rest of the party, several not friends. Joseph & I were each given a partner; he a sister in law of E. Sayce's & I a Miss Werner, one of the bridesmaids. The meeting house was well filled. J. Swinborn prayed for the dear young couple. Then they read their little "say" to prevent mistakes. From choice the words were altered from "promising thro' Divine assistance to be &c" into "promising to be unto her thro' Divine assistance". I think the alteration rather an improvement. The certificate, a very splendid affair, was read & signed by the couple & E & D Sayce, & immediately after E. Sayce poured out his soul in long earnest supplication for his beloved daughter & her husband. F. Cotton spoke on the covenant of marriage in connection with our covenant with God, both requiring Divine help to enable us to keep it faithfully. I followed on the great reality of which marriage is the type, the glorious union of Christ & His own church. A Friend named Mould, E. Sayce's partner, gave some excellent advice on marriage duties & then we ~~was~~ broke up. Drove home to dejeuner. About 30 guests in all. It would hardly become me in my present position, to ~~do~~ say much of the dress & personal appearance of the wedding guests or I could enlarge on the really lovely look of the dear bride & her maids, the former a dark handsome lady & most of the latter beautiful girls. This hot climate gives young ladies every chance of setting off light flimsy gauzes & muslin to the best advantage & of these there was no lack. Joseph & Indiana Pearson left us at 3 P.M. after F. Cotton had bowed the knee in prayer on their behalf. The bride & groom have gone to a little sea-side town for a week or two, before taking a town in New Zealand. ~~My~~ Spent the afternoon much as such times generally are spent. Most of the Melbourne Friends to tea, but several of the wedding guests ~~was~~ had withdrawn. In the evening a Miss Mould played hymns on the piano & one or two of us accompanied her by singing. Then some games. Two parties into the dining room to supper, & some more music & singing. Our guests left a little before midnight. The day all thro' was showery but not

inconveniently so. All passed off very nicely & satisfactorily & tho' marriage days are not generally the most profitable times, yet I hope in looking back on this one, we need feel no regret.

Thursday, Dec 12th: A soaking wet day, spent the morning writing up our diaries &c. F. Cotton called & we had much very interesting conversation together. It is ~~is~~ a wonderful change since Monday when the degree of heat in the shade was 110°; now it is 58°, so rapidly does the heat change in this part of the world. Joseph & I went to dine at Margaret Beale's. She is from Ireland, her two daughters & herself keep a drapery shop. She is a very excellent & choice woman. The Annual meeting met at 7 p.m. Spent ~~most~~ most of the time in ~~now~~ answering the queries for the next Y.M. in London. Joseph offered earnest prayer during the course of the sitting. On returning home, we found the rain in pitiless torrents, as we rarely have it at home, flooding the streets & making them almost impassable.

Friday, Dec 13th: Joseph staid at home to write. I called on S.J. Levitt & he & I prepared an epistle for S. Australia. Then on to John Horsefall's, where he & I united in essaying an epistle to Hobart-Town. Back to E. Sayce's to dinner. Up to Melbourne on business to see after luggage &c. The meeting at 7 p.m. as usual. After a pause I knelt & invoked the presence & power of the great Head of the church to be with us by His Holy Spirit & I trust & believe the petition was not disregarded. A very solemn & excellent meeting followed. After finishing the queries, a time for religious expression followed & Joseph, F. Cotton, the clerk & I all addressed the meeting. The Epistle to Tasmania passed with scarce any alteration. Dear old F. Cotton returned thanksgiving & praise for the gracious help that had been vouchsafed to us this eveng. These meetings must close at 9.30 p.m. to allow Friends to leave Melbourne for the suburbs by the train, missing which they must either wait another hour or go home in cars. Edward Dickinson joined us to supper. We were struck in Adelaide by the number & beauty of the various churches & the same equally applies to Melbourne. There is one recently erected for the Independents at a cost of £15,000.

Saturday, Dec 14th: A lovely fine day, the wet so soon dries here that they were watering the streets of Melbourne last eveng. One of the young Holdsworths from Manchester has come to see us. They have just returned from S. Australia. went with them into town to call on a Mr Bell, once a Friend, now a very excellent lay preacher among the Independents. Back to dine. wrote in the afternoon & in the eveng Joseph went to tea at the Veever's, while I staid at home, not feeling very well. I believe I have never mentioned in my diary the Aboriginal inhabitants. We have often met & sometimes spoken to them. They are a most degraded looking set, especially their "lubias" (or wives) who with their little "piccaninnies" (babies) on their backs, are not unfrequently in the town always looking miserable with no mark of intelligence on their faces, while their foreheads are frightfully compressed.

Sunday, Dec 15th: Left Deborah Sayce at home to nurse her daughter Lilly, a girl of 16 who is suffering from mumps. We had a favored meeting. F. Cotton broke the silence in prayer; Joseph & I spoke at some length & F.C. said a few words. The Holdsworths came to dine with us at E. Sayce's. After dinner we met at S.J. Levitts to

to hold the annual meeting of Ministers & Overseers. Elders are an unknown institution in the colonies. We had a very nice meeting, in which much counsel was given & we were permitted in measure to realize the ~~my~~ high privilege of being called to work for Jesus. E.S & I engaged in prayer. Took tea at S.J. Levitt's & walked into Melbourne $\frac{3}{4}$ miles to the eveng meeting. This was opened by Joseph in prayer & after he & I had spoken at some length & had been sensible of much help, & F.C had ~~xxx~~ said a few words, E. Sayce melted to return praise & thanksgiving, especially that we had been enabled "fearlessly to declare thy truth O God". Joseph & I walked home, the others rode. A day of great favor & many mercies from our blessed Lord.

Monday, Dec 16th: Joseph & I walked into Melbourne & then by train to Sandridge, which is the landing place for all vessels too large to come up the river to Melbourne. Here we called to see a friend named Clarke, but he was away. Returned & dined in town. Then saw coz S.B. Robson off per steam ship "Coorong" for Adelaide. Met the Holdsworths there & had a long chat on before she left the shore. The English mail is in & now we are longing to get letters from F. Mackie's where ours will ~~be~~ at present be sent to. The arrival of the English mail is the event of the month in all the colonies. X flags from the post offices & town halls are hoisted to proclaim its approach & a paper is at once circulated containing the latest "news from home". (The colonials all call England home). The annual meeting as usual at 7 p.m. Read the unanswered queries & then took up the state of the society. E. Sayce, F. Cotton, J. Horsefall, S.J. Levitt, J.J.H & W.R all had a good deal to & say. Our dear friend F. Cotton laid a concern before us & was cordially liberated to hold a youth's meeting tomorrow eveng. Home to supper.

Tuesday, Dec 17th: Lilly Sayce better today & able to get into the ~~the~~ drawing room. Joseph went into town to huntt up a friend. I staid to get a financial statement ready to sent to the meeting for Sufferings & to write. F. Cotton came to dinner & on epistle business. About 50 Friends met at the Youth's meeting in the eveng. Much of what dear F. Cotton said was very excellent, but he dwelt at painful length on the peculiar dress of & address once so common among Frds, but which I am glad to say has very little place in these parts. I added a few words, endeavouring to draw our young Friends to examine for themselves what the Lord was really requiring of them as individuals & when I addressed the little children present. J.S. Swinborn soon after prayed for these dear little ones & F. Cotton offered prayer very excellently for us all. A zealous old Scotch Friend named Alcoin gave us a very fervent address as if she would pour out her whole heart in love for & to us. Charles Mould, E. Sayce's acting partner, spoke at some length & the meeting which was on the whole a good one, broke up. A large party of the younger Friends walked home, myself among the number, leaving the Horsefalls at their home by the way.

Wednesday, Dec 18th: weekday meeting. F. Cotton, E. Sayce, Joseph & J. Swinborn had good service in the ministry. A large party of Friends to meet F. Cotton & ourselves at the country house of James Hope & wife. They live in a lovely spot with beautiful gardens. In the latter x we spent the afternoon & had tea in the verandah. By train to the annual meeting. Decided to hold the next

A.M in Jan'y 1869 (D.V). Then passed two epistles, the latter I caused much discussion about, owing to a long paragraph setting forth unsound doctrine. After much explanation, I convinced the meeting of the error & afterwards they warmly thanked me for thus preventing the circulation of heresy they did not at first distinguish. One feels thankful to be made of any little service to Friends in this far off land. Broke up as usual at 9.30 to catch the train.

Thursday Dec 19th: Had a most refreshing bathe in the sea before breakfast. The weather terribly hot today. wrote & read before dinner. Went to tea at am & Margaret Creeth's, the latter a daughter of Margaret Beale's. Accompanied them to town in the eveng to attend the concluding sitting of the Annual Meeting. The time was occupied in passing epistles to London, Balaarat & the scattered members in the colonies. A good deal of lively & interesting expression of sentiment in reference to them all. Before the closing minut was read, I knelt in thanksgiving for the precious covering that has so often been over us & to ask a blessing on the labours of the meeting. Joseph said a few words before the meeting separated.

Friday Dec 20th: After bathing in the sea & breakfast, Joseph & I sallied forth in search of a Friend, Rachel Armfield (sister-in-law of J.A of Finsbury). She lost her husband at Adelaid 3 years back & has been lost to Friends here since. We had a parcel for her from England & had advertised in the papers for her & received a reply from her as to where she might be found. After walking 4 miles we discovered her abode & had a very satisfactory call & religious time with her, in which we were both enabled to deal plainly yet in love to her, & dear J. prayed earnestly for her. Walked thence into Melbourne & called on Charles Gould. Home to dinner where we were joined by P. Cotton & S.J. Levitt. Afternoon we went by train to Richmond & spent a very pleasant eveng at Margaret Beale's, meeting there several dear friends. In the eveng I laid seriously before the younger Friends the great desirability of forming ~~at~~ & if any way open for it a Sunday School, telling them of the great blessing likely to be theirs in trying to help others. I hope before we finally leave Melbourne, something will be done, as they seemed warmly to take up the subject & there will be, I believe no lack of either teachers or scholars, if only they can work harmoniously & from real love to Jesus. After supper Joseph addressed us sweetly. Home to E. Sayce's at 11 o'clock, my dear father will be interested in hearing that one of the Friends we met at H.B's yesterday eveng was William, son of the late John Rasche of (I think) Minden. He is a very nice young man, an engineer by profession, as also an artist. He is much to be felt for, as he is suffering from a very distressing mono-mania. It assumes a form of intense fear of persons conspiring to injure or destroy him.

Saturday, Dec 21st: E. Sayce's son Alfred is educated at the Wesleyan College, & today was a grand united meeting at the Exhibition Buildings in Melbourne, of that & the other great educational establishments viz. the Grammar School, Scotch College & Catholic School. Alfred had 2 tickets given him, of which E. Sayce & I availed ourselves, Joseph preferring to stay at "Earlhamhope" to write letters. About 5,000 people & 700 boys were assembled in the building, which is the largest assembly hall in the southern hemisphere. At noon Prince Alfred took the throne erected for him on the dais,

the members of the Upper house arranged around him. Several boys gave excellent recitations in voices that filled the spacious & crowded hall. When the Prince entered the national anthem was sung by the boys. After the recitations & solo singing, the prizes were given; they were beautifully bound books, of a standard character. The principals of the schools introduced the successful competitors to the Prince, who handed the prizes in return. About 300 prizes were thus given. "Rule Britannia" was excellently sung & the Prince left the building. I joined our friends John & Fanny VeEVERS, who accompanied me to the wharf just in time to say farewell to dear Francis Cotton, embarked in the "Aldinga" for Adelaide. Then we dined at an eating house. Met Joseph at James & Sarah Swinborn's to tea. I should like my dear friends at home to know & see in this case what sanctified affliction has done for these dear people. Surely they have been tried as in the furnace of affliction: out of 10 children 7 have been removed, some at an age when they were just becoming useful as well as interesting family treasures. The three who yet remain are very precocious & most interesting little ones. We greatly enjoyed our evening there. J & S.S have stayed on their own responsibility a Sunday Ragged school & have about 15 of the most wretched children in Frahavan, the part where they reside. We closed the evening in a very comforting time of family devotion.

Sunday, Dec 22nd: At meeting this morning E. Sayce knelt & asked a blessing on our fathering together. Joseph was very excellently engaged in ministry, on the uselessness of an empty profession I followed, on the necessity of placing all our trust in Jesus for our salvation. Joseph closed in prayer, after J. Swinborn had also knelt. Joseph & I dined at South Yarra at J&R Horsefall's & came home to E. Sayce to tea. Here we found his brother Joseph Sayce, a member of the English Episcopal Church, with his wife, little son Frederic & daughters Josephine & Gertrude, girls of about 16 & 19. They accompanied us to the evening meeting, which was a very full one, many not friends being there. I opened the meeting in prayer, Joseph spoke at some length & I followed, both sensible of Divine help & strength in setting forth the truths of the ever-blessed Gospel. Elizabeth Alcorn said a few earnest words & Joseph closed in solemn & earnest prayer. Walked home with the Horsefalls & George Sayce. Josephine Sayce lodged at "Barhamhope". My beloved cousin returned thanks for the mercies of the day after the family reading at night.

Monday Dec 23rd: We went to breakfast at Wm Robinson's; he is a very nice friend from Ireland, a cousin of the family more known than adored by us at home, of which Julia & her son Richard Jacob are members. W. Robinson has repeatedly asked me for any particulars respecting R.J. We were both engaged after reading at W.R.'s & then left & called on a Mrs Cox, for whom we had a reference, who has lately been left a widow. We were, I hope, both made instrumental in handing comfort to this nice Italian lady. Home to dinner. E. Sayce, Joseph & I walked in the Botanical Gardens in the afternoon. They are very extensive & exceedingly beautiful. Then to tea at Charles Mould's, E. Sayce's partner. Here we met the VeEVERS & the Hopes. Spent a pleasant evening there; concluded by reading & prayed from my dear companion.

Tuesday Dec 24th: This morning had the extreme satisfaction of welcoming our letters from England. We should have had them

10 days ago, but they were, as requested by us before leaving home, directed to F. Mackie. Went into Melbourne & called on A. Lewis, a friend from Bristol, a painter by trade, who with his wife are nice friends & have passed thro' many struggles to obtain an honest livelihood. Went to the Public Library, a splendid institution which would do credit to any large English town - it contains a capital stock of paintings & sculpture & a museum, all open to the public gratis. Just as we came out of the Library, I was very pleased to meet an old townsman of mine, one who had left S. Walden since I did Thos Beard. He seems much better for his voyage. It was a treat to see someone from my dear old home, a later importation than myself. Dined at Earlhamhope & then walked 5 miles to Hawthornden to take a parcel to & call on a Mr Hawle of whom J.J.H. has some knowledge. We had tea at Lucy Birchall's, where we met a Mrs Seir, once a friend of Plymouth meeting & a very nice lady.

Wednesday Dec 25th: Christmas Day. Rose at about 4 o'clock & had an early breakfast, after which E. Sayce, his sons George, Edward, Joseph, Alfred & Willie & his daughter Lilly & I started off driven by George in a waggonette & pair to Fern Tree Gully. Joseph felt it best to make some calls in town & so did not accompany us, tho' quite approving of our going. Fern Tree Gully is a beautiful place for pic-nic parties & today we assembled 51 of the Melbourne friends including the Holdsworths from Manchester. It is a drive of 20 miles over terrible roads, jolting us almost off our seats but the place itself is a most lovely. On reaching the Gully we & the other friends met in a little secluded nook close to a running stream & overhung with some splendid trees & each conveyance bringing some provisions we soon had a plentiful spread for breakfast, my office being to keep up a blazing fire to boil the kettles &c. Then leaving the older friends to enjoy themselves a number of us sallied forth 3 miles to the top of the gully. I never longed so much to have dearest Bessie to sketch & dearest Priscie to sing about the exquisite beauties that surrounded us. The Gully narrows towards the top & becomes so steep that it is a very considerable climb. Overhead are gum trees whose trunks rise straight up to the height of some 250 ft. Then spread over us like parasols are the lovely fern trees in all their native luxuriance. Their trunks are many 30 to 40 feet high & the fronds 12 to 16 ft long. One gets very little idea of the superb beauty of fern trees even in such a place as Canon J. Backhouse at York. Here they are by thousands, some old, almost fallen to decay; others young & flourishing, while the great trunks of others are almost horizontal & spread over the path almost obstructing the way up the Gully. A pure stream of the best water I have tasted since leaving S. Walden flows down the ravine, tumbling over projecting crags of rock, forming lovely little cascades everywhere. Most of the trunks of the fern trees are covered with little parasite ferns, I think of the hymenophyllum order, but these are about 40 sorts of ferns in the gully & among the most beautiful & most plentiful that I saw was the maidenhair. Before we reached the top a little rain came on, but did not damp the enjoyments of the lovers of nature & her God, who has shed over this spot some of the richest beauties of His outward creation. At the top of the ravine is ~~xxx~~ One Tree

Hill, from which a very fine view over Gipsland, Port Phillip &c is to be obtained. Returned to the camp to dine & after washing up our various culinary vessels, packed up & drove home. Several small accidents had occurred in driving to & from Melbourne, tho' none to us. One conveyance the bottom fell out & deposited the provisions in the road. Another broke its shafts; another the harness, but no great harm was done.

Thursday Dec 28th: I had a delightful bathe before breakfast & afterwards prepared letters for the English mail. In looking back over the 20 weeks which have passed since we left the dear old country, our hearts are filled with gratitude for all the mercies we have been made partakers of, & I would ask my dear ones, into whose hands this may come, to pray for me, that my heart ever so prone to love & cherish earthly friends, may be more wholly dedicated to the self-denying ~~work~~ service of Him who is so full of love & tender compassion for His most unworthy servants.

To him & the word of His grace I heartily commend you all with very dear love & best wishes & prayers for every blessing to rest upon all.

Walter Hobson.

Received at Saffron Walden: Feb 18, 1856.
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Part IV =

Victoria continued.

Thursday Dec 26th: Spent the morning writing & finishing our letters & diaries for the English mail. Helped the younger branches of the numerous family of Sayces to hire a large swarm of bees. Joseph & I went to tea at John & Fanny Veerers & ~~xxxxxxx~~ accompanied them to Melbourne to attend the eveng meeting, always held there on Thursday evengs for those who cannot attend on Wednesday mornings. E. Sayce spoke for some time; S.J. Levitt said a few words & E. Sayce knelt in long & earnest prayer for my beloved cousin & myself, that we might be kept on every hand, & he more & more filled with the love of Jesus. Joseph said a few words & the meeting closed. Walked home to Earlhamhope.

Friday Dec 27th: Both yesterday & this morning I had a delightful bathe in the clear blue sea before breakfast. Today the weather was very hot. Joseph went to see an invalid friend? Betty Thistlethwaite, who was too ill to see both? & I to town to stamp & post letters, draw from the bank &c. During dinner a fearful gale of wind sprung up, a real Australian dust storm, a worse not remembered. The air was so full of dust that the carman who drove me to St Ailda could not see the horse's head or the road immediately in front. A pelting rain accompanied the gale & for a time a curious battle was kept up between the dust & rain, sometimes one & sometimes the other seeming victor. Much damage was done. I went to see a large shop hard by, the roof of which had been blown 80 ft into a shed, leaving the wares for sale ~~xxxxxx~~ exposed to all the battle of the elements. All the triumphal arches in & round Melbourne were without, I believe, any exception, were blown down & a boy was killed by the fall of a wall. Meanwhile the dust had penetrated into everything - the very food tasting gritty & all furniture thickly coated, tho' of course every door & window were closed. In the eveng I called on John & Rachel Horsefall & he walked home with me after supper. Joseph made some other calls in the eveng. The weather changed & very cold tonight.

Saturday, Dec 28th: The daughter of our friend Charles Mould was married at church today & Lilly & her two elder ~~xxxxxx~~ brother Sayce joined the company. They left the door for their destination & at the same time J & I took leave of our kind friends at Earlhamhope & drove in a car to the station & thence by train to the great seat of gold digging, the far-famed town of Ballarat. It is about 100 miles from Melbourne. Tried to encourage the Temperance Hotel, but it looked so dirty & uninviting & the people withal so uncivil that we changed our quarters at once & are now most comfortably housed at Craig's Hotel, a very excellent establishment. After dinner we called on James Lambert, who is one of those who was drawn to meet after the manner of Friends, tho' not knowing of the existence of any in Ballarat; it is a striking reproof to our own members that while they did not feel strong enough to commence a meeting here, those who were not members & knew little of our society themselves, took the lead & started one which has ever since been kept up to general satisfaction. They sometimes meet in a small room in the Mechanic's Institute, but for tomorrow have hired the Temperance Hall. Called also on a friend & his wife, Solomon Clemasha. Home to bed about 10 P.M.

Sunday Dec 29th: After breakfast we called on Algernon Wallis, who has a wife & several children; he is a brother of Abraham & Francis Wallis. Went with him to the Temperance Hall where the Frds meeting is held. About 25 people there, some members but most are those who have been led to meet after the manner of Frds for worship. I knelt in prayer for the Divine blessing, shortly after which my beloved Cousin gave us a very earnest & encouraging address. I also spoke at some length & Joseph closed the meeting in prayer & praise. We dined at A. Wallis'. He is a very nice valuable man & will we believe be very helpful to the little company at Ballaarat. After dinner I joined a little body of earnest Xtians, Methodists who collect the vilest characters in the town & hold a meeting with them in a schoolroom. Here we numbered about 50 & after prayer & singing, I was helped to preach the gospel to these poor godless men & women. Gave them tracts & an invitation to meet us at the Temperance Hall this evng. J & I went to tea at S. Clemens's & then to meeting, to which many ~~know~~ poor people had been invited. Here we had a very relieving meeting in which we were both made sensible of help from our blessed Master. Walked 2 miles to supper at Ed Oxley's. He is a brother of Jno O of Sudbury & is a very nice man. We had a nice time of religious worship before we left. E.O has a nice wife & family, the latter grown up & a great contrast to their eldest cousin at Sudbury. Two Xtian young men who had supped with us conducted us home to our hotel, after a day of much religious exercise & very much to be thankful for.

Monday Dec 30th: Called on James Lambert & took him some Frds books, which he seemed delighted to have, as the new Frds here have great wish to become better acquainted with us as a church. Ballaarat is a wonderful place, about 40,000 (25,000: see later) inhabitants, but 16 years back it had no existence. There is a very great deal of gold still found here, one mine called the Band of Hope producing 1,000 ounces of the pure metal weekly. Almost all the gold now is raised from mines in the neighbourhood & is found in dust embedded in quartz. Of quartz crushing machines there are a great ~~number~~ many, but there is no gold now found in Ballaarat, as it used to be in the early stages of digging. In Ballaarat are a great many Chinese, mostly poor people & poorly clad. One feels much for them, so little is effectually done to christianize them & the labors of the few who know their language is greatly hindered by the extreme dislike the Chinese have to paying for the Gospel. This is equally true at Melbourne, where is a large "Joo-house", as their idol temples are called. We have tried to converse with one or two who speak a little English & I gave one a Testament in his own tongue for which he seemed much obliged. In Ballaarat there is a great temptation to invest money, tho' it is often unsafe to do so. Shares are to be bought for £80 paying annually £36, but of course should the vein of ore cease, the percentage ceases also. We left at noon with our knap sacks on our backs & a 15 mile walk brought us to the farm of Jno Lester, a son of our Essex Frd John Lester. J.L. has a very excellent wife & 5 children & he is a friend of great worth & weight as a Xtian. They have built a capital house, which only wants plaster & mortar to make habitable. They very kindly fitted us a room open to the roof where after joining in a time of worship, we spent a comfortable night.

Tuesday Dec 31st: The last day of 1867 & we feasting on ripe gooseberries & raspberries in J.L's garden. He kindly drove us to Miner's Rest where we called on the Presbyterian minister & arranged 2 meetings in that neighbourhood for next week. In returning we visited a hill of a volcanic nature & clambered down into an extinct crater, at the bottom of which is a hole to an unknown dept. After dinner J.L drove us 14 miles & we walked 5 miles to the Red Lion Brewery, near which its late proprietor Jno Reynolds Neave resides. He is a 1st cousin of my beloved companion, he has a nice wife & 6 ~~children~~ little ones. Spent a pleasant evening with them & retired to our room about 11 o'clock to bow the knee in prayer & praise the last time this year. Oh! how can we thank God enough for all his blessings to us this year? He has brought us safely thro' the perils of the sea, has cared for & in mercy directed us in our movements & has also been near to our dear ones at home to supply all their need according to His riches in glory to Christ Jesus. Oh how did I crave this night for more love to Jesus, more ability to serve Him, more faith to obey Him & more childlike confidence in Him as our Leader & Teacher.

1868. Wednesday, Jan 1st: After breakfast Jas Neave lent us his horse & buggy & we drove to Clunes & to a village a few miles off to call on some for whom we had directions, but they were not to be found. We distributed some tracts &c so I hope we did not spend the day in vain. New Years day is a public holiday in the colonies. They are very fond of holidays here. The following are appointed by Government, when all business is suspended: New Years day, Good Friday, Easter Monday, Queen's birthday, Prince of Wales birthday, Xmas day, Boxing day & separation day. The latter day being the day this colony separated from New S.Wales.

Thursday Jan 2nd: After a time of family worship J.R. Neave conducted us to the town of Talbot, where we called on the Presbyterian minister to arrange for a meeting. He was very kind, but Oh! it is sometimes hard work in a country where Prems are so little known to expound our mission to the colonies, the fact that we need no collection & our idea of worship. However the good man at last agreed to use his influence with his deacons & if they feel no objection, his chapel will be at our service next Tuesday D.V. Then on to Maryborough, a town of 3 to 4,000 people, prettily situated in the bush. Here we dined and J & I took beds at the McIvan Hotel. Then our kind friend J.R.N took leave of us for a few days & we called on Mr Hopkins the congregational minister. Here we had a most cordial welcome. He is from Wexford, knows some Irish Rims & was at once prepared to assist us in any way & we arranged a meeting in his chapel for Wednesday next. Back to the Hotel to fill up some blank notices we had printed in Melbourne for public meetings. Then to tea to Mr Hopkins after a very pleasant walk with him thro' a Chinese street. This was most interesting to us & we could fancy ourselves in China. Visited 3 Joshouses, little shabby buildings, very tawdry inside, having no idol exactly but various superstitious little affairs mapped up in cloth before which are little sticks to be drawn for luck. At first I tried to feel a veneration for the worship of these very benighted heathens, but this wore off on finding the ~~worst~~ people themselves had no reverence for their own religion. Indeed it is hardly a religion at all, so mixed up as it is with money, medicines & luck.

We asked an interpreter for some particulars of their faith. We managed to get to know that they pray in their joshouses & give money & buy little fumigated sticks to burn as incense. After tea we went with our host & hostess to a prayer meeting in their chapel where we sang some hymns, the Bible was read & one of the deacons & W.R engaged in vocal prayer. A very comforting little meeting we both felt it. Then J & I paid another visit to the Chinese & called at the "store" where for an excuse to enter, we bought some very tiny china cups & then managed a little converse with the stor keeper & gave him a Chinese Testament which he at once began to read aloud in his own "ding-dong" mother tongue. This seems the only way for these who are unacquainted with the language to get at the poor creatures, but the New Testament is, with the power of the Holy Spirit, able even to make them wise unto Salvation thro' faith which is in Christ Jesus. I think we have given these Testaments with the earnest prayer (& I would ask our dear friends at home to join in it) that they may become all this to these poor dark heathens. God does surely bless His Own word. While in the Chinese store we were rather amused & by one of the men taking hold of my coat, a black alpaca, & examining its texture, which he soon pronounced his judgment upon as being "too coarse" - this he said in English. In return for the compliment I examined his dress, a richly worked fine blue silk, & told him I thought it very beautiful, which pleased the poor fellow highly.

Friday Jan 3rd: By coach 29 miles to the town of Castleknock, a large place. Called on a lady & to whom J had an introduction & had tea with her. Then to see Mr Day, the Congregational minister whom we found to be a very excellent man, but very cautious & at first tho' he examined Joseph's certificates, openly admitted that he had no proof of our being genuine. We told him we needed no collection & no pecuniary aid, seeking "not theirs but them"; still he seemed doubtful & my dear cousin & I both felt that he would probably decline to assist our mission in any way. At last however he happened to remark he knew some friends in England named Neave Wordingbridge, which J at once proved his near relationship to. He spoke of having some knowledge of Manchester Friends & I said an Uncle W. Crendson lived there. "Oh" he answered, "I know that family. Several of them have left Friends." You have quite established your identity. He told us he would consult his deacons & if we would join him to supper, he would tell us the decision. We left him & called on Jos Robinson, a son of the dear Irish Friend who implored the Divine blessing on us at the farewell meeting at Devonshire House. J.R is not getting a living & we earnestly advised his speedy return to Ireland. He is very open with us & plainly told us his pecuniary condition, which is much below that of our Essex agriculturalists. Supped at Mr Day's & he then told us they had decided to ask us to take the service at the large chapel here on Sunday evening. After joining in their evening prayers, we retired to our hotel with thankful hearts that our blessed master had thus opened a way for

Saturday, Jan 4th: Hired a car to drive us 9 miles to a little village far in the bush called Forlita. Here we dismissed our vehicle & called on an aged man mentioned by G.W. Walker & I believe by J. Backhouse also, as one of the first who joined Friends at Hobart-town. His name is Abraham C. Flower. He was disowned by one

their little M.B's for belonging to the Rechabite Club, but this was reversed by Hobart-town Annual Meeting. The feeling however was such that he was advised to resign his membership & he has never since been our member, tho' warmly attached to our views. His wife being deceased & his family married & settled elsewhere, he lives alone, his occupation gold digging, which brings him an income of about 5/- per week. He is a most happy thankful state, telling us his wants were well supplied, his little two-roomed hut of his own building, enabling him to live rent free & he keeps some goats that supply him with milk. We had a very precious time with him, a bank brook by the way, we seemed all so united together in the love of Jesus. He bowed to the knee in simple earnest prayer as did J & we all had some counsel & encouragement to hand. A few months ago he was put to gaol for a little debt which he had offered payment of, but his creditor & an unprincipled man who has since been sold off, & ruined himself, refused to accept the money when offered & in spite we suppose put the poor old man to gaol. Even here & he was happy & it was very instructive to us both to see how humble & tender & sensible of his many shortcomings he was, yet so full of the love of Jesus & of gratitude to Him. Walked back to Castlemain, calling on the way & having a religious sitting with a gold digger named Jno Sanson from Liscard in Cornwall, once a Frd & related to the great Fox fraternity. Had tea at our hotel & then a very open time of religious service & with Jos Robinson. Walked with him into the Chinese quarter & then to our hotel & soon after to bed.

Sunday Jan'y 5th: We attended service at Mr Day's chapel in the morning, a very nice one. In his prayer he earnestly petitioned for a blessing on us & our labours & after the sermon he very nicely gave out our meeting for the eveng & invited all to attend & bring their neighbours. The chapel is a large & comfortable one, rather grand with colored windows but not otherwise showy. Went a walk before & dinner & held our own little meeting in the afternoon in our bedroom, in which dear J supplicated very sweetly & we were both sensible of the wing of Divine Love & the blessed presence & comfort of Jesus. In the eveng we ascended the pulpit before a large congregation & felt almost overawed at it, most of the upper classed of Castlemain being attenders at the chapel. At the request of Mr Day the hymn was sung "Come Holy Spirit Heavenly Dove &c" & a chapter was read, shortly after which Jos offered prayer & we had a very favored meeting. After it broke up much cordial satisfaction was expressed & blessings pronounced upon us. I shook hands with a Mr & Mrs Blackwell, the latter an old servant in the family of our Essex friends & cousins Bowman. We supped & staid prayers at one of the deacon's, a Mr Williams & there met a very kind hearted gentleman, who has agreed to drive us to Sutton's Grange early tomorrow to hunt up a man once a friend.

Monday Jan'y 6th: Rose at 5 & breakfasted with some of our kind friends at the house of one of them; Mr Newcombe drove us to a Mr Waites at Sutton's Grange. Here he left us & we walked 5 miles thro' the bush to a most solitary looking farm house, or rather hut, with one room & a forge in it. This is the residence of a X Xtian young man whose acquaintance we were very glad to make - Geo Jeffrey his brother Walter living near by. They are excellent men & it seems

a pity their lot is cast in so out-of-the-way a place. But the object of our visit was their farm servant, by name ~~Mr~~ Jno Hy Harding, the youngest brother of our dear friend Robt Harding. For 13 years he never wrote home, feeling, he told us, ashamed to do so. He has had a most wild life, took to the sea after leaving school, served in the navy & merchant ~~xxxxxx~~ service, was ~~at~~ one time employed in hunting down a hostile tribe of North American Indians & has sadly left the path of virtue, being notorious in many places by the name "Happy Jack". A few mos ago he was brought under a terrible conflict for sin, was led to attend a little chapel at Sutton's Grange & there found peace in Jesus. We had a most interesting & ever to be remembered interview with him & a sweet time of religious ~~xxxxxx~~ fellowship. There is such an entire absence of all self confidence or trust that I do feel very hopeful that he has indeed ~~xxxx~~ passed from death into life. Dined with him & his employers & J.H. Harding walked back with us to Sutton's Grange, where we had tea at the waits' & a season of united prayer afterwards. J & I walked 8 miles towards Castlemain & thence took a car home. Called in the eveng to take leave of Mr & Mrs Day, J. Robinson & the Williams & retired to rest very thankful for the mercies of the day.

Tuesday July 7th: I should like my dear ones at home to have looked in upon us at dinner yesterday in the bush, with J.H. Harding & the Jeffreys. Their hut is made of bark & not very airtight. In one room are the beds or rather "shake downs". No furniture, not a chair, a sofa or anything but 2 or 3 planks on tressels & a bench. In the other end divided from the bedroom by bark is the room where we dined, containing a blacksmith's forge, some forms & the dining table. Such is the home of many a young man living in the bush. Our dinner was mutton & hotk tea without milk, the sugar being in a large tin with one spoon which we dipped into the tin & then supplied & stirred our cup with. But with a good appetite after a long walk we did very well. This morning after breakfast we wrote till 10 o'clock, when the coach left for Talbot. We now experienced a very hair breadth escape of serious injury, for which we cannot be sufficiently thankful to the author of all our mercies. J, two young ladies, an elderly ~~gent~~ gentleman & I were the inside passengers, two young gentlemen being on the box by the coachman's side. Scarcely had we left Castlemain e'er the driver gave the reins to the next gent & went into a shop. One of the horses took fright at something passing & bolted full gallop & broke the splinter bar. A few yards on & in each side of the road were deep holes, old gold pits. The gentleman with the reins had at first no command & we were swung from side to side of the road in an awful manner, now close to a pit this, & then as close on that side, till at last our gent got his foot on the break & managed to stop the coach. Providentially the trace let loose by the broken splinter-bar, instead of trailing by the horses feet, wound round the pole. This horse has caused 6 accidents already; surely it is not justifiable to keep such a one for a public conveyance. We therefore all escaped unhurt except the elderly gent inside, who getting frightened flung himself into the road, where he sustained a frightful gash on his cheek, laying open the cheek bone terribly. I persuaded him to get some warm water at the next inn to bathe it with ~~xxxxxx~~, & Joseph ~~xx~~ gave him his "puggery" to bandage it with, but the fearful sight of the wound

added to the whole affair made my loved cousin almost faint & away & he had to take some ginger beer to revive him. We were favored to reach J.R. Neave's safely thro' the mercy of Him without whom not a sparrow falleth to the ground. J.R. Neave & his wife & 3 sons walked with us to the chapel at Talbot after tea, where owing to a mistake the minister made about the time, was but thinly attended & was not so relieving as some, tho' we both felt some strength & given us to preach to the people, but we must not expect all our meetings to be alike - the fault may be our want of clear & bright vision or the people may be dull of spiritual hearing.

Wednesday 8th July: Visited the school house near J.R. Neave's after breakfast & then he kindly lent us 2 horses which we rode 9 miles to Maryborough, where we recd a most hearty welcome from Mr Hopkins the congregational minister & his truly excellent wife. After dining with them, Mr Hopkins drove us in a buggy 7 miles thro' a soaking rain to Norwood (to visit a person whom he had discovered was once a Frd. We put up at Mr Joyces, the owner of the sheep station called Norwood) & called at Mrs Moon's, the wife of the carpenter of the station. We found she was brought up a friend, her name had been Pear & she says she has an Aunt of that name, a Frd of Brighton meeting. She was disowned for marrying out & tho' she has written home, has never heard of her Friends since leaving England many years back. Mr Hopkins sat with us but so fully sympathises with our concern that he helped rather than hindered, a time of religious retirement which we had with her & for which she seemed very thankful. Had tea at the Joyces & then back to Maryborough in time for the meeting which was a very nice one, tho' from the extreme wet, thinly attended. We had fully intended to return to J.R. Neave's tonight but our kind friend would not hear of it, so J had a sofa at Mr Hopkins while his deacon, Mr Anderson, a wealthy man, manager of the bank here, took me off home to lodge with him. The bank house being under repair, only one bedroom was at liberty, so we lodged in the same but in different beds.

Thursday July 9th: Called with Mr Hopkins on a lady named Willan, once an Irish Frd & had some religious converse with her. Then Mr H mounted his horse & rode with us half way to Talbot, where we parted with deep feelings of mutual love & sympathy. I never felt more unity with a minister of any congregation than this excellent young man. We exchanged cartes-de-visite at his & Mrs H's request. Dined at J.R. Neave's & his son Jemmy, a nice lad of 13 summers, drove us to Coghill's Creek to an inn there where we had tea & then walked to the little Presbyterian chapel near by, where Jno & Agnes Lester joined us at our little meeting there. It being harvest time, we did not get many - indeed the population round here is very scattered & most who came drove. We had a sweet time with the dear people & had renewably to feel that it is not needful for a meeting to be large if but the presence & power of the Holy Spirit are felt among us. Walked with J & A Lester to their hospitable abode to lodge.

Friday, July 10th: After a season of favor in the Lester household, J.L. took a horse & we accompanied him, sometimes on foot & J riding part of the way, a lovely walk of 8 miles over Mount Bolton, a mountain of some thousand ft elevation I believe, to J.L.'s brother in law Mr Greenwood's to dine. Put the horse in the

cart & drove to Mr Learmouth's to see a son of our late dear Friend's G.W. Walker, but found he was from home. Mr Learmouth is a man of immense wealth & a lake & a town bearing his name & his estate is most lovely. Drove to Miner's Rest where we were kindly welcomed to tea at Mr Smyth's, the Presbyterian minister, who accompanied us to a meeting in his chapel, which was well filled & was a season of more than common favor & relief. The Episcopal clergyman was there & after meeting joined Mr Smyth in giving us a hearty ~~warm~~ blessing & his desire that God would richly prosper our work. Lodged at J. Lester's.

Saturday Jan 11th: Parted with our truly kind friends the Listers & walked towards Ballarat distributing many tracts by the way. When about 2 miles from Ballarat J handed a man some tracts as he drove by in a cart. He instantly pulled up, jumped down & warmly shook us by the hand, telling us he had been at our meeting last night & was most thankful for it. He asked us to get into his cart, where was his wife & some others. He told us of his own conversion & deeply interested us. At Ballarat we dined at a confectioners & then called at Jas Lambert's & took up our abode again at Craig's Hotel. Here I found a letter from Schunga Creek in Wilfred's hand writing telling of a very trying little episode in the life of our dear & friend E. Malcomson. They were returning from a trip on the Murray when E.M. was arrested by a trooper (Australian Mounted Police) & charged with being Wm Chester, a man guilty of forgery. He was kept chained to the floor all night & it was not till late next day he was liberated ~~in~~ on the evidence of his companions, who of course could testify to his not being the said offender. They had to lodge at Milang & at 5 o'clock next morning ~~the~~ E.M. was again arrested by 4 troopers & conveyed to Adelaide, his friends accompanying him. Here ~~he~~ he was tried & secured the services of a well known solicitor. A man who knows the said Wm Chester at once declared E.M. not to be the same & it ~~was~~ has ended in a written apology from the commissioner of police & all expenses paid. A prosecution of government for false imprisonment was threatened, but it has been settled without.

Sunday July 12th: Went a walk before meeting, past the Ballarat Hospital, a noble building for a town that had no existence 15 years back, but now containing over 25,000 people. A nice meeting in which my beloved cousin & myself were led to labor in a very large degree of harmony of religious exercise. Dined at A. Wallis' & spent a nice quiet afternoon there. About 50 people met us at the evening meeting, which was a time of great favor. Supped & had a nice little religious time with Jno Phillips & family. He is one of those who was led to become a friend without any instrumental aid. He is a very nice man.

Monday, July 13th: I spent most of today calling on those for whom we have directions; lunched at A. Wallis' & took tea at E. Oxley's & spent a pleasant evening there.

Tuesday, July 14th: Changed our quarters from Craig's Royal to the Bull & Mouth Hotel, the former being we thought exhorbitantly dear & the latter very comfortable. Walked 4 miles in a soaking rain to try to find Geo B. Walker but failed to do so. Our Frds here have newly established a week-day ~~evening~~ evening meeting for worship. It was held tonight at A. Wallis'. Most of the regular

attenders present & a time of great openness & favor.

Wednesday July 15th: I do not remember to have mentioned in writing home the very great amount of tea that the colonists drink. In the country we always have it 3 & often 4 times in a day. It is estimated by the enormous consumption of tea in Australia that each inhabitant consumes I think it is 8lb annually. This morning we walked 9 miles thro' a bush road, distributing a great many tracts by the way to Robt Lester's. He is a younger brother of Jno Lester with whom we were a week ago. He is a bachelor & lives by himself in a one room hut far out in the woods, but he is a very prosperous young ~~farmer~~ farmer. He drove us after dinner 12 miles to Ballara to see a brother of Fred Spice at Bury St Edmunds. He was out but we saw his family & wife, the latter ~~was~~ very much out of her wind. Took tea with them & then drove back to R. Lester's. He very kindly let us sleep in his hut on "shake downs" where we passed a comfortable night.

Thursday July 16th: R.L. drove us back to Ballarat & after dinner to visit a man & his wife closely connected with Frds. Jno & Mrs Mary Ollier. Here we had a nice family sitting. Took leave of our kind friend R. Lester & called on Jos Whitten & family, who were friends from Ireland disowned for marrying out., but very nice Xtian people with whom we took some sweet counsel. Back to the Hotel to tea. Made calls in the eveng on some of those who meet after our manner tho' not yet our members.

Friday July 17th: A soaking wet morning. Took a car to the "cobbler" & thence walked to Black Lead where we found up 2 families of persons, Lyke & Nichols, connected with Frds, the former from Coventry & the latter a very nice Xtian man, a thorough Xrd in principle from Redruth. Called on Wm Sunk at Ballarat before dinner. A very kind friend, educated at the Flounders Institute by name Henry Slater, a brother of Wm Slater of Carlisle called on us & took us to ~~his house~~ his house to tea. He is a man who has prospered, is a Stock-broker in the Miners Exchange & is possessed of a very interesting mind, is a deep thinker & very earnest to be able to "give a reason for the hope that is in him". After tea he kindly took us over a gold mine. Before describing our visit to this very interesting place, I ought just to jot down a few particulars that have come to our knowledge concerning this all absorbing employment of gold seeking of which Ballarat is the great centre. The first diggers found nuggets of the precious metal on the surface of the ground, only hidden by decayed trees & grass. When this had all been secured, diggings were commenced & then came that wonderful struggle in which so many thousands made & lost fortunes & the whole of the land in & around Ballarat is in hills & holes, the result of the second period of gold finding. But for years past very little has been discovered & near the surface & consequently deep mines are sunk, some are 400 ft deep before the stratum containing the metal has been reached. The profits of the gold in B alone are above 29,000 per week or 2470,000 per year! The gold in its pure state is worth 24 per oz & is estimated for labour &c to cost 22 when delivered at the Banks. All Ballarat Banking Companies take gold daily & pass it to the Mining Cos acct as money. My Slater took us to the "Great Northern" gold mine. Before we descended the shaft, we inspected the processes carried on at the mouth. The earth supposed to contain gold is drawn up to the

surface by steam engines at the top on little trucks containing about 10 cwt of earth. These are emptied into a great circular affair thro' which water flows & by a revolving drag the lighter earth is washed away. The remaining portion is placed in a sluice & water carefully poured over it & if there be any gold it is left at the bottom. It requires no further treatment, it is pure whether in small grains or in large nuggets & has only to be carefully picked out of the trough & sent to the bank. If each truck of earth from the mine contains an average of 10 grains of gold, about 2/- worth, the mine pays well. Some of the diggers who were resting in the engine room kindly lent us their coats & thus equipped we were lowered, standing on a little cage to contain 2 closely packed, into the bowels of the earth, 140 ft. Here we were given orient-stearic candles (common dips are nothing accounted here) & were shown about the many windings of the mine. A large number of men were at work running the trucks about or filling them with the earth. The vein of earth supposed to contain gold is about 5 ft deep & it is no use taking the deposit from any other, but this vein often varies much in depth so that the floors of the mine are very much on the incline in many places. I found a tiny nugget perhaps worth 1/- in its native bed & had it presented to me for my trouble. After spending an hour or more down below, we were hoisted out of the mine or "claim" as they are more commonly called here, & returned very muddy & wet to our hotel to lodge. The bottoms of all the claims are wet & muddy, many have to be always kept pumped or the mine would be flooded.

Saturday Jan 18th: Another soaking wet & cold day. To breakfast at H. Slater's about 7 o'clock after which he kindly drove us in a buggy & pair 24 miles to the very romantic & beautiful township of Piggoreet or as the civilized & cultivated English people here called it from its extreme beauty, the Devils Kitchen! In this & in most other cases the native is the prettiest name. Here we called on a young man Dyson, the son of a friend at Highflats, Hannah Dyson. He lives alone, he is a storekeeper & seems to have a very lonely lot in life. We had a very satisfactory time of religious retirement with him. Then took lunch at the school master's, a Mr Dainet (or to that effect). He is from Ipswich & knows friends well & is a very nice man. He took us a very beautiful walk & then we drove round by Linton to see some more beautiful views & back to H. Slater's to a late dinner & spent a very pleasant evening with him & his wife.

Sunday, Jan 19th: Received a call at our hotel before meeting from Thos Spice of Ballan, whom we failed to see when at his house. Met a nice company at meeting in the morning & both of us had much labor & felt it a good time, tho' there seemed to be much hard work to do & some plain truths to declare. Walked to B. Oxley's to dine. His wife & daughters teach in a Sunday school hard by & at their request I visited the school & after we had sung "we speak of the realm of the Blest" I addressed the children & afterwards prayed with them. The Oxleys walked to meeting with us in the evening where about 50 again met us & we had a precious meeting. Home to supper at A. Wallis' where after reading dear J addressed them very nicely.

Monday Jan 20th: Called on a Mrs Holey, a niece of Mr Allan of Dublin, where we had a time of family devotion. Then to see

Jas Lambert who took us home to see his wife, who is bitterly opposed to his becoming a Friend. She was very kind but evidently firm in her dislike to her husband's change of views. Had a very uniting time of religious counsel & prayer with a widow once a Friend at Coventry, Mrs Williamson. Dined at the inn & then called on a Friend named Jackson, disowned by Bristol F.M for "marrying out". Found him very kind. To tea at H. Slater's, after which he went with us to the station & saw us off by rail to Geelong. Ballarat is about 1400 ft above sea level & Geelong is on the sea, so a very rapid descent leads from the former to our present location: The railway hotel, Geelong. This is a large town about 20,000 people & a very thriving tho' quiet genteel place.

Tuesday, July 21st: Called on Chas Read, a man who is greatly attached to Friends & while in England used to attend meeting regularly at Stoke Newington. He gave us a very warm welcome & has arranged us some meetings here. Then went to the P.O. & rejoiced in welcoming letters from our dearly beloved ones at home, forwarded by F. Mackie to E. Sayce & from him to us. Several days have gone by since the mail landed but we hope the next budget will come to Melbourne direct. While it is fresh on my mind I wish just to disabuse my dear Friends in England of a heresy which is expressed by more than one in Kirk writing to me, to the effect that little items of news seem not worth sending so far. Now I can assure them that never were these little items half so welcome to me as since so many thousands of miles separate us & that if I acted on the same principle, I should not write home at all for all I have to tell of are the little things of which after all our lives are made up. We dined today at the inn & took tea at C. Read's. Had a very religious meeting at the Penwick St Baptist Chapel in the eveng, which was well filled. Supped & had prayers at C. Reads.

Wednesday, July 22nd: Both yesterday & this morning bathed in the warm bright sea before breakfast. Today is very hot & summer-like again - such a change from the cold of last week. Apricots are ripe in abundance & we often have a feast of them for a few pence. Called on Rev Mr Strickland, an Episcopal Clergyman, who has kindly offered us the use of his church & we have accepted it for tomorrow eveng. Such could not be in England; to hold a Friends meeting in an Episcopal church. Then we called on an old couple named Rashley from Palmouth, connected with Friends. They told us that just before they sailed for Australia 15 years ago they had a religious visit from P. Green & Mary X B. Brown & the old man added: "one of them told me I might be glad sometime of a stone for a pillow like Jacob, & I have often found that true when I have slept out in the woods". Called to see Benjamin Wilnot Wheatland, from Bristol, also connected with Friends. He is secretary to the Mechanics' Institute. Dined at Charles & Ann Reads' & while at dinner & A. Read told us that she should never forget a sermon preached to her at Newington just before they sailed, by P. Green, who was visiting families with Eliz. Hanbury. She was feeling very unwilling to come but that address settled her mind & gave her a singular that we should have met 2 such cases in one day in connexion with our dearly loved aunt. Back to our hotel after dinner &

filled up some notices for the meeting tomorrow & then called on Priscilla Jones, the wife of Jas Jones who has his business in Ballarat but his residence here. They are Frds, the wife was P. Graves & is related to the Dixes of Naverhill. She well remembers my dear brother Edward, also & meeting our friends the Adcocks from Linton. She recollects my beloved Parents, so we found much in common to talk about. Took tea again at Chas Read's & he went with us to the Preston St Free Methodist Church, where we were permitted to hold a very favored meeting in which I felt drawn to address some who were passing thro' great conflict. After we broke up we were invited to supper with some people who had been telling me all that was passing in his mind, for I had depicted it all in meeting. I could but feel humbly thankful for this little proof of the rightness of our mission & give God the praise. The eveng closed with prayer before we left for our hotel.

= Thursday Jan 23rd: C. Read called for us about 9 o'clock this morning & accompanied us to a large school for boys & girls, very nicely managed by a schoolmaster who rules by love. After saying singing I engaged in prayer for the dear children & we both gave them addresses. Called on an old man, Henry Cairley, who & for 40 years attended meeting at Manchester. He seems in a rather depressed state from the feeling that he cannot join any body of Xtians here & none of his family see with him. Dined at Wm White's. He was a Frd of Glasgow, but disowned for "parrying out". This old rule of our Society seemed particularly cruel to those young men who have settled in the Colonies, from the fact that there were no young ladies Frds. for them to have, so the only chance of retaining their membership was to remain bachelors. We have already visited many who were disowned in this way. Made some more calls in the afternoon & distributed some notices & of our meeting. Jos staid tea at W. White while I took tea at Rev P. Strickland's, the ~~xxxx~~ rector of Trinity Church. He is a most devoted clergyman, has refused a large living from a feeling that he would not conscientiously accept it & gave me many most interesting particulars of his visits to a ~~pp~~ murderer in the gaol here & whom he attended on the scaffold till all was over. He is brother & to a lady in S. Walden, Mrs Glover, wife of the supervisor. He has a nice wife & lovely children. Several of them accompanied me to the Trinity Church where I found my dear companion waiting for me. We ascended the grand pulpit with some feelings of awe, it seemed so strange to hold a Frds meeting in an Episcopal church. The congregation was large & very attentive & ~~ma~~ I was much struck with observing that after I had & opened the meeting with a few words on our views of worship & requested a time of silent prayer, many in the church knelt & remained kneeling till dear Jos had offered vocal prayer. We both had much service and at the close, P. Strickland came to us into the vestry & expressed his ~~mbity~~ unity with us & his earnest prayer for the success of mission. Supped at a Mrs Middleton's & then to our hotel where we retired feeling very thankful that the 3 meetings in Geelong had been owned & blessed of the Lrd Lord.

Friday, Jan 24th: Bathed again before breakfast, then called & had a time of religious retirement with our Frds the Whites & then at Mrs ~~xxxx~~ Sermon's, the daughter of a Frd named Dickenson.

Dined at our hotel. Wrote letters in the afternoon & then had tea & a very nice religious eveng with C. Read & c. They walked home to our hotel with us.

Saturday, Jan 25th: Left Geelong by the steamer for Melbourne. It is a very pleasant little voyage of 5 hours or nearly, in calm water from one extremity to the other of Port Phillip. A hot northern wind made this preferable to a dusty railway journey. Reached Earlshope to dine & found a hearty welcome there & spent a quiet eveng with our dear Frds here.

Sunday Jan 26th: Another Sabbath in Melbourne. Went to meeting by train, where we both had much vocal service & a very cordial welcome back from our frds here. Our dear Jonathan & Wilfred & E. Malcomson are at Melbourne, the Hodgkins having at last decided to start from here for England. E.M has a brother who is living in Australia now with him. J.E.H & E.M joined us to dinner & tea at E. Sayce's. Our dear Frds at Melbourne commence their eveng meetings with reading the Bible & this eveng the chapter read called forth some excellent remarks from E. Sayce. I also addressed the meeting & Joseph closed in prayer. Walked home with E. Sayce Jr & watched on the way a grand sight, the burning of a very large vessel in the bay. She is nearly double the size of the "Yatala", was laden with wool which had heated & now she was burned nearly to the waters edge, no hands on board.

Monday, Jan 27th: Bathed before breakfast & then leaving Jos at Earlshope to write letters, I walked up to Melbourne & joined the Hodgkins, E. Malcomson & Mr Reath at Sandridge to look over the "Homesdale", the vessel in which dear frds Hodgkin & Mr Reath have taken their passages for England. It is a fine vessel but nothing so comfortable in general appearance as the dear old "Yatala". They have engaged a stern cabin for the 3. Home to dine & to tea at Margt Beale's & called on Robt Lumsden in the eveng.

Tuesday, Jan 28th: Leaving Jos at his writing, I walked thro' a terribly hot wind into town & called on Mr Beecher, the clergyman who has corresponded with Mr Tucker & had a long conversation with him. After dinner at Earlshope E & D Sayce & Lilly accompanied us to Elsternwick by rail & ~~thence~~ thence on foot to the residence of Jos. Sayce. He is away but his wife & daughters gave us a hearty welcome. Here we spent a pleasant social eveng: croquet on the lawn before tea & music & hymns in the drawing room after dusk. Mr & Mrs Prosser joined us. She is the daughter of Chas. Mould's & was married to Mr Prosser the day we left for Ballarat. Home about 11.

Wednesday, Jany 29th: I called to see the Hodgkins before meeting & found them both poorly. At meeting (which was very small as it always is on week days) dear J spoke. I intended spending the remainder of the day at Earlshope, but Lucy Horsefall & Lilly persuaded me to take up my abode for the day at ~~xxx~~ & Jno Horsefalls. Spent the afternoon with them at the botanical Gardens; these ~~x~~ are very lovely & specially welcome to my eyes was a large aviary of dear little English song birds: bull-finches, gold finches, yellow-hammers & c. Jos joined us to tea & Geo & Ed Sayce in the eveng. Home to reading.

Thursday, Jany 30th: Spent the morning writing. In the eveng Chas Mould & his newly married son & daughter, Mr & Mrs Prosser, came to tea & we had a pleasant social eveng: croquet in the paddock & hymns & charnuts(?) in the drawing room.

Friday, Jan'y 31st: After breakfast E & D Sayce accompanied by their 5 youngest children & ourselves went & by train to Brighton & spent a most enjoyable morning on the beach, taking our dinner with us & rambling about on the rocks where we picked up many curiosities unknown on the coast of England; several small specimens of coral & some beautiful little pieces of fine sponge. A dead shark on the beach attracted our attention. Leaving the others at the station at Brighton, E Sayce took J & me to call on at Mrs Webb, a lady much interested in Frds, for whom I had a reference from W.D. King of Sudbury. Home to a late tea. J. spent the evening with our Frs Lumsdens & I accompanied E & D Sayce to the St Kilda Town Hall to hear a very excellent young lady, a Miss Thorne, preach a very earnest sermon.

Sunday, Feb 2nd: Our morning meeting was very full, 80 persons present. Under a peculiarly solemn feeling I bowed the knee, especially commanding to the care of Him "whose way is in the sea & His paths in the great waters" the dear ones about to embark for their far off homes: the Hodgkins, Mr & Mrs Prosser, the latter for New Zealand. We both had some solemn service in the ministry. It was M.M & after our certificates had been read & much sympathy & continued unity expressed, Jos laid before the meeting our prospect of holding some meetings for the people in & around Melbourne. A committee was appointed to assist us in the needful arrangements. J. dined at E. Robinson's & I at Earlhamhope, where we were joined by Lucy & Pollie Horsefall & coz Thos B. Robson, who has again turned up in Melbourne. The evening meeting was a favored one; much vocal service fell to my share on the subject of prayer, urging to prayer in faith & united prayer. J. engaged in vocal prayer, very sweetly, before we broke up. Geo, Lilly & I walked home, calling to supper at J. Horsefall's en route.

Monday, Feb 3rd: Our usual bathe in the sea before breakfast. Called to see the Hodgkins who do not sail till tomorrow, when we hope to see them off. Made many many calls in town, one on a man named Frost who was a schoolmaster at our neighbouring village of Newport & who well remembers my late Uncle X R. Day, also the Gibsons &c. Dined in Melbourne & then back to Earlhamhope to finish letters for the English mail. Our direction will be as last, to care of "Ward & Dixon, corner of Pitt & Liverpool St, Sydney, New South Wales. We cannot say much of our future plans at present. We hope to have some public meetings in Melbourne & the suburbs next week. I would just if call my dear ones attention to the fact that there is an alteration in the Mail regulations; that they are to leave every 4 weeks instead of calendar month, thus making one extra in a year. "The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all" is with very much love the prayer of yours very affect.

Walter Robson.

Received at Safford Walden Mar 30. 1865.

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Part Fifth
Victoria Continued.

Monday Feb 3 1868: Posted our letters for the English mail. In the eveng I took the trains to Elsternwick to convey for the Sayces a parcel for Jos Sayce's daughter Gertrude, who leaves tomorrow for Gippsland. Pound Mother & daughter very busy packing so left by next train.

Tuesday, Feb 4: We both went by rail to Sandridge & thence I took a little boat out to the "Holmsdale", but on reaching that vessel found that the Hodgkins had not yet gone on board her, so she is delayed for some hours owing to the death of one of the sailors. My lined at Reuben Clarke's, a Frd of Sandridge originally from America, one who was well acquainted with my honored grandparents Thos & Eliz. Robson. In the afternoon the Sayces joined us & we went on board the "Otago" steamship to see the Crossers depart for New Zealand. Then back to Melbourne, where I found that the Hodgkin were now on board & that their vessel would sail at mid-night. Leaving Joseph to have tea at Eliz. Alcrin's I accordingly ~~was~~ again went to Sandridge & took a little sailing boat off to the Holmsdale where I found Mr Heath & Jonathan & Wilfred comfortably housed in one ~~in~~ of the stern cabins & had a nice parting chat with them. Their vessel is a slow one & they do not expect to reach London til May. Took a long leave of these dear young Frds, for both of whom I feel a very great love, with some feelings that a last tie to England has for the present been broken. Back to Earlhamhope to ~~us~~ supper.

Wednesday, Feb 5th: attended the week day meeting, where the ~~a~~ vocal service fell on me. Called on Mr Beacher & were glad to find our friend Dr Tucker there. We had some free converse about his long projected tour, which at present is hardly fixed, but if the Parent Society grants the requisite funds he intends to ~~to~~ make a years trip thro' the interior of this colony, N.S. Wales & Queensland, & he freely expressed his thankfulness that we are disposed to join him Met E. Malcomson & S.B. Robson to dine at Earlhamhope & spent a pleasant afternoon with them. After tea went to a special meeting at Melbourne held at my request to discuss the important subject of a Frds intercolonial Boarding & Day school. I laid the matter very fully before Frds & it was warmly received, & after much discussion a large committee set apart to obtain any ~~ixxx~~ items of information possible & to draw up a testimonial for the Y.M. in London. Geo Sayce Lilly & I walked home, stopping at J. Horsefall's to Supper.

Thursday, Feb 6: J & I spent the morning making religious visits to Frds. Afternoon called on Mr & Mrs Wier, once Frds who ~~were~~ very kindly recd our visit. Went there thro' the St Kilda cemetery, which is very prettily laid out. In the eveng attended meeting in Melbourne, where E. Sayce led the service. The adjourned M.M then met & we did not break up till about 10.30. Much of interest to come before Frds & among the rest, an epistle from the separated Frds of Sydney Mtg, which was not read.

Friday, Feb 7: To town to make calls in the mornng. In the afternoon several Frds met at Earlhamhope to hold a serving meeting for the poor. Spent a pleasant & social eveng. S.B. Robson joined us to tea.

Saturday, Feb 8: Spent the morning writing, balancing cash accts &c.

After dinner J & I took the train to Brighton & went to tea at Mr Webb's. In the eveng he took us to see a gentleman deacon of the Independent Chapel, from whom we have obtained leave for a meeting there. Then to see a dear old Baptist minister named New, who has a large chapel in Melbourne, but having become paralysed is living at Brighton. He gave us a very loving welcome & the free loan of his church. Supped at the Webb's & home to Earlhamhope late to bed.

Sunday Feb 9: The gentlemen of our party who were able walked up to town to meeting, which was a large one. J. offered prayer; I spoke at some length on working in the vineyard of our Lord & the ~~g~~ ~~waxing~~ necessity of not allowing our religion to become a selfish one; Chas Hould gave us a very excellent address. When the mtg closed, M S.J. Levitt asked all who were interested in schools, Frds First day schools, to stay. About 30 Frds stayed & I laid the subject of the formation of one every fully before them & 16 Frds mostly young, had their names put down as regular or occasional Teachers. We had a very interesting discussion & have arrange to have a Teachers meeting at J & R Horsefall's tomorrow week to make all preliminary arrangements. Joseph & I dined at Thos. & Eliz Clernes, hatters in Bourke St, & met C. Cornishe's nephew & niece there, Jno & Hannah Ledgy. The eveng meeting was commenced as usual by reading a chapter of Acts 15th. E. Sayce, W. Robson, Eliz. Alcorn & Lewis & J. Swinborn & J. J. Neave commented on it & I closed the meeting in prayer & praise, especially commending to our Father in Heaven the future of the Sabbath School just formed. Walked home to Earlhamhope.

Monday, Feb 10th: Made calls in town in the mornng & I had a Turkish bath, which greatly refreshed me. I believe in this hot climate anything is good for the constitution that tends to open the pores of the skin & produce very free perspiration. Called on S. J. Levitt, who is kindly helping about our meetings in & round Melbourne. Took tea at Marget Beale's & after tea I went with E. Malcomson, S. B. Robson & Octavius Beale into the park lands to try throwing that wonderful aboriginal little weapon the Boomerang. It is described in J. Walker. It is simply a curved piece of wood, but thrown properly it will ascend, then suddenly take a turn & spinning round very fast, saurs up far above the highest trees & will if thrown expertly, fall at the feet of the thrower. A native can kill a man behind a tree at a great distance, so exactly can he judge where it will descend. Home about 11 o'clock to bed.

Tuesday Feb 11: I called on S. J. Levitt about our meetings, then bathed in the sea & spent the rest of the mornng & afternoon arranging tracts. E. Sayce's sister-in-law Emma & her daughter Josephine came to tea & we all went together to our 1st public meeting in the neighbourhood of Melbourne. It was held in Prahran Town Hall. About 450 persons were present. It is a grand building, lighted by more than 100 gas burners, the platform raised in steps & on that sat most of our Frds, my beloved cousin & I occupying 2 lounging chairs in front, & behind a handsome table. Tho' no Frds public meeting has been held here before, the audience was very quiet & we were permitted to have a very relieving, solemn & satisfactory mtg. Some of our younger brethren kindly undertook the tract distribution. At the close I was introduced to 3 young ladies, Miss nieces of the late Francis Fox of Tottenham, with whom in this far off lands, of course a sort of connexion seems to exist.

The Elsternwick Sayces did not leave us till nearly midnight, so we retired late but very thankful for the mercies of the day.

Wednesday, Feb 12 : I walked up to town to meeting, the others coming by train. Dear E. Sayce returned thanks vocally for the favors extended to us last night & invoked a continuance of the same. He afterwards spoke a few words, as did my beloved cousin. After mtg our Frd Ed. Robinson kindly took us & S. A. Robson over to Henderson's church, of which I spoke in a former part of my journal as being such a very splendid one. It is an Independent Church, fitted grandly only on the same plan as Devonshire House & seats 2000 persons. A tower at one end of the building we ascended & from its summit obtained a splendid view all over Melbourne & the suburbs & Port Phillip in places. Had the great pleasure of welcoming our English letters today, with good news from home. Oh! how thankful this ought to make us. We went to tea at the beautiful marine residence of Germain Nicholson Esq. at St Kilda Beach. They are great friends of the Sayces & have adopted as their son from his earliest childhood E. S.'s son Joseph Sayce. Spent a pleasant social evening there, but I fear not a very profitable one - music, croquet & bagatelle being the order of the day.

Thursday, Feb 13 : Called on Fanny Veevers & then wrote at Earlhamhope till dinner time. Afternoon J & I walked to Emerald Hill about 3 miles, where we called on Betty Thistlethwaite, a very aged Frd who is sometimes drawn to meeting in a bath chair. Several Frds from Melbourne joined us at the large room at the Mechanics Institute, where we held a public meeting. Not so relieving as some, tho' we both had much vocal service. Ed, Lilly & I walked home together across a marshy ground where in the dark we nearly upset in a water hole, but finally, after somewhat of a scramble, reached Earlhamhope safely.

Friday Feb 14 : We both walked into Melbourne & called at our bank & made several other calls, among the rest on Mr Farrar, one of our fellow-voyagers on board the "Yalata". Home to dine. Walked with my beloved cousin again to Emerald Hill & called on the Thistlethwaites & on a young man with one leg, from Scotland, who attends Frds Mtgs at Melbourne; His name is Farquhar. Walked on to Sandridge & took tea at our kind friends Reuben Clarke's, where S. J. Levitt joined us & we all went to the Methodist Church, where after the bells had sounded to call the people together, about 120 assembled & we had a very comforting & precious meeting. It has often surprised us to find that in a land where Frds are so little known & particularly in Victoria where no public meetings have ever been held before the people seem to appreciate our simple mode & often the silence introduced by a few words of explanation is most solemn & undisturbed & we almost invariably experience a cordial expression of unity from many warm-hearted Xtians & an earnest request to repeat our meeting. So graciously are we helped on from day to day. On our way home this evening, on leaving Sandridge a splendid light over St Kilda illuminated the country for miles round & on reaching Earlhamhope we found 4 houses close by E. Sayce's had been burnt to ashes.

Saturday, Feb 15th: Spent a quiet morn'g writing. I omitted to mention that yesterday J & I went into the great Chinese Joss-house at Emerald Hill. It is the finest in the colony. Outside it is ornamented with vile-looking animals carved in stone. Inside there

is a splendid shrine, dimly lighted, surrounded by many strange things known only in idol worship; among the rest a sacred rocking horse whose head bows into a little cup of tea. There is something very grand about the place, full of rich trappings, lanterns & carved work, Chinese letters worked in gilt on the walls & throughout a richly sickly deadly smell of opium & the terrible feeling that here God is not known, but they "worship Gods of wood & stone, which they themselves have made". There are many very rich Chinamen in Melbourne & Emerald Hill. Today we visited the ruins of last night's conflagration before dinner. Visitors called in the afternoon & E & D. Sayce accompanied us to Thos. Crouche's to tea. He is a son of Isiah Crouch & Frd in Hobart-town. Here we spent a very pleasant religious eveng. They are Wesleyans & have much of the zeal so observable among that body. Their dear little children are beautiful singers & sang us some hymns, which had been greatly blessed to a dear little brother lately gone to his home in Heaven.

Sunday Feb 16th: J & I walked into town to meeting. Shortly after it assembled S.J. Levitt knelt in very fervent prayer; E. Sayce spoke at some length, as did J. Swinborn & E. Alcorn. Then I said a few words in allusion to J. Swinborn's sermon & soon after closed the meeting in prayer. J dined at the Horsefalls. I went home to dinner. Gerald Lucas, who is travelling here for health, came to dinner. Spent a quiet afternoon. The eveng meeting was a very large one, held in a splendid room, St George's Hall in Bourke St. This grand building was kindly lent us free of expense by its owners, a man of no religious profession at all but very wealthy. It is thought about 800 or 900 assembled - the eveng being wet probably kept some away, but the body of the hall was full. We both had much religious service, both in ministry & prayer & it was a very relieving time to us both. In the audience was one named Thos X Paine, a nephew of the late Mr celebrated Tom Paine, and holding just the same atheistical notions. Several Jews, Romanists, Unitarians &c were present. A great openness at all our meetings round Melbourne to receive tracts.

Monday Feb 17th: A wet day. I called on Fanny Veevers & then we wrote till dinner time. In the afternoon the teachers appointed for the Sunday school met at J. Horsefall's to tea. In the eveng S.J. Levitt was decided on as general secretary, Jas Swinborn superintendent of the Prahran School & Rachel Horsefall for that in Melbourne. Teachers were appointed for each school. After the business was concluded I requested that we might have a time of united prayer for a blessing on the schools. I read a hymn, called the "Teachers Office", one of the Sudbury leaflets & after a pause Rachel Horsefall knelt in prayer, the first time this dear Friend has been publicly heard in this way. I followed as did Jas Swinborn & S.J. Levitt. It was a good time; Home about 11 o'clock.

Tuesday, Feb 18th: Made calls in town & then E. Sayce took us over the Benevolent Institute. This is a sort of hospital for incurables, mostly old worn out people, blind, halt, deaf & imbecile. It contains 500 patients & among the rest, an old Frd W. Barnes whom we visited. Dined at Earlhamhope & E & D. A. Sayce & Lilly accompanied us to Brighton to tea at Mr Webb's. Held a meeting in the Independent Chapel at Brighton; over 200 persons

present. A very favored time. As we had nearly two hours to wait for the train & Mrs Webb's was far off, a kind gentleman living hard by the chapel kindly asked us all to his house to supper. Returned to St Kilda with thankful hearts.

Wednesday, 2 Feb 19th: Walked up to town to meeting, where I was drawn to engage in prayer & H. Alcorn & S.J. Levitt spoke. Dined in town & then E. Sayce took us to the Yarra Bend Lunatic Asylum. It takes its name as being built on a bend in the river Yarra Yarra, on which Melbourne stands. About 1000 patients are confined in this excellent asylum & among the rest, E & D.A. Sayce's son Henry. He, poor fellow, was frightened by his nurse when very young & never recovered (from) it. He is more like an idiot than a madman. We went all over the establishment & were deeply interested in many of the cases. In the ward where the most violent are, a big man rushed up to me saying "you are the son of the pope" & cursed me fearfully. Several had much to tell us, one showed us a large bag of onions hanging in his cell which he told us he kept for a time when there would be none. E. Sayce returned home & we walked to the little hamlet of Alphington, where we were most hospitably entertained by a dear old friend & wife, Theophilus M. Pollard. He is an uncle of our Walden friend Panny Swift. After tea he took us to see a large oak tree planted 30 yrs ago, but grown as large as it would have taken a century to grow in England. Then to a meeting held in a little chapel where some 50 persons were present & we had a very nice comfortable little time & the presence of the great Head of the church was known & felt by us. Lodged at the Pollard's.

Thursday, Feb 20: To Melbourne by coach & thence walked to St Kilda where we made calls. Wrote & read in the afternoon. News today of the death of the excellent Governor of S. Australia, Dominick Daly. This is a great day in Melbourne for a general election for the house of assembly or lower house - the upper one being called the Legislative Council. Much excitement, tho' kept in check by the system of vote by ballot. After tea we went by train to town & had a large meeting in the Baptist church in Albert St. The building is a very fine one, excellently arranged. This will be probably our last public meeting in the colony of Victoria at present & I think it was the most favored of any. The meetings here have been well advertised in the many local papers & by large placards posted in the streets. J.J.N met his cousin J.R. Neave from Talbot & they spent some time ~~kyxkx~~ together, Geo, Ed & Lilly walking home with me.

Friday, Feb 21: I had a nice dip in the sea before breakfast. The baths are so excellently railed in from the sea that no large sharks - which abound here - can get thro', tho' we have seen little ones close to the bathing houses. Made a call in St Kilda on a nice person once a Frd of SA Manchester Mtg, who well remembers my dear Grandparents; her name is Thompson. She with her daughter keep a school - they are very serious Xtian people. Wrote letters in the afternoon. I could wish my dear ones at home shivering with cold could share with us in this charming weather - not too hot nor but so delightful & we completely feast on peaches every day. They are to be brought at 2d per lb. When we read in English papers of the distress in London, I do so long to send home some meat. Good mutton sells 1d per lb in Melbourne or less by a large quantity; indeed thousands of sheep are killed here & melted down for the

sake of the fat.

Saturday, Feb 22: Last night we had a committee in the drawing room here on the subject of the proposed intercolonial Boarding School, & I was appointed to draw up a memorial for the next Y.M in London, petitioning friends for the sum of £4,000 to enable us to carry out a scheme of extreme importance to the well-being of Frds in these Colonies. This morning I wrote the essay of a document on this subject. Dined in town & there J & I called on a young man in Melbourne to try & make peace between himself & his friends. He is one of a family for whom I feel so much love & sympathy that I cannot put his name on paper. The quarrel has been of long duration & is a very painful one. We shall feel very thankful if we can be the means in any way of producing a reconciliation went to tea at Mr & Margt Creeth's & spent a very pleasant evening there.

Feb 23, Sunday: Walked up to town in time for meeting. J. Swinborn offered earnest prayer, especially for us two laborers. I dwelt at some length on the words: "Watch for ye know neither the day nor the hour &c". Mr & Eliz. Alcorn also spoke & J. concluded in prayer. Oswald Marriage, a young frd living in Melbourne, came to dine. At the evening meeting several influential persons were present, among others Judge Polham & Collin Campbell. After the evening usual reading, I spoke on the necessity of the Spirit's guidance to understand the truths of the Bible. C. Gould spoke for a long time. Then dear J. addressed us very solemnly from the words: "But the fearful & unbelieving &c shall have their part in the lake that burneth with fire & brimstone". I closed the meeting in prayer. Walked home by way of J. Horsefall's, leaving Lucy & Pollie there.

Monday Feb 24 : I feel to want my dear friends at home to enter into sympathy with the extreme importance of the contemplated boarding school. It would be impossible to raise the needed funds in the colonies, frds being for the most part poor, but while they their children have all had to be sent to schools entirely away from friends, they are not likely to feel any attachment to the society when they grow up. I long that some one of great influence in the Y.M as well as people of wealth would warmly advocate it. Were I differently situated, I should be fit to go home by the next mail to try & rouse Frds on the subject, but as this is out of the question I do sincerely hope someone will see that the suggestion is not dropped or thrown aside without due consideration. We spent this morning getting our letters ready for the English mail. I omitted to mention that at my request Josephine Sayce sent us over, on Saturday, some fruit of a kind I never saw before. The fruit of the edible passion flower. It is black outside as large as a very fine pickled walnut, the inside looks like a rotten egg, but has a most delicious flavor. Called on J. Horsefall this afternoon & on S.J. Levitt. After tea we met at the meeting house & the document I had drawn up for the Y.M in London passed unaltered. Then at 7.30 o'clock about 90 frds & others met in the meeting house in a thoroughly social manner to hear a very interesting lecture by my dear cousin on his journey in America. He gave us many anecdotes of great interest & the audience was highly pleased with it. A recess of half an hour was given & we all

partook of a plentiful supply of peaches, pears & apples provided chiefly by Jas Hope who has a large garden. Then the lecture concluded & a vote of thanks was given & a promise extorted from me to give an entertainment of some kind when opportunity offers. Reached home at 11 o'clock.

Tuesday, Feb 25: The heat of the Australian summer seems a little past & I found a bath in the sea very cool & refreshing before breakfast. We must post our letters today for the English mail, not that it leaves for a week, but our passages are taken for Tasmania in "The Southern Cross", which leaves here at 3 o'clock tomorrow afternoon (P.M.). We are to take up our quarters in Hobart Town at Robert Andrew Mathers, whose wife is a daughter of Theophilus Pollard & a cousin of Panny Swift. As soon as the Annual Meeting is over in Hobart, we intend returning here en route for Sydney. I dread Sydney more than any part of our work - there is so much evident unsoundness in the faith in that meeting. A separation has taken place & a few who have separated sent an epistle to Melbourne Prds, a few weeks back, denying that Christ came so save sinners, declaring almost everyone but themselves to be apostates & professing complete freedom from sin. And such is the meeting we are to visit. Oh! for more faith to guide us in this trying service, that we may if possible do good & not be a stumbling block to any, either in Sydney or anywhere where our lot is cast. "Without faith it is impossible to please God".

And now I would renewedly commend all my loved ones "to God & to the word of his grace, which is able to build us up & to give us an inheritance among them that are ~~xxix~~ sanctified."

With dear love to you all,

Yours in the faith & love of the gospel
Walter Robson.

Received at Suffron Walden: 4 mo. 26. 1868.

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Part sixth: Tasmania &c.

Tuesday, Feb 25, 1868: Busy most of the day in repacking our tracts, which have diminished greatly in number during our stay in Victoria. Thom. B. Hobson & I came to tea, having just returned from Tasmania & John Veevers & Ed. Robinson joined us to supper.

Wednesday, Feb 26: Rose early to complete packing &c, so as to leave everything ready to take on to Sydney on our return from Tasmania. Attended the meeting for worship in which H. Alcorn spoke, I gave a short parting address & dear H. Sayce offered very fervent prayer for us & our future movements, especially petitioning that we might be permitted to return again to labor again in Melbourne in health & peace. Joseph said a few words before we separated. Back to St. Kilda to dine & took leave of its dear hostess & our young friends there & E.S. accompanied us to the wharf where about a dozen Frds came to bid us farewell. "The Southern Cross" sailed at 3 o'clock. She is a very fine screw steamer & we had a pleasant evening on board, leaving the great basin called Port Phillip, 40 miles across, at sunset. Just at the entrance are lighthouses, there being some very dangerous rocks & the sea rough. The phosphorescence splendid.

Thursday, Feb 27: A quiet, lovely day at sea. Passed some very high little islands - Flinders Isle containing a mountain 3,500 ft rises out of the sea in a very curious manner, & several others appear mountainous. Just as we were sitting down to dinner, a heavy squall came on & most of our fellow-voyagers suffered from the weakness so common at sea. As usual we were not that way troubled & enjoyed the pitching of the steamer greatly.

Friday, Feb 28: Rose at 5 o'clock & came on deck to see the grand coast of that part of Van Diemensland known as Tasman's Peninsula. The cliffs round Cape Pillar & Pillar Island are basaltic & the columns that form their structure are as in Staffa & tho' I would not speak disparagingly of that beautiful spot where, as Scott says: it seemed as tho' nature herself would raise

A minister to her Maker's praise" I must in truth confess that in height & grandure the basaltic formation of these Tasmanian cliffs - 1000 ft high - is much finer than that in Fingalls Cave, only not as poetical. The approach to Hobart-Town is very lovely, the river Derwent is 2 1/2 miles broad & the town is on one side of it, while behind the town rises in majestic grandure Mount Wellington, a mountain 200 ft higher than Ben Nevis in Scotland. The river winds very much, giving more the appearance of a lake with hills rising all round. As we approached the wharf, two dear little men Frds with immense drab beaver hats, welcomed us; Robt. Andrew Mather & his brother Jos. Benson Mather. The former took us to his house. He is a large retail draper, employing over 20 hands & has a nice house behind & over the shop. His wife, Ann Mather, daughter of Theophilus Pollard of Melbourne, is a very kind motherly woman & they have a large family: two daughters, Annie & Sarah are grown up, also their eldest son. They have a little orphan nephew & a brother of Ann M. living with them. Here is to be our comfortable home during our stay in Hobart Town. In the afternoon called on a dear Frd in the station of minister, Sarah Walker,

widow of the late G.W.W. She lives at the Savings Bank & has a capital house. Made another call & Sarah Crouch called on us.

Saturday, Feb 29 : Rose at 5.30 & met the young Mathers & Walkers at the wharf & took a boat & had a delightful row across the river to a pretty little bay where we bathed & lit a fire & cooked some coffee, returning to breakfast. Spent most of the day making calls. Lined at the house of a dear old widowed friend, Esther Mather, step-mother to R.A. & J.B. Mather. Her name was Dixor & she lived at Whitby in Yorkshire but has lived most of her life here. E. Malcomson joined us there, as did G.W. Walker; eldest son & Jas Backhouse, a young man about my age, educated at York & lately has joined the Independents. He is a very nice young man, one for whom we can but feel great interest, if only on account of his name & the associations it brings with the 2 beloved pioneers of Quakerism in the Australian Colonies, J.B. & G.W.W. In the eve R.A. Mather took us to call on the two Methodist ministers, who very cordially lent us their chapels for next week.

Sunday, Mar 1st: My dearest Father's birthday. I thought much of him & longed to give him a birthday salutation. Our dear host offered earnest prayer after breakfast & then he went off to the hospital, where he spends his sabbath mornings reading to & visiting the sick. We went to the little meeting house, composed of 2 rooms in a cottage where about 30 frds met. My dear cousin is no very well today & left me all the vocal service, which felt trying in a meeting I had never before been in, but the dear Frds here are a Xtian community & I verily believe are, most of them, born again - Children of God; New creatures in Christ Jesus. There are 2 recorded ministers: Sarah Walker & J.B. Mather. We dined at S. Walker's & had tea at J.B. Mather's. He is a widower with several daughters, nice sensible girls. The afternoon meeting was very hot the thermometer 100° in the shade, I believe. Again the vocal service was mine only. After tea is held a Bible class at R.A. Mather's, which we attended, reading a chapter, verse by verse, all round & discussing it. J.B. Mather closed in prayer. Then I accompanied my host to "The Peoples Hall", once a dancing room but now used every Sunday as a place of worship for the lowest classes & the service is rather like that of the Inn Room at home. We were only hearers tonight but are to attend as preachers next week, D.V. A blind man was engaged in a very earnest address to about 80 persons. There is a large bush fire on the side of Mt Wellington today.

Monday, Mar 2nd: I rose at 5.30 & met E. Malcomson & the Walkers & Mathers at the wharf & had another delightful row & bath before breakfast. After breakfast Robt. Mather took us over the hospital which is a well conducted building, very full, containing 107 patients. One poor old man just in the last agony of death & too far gone to be spoken to. He was sent there from the gaol a week ago. Several poor creatures suffering from terrible diseases, called forth our pity & our prayers, tho' there seemed no opening for the vocal expression of them. Then a walk of a mile or so brought us the "Invalid Depot", an excellent institute where 224 poor men all old convicts, mostly very old, are cared for, fed,

clothed & doctored in illness of a more permanent character than would be likely for the hospital. The daily regimen is for each patient: 1 lb bread; 1 lb meat; 1 pt soup; 3 oz Tea; 1 oz Tobacco &c, so they are well cared for in that way. After visiting all the wards, at our request they were almost all assembled in the mess room where J & I addressed them & J engaged in earnest prayer. Visited also the Benevolent Institution where any poor people are relieved & their troubles thoroughly investigated & recorded. Returned to dinner & spent the afternoon writing. Ann & Father & her daughter Annie accompanied us to Thos. Crouch's to tea. He is under Sheriff of Hobart town & a highly respected man, well known by Jas. Backhouse 31 years ago. He is a Wesleyan & his wife a Prd. Their family belong to the former body. Sang many hymns in the eveng, closing with reading, after which J spoke for some time & I offered prayer.

Tuesday Mar 3rd: R.A. Father & T. Crouch took us over the great town gaol this morning. A well regulated establishment, not full now as it once was in the days of transportation. Stood on the "drop" where so many poor criminals have been hung, private execution being always the plan adopted here, & I tried to realize how it would feel to be in that dreadful position & good old Bradford's remark seemed uppermost: "there goes Bradford but for the Grace of God." It is the painful duty of T. Crouch always to be present at executions & to give the awful signal when the drop shall fall. He gave us many sad details. Sometimes 5 or 6 have been hung together. T.C says it always makes him ill. After dinner our dear host took us to the cascade factory, the great gaol for females - once containing 1200 prisoners but now less than 100, most of the spacious premises being devoted to a home for invalids of both sexes & the children of the women prisoners. Here we spent a most interesting afternoon & were much struck & affected by seeing so many young girls of 12 to 14 yrs old confined in separate cells for disorderly conduct, surely for such a reformatory would be better than a dungeon. Then we went a lovely walk up the side of a mountain stream overhung with exquisite fern trees &c. Did not get back to tea till nearly 8 o'clock. E. Malcomson joined us to supper.

Wednesday, Mar 4th: Breakfasted at about 7 o'clock & then E. Malcomson, Bob Father & Annie & Sarah & I took a car as far in the direction of Mt Wellington as the road extends. J. would have joined us but is not feeling very well. The lower part of this grand old mountain consists of several long slopes & level ground between. About a way up are the springs of bright pure water which supply Hobart Town. Here we halted & had some food. Then, leaving the ladies under E.M.'s care, Bob & I went on to the top, part of the ascent much like that of Ben Nevis, being over high boulders of stone, very fatiguing to clamber over. The top is 4200 feet above the sea. A cairn is erected at the highest point, from which a very grand view is obtained over the sea, Tasman's Peninsula & some distant mountains with snow on them. Joined the rest of our party at the springs, where they had kindled a fire & had hot coffee & dinner in readiness for us. Then, after singing hymns &c descended & found a car waiting for us. The whole walk took 5 hours. After tea was our public meeting in the large Wesleyan Chapel. This

was well attended & thro' condescending mercy was a time of great favor & we were both well helped to preach "the unsearchable riches of Christ". I felt very tired after the meeting closed, but thankful for the mercies of the day.

Thursday, Mar 5 : Monthly meeting here. J spoke at some length & I offered prayer. After our certificates had been read several expressions of unity & thankfulness followed & the clerk, J.B. Mather, knelt in prayer for a blessing on our visit. Not much business to come before us. A letter this morning from dear E. Sayce informs us that he has been liberated with S.O. Levitt as companion to visit Sydney & perform any service required of him in N.S.Wales. Several of us visited the Botanical gardens in the afternoon. These are very beautiful, situated at the side of the lovely broad river & with such a view of mountains, valleys & water as we rarely meet with. Hobart Town is a quiet old place, so different to the bustling cities in the new colonies we have recently visited. From the fact of the climate being cooler, verandahs are not so prevalent & the whole place has a thoroughly English appearance, most houses being 2 or 3 floors in height whereas in Melbourne, Adelaide & most private dwellings are only ground floor tenements. After tea we held a public meeting in the Primitive Methodist Chapel, Collins St. The chapel is small & was well filled but so badly ventilated that the heat was most oppressive. Two of Frs Cotton's sons, viz Jas. Backhouse & Ed. Octavius arrived this evng. They are staying next door at J.B. Mather's. Ed. is the accepted lover of R.A. Mather's daughter Sarah. The Cottons live at Melvedon some 80 miles from here. F. Cotton has not returned, being still engaged in S. Australia.

Friday, Mar 6 : Rose at 5.30 & two boat loads of us young men pulled across the river for a dip & very much enjoyed it. The Annual Meeting commenced at 11 o'clock with a meeting for worship. My beloved companion opened it in prayer. I spoke for some time & R.A. Mather offered prayer. After the business meeting had been opened R.A. Mather resigned his office of clerk & again knelt to invoke the divine blessing on his successor, Jas Backhouse Cotton. The assistant clerk J.B. Mather soon after engaged in prayer, beseeching that the Spirit might be largely poured out & on the young people. Our certificates were not read till the evng sitting. After a very excellent man Henry Propsting offered prayer. He was sent out of our country for the country's good in a convict ship, but he has become a converted man. The Crouches we joined us at dinner. The evng meeting commenced at 7 o'clock. After our certificates were read, J knelt & returned thanks to God that he has brought us so safely to this land, & prayed that we might be kept in the spirit of watchfulness & he made a blessing wherever he might be pleased to send us. Proceeded to answer the first four queries to send to London Y.P. The dear Frs here are a very choice little company, very closely united in the unity of the spirit, so different from the Melbourne Frs where so much diversity exists. Here they are rather slow in transacting the affairs of the Church, making a long pause between everything that they do. Many excellent remarks were made & a solemn feeling over the meeting which was closed by J.B. Mather in praise & thanksgiving. Adjourned till Monday evng so as to allow the young people to attend, which they can hardly do during the day.

Saturday, Mar 7th: A wet gloomy day. Spent chiefly in making religious visits. Afternoon we walked over to New Town, 3 miles, to visit an old Frd of near 80 who attends meeting here. He is not a member. His name is Blackwell & he has resided 50 years in this island. He used to visit High Wycombe & remembers our venerable Auct G. Edmunds. Called also on a dear aged couple named Cald. They used to live in the employ of Geo. Sanderson, the great Tea Merchant in London & remembers our dear Frds the Forsters of Tottenham. Returned to Hobart Town at 8 o'clock & I took Annie & Janie Mather to see a splendid exhibition of glass blowing & spinning, glass models of engines worked by steam etc, well worth a visit.

Sunday, Mar 8th: At meeting this morning we both had much vocal service, as also in the afternoon. Both were good times. After tea Frds came here to the Bible reading. At N.A. Mather's request I took the lead & conducted the discussion. The family at Bethany formed the lesson for the evng. J.B.M opened & I closed the meeting with prayer. Then off to the Peoples Hall, which was much crowded, about 500 persons, chiefly of the lowest class, present. Sang outside to collect the poor creatures. We were both greatly helped in declaring a Saviour's matchless love to them. At the close we accepted an earnest request to conduct the service at next Sunday evng.

Monday, Mar 9 : I feel I must record the extreme kindness of our dear Frds here - it knows no bounds, all that possibly can be done for our help & pax & happiness is gladly done for us & none but our own nearest relatives could be more heartily disposed to add to our comforts. Truly our God deals well with His most unworthy servants. Let us thank & bless & praise His Holy Name. The Holdsworths & their Mr Bell have turned up here & were at meeting yesterday. After breakfast N.A. Mather & Sarah Crouch accompanied us to Newton & we spent a most interesting morning in the orphan asylum there. Several hundred orphans are boarded, lodged & educated in this excellent institution. Heard the boys at their lessons, inspected the girls & at their writing & then having looked thro' the dormitories we visited another building connected with the same establishment where the very little ones are kept. The poor little dears are in excellent order & go thro' their drill like an army of soldiers, i.e clapping hands, stamping & singing. N. Mather having tossed one of the tiny ones, we had a general rush & all 3 were busily employed tossing the little creatures all round, while they came running up with "do me please sir, do me please sir". They seemed vastly pleased with us. One little girl is deaf & blind, but so intelligent she soon understood who & what we were. Came back to a late dinner & rested in the afternoon. The Annual Meeting at 7 p.m. finished answering the queries for London & read & considered the 1st & 2nd of those not to be answered. J & J.B. Mather engaged in prayer & we had a very favored time sitting. Much openness felt in the ministry among the very choice, loving little company of Frds here.

Tuesday, Mar 10 : Kept in all the colonies as a public holiday to commemorate the marriage of the Prince of Wales. Accordingly the A.M. was adjourned from last night till tomorrow. The

Crouch & Mather & Walker families, the Holasworths, E. Malcolmson & Mr Bell & several Bros of the Mathers & our 2 selves were rowed in 2 large boats up the beautiful Derwent to a fine hill on the farther side, where we encamped for the day. In ~~xx~~ calling the Derwent a river it would be better understood as an arm of the sea, being from 2 to 3 miles wide & often very rough like some of the Scotch "Lochs". Spent a most delightful day, dining in the woods & afterwards games & singing & then some of us went a long stroll by the rocky beach into a fine bay called Bedlam walls. Tea in the woods, then a bush fire & a fire balloon & finally a delightful moon-light row of 2 hrs back to Hobart town, singing hymns all the way. A very charming day, spent not in unseemly foolishness but in quiet enjoyment of those blessings given us richly to be enjoyed. A large bush fire blazing in the trees on the river's bank had a very singular aspect from the boat.

Tuesday, Mar 11 : Left my dear cousin at home writing & accompanied E. Malcolmson, Bob Mather & Frank Mather, the latter son of J.B. Mather, a very nice ramble of 8 to 10 miles thro' the woods onto the top of Mt Nelson, a fine promontory overlooking Storm Bay & the mouth of the river. A very delightful tho' fatiguing walk. Rested after dinner. The annual meeting was at 7 p.m. The 3rd & 4th unanswered queries read & prayerfully considered, J.B. Mather & W.A. engaging in vocal prayer & praise. Read thro' the minutes of last A.M. Closed at 10 p.m.

Thursday, Mar 12 : week day meeting at 11 o'clock. Joseph addressed us at some length. I had been across the river to bathe before breakfast, rowing both ways & ~~ix~~ felt a little tired, a caution to myself not to let anything however desirable in itself hinder me from my proper work as a minister. The Annual Meeting was held after that for worship. I was appointed to assist the clerk & assistant in preparing an epistle for S. Australia. Dined & spent the afternoon at J.B. Mather's. After tea went to the Independent Chapel in Bathurst St, kindly offered us for a meeting by its minister, a Mr Simmonds, who said that when living in Olney he had lent his chapel to J.B. Braithwaite. Went into the vestry before the service, where J.B. Mather knelt to ask a blessing on the meeting. Had a very favored as well as large meeting, in which ~~qw~~ both laboured largely & the audience as quiet as at a Frds meeting in England. Went to J.B. Mather's after meeting & he & J.B. Cotton & I went alone to prepare an epistle to S. Australia. J.B.M. first knelt & asked help of God in sending such a document as might be to the good of Frds there. J.B. Cotton had prepared a draught of one, which with slight alteration we approved of very much.

Friday, Mar 13 : The A.M. met at 11 o'clock. I felt constrained to return thanks for mercies past & invoke a continuance of Divine help & ~~wisdom~~ wisdom. Our epistle to S. Australia passed unaltered & the morning was devoted to the subject of epistles. We sat 3 1/2 hours & then adjourned till Monday evening. - Saturday being too much occupied in business. In the evening we had a Temperance meeting in a large room bought for the purpose of such occasions by the late G.W. Walker. A large oil painting of G.W. Walker hangs on the wall.

H.A. Mather presided & we both gave addresses on the important Christian principle involved in total abstinence. When we had closed & some melodies had been sung, I went a walk with some of the young Mather's & E. Malcomson by moon-light.

Saturday, Mar 14: Breakfasted at 9.30 & accompanied the early boating party to their usual camping ground. Then E. Cotton, Frank Mather, Jos & I walked 11 miles to a large arm of the sea called Pitt water, where a mile by water w brought us to the house of Mr. Rowntree & his wife Hannah. The latter is a Frd & a very excellent woman, her husband a relation of our dear English Frd of the same name is not quite satisfactory. He was sent to Tasmania for his country's good more than 30 yrs ago. They have a nice family & all gave us a very hearty welcome to their isolated home. They live on a little peninsula, almost an island, E. Rowntree being employed in some large government works erecting bridges &c. Spent a nice time with him in which the ministry & prayer flowed freely. Left after dinner & finding there was time was short, we walked very fast, doing the 11 miles in 2 1/2 hours - so as to catch the last steamer ferry boat that plies from Kangaroo Point to the Hobart Town side of the river. After tea I joined the Mather's & Crouches in a visit to the glass blowers.

Sunday, Mar 15th: A blessing on the varied duties of today was vocally petitioned for & by my beloved kinsin cousin after the morning reading. I offered prayer & preached in the meeting. Sarah Crouch also saying a few words. We dined at the Crouche's & then we went to a large Wesleyan Sunday School, where at the request of its superintendant the afternoon was up given up to us. The dear children sang sweetly & we both addressed them & prayed with them. The school is in excellent order, the superintendent is Saml. Mather, a brother of our host & a zealous Wesleyan. His wife Tryphena is much of an invalid. We made them a very comforting call at Newtown the day we visited the Orphanage. Joseph had most of the vocal service at in our afternoon except a few words from me. Took tea at J.B. Mather's & went with him to Lether Mather's, his step-mother, where was held the meeting for ministers & overseers, elders being not known here. We had a nice meeting & J mentioned our concern to invite the young people to a Youth's meeting. This was cordially encouraged & it is fixed to be held next Tuesday, E.V. I had to leave the meeting before it closed to go to that at the Peoples Hall where, while we were singing "Oh everyone that thirsts draw nigh &c" J joined us & we had a very favored meeting in which we were both well helped to proclaim to some far sunk in vice & sin the glad tidings of Jesus' love. The room was very crowded, but the congregation so quiet it reminded me much of the dear old Iron Room at home where I have so often labored with my fellow townspeople. After this our 5th meeting today, I walked home with Annie Crouch & then back to our quarters, rather xx tired but feeling thankful for the mercies of the day.

Monday, Mar 16th: Leaving my beloved cousin busy writing I accompanied Anna Mather (a girl of 21 in very delicate health, daughter of J.B.M) & E. Malcomson a delightful stroll over the hills & then clambered over the gate into the Frd's Burial Ground, a large

enclosure far away from town but nicely laid out. A neat head-stone, some rose trees & a tall cypress at the foot mark the last resting place of that dear Frd who perhaps more than any other person in Hobart Town gained the respect & love of the people, the late G.W. Walker. We returned home to dinner & spent the afternoon writing; the closing sitting of the Annual Meeting began at 7 o'clock. A letter from dear Francis Cotton (who is still laboring in S. Australia) was read, asking for an extension of his minute so as to be at liberty to visit Sydney. This was very cordially united with, all of us feeling very glad that a father in the church should feel called to such a trying service, as it must be to visit the disaffected in that poor little meeting. Passed epistles to a family of Frds in Western Australia & one to New Zealand. Then one was passed to our English Y.M. in which very cordial allusion is made to our visit. I can but feel thankful that Frds are enabled to feel unity with our labours. J.B. Mather engaged in prayer & I returned thanks for the blessed sense of the presence of Jesus by His Holy Spirit which had been our portion during all the sittings & prayed for dear F. Cotton & all Frds travelling in the service of the Lord. Went to supper at the Walkers, after which my dear J had some good service in that large & interesting family. We had tea this evening at our Friend Hy Propsting's.

Tuesday, Mar 17 : Spent some time this morning in pleasant converse with J.B. Mather's daughters. His wife, a daughter of F. Cotton, has long been dead & his & family all seem very delicate - consumptive, I believe. We dined at H. Propsting's & he took us with his wife & brother a lovely drive along the river side towards Brown's River & the sea. We much enjoyed it. Called to say farewell to our dear aged friend Esther Mather. Our youths' meeting was at 7 p.m. & was well filled, several young people not Frds., having come by invitation. I asked a blessing on the meeting & then J & I were well helped in addressing those, like myself, in the morning of life & also the little children. After a fervent prayer from dear J. J. I felt drawn to kneel again to ask a blessing on those amongst us who were travelling for their health &c. The Holdsworths, Will Benson & E. Malcomson being present. We were favored far beyond my expectation, as I had felt much the prospect of such a meeting. Several of the young people joined us to supper & after reading J. Mather earnestly petitioned for a blessing on our labours. We feel in leaving Hobart Town we have had very much to be thankful for & not the least, the super-abundant kindness of all our Frds here. As to R.A. Mather & his wife & family, their kindness to us has known bounds & as a last proof of it, they & were with almost all of the up to breakfast with us & see us off, rising at 4 o'clock a.m. on:

Wednesday, Mar 18 : The coach for Launceston leaves at 5 o'clock a.m. & we took our seats outside on as & such a lovely & moonlight morning as I ever remember. Passing Mr Crouche's residence his daughter Annie joined us on the coach top & was our very lively & pleasant companion most of the day. Stopped to breakfast at Mel Mowbray, crossed the river Jordan, drove thro' Jericho, Stansford Hill & other places with familiar names & reached Campbell Town to dinner. Here reside Annie Crouche's brother & sister Cazeley, who

we met at Mr Crouche's last week & Mr Cazeley took us to his house to dine. He is a Wesleyan Minister & a very choice man. Left Annie to stay with them & after a very hurried repast mounted the coach again & came as far as Cocked Hat Hill, seven miles from Launceston. Here Joseph left us to spend the night & visit an old friend while I came on to Launceston so as to make as many calls as possible during the 2 days that intervene before leaving for Melbourne. I am comfortably located at the Launceston Hotel, but very tired with a coach ride of 120 miles. The coaches here are not like those in Victoria, but are the real old English sort, including the guard with a very unmusical horn. I omitted farther back to mention that while at tea at R.A.M.'s last night a ~~te~~ telegram arrived from Sydney that cast a gloom over all Hobart Town. Our young Prince Alfred, now at Sydney, has been shot in the back by a Fenian! Reports are hopeful of ultimate recovery, but what vilany, what a diabolical proceeding when in the name of our dear Queen, her son is visiting the colonies, one of her own subjects should attempt to assassinate him. The assassin is in custody, having almost been killed by lynch law. They are getting up "indignation meetings" in all the colonies & I find that 6,000 people met in Melbourne & sang the national anthem as a mark of loyalty to our beloved monarch. English papers, which we often see, do not give hopeful news of the Fenians at home, but why they should attempt the life of a young prince out here I cannot imagine. Oh that the wickedness of the wicked may come to an end & that our young Duke of Edinburgh now laid on a bed of pain, may be brought close to his Exalted Lord & Saviour so that the wrath of man may even in this sad affair be brought to praise the Lord & thus good come out of evil.

Thursday, Mar 19 : After breakfast I received a call from Cater, the town missionary who most kindly pressed us both to take up our abode at his home. This, on the arrival of my dear cousin, we accepted. He is a very excellent man with a nice wife & daughter - his eldest daughter is the wife of our friend Hy Propsting. We spent most of the day calling on those whose addresses we brought out from England & among others, two friends of Mr O. King of Ludbury, the Joceylines & Emily Smith; the latter had heard of us from W.D.K. Went to tea at Rev. Chas. Price's, the Independent Minister who 35 yrs ago lent his chapel to Jas Backhouse & G.W. Walker. After a walk with him in some botanical gardens, where is the largest pear-tree in the world, we held a public meeting in his chapel - a very solemn & I believe favored occasion. Before tea we went to a large "indignation meeting" in a piece of ground containing a huge stand for spectators, erected a few weeks ago to witness the Prince dig the first sod of the first railway in the island. Today we met 2,000 in number, to evince our loyalty & our just indignation at the diabolical attempt that has been made at Sydney to assassinate him. Some capital speeches were made & I could wish our Queen to hear the warm sentiments of loyalty to her throne & person, of condolence with the Prince & gratitude to God for his preservation which was poured forth this afternoon, concluding with all joining in the National Anthem. We felt duty bound to be present on this occasion.

Friday, Mar 20 : Rose early & went a very lovely walk over some hills to a spot of great beauty, the Cateract Basin, a large

"turn" with a lovely rapid mountain torrent flowing into it. Devoted today to calls & among others had a very nice religious time with two people named Lawson, the wife a sister of the Mambys of Brigg & I know my beloved sister Caroline. She is nice woman & her husband is a very serious man. They have seen much adversity & are very poor, but thankful for mercies received. In the afternoon we called on Sarah Bell, the only member of our society in Launceston. She is an invalid, her son Walter & daughter Sarah Jane live with her. They are very nice, dear people, with whom we had much spiritual refreshment. Joseph staid tea with them. I took tea with Mr & Mrs Hudson, good Xtian folks who cannot feel easy to join in church fellowship with any body of Christians in Launceston. This eveng was the Annual Bible Meeting, which we were especially requested to take part in. We were oddly announced to the assembly as two Quaker Ministers who need not be ashamed of the name, & that the good Quakers at in England must have a very good opinion of the Launceston people as they had not sent anyone to see them after them since Mr Backhouse came & started the Bible society there. We both spoke & were warmly received & pressed to accept the loan of several chapels on our next visit L.V. After prayers in Mr Cater's family, we all sang some good old hymns & before retiring to bed.

Saturday, Mar 21 : Made one call after breakfast. The steamer for Melbourne left about 10 o'clock & many good ministers, church & dissent, were on the wharf to bid us "God speed" & see us embark on the "Derwent" - a very nice commodious steamer. Just after leaving Launceston we ran into a sand bank & there stuck. A little boat put off from the shore & brought on board Walter Bell, who had just received, forwarded from Hobart Town, our ever welcome English letters. Had we not stuck in the mud, we could not have received them some weeks, not knowing where to tell our Hobart Town friends to direct. These gave us good employment, as well as very delightful occupation, till the "Derwent" had cleared herself from the mud & then steamed down the pretty river Tamer. The scenery on the North of Tasmania is not so fine as near Hobart Town, but the Tamer is prettily wooded along the banks & we counted between 30 & 40 bush fires before we stood out to sea. The wind was in our teeth & rather high so that many of our fellow voyagers were prostrated before we were at night. We spent a quiet, enjoyable day on board tho' the vessel was very crowded & at night had 4 gentlemen in my cabin, where only 2 ought to be - several had to sleep on the benches.

Sunday, Mar 22 : A lovely mornigg. Entered the Port Phillip Heads about 9 o'clock & landed at Sandridge by 11.30. Took a car to our old home at Earhamhope. Our dear friends all well but not home from meeting when we returned. E. Sayce & S.J. Levitt have gone to Sydney where we purpose following them in about a week. J. Whitehead & E. Cooper to dine. I called on the Veevers in the afternoon. The meeting in the eveng was opened by my dear companion in prayer after a chapter had as usual been read. We both spoke & I knelt to return thanks for the preservation of the life of the son of our beloved Queen. Today is set apart for special thanksgiving for his recovery from a wound so nearly mortal. Walked home with the Veevers & Ted & Lilly.

Monday, Mar 23 : went to town in the morning to see after various little businesses. Our friend Charles Mould leaves for England this week, to marry a Friend at Craydon named Farrand. It is, I think, nearly 10 mos since he lost his former much loved wife & as both his daughters are now married & settled in N. Zealand there seems little to detain him in Melbourne. Spent the afternoon writing. To town after tea, where at the friends meeting house, I gave my lecture on Switzerland & Mt Blanc. Friends generally & some others attended. John Veevers had very kindly painted several diagrams of various mountain scenes, illustrative of my lecture. The whole affair was pronounced to be a great success. Fruit was handed at the conclusion. Home about 11.30.

Tuesday Mar 24th: I spent the greater part of today writing letters for the next English mail. Went to tea at J. Horsefall's, where we spent a nice eveng. I rejoice to find that the Sabbath School which I was instrumental in commencing is progressing favorably so far - 17 scholars last Sunday at Melbourne & over 20 at Praharan. A small beginning but I hope with God's blessing that it will progress & more rapidly & more satisfactorily soon.

Wednesday, Mar 25 : went to meeting in the morning, where my dear cousin had very good service. Spent the afternoon writing & a little business took me to town. To tea at Ed. Robinson's, where we spent a very pleasant social evening.

Thursday, Mar 26th: Had a delightful bathe before breakfast, though the weather is so much ~~sax~~ cooler now that it scarcely seems so needful - indeed the summer is about at an end for this season & the evengs are cool & we are reminded that the delightful Australian winter is near at hand. Left J writing & went up to X Melbourne where I engaged our berth in the "City of Melbourne" steamer ship to leave for Sydney next Monday, D.V. James R. Neave is now with his family in town & their vessel is to sail for dear old England on Saturday. Mrs Neave & her 3 youngest dined here at Earlhamhope today. We all went to meeting in the eveng, where both of us had some vocal service. Two persons from Sudbury came to meeting at my invitation, their names are Sillitoe & they are brother & sister to our Mrs Tweene.

Friday, Mar 27th: Spent most of the morning writing & getting ready for the English mail. Decided to finish our letters today, so I must close this at present. With dearest love & undiminished interest in your & all that concerns you, & with the renewed reminder that nothing which you can tell me of English home news is uninteresting & with the earnest prayer, the daily & more than daily prayer, that God will richly bless each of you.

I am yours in the best of bonds
Walter Robson.

Received at Saffron Walden: May 22. 1868.

Part the seventh: Sydney &c.

Friday, Mar 27.1888: Spent a very pleasant eveng at M. Robinson's. He is a very nice man. I forget whether I mentioned that he & his brother Ed. are 1st cousins to one Ed. Jacob of unpleasant memory. They have asked me many particulars respecting that unhappy individual & suppose him to be somewhere in these colonies. If so, I hope we may meet with him, tho' that is very doubtful.

Saturday, Mar 28: A soaking wet day. I left J.J writing & went up to town to settle at our bank before leaving for Sydney. J went to tea at the ledgeys & I accompanied George, Teddy & Lilly to tea at Germain Nicholson's. Here were a large party of people unknown to me, but we spent a very pleasant eveng.

Sunday, Mar 29: Walked up to town to meeting. This was a very favored time in which we were both helped to preach the blessedness & responsibility of being in Christ & both offered prayer. J went with D. Sayce & Teddy to a large dinner party at M Jas. Hope's, but I plainly told J.H that I did not feel easy to go visiting on the Sabbath & they kindly excused me on that account. I therefore enjoyed a very quiet day at Earlhamhope with Geo & Lilly, reading in the afternoon & I accompanied them to meeting in the evening. Here again we were favored with a sense of the Divine presence & power in a measure of which Chas Mould, J & I each gave our dear friends a parting address & I closed the meeting in prayer. Called on the Horsefalls on our way home.

Monday, Mar 30: Completed today my 26th year - but more properly from difference of time, my birthday is tomorrow. Many kind wishes expressed for me & a beautiful book marker worked & presented by Lilly Sayce. We rose early & packed up & took leave of our very kind Frds at Earlhamhope at 1.30, going by car into town & by rail into Sandridge, where our steamer for Sydney the "city of Melbourne" left at about 3 p.m. Several Frds ~~xxxx~~ accompanied us to the ship & expressed earnest desire for our speedy return to this very interesting field of labour. A head wind made it very rough at starting but when outside Port Phillip Heads it became smoother, tho' what little wind there was, was in our teeth. Some interesting company on board: Mr Blade of Geelong, who had lent us his chapel & a Presbyterian Minister who had just returned from one of the South Sea Islands for his health.

Tuesday, Mar 31st: A quiet enjoyable day at sea., principally spent reading. Many of our fellow voyagers not ar we is, suffering from the old complaint, of which I have as yet no personal experience. Kept near the coast of Victoria & N.S. Wales all the day.

Wednesday, April 1st: At about 11 p.m we passed close by a large bay well known in England to which many were personally transported. (or, more correctly, to Port Jackson. None to Botany Bay) & very many more have been wished to go. It is a sandy looking opening not very attractive, nor likely to make people comfortable: the far-famed Botany Bay. Ten miles farther, or 500 from Melbourne & we enter Port Jackson Heads, which are find bold cliffs enclosing the finest harbour in the world, with the one exception of the Bay of Naples. Once inside the heads, the bay widens & becomes almost like a lake, the entrance not visible & the sides hilly & richly wooded. Several little inlets where shipping

can be carried on. Then comes Governor's House, from which waves our Royal Standard in token of our Prince being an inmate. His vessel, the "Galatea" floats in the bay & we were glad to find H.R. is recovered so as to be able again to drive his carriage & four. His assassin O'Farrel was sentenced to die yesterday but I fancy he will not finally be executed. We landed at Sydney at 4 o'clock, J going on shore to seek lodgings for us while I staid on board to take care of the luggage. On his return we took up our quarters at Thos. Jno. Halsers's. He is a hatter & his father a Friend. After tea our dear Frds Ed. Sayce & S.J. Levitt called on us & told us much of the most painful state of things here among Frds. They seem to have had a most trying, exercising time since their arrival. The quarrel seems so general, by far the larger number of Frds have separated & forced a new meeting & taken with them most of the life, the spiritual life, of the church in Sydney. Oh! I feel now we have arrived in this town, so empty & to have no fitness for such an engagement; indeed I shrink from the very thought of all that is involved in visiting this divided little meeting. I never felt so much before, that our sufficiency is not of ourselves but may we more & more realize God's strength to be made perfect in our weakness & all our sufficiency to be in & from Him alone. We walked with E. Sayce & S.J. Levitt to their lodgings & after reading we all knelt together in prayer, offered by my dear cousin vocally for guidance, for direction & daily strength that we may be enabled to heal the breach & to restore the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.

Thursday, April 2nd: A very lovely morn'g. After breakfast our dear Melbourne Frds called & took us to call on some of the Sydney Frds belonging to both sections. The old body, called Devonshire St & the new, Pitt St Frds. Tho' I cannot yet fully describe the cause of this distressing state of things, I may just state for the information of my dear ones at home that ever since the late Jno Tarvell resided here, it seems as if an evil spirit had hung over Frds in this city & tho' there have been revivals among them, as when F. Mackie visited them, & before that when he came as companion to the late Robt. Lindsey, & also while Hesdric West resided here, yet Frds have never flourished & a few years ago a young man named Alfred Allen, after passing thro' much persecution, joined them. He is one of a very deep & active mind, one born to lead not to be led, & finding that the discipline of the church was vested very much in one elderly Frd, Abraham Lavy, who from his acquaintance with Jas. Backhouse seems to feel he had a right to rule & exercise the spirit of Diotrephes, "lording to have the preeminence". Alfd. Allen opposed A. Lavy in many ways & the result was a constant & often most disgraceful dispute in their meetings. A. Allen is one who is full of life, & I verily believe, of love to Jesus, but sadly wants directing, softening, nursing & restraining & has taken up strongly with Robt. Barclay's doctrine of perfection & connecting it with John's 1st Epistle concerning the fact that "he that is born of God sinneth not" has made some rather wild assertions as to his own freedom from sin. A few months back with little warning he was disowned on the double charge of unsoundness in doctrine & discipline & for immorality. The result was has been that the greater part of the meeting has gone with him, not having resigned their membership, but feeling

very indignant at the disownment of one who did more probably to keep Xrians alive the truth than anyone else in the meeting, & they meet in a room in Pitt St. Our dear Melbourne Frds have repeatedly attended both meetings & are cordially recd in both, but from these facts it will be seen that great care & watchfulness on our parts will be needed. The Sydney meeting is not on the same footing as those at Hobart Town & Melbourne, our Y.M. having not as yet recognised it, so that becoming or ceasing to be a member here does not affect membership in England or the other colonies. We have conversed with A.Allen, Jas Dixon & c of Pitt St & Jno Falser & A. Davy of Devonshire at meetings. Whether any good can result is only known to him who tho' Paul xxix plant & Apollos water can alone give the increase. Met our friend Dr Tucker who tells us that the B & F Bible Society have declined to grant him the needful money x for his long tour in the interior, but he intends to make a shorter one & I expect we shall accompany him in it. Sydney is a very English looking city, much older than Melbourne or Adelaide & the streets are narrow, but it is a fine city with more grand building in it than either of the other towns we have visited. We sent a telegram to Adelaide today: "Where is Francis Cotton; when will he reach Sydney?" feeling very anxious that he, a father in the church should come & we all want to meet him here, feeling that in such a case as that of Frds here, one of mature judgement is like to do more service than young men are, but each must do his own work. After tea at 7 p.m we went to the Devonshire St M.H; men & women frds meet together. J offered prayer that this sad division might be rightly healed. One of the Pitt St Frds, Jos Dixon & a young friend Fredk. Horsenail from Cirencester were present. The latter throws his sympathies in with Pitt St. A Friend Wm nokes is clerk, & read E.Sayce's & S.J.Levitt's minutes & our documents. After the minutes of last meeting had been read & business finished, mostly of a secular character, A.Davy rose & gave us a very long detail of A.Allen's bad conduct before they had disowned him, also of his own very loving & Christian conduct towards A.Allen & how he had forgiven his insults 70 times 7 times, but that it was no use. He then gave a long & painful dissertation on the question which has for years troubled this poor little meeting, the trusteeship of their burial ground, once invested in the names of Jas Backhouse & G.W.Walker & Jno Farvell, but now in the hands of some of their own members. Then he spoke of the very awful conduct of F.Horsenail, now present who had written to England for money towards building a new meeting house at Sydney & when it came, would not let Frds have it without leave of the donors because of the division & the wretched state here. Our frd A.Davy read aloud a private correspondence between him & F.Horsenail in which he says the latter is guilty of the sin of Ananias & Sapphira & far worse than them, in as much as he had set up his presumptions judgement against elder friends. F.Horsenail made a very excitable reply & then E.Sayce asked leave to have a special meeting with Frds, where he might relieve his own mind. Jo spoke very solemnly & S.J.Levitt & I both spoke, the latter pleaded with Frds if they desired any healing of the breach to come down in the spirit of their minds & fully & humbly spread the matter before the Lord in earnest prayer, & that if he showed any of us that we had any part in the dispute, we might be made willing to d

just what his Holy Spirit might teach us in the matter. E. Sayce's meeting was fixed for tomorrow eveng & then I knelt in prayer for help & strength in the terrible state our little meeting here is in & that all that now tends to keep Frds apart may be rightly gone away. We saw our dear Melbourne Frds to their lodgings, which would ~~as~~ also have been ours had there been room, & then went home to bed, sad at heart that there should be so little here of the unity of the spirit in the bond of peace.

Friday, April 3 : Called on Ed. Sayce & Co & had much open converse on the sad state of things which weighs down all our spirits very deeply. I never knew the like before, but it is a great comfort for us young men to have these dear older ones to converse with & express our sentiments to the latter of course we cannot do to Sydney Frds at present. A telegram late last night from Adelaide 1100 miles off tells us that dear F. Cotton does not intend coming for six weeks. This is a real disappointment to us all, but if it be the right thing all will be well. Called & had Turkish baths & saw the Dr whose ~~xxx~~ consulting room is there. He is John Lefay Brereton, once of Bradford, a son of N.A.B. of Ipswich. He gave us a very kind welcome & has invited us to the Turkish baths as often as we like gratis. He is not a Frd so is out of all this trouble. Our lodgings are clean & comfortable, we take our meals with the family but have a large bed room & comfortable sitting room to ourselves, paying for board & lodging each £1 per week. The situation is very central. I looked thro' the cathedral in the afternoon & we made several calls on persons for whom we had notes or directions. Went to the meeting held at E. Sayce's request at 7 p.m. Most or all of the Devonshire St Friends & 2 from Pitt St were there. E.S. soon knelt & to implore strength to declare to Frds plainly the whole counsel of God. Soon after he rose with the text "For the divisions of Reuben there were great searchings of heart, for the divisions of Reuben there were great thoughts of heart". He gave us an earnest loving address, telling Frds clearly where he thought they were wrong & entreating to reconsider their decision in relation to A. Allen &c. He told them that A.A. was disowned without any sufficient cause & the result was evident, by drawing away from them some of their best members, those most alive in the truth. That in the matter of the trusteeship of their burial ground, in itself of so little consequence, they had acted very unfairly & must if they hoped for reunion be willing to retrace these steps. I should have said that dear S.J. Levitt had followed E. Sayce in prayer. After E.S. had concluded, A. Davy rose with the words: "that man at his best estate was altogether lighter than vanity" & after having thus relieved his mind, went on to say that in looking back over their past conduct in reference both to A. Allen & the trust deeds, he felt a sweet peace & he felt that Frds could not act on E. Sayce's suggestion. J. spoke very plainly & I felt I could not allow the concern of dear E.S. that had cost him so much to deliver, thus to be cast aside by A. Davy & so tho' very reluctantly I rose & reminded Frds that if a text of scripture was to do us any good, we must be willing to take it home to ourselves, not throw it onto the shoulders of another & that I desired each of us might be willing

to take home the solemn fact that we are at our best estate vanity & therefore very liable to err in judgement. E. Sayce added a few words & we broke up, tho' as E.S. afterwards told me while he had relieved his own mind he felt it was like pouring water on a duck's back. No sooner were we outside the meeting house than Daniel (A. Davy's son) took me aside & said: "Walter Robson I believe thou thinks my father is acting the hypocrite." I was rather taken aback never having spoken to him before & feeling that I could not honestly say I thought his father was not a hypocrite, yet feeling it would not be right to tell his son my real opinion, I therefore said I had not said anything which could lead him to such a conclusion. He replied: "No, but I have such a strong impression that thou thinks so, that I believe I ought to have said as much in meeting." I told him I was glad he had not & ~~xxxxxx~~ advised him to dismiss all such ideas from his mind, for I did not come here to judge anyone, & so left him feeling that I must have been permitted to hit the nail on the head or E. Davy would not have taken it to heart so on his father's account. The members of this meeting have decided to hold a private conclave, to consider E. Sayce's address, next Wednesday; none of us 4 visitors to be present. We retired to bed with sorrowful ~~xxxxxx~~ hearts.

Saturday, April 4: Made several calls this morning & enquired for a certain Henry Marsh, once a Frd & related to the Borking family of that name. Found that he was in jail, whither his faithful & loving (?) spouse had sent him because he would not support her & his children. Called on the sheriff, who gave us an order to visit him, which we did, & had a long talk with him in presence of a constable. He says it is a very unpleasant position to be in & he had been a jail bird for 4 mos. We asked him what sum would release him. He said 30/- was all, & we would have paid it but he seemed to prefer being where he is till a remittance from England reaches him as he wants on leaving prison to get out of Sydney without the knowledge of his wife, as he won't have any more to do with her. I tried to show him the iniquity of such a course & that no circumstances of this nature could liberate him from the marriage obligation. He seemed very hardened & we left him little comforted by our visit. Went with Fred. Horsnail to tea with Arthur & Jane Wood. They are zealous members of Kitt St meeting, living in the suburb of New Town. We spent a deeply interesting evening there, A. Allen joining us after tea. The 2 young men L.A. & A.W. are very metaphysical, their minds are far beyond the ordinary scale & they are ~~nt~~ weighty in the scriptures & in the writings of our early Frds. We had much loving discussion & I plainly told them where I disagreed with them, especially in the epistle they sent to Melbourne which was thought too unsound to be publicly read. We went fully into it & we soon discovered that it is not in principle but only in incautious wording that the unsoundness lies. They have so fully adopted the phrasiology of our early Frds that they are peculiarly liable to be misunderstood. But they are very willing to be taught, fully admitting their errors in expression & longing that the Frd of Levenshire St instead of turning them out, would have pruned & nurtured & restrained them. So fully do they adopt old forms, that they write to each other as "Alfred, after the flesh" & in conversing call us all by our 1st names only. There is a slight

tincture of Wilburism, but it is only the best side of it, their zeal being very great & they are doing much good in Sydney by preaching a free & full Salvation to the poor & degraded. We left them in a feeling of much love & sorrow that they have been so harshly used by those who ought to have borne with them & tried to teach them better. Of course whenever we go among Prds of either side here, we have to hear much of the doings & the sad conduct of the other party. Oh it is sickening work!

Sunday, April 5th: J & I went a quiet walk before meeting, onto a little promontory of land commanding a fine view over Port Jackson, the Governor's House & the Galatea lying in the harbour. The greenness & freshness of the scenery strikes us here, but they have grass like our English ex which keeps green when fact that in Victoria & S. Australia is burnt up. Went to Devonshire St meeting, where after I had asked for Divine Help & strength, we all 4 were helped to preach to the dull little company, tho' some strangers who had come on our account helped the meeting. It felt trying to me to have to use the language of Christ to the church of Laodicea. But ex if our max visit here is to bear any fruit we x must be faithful for, to use the language from which my dear cousin preached to them this morning - "The whole head is sick & the whole heart faint". J & I dined at Daniel Clarke's. He is a dear simple hearted old Prd & tho' a member of Devonshire St, yet feels no unity with their proceedings, yet is overridden by those who are lords over God's heritage, not examples to the flock. Went again to Devonshire St meeting at 4 o'clock, a dull time & tho' J, J & I were both helped to preach, it felt as if the word could not find entrance & dear E. Bayce said to me afterwards: "I am very thankful you could speak; for my part I felt nothing ex else in on my mind to say but "there is death in the pot". After tea at our lodgings we had a trying conversation with dear old John Falser, who tho' we believe is a sincere Xtian, is carried away by the more vigorous active mind of A. Davy. Then to the edification meeting at Pitt St with where about 40 met, some who had been of the vilest of the vile but converted thro' the instrumentality of A. Allen & A. Wood. Others only enquiring the way. The meeting begun by A. Wood reading an epistle from one of the number absent. Then he, A. Allen, J & I preached, all much in unison. Then a converted soldier, still wearing his red coat, but promised his dismissal from his regiment very soon, spoke simply & nicely & A. Allen closed the meeting in prayer & praise. Called on our dear Melbourne Prds & did not get to our lodgings till near midnight.

Monday, April 6th: Much troubled every night with mosquitos which are far worse here than in the other colonies we have visited. Wrote after breakfast. We feel in common with E. Bayce & S. J. Levitt such a cloud hanging over things here in connexion with our little section of the church of Christ that we have no heart for seeing the wonders of the place or even for arranging public meetings till we have got to the root of the evil & can indulge some hope of a change for the better. There are grave faults on both sides but ~~xxxxx~~ humanly speaking if the old meeting will not receive back those who are separated, they will gradually die out, most being old & their being no kind of inducement for others to join, all applications for membership being refused & those already

members not likely to draw others to them. Made some calls this mornng & went to dine & a tea with Dr Brereton. He has a very nice pretty little wife & they live in a beautiful house overlooking Government House & the harbour. His wife's mother lives with them. They have had many sorrows, losing most of their children. Here we had a very hearty welcome & a pressing ~~inixt~~ invitation to come & stay with them, which I hope we may do sometime. Two other ladies joined us & at 2 o'clock from the balcony we saw all the yard arms of the "Galatea" & other men-of-war in the harbour manned while amidst terrific firing of cannon our young Prince took his last leave of Australian shores. Earl Belmore, the new Governor of N.S.W. has been his host at Sydney. He, the Earl, is a fine noble-looking young man. Later on we walked down onto the pier & there watched the "Galatea" finally leave her moorings & steam down the harbour. Her band played "Old Lang Syne", answered by one of the Sydney ones playing a piece I can never listen to unmoved - "Home sweet home" & then the National Anthem. More ~~at~~ salutes fired & our beloved Prince Alfred left these shores for dear old England. He was to have visited New Zealand but the dastardly attempt at his assassination has helped to prevent it & for ~~xxxx~~ one I am glad to think he is safe on his way home, whither may God speed him. He came in for the same terrible cyclone that we had in our voyage out & I believe & like us was preserved from the dangers of the sea. We left Dr. Brereton's at about 10 o'clock, much pleased with our intercourse with him, & I believe a day of rest from the wretchedness of Sydney meeting & its woes may do us good & help us on for a few days.

Tuesday, April 7: I called at A. Allen's office to see his head man by name Newman Cash, for whom I had a little parcel from his half-sister, my dear Prd S.W. Linstall. He has had a sorry & most unsatisfactory life in the colonies but is now much changed & corresponds with some of his relatives in England. I had a very pleasant chat with him & hope to write to S.W. about him by next mail. Just before I left our lodgings Mrs Marsh called. She is the wife of Hy Marsh, whom we visited in jail. She gives a sad acct of her husband & I fear he & she are both better while the former is locked up. Our dear Melbourne Prds called & we had a long interview resulting in a note which we all signed addressed to the meeting to be held tomorrow eveng, & containing a request to have a free open interview between Alfd. Allen & his accusers, in our presence. I went a walk with dear S.J. Levitt while E.S. & J had another combat with Jno Palser. After dinner J & I went to the office of Saml. Smyth Esq, once a Prd, his wife & Greenwood of Karls Colne in Essex accompanied him by omnibus, rail & buggy to his very beautiful residence at Ashfield, where a hearty welcome awaited us from Mrs Smyth, a very lovely lady, & their family. Spent a most enjoyable eveng with this very superior family, possessing no common minds & I thoroughly relished the privilege not ~~often~~ ~~very~~ often my lot now, of very improving theological conversation, which we kept up till near midnight, only interrupted by reading & a nice time of prayer & religious exercise afterwards. Lodged in this truly delightful spot.

Wednesday, April 8th: Walked about in the ~~ix~~ large park like grounds of S. Smyth's estate before breakfast, admiring a fine pair of tame emus which with some curious pelicans, stalk about on the

lawns & paddocks. Accompanied our host to town after receiving a pressing invitation to repeat our visit. The Devonshire St weekday meeting began at 11 o'clock, in which W. Layce, S. J. Lovitt & I had some plain truths to declare to the Frds assembled, dear Jos closing in prayer. After a long talk with A. Davy & our dear Melbourne Frds, came back to our lodgings to dine & then took a steamer to a pretty little spot just inside the heads of Port Jackson & landed at Manly beach, where my beloved cousin called on a person named Mills from Leiston, while I crossed the little isthmus & took a stroll, clambering over rocks like those of Castle Cliff at Scarborough, only these are richly overhung with ivy & lovely ferns. Joined J again at the steamer & returned to our quarters to tea. In the evening had a long & very interesting call from Norman Cash. This dear young man is very strikingly like his sister in face, voice & manner; I think I should have known him anywhere. Before he left we had a time of much favor together, in which we both spoke at some length & I ~~reminded~~ commended him to God for Jesus sake in prayer. He did not leave us till late.

Thursday, April 9: A. Davy, Jno Palmer & our Melbourne Frds called & we had another long painful conversation on the vexed question that has already cost us all so much feeling & so many sleepless hours. Then the city Missionary called & J arranged some public meetings for next week. I went with E. S. & S. J. L. to the Botanical Gardens which are exquisite & the climate here is quite hot enough for tropical plants to grow all the year round without protection, so that many of those little delicate plants which are cherished at home with so much care in our hot-houses grow here in the gardens in wild luxuriance: Date palms, bananas & mimosa of every description, cacti of strange appearance & beautiful birds - emus, more-porks, secretary birds &c give the grounds a most un-English look. Kangaroos, wallabys & other Australian beasts are also domiciled here. Leaving the gardens, visited also the museum, a very nice edifice but not yet quite complete. Got our meeting notices to print in the afternoon & at 7 p.m. met at Devonshire St as arranged to give Alfd. Allen & his accusers a full opportunity of hearing & speaking, while we 4 strangers were to be as it were the judges to keep the peace, to ask questions, speak to points of order & sum up evidence. At our united request, E. S. took the pen while I sat by him as a sort of "counsel for the crown". After E. S. had read the minutes of disownment against A. Allen, I asked the meeting what they had really disowned him for. They all said not for the cause assigned in the minute & 4 gave me each a different reason. A. A. then challenged Frds to prove any of their charges & one by one those of immorality, holding & disseminating unsound doctrine & of creating a disturbance in meetings for discipline were thoroughly investigated & one by one cleared up, so that the meeting was literally compelled to confess they had acted on hearsay & withdrew all the charges. A. A. then told Frds plainly they had spoiled his character in Sydney by freely circulating false reports & then openly accused A. Davy of having been the cause of his ~~own~~ disownment & of all the ~~own~~ division that followed. In A. D.'s usual cunning way he tried to parry the blow, but not so as to carry any conviction with it. I then told him that by reference to the minute book I found that at the S. A. which had

disowned A. Allen he had for the 1st time brought all his family to meeting & he was obliged to confess he brought them to insure the disownment being carried by numbers, as he knew Frds were not unanimous. A. Allen followed up by telling A. Davy of some very dishonest transactions he had been guilty of, which A. D. could not deny & this so hurt xi Mrs D's feelings that she flounced out of meeting & her husband rose & said: "I will & leave the society with pleasure & I prophesy that when I do, it will all go to ruin." He then raised his hand toward Heaven & called God to witness that he had always lived in a spirit of love, & that he had always been guided by the Holy Spirit & often prayed for A. A. & the others who had seceded. I shuddered while he spoke, knowing so well that his own character would not bear inspection & remembering too that the reason of his being in Sydney was because England had transported him to Botany Bay for some crime. We pleaded for order & quiet, while C. Sayce summed up a full acquittal to A. A. of all he had been accused of & then it was decided that we 4 strangers should prepare a report to present to another special meeting to be held & on Monday next. Our meeting today began at 7 p.m. It was the most painful I ever attended & positively did not break up till some 20 minutes into the morning of:

Good Friday, April 10th: Retired to bed at about 1 a.m. & rose at usual time. Met our dear Melbourne Frds at a street corner & took omnibus to Darling Point, the residence of Thos. Skinner & Frd but who from the wretched state of the meeting here but rarely attends. He has a very nice wife & family, mostly rather young. I cannot picture in words the beauty of his residence & grounds. They form a little promontory with a richly wooded bay on each side & the blue waters of Port Jackson rippling far below, while the house is surrounded with a large garden full of beautiful tropical shrubs & flowers. We feasted on guavas, chinese-plums of great rarity called *Ploperus* & *Maki* &c. Walked about the estate till dinner time & viewing a little country air & recreation after the dismal work of the last few days very allowable we all joined in croquet on the lawn with the young ladies of the family. Our dear Melbourne Frds left in the evening & we yielded to a pressing invite to stay the night.

Saturday, April 11: Rose at 7 o'clock & both descended the cliff & availing ourselves of a large bathing house belonging to our host, had a most refreshing dip in the sea, clear as a crystal. Returned to Sydney by 'Bus & made some enquiries from ~~xxxxxxx~~ for suitable buildings for public meetings & then joined E.S. & S.J.L. at their lodgings where we prepared a draft of a document to present on Monday evening advising the meeting to rescind the disownment of A. Allen & not to be led by one man in those things in which all have a like interest. Spent a quiet afternoon writing at our lodgings, including the draft of a letter of very plain remonstrance to poor A. Davy. The documents filling up notices of public meetings occupied us most of the day.

Easter Sunday, April 12: Went a lovely walk in the Botanical Gardens before meeting. Attended that at Devonshire St. S.J. Levitt opened it in prayer. Jno Falser followed it in praise & thanksgiving & then Hy Newman, not a member but who has repeatedly applied to be received in vain, knelt in very earnest prayer for a blessing on our

labours & their poor little meeting. E. Sayce spoke at some length & I followed alluding to the event this day is set apart to ~~it~~ celebrate & exhorting to more faith in a risen saviour & advocate with the Father. Jos was silent. We all dined at My Newman's, where we met a valuable Frd of Devonshire at meeting by name Hannah Fowler. Her house was for long in New Zealand & she gave us many interesting particulars of the last days & death of J. S. Lymond. In the afternoon meeting all the vocal service devolved on me. In this intensely hot weather, afternoon meetings in a crowded house are very heavy, sleepy times & that added to the dead state of the meeting, renders such occasions far from refreshing. However we were all throughout the meetings here today the liveliest times we have had among them. After tea we again met at Pitt St, where were the dear Melbourne Frds. We had a very satisfactory meeting. The subject under discussion was the great power of God. It was feelingly introduced by A. Wood & A. Allen; S. J. Levitt & W. Robson spoke on it, especially referring to "Christ the power of God & the wisdom of God" I closed in prayer & thanksgiving. A soldier & a naval sailor addressed the meeting excellently. While I do not write in nearly all the views of the earnest young Frds of the new meeting, feeling they are much in danger of too great spirituality in the views as to the work of Christ on earth & His presence with us now & have cautioned them of the danger of Hicksism, yet I feel & we all feel there is so much zeal & holy love & boldness among them that it is a great loss to the Devonshire St meeting to have lost ~~them~~ their presence & a unity with them.

Monday, April 13: spent most of today at E. Sayce's lodgings preparing a document for tonight's meeting, a full acquittal for A. Allen &c. Easter Monday is kept as a public ~~holy~~ holiday here, but it was not much of one to us. We met at Devonshire St at 6 p.m. & broke up about 10 o'clock. After an address from E. Sayce, he read our report which I here give verbatim, wishing to preserve a document which is the result of so much trying investigation & painful work.

To Friends of Devonshire St Meeting:

Dear Friends

We, the undersigned feel it right to report that having a letter placed in our hands by Alfd. Allen addressed to you, asking that he might in our presence be allowed the liberty of rebutting the charges made against him, which have led to his disownment by the A. M. Having unity with this proposal, we also addressed a letter to you, asking that this liberty might be granted to him. This request you unanimously agreed to & the meeting was held on 5th inst. last, the 9th inst, commencing at 7 o'clock P.M. & ending a little after midnight. The charges against A. Allen were fully gone into, the minutes of your meeting ~~being~~ bearing upon his case were read & freely commented on by Frds present, Alfd. Allen being allowed liberty to refute those charges which led to his disownment. After giving the matters thus gone into, our deliberate consideration, we submit to you our conclusions, viz: 1st. The charge of immorality as alluded to by G & Mr B in a letter dated from them, as recorded in your minutes - this being a very serious accusation, 2 of us were led to make the most searching enquiries, those, in addition to the evidence produced in the meeting, lead us to the conclusion that A. Allen is entirely free from all charges against him under this head.

& we were glad to find that the meeting, thus held, readily withdrew them. 2nd. The charges of disseminating unsound doctrine as set forth in the letter before alluded to, denying the inspiration of the sacred writers & promulgating unscriptural views on Christian perfection, have been carefully enquired into by us, previously to the holding of the meeting, at which they were also closely investigated & we are of the opinion that these charges are unfounded & that A.A.'s views, on both these subjects are in accordance with the teachings of the New Testament, as held by brds. We are glad to find that in this view we were supported by most brds present. 3rd. The charge of disorderly conduct in meetings for discipline - this appears to have been caused, not by A.A. alone, but to have resulted from a personal misunderstanding between him & another of your members & the business has often not been conducted in gospel order & harmony, or in sufficient brotherly condescension, forgetting that "one is your Master, even Christ, and all ye are brethren", Matt 23.8. The lack of this willingness to esteem each other better than yourselves has, we believe, led to the frequent recurrence of confusion among you, so that we cannot that the blame rest alone on one individual. These being our views, we recommend that the 7th minute of 3rd mo 1867, disuniting Alfd. Allen & the 5th minute of 2nd mo 1868, disuniting Ruth Allen, Jos. Dixon & Jos. Mitchell, from your membership be rescinded & are of the opinion that the letter from G.A.M.B should not have been recorded upon your minutes, but that its contents should have been enquired into by the overseers, it being written for their information; then, had the complaint been sustained, a report from them to the N.M.S. not the letter, should have been the ground for dealing with A.A. His case has not, according to the discipline of our society, been regularly before your meeting & he has not been visited, nor his conduct reported upon, by a committee appointed to visit him, but by one directed to see G.A. & M.B. The minute book of your N.M. has been submitted to our close inspection & has increased, rather than diminished the difficulties we have had to contend with in our endeavour to investigate the cause of your present divided state from the fact of the loose, unsatisfactory condition in which the records of your proceedings are kept, rendering it almost worthless as to any fair acct of the decisions you have come to or the appointments you have made. In conclusion we earnestly recommend that in the holding of all your meetings & into the receiving into & disuniting from membership, that you more closely & follow the excellent counsel & advice contained in the book issued by London Y.M. on "Christian Doctrine, Practice & Discipline". As this is the case you will be enabled to transact the business brought before you in harmony & love & know in your meetings for Divine worship truth to have the dominion; Christ being in your midst & reigning over all. Signed this 13th of 4th mo 1868.

E. Sayce, Saml. Isaac Levitt, Jos. Jas. Keave, W. Robson.

A long silence followed the reading of this letter, broken at length by Wm. Rokes the clerk of their N.M., who was not present at the last meeting. He had much to say & was very cross, especially at our plain statements in reference to the minute book, but he could not make much out with it. Jno. Falser spoke very lovingly & will

gladly accept our judgement, as will Hannah P. Fowler & Daniel Clark. A Davy & family were not present. It was decided to recommend the adoption of our report & counsel at the next M.M. We closed with an earnest prayer from J.J.N but while we see the weaknesses & desecness of this old meeting & by reading our "report" I think my dear ones at home will also admit it, yet there is very xxa much in the new body that wants plain dealing & correction. No sooner was our meeting over than Alfred Allen, after thanking us most warmly for our investigation & its results, broke forth into such a tumult of Apostolic wrath, against the Frds of Devonshire St as really shoked us. "Oh full of all subtlety & all mischief, thou child". He says the Pitt St Frds can never feel unity with a body led by such a man as A. Davy. Yet as they have wrongfully disowned A. Allen, they ought to rescind that, even if he does not return to fellowship with them. Really our position here is a very painful one & W.S & S.L. Levitt expect to leave us in a few days & then we must bear the weight alone that we may indeed be so filled with love to Christ & His cause & so emptied of self that we may be helped really to discern "what serveth God & that which serveth Him not" in this terrible climax.

Tuesday, April 14 : A lovely cool mornng. Called at the police court to make some more enquiries respecting H. Marsh & then at the Bible house, hoping to see or hear of Dr Tucker. Then home & our Melbourne Frds called, & while they were here the post brought us a very refreshing letter from dear Francis Cotton, still at Adelaide, but telling of John & Mary Eastin being in sore trouble at the sudden death of one of the little ones & of the very dangerous illness of our kind hostess Maria Phillips, but hoping the worst was past. A letter from A. Davy x also by same post, appropriating to A. Allen just the text that we & A.A have long felt applied to A. Davy. Oh, to see ourselves as others see us ! Went to tea at Jno & Ellen Falser's & they accompanied us to a Public Meeting held in a little chapel belonging to the city mission, at Redfern, near J.F's house. About 100 were present & we had a good meeting for which we desire to be very thankful. Supped at H. Newman's & retired.

Wednesday, April 15 : Had a nice walk in the Botanical Garden before breakfast, which we both enjoyed greatly. Our dear Melbourne Frds called & after they left we went to meeting at Devonshire St, calling on our way to see a gentleman who had refused us a large chapel, because he had no unity with A. Allen's proceedings. We explained our mission & A.A's views as far as practicable & then went to meeting where Jno Falser knelt in prayer for us. Then we both had a few words of comfort to impart to the few, old people, who formed our congregation, Jos closing in prayer. Made some calls before dinner & spent the afternoon writing. We find that A. Allen's taking such very decided views of Quakerism being right & everyone else wrong has brought the very name of "Friend" into disrepute in Sydney. But for an instance of the queer state of things in the old meeting, we had a very nice call from Dr. Cox of Wallongong, 40 miles away from Sydney, this afternoon. He has been a thorough Frd for 30 yrs & holds a meeting every week in his family & when in Sydney has always attended Devonshire St meeting. Some years back he applied for membership. Two Frds visited him a year after he made the application, A. Davy & Jno Falser. He had them in his house a poor relative whom he rescued from destruction thro' drink, & when the Frds paid the visit,

coast. Wave after wave as it rolls in rises in clouds of drenching foam all along the promontory where the blow hole is & away along the shore far as the eye can ~~smarr~~ reach. The entrance which the ocean has made into the Blow Hole is very much like the entrance into Fringal's Cave: the rocks Basaltic & Columned & the frowning roof of the cavern far overhanging the sea. The hole up into the basin above is far in the cave, but not at the extremity, & this is doubtless the cause of the constant phenomenon, the waves rolling into the cave come into contact with the air in the extremity beyond the upward orifice & thus like a peal of thunder the sea dashes up into the basin like a mighty fountain, unequalled by any work of man. 'Tis the voice of the great Creator dwells in that mighty tone."

Sunday, May 10th: After breakfast and prayers at our kind host's, Joseph & I walked to the farthest extremity of the rocks & held our own little meeting there, sitting on a point of rock almost overhanging the raging, foaming deep. The sky above, the rocks behind & the sea in front & there we were permitted to feel Jesus with us. Attended the morning service at the Wesleyan Chapel where Mr Hills preached a very earnest excellent sermon. In the afternoon we called at the Sunday School & heard the dear Children sing; we both addressed and I prayed with them. To tea at Mr Hill's & took his service in the evening. The chapel is large & was well filled. The people had no idea of silence but were very quiet during our sermons & prayers. At their minister's special request we began & closed with a hymn. Supped & had a time of prayer at Mr Hill's. So closed our Sunday at Kiama, the first & probably the last time we shall meet for ~~us~~ worship in this lovely little town.

Monday, May 11th: After breakfast we engaged two horses of our host's & packing all we could of our luggage on our saddles, we started intending for a long journey along the coast to Koruya, the home of our friend James Martin. Our horses were warrented quiet & I doubt not they would be with first-rate bush riders & Joseph's pney "Charlie" is very docile, but my mare "Jenny" is vicious, having a most unpleasant habit of jibbing, or as it is called in the Colonies, "sticking up". She steps all at once & in spite of whip & spur will only kick and shake herself till it please her to proceed, yet she is a beautiful horse to gallop or canter. We first called at Jerringong, where we made enquiries for a meeting. The road then lay along the beach & across the Crooked River, a dangerous place surrounded with quicksands. We however followed some bullock-dray tracks & Joseph crossed in safety. Jenny however "stuck up" & would not take to the water. I knew not what to do but providentially a kind Australian we met offered to ride her over, which he did in spite of all efforts to upset him. He brought back Joseph's horse on which I crossed. The river is very wide & over the stirrups, but we were helped through this danger. After a gallop on the beach, the track turns into the Australian forest & a few miles of this rough riding over fallen trees & hills & holes we came to Broughton Creek & being told to keep straight on, kept along the track which soon led us up a high mountain, so steep we were forced to lead our horses. Well, on reaching the summit we met some men & asked were we right for

Bumaderry ferry - No! we must go back to Broken Creek. So with weary hungry frames & tired horses we retraced our steps & discovered that instead of keeping straight on our route was a most circuitous one. Night was fast drawing on, the days being almost at the shortest now, & hungry & thirsty, our souls fainted in us. At last we both felt it would be madness to attempt Bumaderry Creek tonight & so called at a lonely farm house where though utter strangers, we met with as hearty a welcome as if we had been old friends. We found the inmates to be a set of "canny Scotchmen from near Inverness, the name of the host being Sandy MacDonald, better than all, a Christian family. They would "gie us just the gas best the pair place could afford, but it would na just suits gents the loike of us." My dear friends will believe that having partaken of no food since we left Kaima we were not fastidious & most thankfully received the tea & eggs soon set before us, while good care was taken of our horses. The best room in the little wooden house was prepared for our lodgings & as the roof is the only covering & partitions only 6 ft high, the blazing log fire in the great open chimney shining over our chamber walls helped light us to bed. I cannot tell how thankful we felt for this truly Christian hospitality - grateful to God who had been better to us than all our fears.

Tuesday, May 12th: Rose about 5.30 & had a comfortable breakfast & then took leave of this kind family, not expecting to meet again till the sentence shall sound forth: "In as much as ye have done it unto the least of these, ye have done it unto me." A ride of an hour brought us to M Bumaderry Ferry, where we were ferried across the Shoalhaven River about a mile wide in a boat similar to that in which my dear ones & I were taken over the river at Saltash, except that the chains of this one were moved by a hand machine instead of steam. Just in the centre of the river we stuck in the mud & laboured hard for half an hour to get free. Called at Mr Watt's at Nowra (written: Perara?) & found from him that the difficulties of farther progress towards Meruya were so great & the distance so much more than we had been informed that we both felt it best to give up this perilous undertaking & go via Steamer from Woolongong to Meruya in a week or so. This had been my full belief all along, but my beloved cousin had so far overrated our powers of locomotion & endurance that he felt it best to make the attempt by land & having failed was quite resigned to retrace our steps. I hope this little experience will be useful to us both & having distributed many tracts & having paid a very nice visit to the Scotch family, we feel the time has not been wasted. Refreshed our horses & selves at Mr Watt's & then ~~proceeded~~ recrossed the Haven & returned to Jerringong by another road so as to avoid crossing Crooked river. Explained why we could not hold the proposed meeting there & just at dusk returned to Kaima, much to the wonderment of the folks here, but feeling satisfied with the step we have taken & thankful for a safe return. After a ride of some 65 miles in the two days, we feel stiff & tired & so little fit for 25 miles walk to Woolongong that I have telegraphed to John Wilmot to meet us half way tomorrow. We stay at Mr Cousin's tonight, D.V.

Wednesday, May 13th: I believe this is the day fixed for the marriage of my darling sister cousin Pollie - henceforth Charlotte Komsey(?). My choicest blessings rest on her & her Wilfred. After prayers, Joseph & I took leave of our kind entertainers the Cousins family: set our for Dapto on foot, leaving our breakfast &c to be brought by a young man named Moore on horse-back; he soon overtook us. Our walk was pleasant but fatiguing, being mostly over very sandy roads but with splendid sea views. Crossed a wide river in a punt & after walking 15 miles our friend John Wilmot met us in a wagonet & drove us the remainder 10 miles into Woolongong. Before reaching our destination the clouds which for days past having hung over the mountains poured forth torrents of rain, truly a beautiful gift from God to the dried up Colony of New South Wales. It is the first rain of any consequence here for many months & the drought was so great than in one month butter has risen from 6d to 1/3 per lb, while they are killing live stock for lack of food for them. Rain has been the special object of prayer here for some time past. Reached J. Wilmot's to a late dinner & spent a pleasant evening, tho' feeling much our present position our defeat as to Bush travelling & especially as it may lead to a stoppage in parts we had felt like visiting; but we both feel we have done right in returning & that it would have been madness to have attempted Moruya by land. Our present view is (seeing the great expense of a steamer to Moruya) for Joseph to go there alone leaving me to do a little at, or near, Woolongong. I am also suffering from a dull heavy pain in my chest which hurts my breathing a little & seems increased by any great exertion. I trust there is no cause for anxiety & that a little rest & quiet may set all right again.

Thursday, May 14th: A soaking wet morning. Left J. Wilmot's & walked with our baggage the 4 miles from his house to Dr Cox's, where we have met with a truly hearty welcome from all, only they are greatly surprised to see us return so soon. Letters from the dear Mr Earlhamhope family awaiting our return are very acceptable. In the afternoon I rode to the little village of Woonona to arrange a meeting there. The post-master & store keeper where I called is named Fry & says he is a distant relation of J.S. Fry's being first cousins. I fixed up for us to have a meeting at Woonona on Monday. The rain yesterday & today has made the roads almost impassably muddy, so that riding above a foot pace was nearly impossible. Spent a quiet evening reading J. Pennington.

Friday, May 15th: The wet has ceased today & Joseph & I have been busy in helping in many little garden & household affairs: fruit picking, ~~xxx~~ erecting a pigeon-house &c. I rode over again to Woonona about the proposed meeting before dinner.

Saturday, May 16: Drove into Woolongong with the Dr & made ~~xxxxxxx~~ arrangements for one or two meetings. Our temperance advocacy seems to have been blessed & some of the worst of the town drunkards have enrolled themselves as members of a club very popular in the Colonies - "The sons of Temperance." Helped in some repairs about the house.

Sunday, May 17th: After the usual hour spent in reading J. Pennington, we went a lovely stroll among the hills & returned at 11 o'clock; when John Wilmot & his younger son who is a cripple arrived.

& we had a nice little meeting in the family of our dear friends. In the afternoon another walk. Dr & Mrs Cox & Joseph & Ben drove into Woolongong to tea, & I followed on horse back with Tenie & Zip. We held a meeting in the Wesleyan Chapel, a time of favor. Rode home to a late supper. Mrs Cox has most kindly undertaken to return nurse me & has prescribed a ride before breakfast, a cold bath & a pint of mild fresh from the cow, which I feel is already benefiting me - though the pain in my chest & oppressed breathing is not yet removed.

Monday, May 18th: Had a delightful ramble up Eroker's Kose Mountain with Joseph, Tenie & Zip. Tenie though born & brought up at the foot of the hill had never been to its summit till today. We lit a fire on the top, which was seen from below. Lost our track coming down but being provided with Tomahawks we cut our way through the almost impenetrable entanglement of wild vines, fern trees &c & reached home at about 4 after tea we all except the doctor walked to the pretty little village of Woonona, where we had hired the Public Hall for a meeting. By 7.30 the room was well filled - every seat crowded & we had one of the best meetings I ever remember, in which the presence of Jesus & the power of His Holy Spirit were largely felt & great openness both in the ministry & in prayer. A ~~man~~ rush for tracts which I could hardly supply. When I handed the money for the Hall to Mr Fry, he resolutely refused to receive it, saying "No sir. I won't take a penny. We will pay for it ourselves. We have had such a blessed meeting." or words like these. Coming from a member of the English Episcopal, it felt striking to us & we walked home over the rough dark road feeling humbly thankful for the fresh blessings so abundantly given to such unworthy instruments.

Tuesday, May 19th: A wet morning, so that I could not have my early ride. Busy helping put some panes of glass ~~with~~ into vacant places at our comfortable home after breakfast, till time to finish letters for the mail & to read J. Pennington. I must post this in a hurry & shall not have time to correct errors. Of our future movements I can say very little. Joseph leaves today (D.V) by Steamer for Moraya, the home of James Martin, leaving me here a few days to recruit my bodily strength. I should just explain that our valued host, tho' a Physician, has for many years been out of practice, living on his & his wife's means. He gives advice gratis when it is asked, but as a whole believes more in diet & quiet than in Physic. But I have every attention that loving hearts & hands can bestow & I would exhort all my loved ones not to be in the least anxious about me. I do not feel so about myself, feeling that with God's blessing on a few days of rest & quiet, only devoting a few evenings to Public meetings or the Temperance cause I shall soon be well enough to go on as usual. Dr Tucker & is so uncertain as to his movements that we both think it is doubtful if we join him after all. If not, we shall probably take advantage of the cooler weather to visit Queensland; but we have fixed nothing yet & our direction had better be as last. We hope to receive our English letters from Sydney today but think it doubtful. We are fancying some of our loved ones meeting at the Y. Meeting. How shor

does the year seem since I was with them in the Minorities! & yet how much of great interest has transpired! I have travelled about 21,000 miles by sea & land - several dear cousins are married - a little niece added to our circle at home & over all the loving protecting hand of our Divine Protector has been known & felt by us all, making hard things easy & bitter things sweet, so that my dearly loved ones as well as I can surely set up our Ebernezzer & say "Hitherto the Lord hath helped us." Let us all seek for more ability to trust under the shadow of His wing & wing - in all our ways acknowledge Him who has in mercy directed & will still direct our paths! "As thy days, so shall thy strength be" is surely a promise for us all! "May the peace of God which passeth all understanding keep our hearts & minds through Christ Jesus." is with fondest dearest love, the earnest prayer of yours very affectionately,
Walter Robson.

Received at Saffron Walden: July the 22nd. 1868.

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PART NINTH: NEW SOUTH WALES, Continued.

Tuesday, May 19th: After getting our English letters ready for the mail, Dr & Mrs Cox drove us into Town & J.J & I dined at William Robson's, a gentleman from Newcastle, a very pious man & possessing among other things a large amount of property & 23 children. After dining he drove us to see his coal mines, which are well a visit. The coal is very good & abundant & the mines situated in Mount Keira. Took tea with William Robson's father at the mine & then back to Woolongong where Joseph left us for Moruya by steamer, & I attended a large temperance meeting at which by special request from the President, I spoke for an, & was most cordially received. I almost fainted when I first took my seat on the platform but ere I had to speak felt much better. Mrs Cox & I lodged at John Wilmot's. Welcomed letters from my precious parents & Prissie, also a loving salutation for each of us from dear Josiah Forster & a letter from me from S.W. Turnstale. I accepted a chapel at Bulli for next Tuesday & the Presbyterian Church for Sunday Evening (in Woolongong), also agreed to lecture in the latter place for the benefit of a mission house here next Wednesday evening.

Wednesday, May 20 : Dr Cox came in for us & drove Mrs Cox & me out to Fairy Meadow to dinner. Rode over to Woonona in the afternoon & had croquet with Tenie, Zip & Dockle. Evening as usual. Mrs Cox is a famous nurse & has most kindly undertaken to cure if possible the little ailment in the chest, which seems to render a quiet week or so needful for me. I have to drink a large tumbler of milk fresh from the cow before breakfast; then to take a cold bath & ride on Ginger over the hills - the milk & exercise repeated through the day. The truly unselfish kindness of this dear loving family could not possibly be surpassed. They make a son & brother of me & will insist that the pleasure of my company more than compensates for all they do for me.

Thursday, May 21st: After J. Pennington had been read as usual the doctor & I rode up to his mountain farm & did some

burning off among the immense logs of wood that yet remain unconsumed in his land. Afternoon we visited an orange grove belonging to a neighbour. It is a beautiful sight - the trees are very large & hanging all over with branches of ripe oranges. The owner sells a great many, they fetch 3d per dozen in Woolongong & rather more in Sydney. One gets almost tired of their delicious fruit when they are always to be had for picking, though 6 to 12 per day are commonly eaten in this establishment per month (sic).

Friday, May 22nd: Spent a quiet morning reading & writing, & after dinner I went a most delightful gallop with Tenie to Bulli & then home by the beach. This horse back exercise seems to do me good & now the weather is not very hot & fire in the evening are acceptable, exercise is not overpowering.

Saturday, May 23rd: Went to Woolongong & sat some time with the Wilmots. Croquet in the afternoon & J. Pennington in the evening.

Sunday, May 24th: Read J. Pennington & went a walk before meeting, at which as usual we were joined by John Wilmot. I was graciously helped in preaching & in prayer, to my own comfort & I have reason to believe to that of the dear friends here. Rode over to Woolongong with H. John Wilmot to dinner & there visited the Wesleyan Sunday School. About 80 children were present. They sang beautifully, after which I addressed & then prayed with them. To tea at a nice religious man's named Cochrane, who conducted me to the Presbyterian Church - the only one now in Woolongong, I believe that was standing when James Backhouse paid his visit here. The building was large & was very full & I trust I was helped to preach faithfully, but all meetings are not alike, & I have often to feel afresh that it is all of the Lord for that in me, that is in my flesh dwelleth no good thing. It felt hard work to labour among them yet it seemed well received & I see by the newspaper that allusion is made to a clear & impressive discourse, attentively listened to. Tenie, Zip & Joe rode in to the meeting & we all galloped home after its close.

Monday, May 23rd: Kept as a public holiday to celebrate the Queen's birthday. Tenie, Zip & I rode over to Woolongong & then nine miles further to the very delightful lake Illawara. It is large & the scenery round is most lovely: hills wooded to the summits with crags of grey rock projecting here & there & the high wind raising the waves on the lake, almost like the sea itself. A regatta was going on & attracted a good many visitors, but one merely stayed & eat some lunch & then rode back, taking tea at J. Wilmot's & dinner after reaching home. Some fireworks in the evening to please the little ones.

Tuesday, May 26th: Went into town with the Doctor to see about getting things ready for my lecture tomorrow evening. After tea Mrs Cox, Joe, Ben, Tenie, Zip & I walked 4 miles to Bulli to attend a meeting held there at my request. I think I never felt more liberty or was more sensible of Divine help than in proclaiming to the dear people assembled in the Wesleyan Chapel the practical nature of true religion, the necessity of new birth & the impossibility of a true believer living in sin. About 100 persons present &

so quiet that during the time of silence no sound was heard. At the close I was earnestly entreated to go again, & feel I must do so if practicable, but this I doubt. As we walked home carrying xi lanterns to light our path over the bad road, the Wesleyans came along singing a beautiful hymn, which had a solemn & striking effect echoing among the mountains.

Wednesday, May 27th: News has at last reached us that dear Francis Cotton has got to Sydney, where I feel he has entered very troubled waters. Prepared for my lecture to be delivered this evening & had some croquet in the afternoon. I am thankful to say I am already feeling better in health for my stay here, only feeling the pain in my chest after long or quick exertions. Mrs Cox, the girls & boys accompanied me to Woolongong where we had a nice attendance at the school of arts. My lecture was entitled "Stray thoughts on many subjects", my endeavour being to combine amusement with instruction. The Mayor, Charles Smith Esq mentioned by J.B & K G.W. Walker presided. I was well received - indeed too well, & I feel I must be upon my guard against the snare of popularity. The newspaper flatters me terribly. Got home about 11.

Thursday, May 28th: Rode into town in the hope of getting a letter from my dear cousin, but as none has yet reached me & I have heard nothing of or from him since we parted nine days ago, but I can commend him to the dear Master he so faithfully serves. Spent a quiet evening at home reading Isaac Pennington.

Friday, May 29th: Imagining my dear friends in England concluding the Yearly Meeting today. I drove Tenie & Lockie into Woolongong shopping. Spent much of the day setting fire to & burning off old stumps of Giant trees, long since felled, near the Doctor's residence. The doctor drove Mrs Cox & me into Woolongong, where we called at J.Wilmot's. A young lady, Miss Casement, came after supper & spent the remainder of the day at Fairy Meadow.

Sunday, May 31st: Letter from Henry Newman of Sydney to Joseph & me, thanking the former for a note from Moruya, so I find my dear cousin has reached J.Martin's safely, but I should feel very glad of further tidings direct from him. J.Wilmot & Harry rode over fr to our little family meeting, in which help was mercifully given me in vocal prayer & thanksgiving to the Author of all our sure mercies. A quiet ramble over the hills in the afternoon & then Joe drove his sisters & me into Woolongong where I occupied the pulpit in Mr Turners ie the Wesleyan Chapel. A large attendance & a very quiet meeting, in which renewed favour was extended, but I became so faint & poorly that towards the close I almost lost my voice & we separated after about an hour & a quarter. Soon better from the cool night air. Had a nice quiet time over the fire before retiring to bed. Oh! how thankful I ought to be that such a home is provided for me while not quite in health to travel much from place to place - so many dear loving friends & I so undeserving of the least of the Lord's mercies.

Monday, June 1st: After our usual morning reading of J. Pennington, I went a very delightful ride with Tenie & Zip to Moonona, Bulli &c, not getting back till near 4 o'clock. A letter at last from dear Joseph, telling me of his services arranged round

Moruya, but 12 days in coming here from that out of the way place, giving a very satisfactory account of my poor young friend William Naish, who is at Moruya & seems to have no inclination for drink. He does not (that is, Joseph) return to Sydney till Wednesday or Thursday. Spent a quiet evening reading.

Tuesday, June 2nd: Burning logs, stumps &c & picking oranges for the Doctor this morning. A long letter for me today from Arthur Wood condemning most unmercifully my holding meetings in chapels in & round Woolongong. Joe drove Tenie, Zip & me into town in the evening to attend the Band of Hope, which I once more addressed. Temperance does seem to have taken great hold of the people here & a chemist in the place is so earnest in the cause that he gives the $\frac{1}{2}$ medicine I supplied the recipe for (J.V.Hall's) freely to any poor drunkard who applies for it, & says he only wishes 50 a day would apply. The meeting this evening was very large & I was cordially welcomed again by the people.

Wednesday, June 3rd: Helped the dear friends here with sundry domestic matters & among the rest learnt to milk a cow, which accomplishment I am succeeding well with. After an early tea, rode with Joe on horseback to Woolongong where James Wilmot joined us & we three rode over to Depto where we met a large company at the Wesleyan Chapel. The building is not large but was densely crowded & we had a time of great favour from the presence of the Lord, in which I was graciously helped to preach the spiritual nature of the new covenant & the emptiness of a profession without vital godliness. The night was very cold when we came out, & our horses were chilly with standing & wanting ourselves to make haste back, we rode full gallop & did the 8 miles from the chapel to John Wilmot's in just half an hour. Joe & I got home at about 10 o'clock.

Thursday, June 4th: I rode with Tenie & Zip on horseback to the Doctor's mountain farm & to visit some "free selectors" as ~~xx~~ they are called - i.e people who have selected 100 acres of land for only 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ per acre ~~xxx~~ and the tremendous job of clearing it of the giant trees & rank vegetation which must be done away with before any cultivation can be proceeded with. To an Englishman who has not been much used to life in the bush & clearings, it is well worth a visit & exhibits the true courage & lion-heartedness of men who would leave the comforts of English life to labour & toil at land which for years can yield no pecuniary return whatever.

Friday, June 5th: I drove Tenie & Zip into Woolongong where a heavy rain somewhat wetted us. After dinner I wrote a letter on business for Mrs Cox & rode over to Woonona to post it. Evening as usual, with the writings of Pennington.

Saturday, June 6th: Drove Tenie into Town shopping. A young friend, a Mr Gordon, came to tea. I received a letter from dear Joseph today from Sydney advising my staying here a few days longer to do my health good.

Sunday, June 7th: went a walk among the hills before our little meeting, & my thoughts wandered home to the hallowed sabbaths I have spent there, & my soul breathed to God for a blessing on all my dear ones this lovely Sunday & today is so

ght & warm, tho' mid-winter, that all nature - the ocean, the everlasting hills, the cattle on the hills, the gay birds, every one of "nature's thousand voices" seem praising God. John Wilnot joined us & we had a nice little meeting in which I was mercifully helped in speaking to my dear young friends, here especially, & to remember all loved ones, dear Joseph at Sydney & the loved home friends before the throne of Grace. A quiet afternoon & then a four miles walk with Mrs Cox, her servant, Joe, Ben, Mr Gordon, Tenie & Zip, to the Wesleyan chapel at Bulli. The building (I am told) was never so full before - every seat ~~xxxx~~ occupied & many people coming several miles on horseback or in Traps of various kinds. It felt to me to be a ~~xxxx~~ crowning meeting, in which power was given to proclaim the love & rich mercy of God in Christ Jesus to a fallen race & to stimulate to love Him far more, whom so loved & gave himself a ransom for us. Tenie & I headed the way home & the moon, brilliantly shining on the ocean, lent its light to show the road over many a bad bridge & dangerous gully. This has been a day to be very thankful for & one to be ever remembered by me, as one of fresh favor & merciful loving kindness from my long suffering & ~~xxxx~~ tenderly loving Lord & Saviour.

Monday, June 8th: A day of rest & quiet at home - helping in any little way I could, in milking, orange gathering &c. James Wilnot out here in the evening.

Tuesday, June 9th: Busy after breakfast picking & packing the rich ripe oranges which grow in tens of thousands round the pretty home at Fairy Meadown. Orange trees are peculiarly pretty & bear tremendous crops: two crops a year, so that one crop hangs ripe & the other just green on the trees at the same time. The rich dark green foliage sheds a lovely shade round & they are altogether the prettiest trees for a garden or lawn as well as the most profitable I ever met with. I rode over to Bulli on business for Mrs Cox before dinner & in the afternoon went a delightful walk on the beach shell collecting. A quiet evening as usual.

Wednesday, June 10th: A ride with the girls to Woonona in the morning. A young friend of the family, Miss McKenzie, to tea. A quiet pleasant day, but I feel it is time now I buckled on the armour for work again, as my health is so much stronger & a growing inclination to prolong my tarriance here leads me to feel it is time to be about my business & again to enter the troubled battle field of Sydney for awhile. Rode into town & got a nice letter from Joseph, telling of his & dear F. Cotton being very much helped in Sydney meeting on Sunday.

Thursday, June 11th: I went for a quiet stroll with the dogs "Fido" & "Guess" down to the sea & watched the grand waves rolling in & thought of the thousands of miles of water separating me from all the dear ones at home & of the Hand which had safely guided our ship over the billowy waves - blessed be God. In the afternoon Tenie, Zip & I rode to Bulli to call on a poor family in & to tea at a Mr Sundley's, a Wesleyan gentleman living near the sea. Poor man, he & his wife are both addicted to spirit drinking to excess. This seems almost a worse curse in New South Wales than at home, so many in good circumstances, persons of

wealth & influence being slave to its baneful power. Back home at 8 p.m.

Friday, June 12th: Packed up curiosities which I have collected here, intending to leave them here till I may, if spared, pay the dear family at Fairy Meadow another visit. Then a charming ride with Tenie & Zip over the beach into Woolongong to take leave of the Wilmet family - a quick but rather sad last evening in this, my happiest Australian home. Read J. Pennington as usual.

Saturday, June 13th: After breakfast took leave of my dear kind nurse Mrs Cox & little Dockle & putting my luggage in the coach with Ben to take care of it, I mounted Ginger & rode with the Doctor, Tenie & Zip up the mountain calling at the mountain farm & then on some miles further waiting at last till the coach overtook us, when Ben took my mare & I his place in the coach, after a sorrowful - I may add tearful - leavetaking with the Doctor & his daughters - not expecting to meet again for some months. The coach called at the little township of Appin where dinner was provided & then we drove on to Campbelltown whence I took the train for Sydney, reaching my old quarters at S.J. Pulsers about 7 o'clock. My beloved cousin sat at Marrickville for the evening, I suppose at Arthur Wood's. Spent a quiet evening reading the dear home budget just arrived & containing many proofs of the solemn fact "in the midst of life we are in death". Marriages & deaths seem the prevailing events in among those we know at home. Interesting news of J.W. Robson's wedding, & others on the topic, & of the death of Ann Alexander, Edward Smith, C. Mansom &

Sunday, June 14th: I went a stroll in the Domain before breakfast & afterwards read our English letters. I do rejoice to find that the labour bestowed upon Sydney meeting has not been in vain. The old meeting has rescinded their minutes of disownment, so that Alfred Allen & the other friends who seceded are still members. Several of the Devonshire St friends have freely acknowledged their error in dealing so harshly. Dear P. Cotton has gone to spend a few days at A. Savy's & Doctor Cox's. The morning meeting was a full one & Alfred Allen soon rose & gave a rather long address on the New Covenant being a Covenant of Love. I soon afterwards knelt in prayer for "the unity of the spirit" & the outpouring of its hallowing influence over us. Joseph & I both spoke & Henry Newman (who has now, with James Martin, been admitted a member) closed the meeting in prayer & praise. Altogether I feel we have much to be very thankful for in that the dry bones have been, as it were, known the Heavenly wind to ~~blow~~ breathe upon them & a measure of life is the result. Since we left Sydney the mouths of Daniel Clarke & W. Roakes have been occasionally opened acceptably in the ministry. The feeling which dear Edward Sayce described as "death in the pot" is not so much the prevailing one as it was when we landed nearly 11 1/2 weeks ago. W. Malcomson is now in Sydney, staying with his cousin Alfred Allen. It is truly pleasant to meet again ~~with~~ with our dear "T Yutala" companion. Joseph dined at D. Clarke's & I at H.H. Newman's & at tea I was joined by a friend living at Morpeth, Frederic Namby, a brother of Mira Namby of Winchmore Hill. The afternoon meeting was a good

deal disturbed by people not Friends going in & out, but we were both helped in the x ministry & John Valser closed in prayer. Went in the evening to the Pitt St Meeting, where a long doctrinal discussion took place, not much to profit, I fear. The zeal of A. Wood & N. Allen in the maintenance of the views of Robert Barclay & G. Fox not being tempered with prudence, broke up about 10 p.m.

Monday, June 16th: Joseph went to spend the day at Henry Valser's; I had undertaken various commissions for the dear family at Fairy Meadow, so employed the day (a soaking wet one) in shopping on their account. R. Malcolmson joined me in a Turkish bath before tea. I find I have lost several lbs in weight lately, but certainly am better x than a month ago. In the evening F. Mumby called on us & we had much very interesting converse together. He is a nice man & seems a sincere Christian. I think I did not mention before that they are in this colony Horses are now so superabundant that they are bought by the proprietors of large establishments to be killed & melted down to feed the pigs. While at Fairy Meadow, Joe Cox bought a fine black horse x, a really good animal, for 7/-; one that can gallop or canter really excellently. J. Wilmot had given 10/- for one a few weeks previously. In Melbourne six months ago 5 live horses were sold for 2x 2/6 the lot! The keep is very cheap, most people having grass feed round their houses. The animals need no stable, receive little grooming & less corn, but look plump & well on the grass which is here very nourishing.

Tuesday, June 16th: So wet that I did not walk before breakfast. Spent most of the morning at letter writing for the English mail. Then a walk in the Botanical Gardens as the rain had cleared off, wrote letters in the afternoon & went with x John Valser to tea at Mr Sharp's. He is a Primitive Methodist Minister & a most excellent Christian man; he has a nice wife & several well behaved children, we conversed on nothing but subjects more or less connected with the love of God in Christ Jesus, or of our duties & privileges as His children. Altogether we felt it to be a treat to be with them. Read in the Bible, after which dear Joseph gave them a very encouraging address & I bent the knee in prayer. Called on H.P. Fowler on our way home;

Wednesday, June 17th: Wet again & rather cold for Sydney. Went to meeting, where we only met John Valser, H.H. Newman & Joseph Simms, but were remarkably blessed with them together. J.P. spoke on the subject of its being impossible without faith to please God. Joseph followed, enlarging on the same subject & I closed the meeting in earnest prayer for xxx more of that living, true faith which alone can give the victory. Oh, it is such a comfort to feel that this poor little Devonshire St meeting is woke up; & the spirit of life from Christ Jesus hath roused the members to life & energy. Surely the work is all of the Lord! but I do thankfully believe that all the exercise & suffering which Melbourne Friends - P. Cotton, Joseph & according to my little capability, myself also have gone through, "has not been in vain in the Lord." Now, commanding all my dear ones to Him & to the word of His Grace, I remain with very dear love, yours most affectionately - Walter Robson.

Received at Saffron Walden; August 15th. 1868.

PART TENTH: NEW SOUTH WALES continued.

Wednesday, June 17th. 1868; Finished up my diary & letters for the English mail. Received a letter full of love & unity from my dear friend Dr Cox of Fairy Meadow. We went to ink tea at H.P. Fowler's, where we spent a very pleasant & I trust a profitable evening with Thomas Cash & John Cash Heild Jr. The latter is a son of Dr Niels of Port Macquarie, once of Bristol & doubtless well known to C.H. & A.M. Lucy. He seems a nice sensible young man, not such of a friend & being engaged to the daughter of an Episcopal Minister, connects himself principally with that church. ere we parted we both addressed these two young cousins & bent the knee in prayer for them.

Thursday, June 18th: A soaking wet day. We find so many letters to write to friends in the Colonies now, letters of advice & counsel or of information as to our past or probable future movements that it really becomes a serious question. We spent all the morning writing & seem not much forwarder than before we commenced. In the afternoon we went to call on a person Joseph met at Moruya, & then by omnibus to Waverly 4 miles from here & had tea at Ruth Allen's. Her sons William & Alfred were there, as also her nephew Edmund Malenon. We did nothing in the evening but converse on the subject so common to Alfred & his party - all other Christians being wrong & out of Christ except "friends" & the entire impossibility of any who take the Sacraments being in the glorious liberty of the children of God. I fear poor Alfred & his party are getting wrong in several ways through trying to spiritualize too much. They have indeed a zeal to God but not according to knowledge. One of the ideas they have embraced to support their favourite text "though we have known Christ after the flesh, yet henceforth know we Him no more" is that the saying which went abroad is true & that the body of our Lord was stolen away from the tomb sepulchre & only His spiritual presence raised from the dead. Poor Ruth Allen is deeply to be felt for. She came out years back from Ireland to see after her husband who was leading a bad life & now he lives at the age of probably three score years next door to the family residence, in open horrible sin. I wonder his poor wife has not long ago died of a broken heart. We walked back to our lodgings, reaching them about 11 p.m.

Friday, June 19th: A short walk before breakfast. Called on H.P. Fowler & Frederic Muntley & then to see poor young Mrs Naish, the deserted wife of Willie Naish late of Bristol of whom are particulars in my diary No 8. Our object in calling was to see if Mary Jane would write him a kind loving letter of encouragement, holding out some faint hope of a final reunion if her poor husband remained steady at Moruya. M.J looks very pretty but is not a girl of much mental capacity, & we fear that during the very few months ex she & Willie lived together he behaved so cruelly to her that he has really alienated all her love & turned it to hate. Poor girl! it gives me such an insight into the terrible effects of Alcohol as I never had before, but the result of our conversation is that she has promised to write in a few

days as kindly as she can to her erring husband. If she will do this I hope poor Willie may continue steady under the kind care of James Martin. I have done all I can for him; paid his fare to Moruya, given him a suit of clothes, brought others out of pawn & wrestled in prayer for him & dear Joseph while at Moruya was very faithful with him, but we have earnestly to feel that it is only as the Holy Spirit brings home to his heart the sinfulness of his sins & leads him with the eye of faith to behold the Lamb of God, that we can hope for his real reformation. Truly it is only by this grace that any of us are what we are & if we are made the instruments of plucking this poor brand from the burning, all the praise will alone be due to God for the work is all His own from first to last. After dinner we took the steam ferry to the north shore & called on & staid tea with Joseph Simpson & his wife. Poor J.S. has not yet quite overcome an old temptation to drink, as we had the pain of proving this afternoon. We found him not too far gone to converse & labour & pray with, & I am not without some hope good may be the result. In the evening we attended & addressed a Temperance meeting in the Primitive Methodist chapel in Kent Street, not largely attended but a nice lively meeting.

Saturday, June 20th: I took a delightful stroll in the Botanical Gardens before breakfast. Though the sun is always hot in the middle of the day, the evenings & mornings are just cool & misty in this the Australian mid-winter. After reading we went to the Post Office & thence by omnibus over to Waverly where we called on Ruth Allen for some directions & stayed lunch there. Then walked back to Sydney calling on the way to see a widow lady & her widowed daughter, who live together at Koolaahra. Her name is Mathews, she was a "Friend" in Ireland & is a cousin of Margaret Beale of Melbourne. Made another call on some nice people whose connection Joseph met at Moruya or in that district. After dinner Joseph went to Macleayville to Arthur Wood's while I took the steamer to Manly Beach - E. Malcolmson accompanying me. Here I called on a gentleman for whom William Allen had given me an introduction & arranged for us to have a meeting for worship there next Tuesday week - a moonlight night being almost essential for getting a good company. A.M. Thompson kindly undertook to fill up & distribute our notices. I also called on a Mrs Miles whose relatives Joseph knows at home, to arrange for a night's lodging as the Sydney steamer leave early. The Sydney harbour looked most splendid as we returned under the rich tropical glow of the setting sun. After tea I walked out to Arthur Wood's with E. Malcolmson & accompanied Joseph home. Arthur Wood far more loving & kind than tonight, though evidently not feeling unity with me.

Sunday, June 21st: The shortest day! A most lovely sunny but cool morning, so that a stroll before breakfast most refreshing. At our morning meeting, I spoke at some length on sanctification & H. Newman offered prayer. My dear cousin silent in both meetings. We dined & took tea at W. Roke's. The afternoon meeting A. Allen attended but was silent; I engaged in prayer. We spent a very pleasant evening at the Rokes's, having a very relieving

open his time with them, in which words of counsel & encouragement flowed freely from both of us & my beloved cousin closed in earnest prayer.

Monday, June 22nd: It seems hardly possible to believe that mid-winter is here, so bright & lovely as the weather is, the Botanical Garden in full beauty, only our English trees - oaks, poplars &c shedding their leaves while ~~xxxx~~ Cabbage ~~xxxx~~ trees dates, baugaloo & copernuts (doubtfull about copernuts) are in full splendour & bright flowers such as lilies of various kinds, roses, geraniums &c are blossoming in rich profusion. After breakfast we called on Mr Pierce who kindly took us to a shipping office where we met Captain Horace Kindred, a first cousin by marriage of my beloved cousin J.J. Neave. He has just returned with his wife Louisa & two little girls from a long voyage to & from Calcutta. When we had had a chat with him, we went down to the quay & took a little boat to his vessel, a nice barque of 450 tons burden, "the Melrose". Here we found Louisa & her children & had some conversation with her. She seemed much overdone with a long, tedious & dangerous voyage six weeks longer than expected. I feel glad for my dearly loved companion to have a first cousin here. Wrote letters in the afternoon & then walked to Merickville & had tea at Alfred Allen's. E. Malcolmson is staying there. Alfred's wife Amelia is a particularly lovely young person, twenty three years of age, married at 17 to a strict & active member of the congregational church. She deeply & bitterly feels the course her husband has thought it right to take, in bearing such a firm & I may say insulting testimony against all professors but Friends. Poor girl! she is deeply to be sympathised with; her husband, & surely in a mistaken zeal for God, habitually neglects his wife generally away from her all day & all night, preferring to be with Arthur Wood & his wife who see with him. Amelia says she so misses those things which did unite them together - as now Alfred never offers prayer, never reads the Bible but for purposes of debate & never has silence at meals because, as he has often told me, all such things tend to bondage, while he is in the "glorious liberty of the children of God?" His wife is a beautiful singer & we all enjoyed some sweet hymns of faith & love, before we parted. Alfred never came in & she did not expect him at all tonight. It seems difficult to understand poor A. Allen's views - I am sure he is sincere & has suffered much for his Lord's sake, but I do long that his zeal was tempered with knowledge. He often admits he is perfect & appealed to me a few days ago whether I could find a single ~~xxxx~~ passage in the writings of the Apostles or early Friends (before 1700) to show that they felt unworthy or prayed ~~xxxx~~ to be forgiven, or were not perfect. It is very difficult to cope with such views.

Tuesday, June 23rd: Rose with a feverish cold this & mornin caught I know not how but I hope only slight & temporary. Joseph left me to make some calls & I went with E. Malcolmson to have a Turkish bath which seemed to do my cold much good, producing a profuse perspiration instead of the dry feverish heat of a cold. Rested in the afternoon & went to tea at Henry H Newman's with E. &

Joseph went to tea at an old man's of the name of Smithers, an occasional attender of our meetings. Spent a pleasant social evening at the Newman's where Joseph joined us at supper & we all knelt together in prayer before separating.

Wednesday, June 24th: Much better today, so as to be great; y to enjoy a walk in the gardens before breakfast. Called on poor old John Moring & found him much mortened in his feeling to the body that had disowned him & locked the meeting-house door against him to keep him out. He accepted our invitation to a company who are to have tea at H.P. Fowler's next Sunday evening. (D.V). Went to meeting where John Falser & Joseph gave us short addresses. Left Joseph writing in the afternoon & I & Malcolmson drove Amelia Allen & me to South Bondi on the coast outside the Heads. Here we called on a friend of the Allens named Fletcher who owns a lovely little bay & a deep gorge opening into it. The house is right at the summit on a rock with a full view of the gorge & the ocean rolling far below. We wandered down a winding pathway at the sides of a waterfall, strikingly reminding one of the Chinese in the Isle of Wight. Returned & had tea at the Temperance Hall & at 8 o'clock met a good congregation there at a Temperance meeting where we both spoke in advocacy of the cause & several fresh additions to the society were the result. Supped at Hannah P. Fowler's.

Thursday, June 25th: Spent the morning making calls on various persons whose names were given us in England. In the afternoon wrote letters. After tea walked with H John Falser into Woollecocloo where we held a public meeting in the Primitive Methodist chapel. Not very large, it being most difficult to get people together at week night services. However we had a good meeting & were sensible of being well helped in preaching to & praying for the assembled people. Looking in at W. Roke's on our way home, we staid supper & reading there to mutual comfort I believe.

Friday, June 26th: A sad account from our dear friend James Martin of Moruya of the terrible conduct of poor Willie Naish, for whom we have laboured & were beginning to entertain hopes of his ultimate restitution to respectable society & home. He has been mangging to keep a bottle under his pillow & became so extravagantly drunk that he was arrested & fined for drunk & disorderly. Oh! can it be he has outtained the day of his visitation & that there remains no ground to hope. We all felt w when seeking to rescue him from destruction as if it was a final effort, but God is very very merciful. Made calls this morning & in the afternoon sat a while at Daniel Clarke's. Then on to Woolnarrah to tea at a friend's named Mathews, where we spent a pleasant evening closing with a time of renewed favour & united prayer.

Saturday, June 27th: Called after breakfast on John Graham, the most popular minister in the Colony, an independent, for whom I had an introduction from Robert Sherling of London. He took the chapel left by Mr Cuthbertson, now of Bishop Stortford. J. Graham is a most genial sort of man & gave us a hearty welcome & the offer of his chapel or school room for a meeting. We hardl

expected this for he was Alfred Allen's minister & now A.A preaches against him & insults him to his face. Then called on Daniel Clarke & then on Mr Slaytier, another Congregational minister who gave us the offer of his chapel next Sunday evening. After dinner we went up the river in a steamer to Parramatta & called on three ministers, all of whom were very cordial & will give out a meeting for us to be held next Wednesday evening in the Primitive Methodist Chapel. We returned by train & filled up notices of meetings till bed time.

Sunday, June 28th: Rose at 6.30 & went to a very interesting early morning meeting at the Temperance Hall. About 100 of the very lowest & most degraded inhabitants of Sydney are invited every Sunday morning to a breakfast of hot coffee & bread & butter & afterwards a meeting for worship is held with them. I never saw a more degraded assemblage, but they were most attentive to the reading & simple gospel truths we imparted in & seemed much solemnized when my dear cousin bent the knee in prayer. This breakfast would lead to much imposture at home but here where food is plentiful & wages high, with the meat 1d per lb, ~~some~~ none but the really almost starving would care for a breakfast without meat. We both felt it was good to be there. After our breakfast, we walked to the Post Office & then to the Station to meet our revered & father in the truth Francis Cotton. He has just returned from a stay at Abraham Davies at Harrington Park & at our dear friends at Fairy Meadow. The Pitt St Friends almost all joined us at Devonshire St this morning & made the little old meeting house very crowded. Alfred Allen rose almost before the meeting gathered & spoke at some length, but we all felt more in word than power. Then a long & most excellent sermon from dear F. Cotton, after which I offered prayer. Joseph & P.C added a few words. We three went to D. Clarke's to dine. The afternoon meeting was a nice one in which dear F. Cotton & I were helped to speak & dear Joseph knelt in prayer. At Hannah P. Fowler's to tea to meet about 30 friends. It seems an odd evening for a social party, but Sundays are the only evenings where friends can be got together & this is almost the only time Sydney friends have ever all met socially. I say all but Pitt Street friends were holding their meeting & did not attend. At about 7 o'clock I read some chapters from St Paul's Epistles, especially alluding to love & unity: 12 Romans & 4 Ephesians. F. Cotton gave us a very weighty address & so did Joseph. I poured out a long & earnest prayer for this poor little body, & especially for the widows & those in deep affliction. Mrs Simpson from the North shore had left her ~~ja~~ husband at home too drunk to bring with her & poor Mary Jane Naish was with us - her husband too drunk & bad for her to live with him. Oh! what trials fall to the lot of some. F. Cotton & Joseph added a few concluding words & then this conclave broke up. I walked with F. Malcolmson & 4 miles to his home at Marrickville & stayed supper at A. Allen's. Dear F. Cotton is located at F.J. Sulzer's with us & it is most refreshing to have him here. He has been 7 months away from his lovely Tasmanian home most of the time travelling in South Australia after being with us at Melbourne Annual Meeting 6 months ago. The Pitt street friends

have no sort of unity with ~~him~~ him.

Monday, June 29th: wrote letters after breakfast. Then made calls till dinner time. In the afternoon we called on Joseph Sim's & took tea at the Pattie's where we spent a pleasant, socially religious evening.

Tuesday, June 30th: Spent the morning in our quarters in company with dear P. Cotton going very carefully through a document he has written in reply to the printed one the Pitt St friends circulated 6 months ago, which contained some startlingly unsound doctrines, so that Christ's first coming was not to save & that the Decalogue is not binding on Christians. P.C. has written a very suitable reply which will be submitted to Friends at their Monthly meeting this week. It seems needful to correct such errors, even though I believe those who drew up the erroneous document do not hold the views as there represented. A. Davy called & so did John Falser. After dinner Joseph & I took the steamer to Manly Exx. Beach where we took tea at Mrs Parker's. He is a good old man & acted as guide to James Backhouse & G.W. Walker, one of whom I believe mentions him in his diary. Mr Parker is now very lame & rather feeble, but walked with us three miles to Manly to the meeting appointed for us there. Mr Parker has one daughter, a girl of 20, deaf & dumb but very interesting. We had a satisfactory meeting in which we first felt low as if the large concourse present had come from curiosity, but "truth arose" & we were well helped faithfully to proclaim the necessity of the new birth; made a call afterwards meeting on a newspaper editor, a nice man named West & lodged at Mrs Miles, late of Leistor.

Wednesday, July 1st: rose early & had breakfast in time to get off by first steamer back to Sydney. At meeting dear P. Cotton & I spoke for a short time. Finished letters for the Panama mail before dinner. In the afternoon took the steamer up the river to Paramatta where we had tea at Mr Hart's the Primitive Methodist Minister's who gave us a very kind welcome. We walked with us to the chapel which was greatly crowded & we had a more than usually favoured season in which we were both sensible of much help in preaching to the dear people (as far as we knew it) "the whole counsel of God". Much cordial expression afterwards & pressing invitations to come again. One man a Mormonite I believe, attacked us after meeting rather unmercifully, but we found it not to edification to talk longer with him. We lodged at Mr Clayfield's, a dear old Christian gentleman, manager of some cloth works who gave us every kindness & earnestly joined us in prayer after supper.

Thursday, July 2nd: After breakfast we walked three miles to Sherwood, the residence of Judge Holroyd, an old man friend of Dr Cox of Coolongong, where Zip Cox is now staying. Finding the judge out & his housekeeper & Zip just going by rail to Sydney, we accompanied them here & I devoted most of the day to helping Zip in various businesses she had to perform in Sydney, & dined with her at the Newman's. Saw them off by Rail to Paramatta & in the evening attended the Monthly Meeting here. It was a long opportunity, lasting from 7 till about $\frac{1}{2}$ past 11 o'clock. Dear P. Cotton produced his document in reply to that printed & circulated

by the Pitt St friends. At the request of P. Cotton I read it - it is long & took a full hour to read, but it was all received & soon accepted by the meeting, signed by the clerk & is to be printed. A. Allen gave a very fiery speech in reply, saying he would prove his document to be scriptural, but I told him he misunderstood the case; here was a printed paper containing grossly incorrect assertions & we felt duty bound to correct those assertions, however much they might be capable of being explained away. A. Allen was really insulting to P. Cotton & would not be checked, tho' I pleaded with him to remember P. Cotton's age & to bear in mind tho' dear friend was in Christ before he & I were born into the world. A. Allen soon after left the meeting & I am appointed with Daniel Davy & H. H. Newman to see to getting the document printed.

Friday, July 3rd: My cold worse today, so that I did not go out except to have a Turkish bath, which I think did me good. A. Davy called on us, as did H. H. Newman, A. Allen, E. Malcolmson, J. Palser & W. Roakes & we spent much time in writing. Joseph to tea at E. John & Ellen Palser's. I was not aware till a few days back that Ellen Palser is a niece of your cousin Wm Bell. Her maiden name was Kutter, her first husband Metford; so I occasionally find sort of Quaker connections even in these far off places. Spent the evening in our quiet sitting room writing. I omitted to mention that I was awake in the night by a brilliant glare of light in our bed-room & found that a bacon-curing shed next door to us was in flames. It was soon burnt down & we did not think it best to go out, as the fire brigade were in attendance.

Saturday, K July 4th: I spent a great part of today making corrections & preparing for printing the document we passed at our Monthly Meeting; having still a heavy cold it suited me better to write than accompanying my dear cousin in his calls &c.

Sunday, July 5th: Better & able to enjoy a walk before breakfast. The morning meeting at Devonshire St was one of much exercise, but I never felt before so fully what some of our dear friends have meant when they have recorded in their journals that "Truth rose into dominion". Soon after, we took our seats, dear P. Cotton rose & gave us a very loving earnest address. A. Allen rose soon after & spoke, I think, nicely though rather too much like laying down the law. Then Arthur Wood spoke in a rather strange style of the Spirit now working immediately & never mediately. Dear P. Cotton rose again & gave a most weighty & admirable reply, proving that the spirit that leads "into all Truth" now, is the same by which "holy men of God" spoke as they were moved by the Holy Ghost; so clearly holding forth the inspiration of the Old, as well as New Testament scriptures, which the Pitt St Friends always quibble about. A. Wood rose instantly in reply again, but seemed to take no hold on the meeting. Joseph then offered earnest prayer & I spoke, especially on the various ways in which the Spirit does work mediately, by trials, & disappointments &c, appealing to many present who were deeply taught in the school of suffering. It is very satisfactory after all to see the Pitt St friends willing to return to the old meeting & give up the terrible disunity which pervaded them all, when our dear Melbourne friends first came. P. Cotton & we two dined at H. H. Newman's, meeting H. P. Fowler there. Our afternoon meeting was small: P. C. & J. J. N.

spoke & I bent the knee in prayer. Took tea & supped at the Newman's. In the evening we had a very large meeting at Redfern, the suburb of Sydney where the Newmans reside. It was held in the Congregational chapel of which Mr Slatier is Minister, a gentleman who many years ago lived in Jamaica & there entertained Joseph Sturge &c when on a visit to that Island. He commenced by giving out a hymn. I read, at his special request, a chapter & after a very short pause, Joseph offered prayer. We were both largely engaged in ministry & I closed in prayer & praise. We were very lovingly welcomed at the close & accepted a pressing offer to have the evening service in a large Baptist chapel in Sydney next Sunday evening. Closed a day of many mercies in prayer & thanksgiving at H.H. Newman's.

Monday, July 6th: A dull damp day. Finished the Document X for the press before dinner. Went with P.G Cotton & dear Joseph to tea with two widowed ladies, one Mrs Backler & the other Mrs Wakeham. They are much of "Friends"; the latter I believe is a member. Her husband was convinced of our principles by Fred Mackie & Ed May when they were in India. We spent a pleasant evening & we were much drawn out in sympathy with our poor bereaved sisters, both of whom have very largely partaken of the cup of affliction. After reading we all addressed them & Joseph very earnestly prayed for them.

Tuesday, July 7th: Leaving my dear cousin to make calls &c I devoted most of the day to writing, rearranging & packing for Queensland all or nearly all of our greatly diminished stock of tracts. We have dispersed many thousands since we first set foot in Australia 38 weeks ago today & have written home via Panama for a fresh supply. There seems such an openness to receive them, especially at the close of our meetings with the people. I generally find it best to give our from the pulpit or platform before the meeting closes that I have a supply of tracts to offer, for the acceptance of any who incline to take them. The result of this is that the people wait till I have time to get to the door to distribute them. Before I adopted this plan, many had gone out before they knew about the tracts & then came squeezing back to receive them, causing some confusion & needless delay. We were much amused tonight by an odd occurrence in Sydney. About 7 o'clock the fire bell rang & an engine started full gallop & fully manned in the direction of the brilliant light which had caused the Brigade so much trouble. Just however as the engine came to the corner of the street at the bottom of which they supposed the fire to be raging, the bright orb of light rose in the cloudless sky & the fireman turned back & the fire bells stopped ringing, for no one surely would wish to throw cold water on the lovely moon. And truly the moon is lovely in the clear climate of Australia; we always have the benefit of her light from the time she is the smallest crescent to the time she ceases to rise till daylight.

Wednesday, July 8th: My cold almost gone so that I greatly enjoyed a walk in the Botanical gardens before breakfast. At our meeting John Falser prayed for us & our labours & we all three spoke, bank business before dinner. In the afternoon we all three went up to Marrickville to W.A. Wood's where were Joseph Dixon & James Mitchell. we had a most exercising evening; much earnest

discussion & some veryx painful exhibitions of unsound doctrine on our friend A.W's part. Did not leave till nearly 11 o'clock & then an hours walk home to our lodgings.

Thursday, July 9th: According to arrangement, I went to the station after breakfast & met Mr Holroyd & his guest Zip Cox - the latter I accompanied on various businesses that had brought her to Town, including a call at H.P.Fowler's & the Mitchell's & a walk in the Botanical Gardens. After she had returned to Paramatta, we three went to tea at H.P.Fowler's, where we spent a very pleasant evening, meeting there a young man, John Osborn, who has felt attracted towards Friends & is beginning to attend our Meeting.

Friday, July 10th: Wrote letters for the English Mail after breakfast. Then into town where (at Joseph's wish) I bought two tickets for Brisbane: one for myself, a return, the other a single one for him - as he thinks I must return before him to Sydney to attend the Monthly Meeting; friends still needing any help we may be enabled to give them. The return ticket is available for 3 months. Walked with F.Cotton & Joseph up to Darling Point to dine at Thomas Skinner's. Found a large party there, among others a rather jolly Clergyman, very fond of a joke & a glass. They left about 4 o'clock. We much enjoyed the company of this very choice, interesting family. After tea we had them all assembled in the drawing room where after a chapter had been read, F.Cotton & Joseph addressed them, & I engaged in prayer, followed by dear F.C much in the same strain. We returned feeling it an evening to be thankful for. Thomas Skinner intends going on an Overland trip to England & hopes to be at the next Y.Meeting in London, before returning.

Saturday, July 11th: A dull, wet morning. Very busy getting ready for our trip into Queensland on Monday. Dear F.Cotton too sails (D.V) on Tuesday morning for his quiet, lovely house in Tasmania, which he left nearly 8 months ago. Writing letters & making calls & packing up most of the day. A.Davey called & sat some time with us. He seems in a nicer, kinder spirit & I cannot but believe many of the things we heard against him are gross misrepresentations. He seems very wishful to do or suffer whatever may be for the good of this poor divided little section of the church. I omitted to mention yesterday a very kind present T.Skinner has made me. He has a case containing beautiful specimens of Coral sent him as a gift from Navigator's Island. This he has presented to me & has had repacked & will send home by some vessel soon to sail. I have requested it to be directed to be left at Friends' Institute, London, till called for. It will hardly be there for several months, I expect. I have not seen its contents, but I think it would be as well for my dear ones at home to investigate the case & its beautiful productions when it arrives in England. I called on H.H.Newman before tea, ~~xxxxxxx xxxxxxx~~ about the document for the press. Dear F.C & Joseph to tea at James Mitchell's where I find they had a precious evening. I stay at home to balance cash & pack up for a start on Monday for Queensland.

Sunday, July 12th: My usual walk before breakfast. E'er I forget to mention it, I may just state that our letters had better be directed as usual, to Joseph Dixon &c. J.D is most kind in forwarding our letters for wherever we may direct. Our meeting in

this man was drunk & insulted them. The result was they declined to receive Dr Cox into membership because he had a drunkard in the house. Dr Cox is a very excellent man, his family are very intimate with our dear friends at Marlhamhope. In the eveng we had a temperance meeting in the fine Temperance Hall at Sydney. It was well attended & a satisfactory meeting. I was, to my surprise, the chief speaker, Jos. only holding forth for an hour & leaving the rest to me. I never felt more freedom or power in advocating the cause of Temperance.

Thursday, April 16 : Busy writing letters & filling up Public Meeting notices. A long converse with our dear frds E.S & S.I. Levitt, who while they feel their work is done here, can see but little fruit. We both feel they have done much, both in investigating & clearing away the rubbish. Made calls in the afternoon, & among others on a man once a Frd but disowned & turned by physical force out of Devonshire St Meeting. His name is John Morning. He was cook on board the "Henry Freeling", Daniel Wheeler's vessel. He is in lodgings in a suburb of Sydney named (native) Collocomoolitoo. In the eveng we held a meeting in the city mission chapel near by, in Sussex St. Well attended & a time of great favor. Walked to our lodgings with A. Allen & A. Wood, who freely confess disunity with us because we do not denounce the woeful apostacy of one man ministry, the sacraments &c. They seem unable to conceive it possible that our mission can really do good if we in any way countenance even by our silence the ways of other professing Xtians, all of them being they say "in the flesh" while we are "in the spirit". So we seem in Sydney as on the horns of a dilemma, not able fully to unite with either body of Frds; feeling most sympathy with the life of the New body, but with the views of the old.

Friday, April 17 : Yesterday & this morning we have had delightful strolls in the Botanical Gardens before breakfast. Then another long outpouring from Jno Falser in which it appears Frds disowned Jno Morning for by buying a debt & suing the debtor for the money, and also a personal quarrel between J.P & J.M concerning the very serious(?) matter of a 2d cord ! E'er J.P left us, A. Davy came in & then we had our hands full. A. Davy is as perfect as ever & as full of accusations against A. Allen, for whom he entertains the most decided aversion. Our dear brethren from Melbourne then came in & stayed till near dinner time, their company greatly refreshing us. We long to return with them to the harmony & love of Melbourne. We have abundant cause now to call in mind Theodore West's description given to us of Sydney meetings: "It is as if every man's hand was against his fellow." Afternoon we had Dr Cox & Arthur Wood, with whom we held a deeply interesting conversation, tho' occasionally metaphysical. The points of difference were freely & lovingly discussed & we parted in much of the unity of the spirit. J & I took the little ferry steamer to the North shore of Port Jackson to call on Jas Simpson & wife. They are elderly members of Devonshire St Meeting, keep a little grocery store in the village of St Leonards. Shortly after we arrived they locked up their shop saying people could shout if they wanted anything & we accompanied them to their dwelling near by, where we had tea & a comfortable family sitting in which we both had much vocal service. Returned about 9 p.m. It is a very wonderful

sight, crossing the splendid harbour of Port Jackson after dark, to see the reflection of the rows of gas lights on the calm surface of the water; it gives such an idea of the extent of both city & harbour.

Saturday, April 18 : Before breakfast we visited Hyde Park, where we sat to read our English letters received last evng, & to feel very thankful for "good news from home". O, it is such an unspeakable favor while so far separated from those we miss most deeply love to see good accts of them. After reading, I left my dear companion writing & availing myself of Dr Brereton's kindness, took a Turkish bath & then visited the /"Union Club", a very aristocratic affair, subscription £12 per annum. But by Mr Skinner's kindness, he has & made us honorary members during our stay in Sydney; here I read the latest political & public news from England. After dinner Jas Mitchell, a Pitt St Friend called & took us home with him to tea. Here we met our Melbourne Frds & the leaders of the separated party. Had an evng of very deep interest there, no converse except on points of doctrine. Y C, I never had to go so deeply into faith & practise, the writings of Barclay, the unsoundness of J.J.G & present day Frds, & the strangely spiritual views which these zealous people hold, as we did tonight, & more than ever are we convinced that there is much in their doctrines that is not altogether sound, tho' in common with many others who strain certain views, they back them up with passages of scripture.

Sunday, April 19 : My dear cousin suffering intensely today from neuralgia, but I am thankful to say not in any of our meetings. Our dear E. Sayce & S.I. Levitt did not join us at X devonshire St in the morng, but were at Pitt St. J & I were well helped in the morng meeting & I believe we had a good time. A very excellent friend, not a member, who also lodges in our house, offered a short but earnest prayer. We dined at Daniel Clarke's & had a very pleasant afternoon there. E. Sayce had much to say in the afternoon sitting, in a powerful farewell sermon. Dr Cox said a few words as did Jos. Henry Newman prayed p fervently for the dear Melbourne Frds & for us & afterwards spoke in reference to our services with them. Had a most relieving public meeting at the Kent St Primitive Methodist Chapel in the evng: well filled & great openness to ex labor & a feeling of entrance as well as utterance in mercy granted.

Monday, April 20 : Paid my usual early visit to the Botanic Gardens before breakfast & was greatly diverted by watching the odd antics of an old Kangaroo, who seemed quite disposed to give me a friendly greeting. The x gayest flowers just now in & round Sydney are the oleander, which grow as large as our elm tree in our dear garden at home, & are covered with blossoms from top to bottom, having a most gorgeous effect. Left Jos at home writing, as he is not very well, & joined E.S & S.I. Levitt & F. Horsenail in a visit to the observatory, where are instruments quite equal, I believe, to any at Greenwich. There we visited the Sydney Mint, where all the Australian sovereigns are coined. Here the process is excellently carried on, every part of the coining is in 1st rate style. Dined at a Restaurant & left E. Sayce to join Jos at our lodgings while we took a ferry steamer to Mosta Dry Dock. This is well worthy of

inspection, being hewn out of the solid rock. Near by are some large iron works where Daniel Davy (A.D.'s son) works. He was very kind in showing us round the Foundry & we returned well pleased with our days work. J & I went to tea at Frederic Huntley's, a member of our society but who has never connected himself with our poor little church in Sydney. He is a nephew of our dear old friend Jno Huntley of High Wycombe, from whom he gave us a letter to read containing a nice mention of our revered Aunt G.E. We spent a pleasant & I trust profitable evening with these Frds for whom as for many others similarly circumstanced, we feel very deeply; not easy to join any other body & not feeling any attraction towards the poor scattered little body who bear our name in this place.

Tuesday, April 21st: Another delightful stroll in the gardens. At 9 p.m. the poor assassin O'Farrel is to suffer private execution at the jail for the attempted murder of our beloved young prince, now I hope thousands of miles away from the scene of this sad calamity. Spent much of the morning writing letters for the mail about to be dispatched for England. After dinner the particulars of the execution of O'Farrel were published & are satisfactory for a Romanist. We met our dear Melbourne Frds at the wharf & took leave of them, they being on board the "City of Adelaide" steamer bound for Melbourne; they finally left 4.45. We shall greatly miss the company, counsel & unity of these dear brethren, who have by their labours here done so much to clear away the rubbish in our little church & to investigate the causes that have led to the present painful climax. Walked home with our frd Hy Newman to tea. He is a very excellent man & has a nice wife & one daughter. Spent a pleasant evening there; several hymns sung & the evening closed with reading, preaching & prayer.

Wednesday, April 22; Met our frd Jas Martin in the Botanical Gardens before breakfast & had a nice conversation with him. How long I shall keep up the early rising remains to be proved, but I do find greatly desire to get cured of that fondness for Morpheus when I ought to be enjoying the morning air & exercise that will help thro' the fatigues of the day. We must close our diaries today, & I say in concluding this part of the journal afresh record the daily & hourly mercies we so richly enjoy & the help so graciously vouchsafed in our every hour of need, so that while often feeling discouraged & cast down, especially at Sydney, yet I must acknowledge that "Hitherto the Lord hath helped us" & that "He hath been better to us than all our fears." But we both feel, as do the Melbourne Frds, that in this sad division at Sydney, whatever course the M.M. takes, even should it fully adopt our report, yet there can be no uniting of the Devonshire St & Pitt St Frds while there is the same want of life in one & extreme want of charity & excess of zeal beyond knowledge in the other body. Yet both sections are softened in feeling towards the others since our arrival & for this we may be very thankful. Now with our united dear love to all into whose hands this may come & with a very abundant flow from my heart to my dear ones at home & everywhere, & with the renewed prayer that "The God of all grace, who hath called us

unto his eternal glory by Christ Jesus may make you & us perfect; stablish, strengthen, settle us" in the faith & love of our Lord.

I remain

Yours in the bonds & love of the Gospel
 Walter Hobson.

Received at Saffron Walden: June 18. 1868.

PART THE EIGHTH: NEW SOUTH WALES CONTINUED.

Wednesday, April 22nd: Attended the little week day meeting at Devonshire St this morning. Our gathering consisted of seven men. James Martin & I spoke in the Ministry & Henry Newman offered fervent prayer for the living blessing on our visit to Sydney, for our help & strength and for all the dear ones we have left at home. In the afternoon J.J.N paid some calls while I took the steamer up the Parramatta River to the town of that name, to see Dr Tucker. 'Tis a very pleasant excursion, the river beautiful & winding, that it looks more like a lake in every direction. Parramatta is 20 miles from Sydney. I first went to the railway station there & met Dr Tucker and we walked together to his house, crossing the river higher up than the steamer wharf, on stepping stones to his house, a very comfortable one. Here I was introduced to the Mrs & Miss Tucker, also to a very nice old clergyman named Wood. We had much converse & it decided in resolving that as Dr T has to visit Hobart Town &c first, we should not start on our tour together till about five weeks hence. After tea the family & Mr Wood asked me to accompany them to church, which I did & was pleased with the thorough simplicity of the service, only the Litany was read & then a short earnest sermon from a young clergyman on the great & unimportance of all rights (sic) & ceremonies & the all importance of the heart being right in the sight of God. I then walked to the station & a 7 hours ride brought me back to Sydney, a journey which occupied two hours by steamer because of the stoppages. By the way the steamer is just like a Rhine boat, even to the steering wheel being horizontal & the steersman sitting to his work.

Thursday, April 23rd: Having heard from our friend Daniel Clark of his little son being very bad with a sore finger, and that the only remedy used was the ointment of that Prince of Quacks Holloway, I sallied forth after breakfast and bought a pot & the various ingredients & manufactured a large supply of diamond ointment. It would have amused our dear mother to see us busy over the fire or stirring the greasy decoction till cold. Took it to D. Clark's after dinner & he was very thankful for it. Spent most of the day in making calls, among the rest of G & M Poothroyd - lately come out of the Church of Rome & wishing to be Friends, only Devonshire & St went have them. Went to tea & spent a very nice evening at Hannah P. Fowler's. She is a very nice friend & lived most of her lived most of her life in Bristol & well knows J.H. Lucy & family, also P.D & A Tucket &c. We had a very comforting time together before leaving, James Martin having joined our party. H.P.F gave us some information respecting Wm Nash of Bristol who is now in Sydney & we hope to find him up in the morning.

AdFriday, April 24th: The usual exercise & beast feeding in the Botanical Gardens before breakfast. Then J. Martin joined us & we called at W. Nash's lodgings, but found that his young wife had summoned him support & the case was to be tried today. Accordingly put aside our feeling of reluctance to the contaminating influence of the Police Court. We spent the morning there, waiting as case after case of assault or drunkenness or neglect was disposed of & sick of the iniquities by which we are surrounded. There, we were nearly giving it up when Nash versus Nash was called & William tottered into court too drunk to behave himself & his wife, a very lovely young lady of 19 entered the witness box. Mr Nash was educated at Tottenham School by Thos. Hunton & was sent out here to reform, surely this is like sending anyone from the frying pan into the fire, the very pit of destruction. The lawyers on both sides soon settled the matter & the bench ordered William to pay 12/6 a week for Mary Jane's support; she lives with her parents, poor & being too great a drunkard for her to live with him. A few months back he had £1000 left him by a relative, it was sent out to him, & is all spent, chiefly in drink. They only married last July! When they left the court, I gave William my arm as he was too drunk to walk alone & conducted him through the crowded street to his lodgings, which are far from respectable & inhabited by a very rough dissipated set of men, & the landlady a very repulsive looking woman. Here I had to undergo the somewhat humiliating process of being introduced by drunken companions as "This is my - very - tic'lar friend this is". His father now allows him 40/- per week paid weekly. Oh my heart aches for him, & the more from knowing having read last night a letter to H.P. Fowler from his sister, in which she calls him her "poor Willie" & speaks much as I think my dearest Priscie & Essie would were I in his state, & truly it is only by the grace of God I am not. James Martin feels so kind an interest in him that I cannot help hoping a very little that we may do something for him. After dinner I called on H.B. Fowler & found my poor young friend there, so led him home & extracted from him the promise to take no more drink today. Joseph went to tea at Arthur Wood's, but I felt W. Nash was my chief concern, so did not accompany him, but occupied the afternoon in a call on Mrs Wren, sister of one of my Parishoners at home Mrs & Pigram. I found her living in a comfortable home, where she was glad to see us in her lodgings, but she says her husband has taken to drinking & went on so badly that she was glad to say he had run away to Calcutta. Truly in Sydney drink does a deadly work. After tea James Martin & I met W. Nash at H.P. Fowler's & after a long talk we took him to a highly respectable boarding house, paid for his board & lodging there & left him in comfortable quarters unknown to anyone but ourselves, as the landlady where he has been living has so fearful an influence over him that did she know of his whereabouts she would entice him back. Got some medicine from a chemist to give him to stop the craving for rum & left him comfortable & so penitent. I also called on his poor young wife's family & believe from what I heard there that it is the influence of his landlady added to the fearful drink that has degraded him & that were it not for the steady man, Mary Jane would return to him.

Saturday, April 25th: Called to see W. Nash before breakfast & found him still asleep. J. Martin was my companion & we accordingly went our usual morning walk. Devoted most of the day to seeing after him, getting him ~~xxx~~ clothes, suitable medicine &c & taking him out for walks, not daring to let him appear alone in the streets of Sydney. My beloved cousin went to tea at R. Allen's, while I received a call from Newman & Cash, who is such tried with the conduct of Alfred Allen his employer condemning so decidedly his going to church though it is there that Newman received his religious impressions.

Sunday, April 26th: To the garden before & to visit my patient Nash, after breakfast. Joseph felt it best for him to attend the Pitt St Meeting but from the openly expressed want of unity with me on the part of the leader of that meeting, I flatly felt it would be safest for me to go to Devonshire St Meeting. We were greatly favored of the Lord in ~~x~~ this gathering; John Jalsen opened the meeting in prayer, after which I was greatly helped to preach from St Paul's words; "I speak not as having attained &c". James Martin added a few weighty words & I closed ~~xxx~~ in prayer & praise. We both dined at Mr Patty's whose wife was a friend, Alfred Allen's sister. J. J. M & Henry Newman had most of the service in the afternoon except a few farewell words from me. We went to tea at Mr Roke's at Woolloomooloo. He is from Croydon & is a brother of Frederic Rokes, who I well remember at Green & Marsh's at Stansted. W. R. has a nice ~~wife~~ young wife & we were just commencing a very pleasant evening when my dear cousin & Mrs Rokes both had such a bad toothache that we thought it better to return to our lodgings, after I had visited Nash & found him sober, but, I fear not sufficiently alive to his ~~x~~ sad & fallow condition.

Monday, April 27th: Had a trying morning of new experiences to me: First there was to accompany poor young Nash to the Bank to take his weekly allowance. Then to take him to the Police Court to pay the 12/6 for his wife's support. Then leaving him at the lodgings we have provided for him, I visited the Pawnbroker to redeem his coat, pawned for drink. Then to see his wretched old landlady to settle up with her & remove his few earthly effects to the new quarters. Joseph made calls while I mixed & assorted tracts for our next tour out of Sydney. In the evening was the Annual Bible Society Meeting. At special request I was to speak, as it was wished that the various sections of the Church should be represented. I was glad to find that the newly arrived Governor of New South Wales was to act as President. We all rose as the chairman His Excellency the Earl of Belmore took his seat; his wife was also present & sat just opposite the platform & I am quite ~~xxx~~ prepared to unite in the general sentiment that the Countess of Belmore is the most beautiful lady in the Southern Hemisphere. After reading & prayer the Governor made a good speech followed by one from the Bishop of Sydney. Several others followed among which were Dr Tucker & myself. I was most cordially received & after the close of the Meeting & the doxology had been sung, the Bishop gave me a hearty welcome, as did several ministers & more than one large chapel was offered us when we return to Sydney.

Tuesday, April 28th: Packed up, got Nash ready & at noon

J.J.N & J.Martin, W.Naish & I left Sydney in the steamship Kemblen, Joseph & I for Woolongong & J.Martin & Naish for the home of the former Barnys. Woolongong is about five hours voyage from Sydney, a little South on the coast & a pleasant little township. Our friends' destination is much further on. at Woolongong we met our kind friend Dr Cox, who drove us 4 miles to his pretty home Fairy Meadow. He has a nice wife & at home are three daughters - Christina, Zippora & Mary, or as they are always called, Tenie, Zippie & Lockie & two sons Joe & Ben. They are a truly nice family & live in a lovely spot. A mile in front & in full view are the deep blue waters of the Pacific; close behind the house is a high range of mountains from 1500 to 2000 feet high - it is a place almost out of the world. My bedroom door opens at once into the garden in which are many fine orange & lemon trees full of rich fruits. In the grounds are many cabbage trees palms, which are more wonderful than beautiful - some of the tallest reminding me of a very large bunch of hearse plumes. At the top of a scaffolding pole this comparison is not a happy one but I can think of no better. Reached Dr Cox's just at dusk and spent a pleasant evening with Tenie & Zippie, two very nice young ladies.

Wednesday, April 29 : I rose early & went a delightful stroll with the Dr before breakfast. Dr Cox was convinced of our principles without ever knowing a friend but ~~his~~ by reading Isaac Pennington's works & he is so fond of them that he has read them ten times through & we went for an hour this morning to read them ~~at~~ aloud. Then Dr E & Cox drove us and Zippie into Woolongong to arrange a meeting. Back home to dinner. I omitted mentioning that on Monday when ~~at~~ I called at the post I recd. letters from Sudbury, York & Muddersfield via Panama, but sent to Hobart Town & forwarded from thence. In the evening the next Panama arrived & brought us letters from JJ & E, Prissie, Bessie & Charlotte dated a month later than those I recd a few hours before. I felt very rich in having so many in one day containing ~~2~~ good news of the health both spiritual & temporal of my dear ones. This afternoon I walked nearly down to the sea through the woods & in the evening we read for an hour in the almost idolized works of Isaac Pennington.

Thursday, April 30 : I rose early & walked to the sea Bellambi where I had a delightful dip in the blue water of the Pacific; saw an immense shark not far from land. After breakfast Joseph & I had a most charming ramble up the mountain at the back of Dr Cox's; most of the ascent is deeply & densely wooded with immense trees & almost impenetrable underwood consisting of tree ferns, young gum trees, cabbage tree palms, Bangalors or wild date palms & a singular trailing plant running up the side of the tallest trees & hanging from their summits - so exceedingly tenacious that often though no larger than whip cord they are impossible to break with all the pressure one can use & they grow as thick as the trunk of a small tree when of course they are useful to hand to in climbing difficult places but it seemed most of all wonderful to me to see ferns of the choicest sorts which in England are only known as hot house pets growing here in the greatest abundance, so much so that it is only the smallest fronds I am able to press as relics. The commonest ferns on this mountain next to the bracken vulgaris are the Elk-horn, that wonderful fern which forms its own flower-

pot & grows like a parasite high up on the trees or on rocks below & the beautiful maiden-hair of which we saw large rich beds. The palms are very beautiful on the mountains, not growing so high but more bushy. From the top of the mountain "Brooker's Nose" is a beautiful view over vast trackless forests behind & the trackless ocean in front while just below lies this peaceful habitation of our kind host. Lost our track in descending & got down with great difficulty, & often getting so entangled that it seemed useless to try to move either backward or forward, but reached Dr Cox's in time for a late dinner & a charming ride on horseback with Tenie & Zippie going to see a giant tree 67 ft round the trunk & about 4000 feet high. Returned via Woonona & Balli onto the beach where as it was getting dark we had a sharp gallop; indeed I am very glad to be able to say I am becoming very fond of horseback riding exercise & thoroughly enjoy riding in Australia. Reading as usual in the evening. We seem doing little here but resting and indulging in quiet enjoyment, but after the many trials & cares of our month in Sydney, we both feel it desirable for our health's sake.

Friday, May Day: I had a nice stroll on the hill fern- & gathering before breakfast. Then into town after an hour with Pennington with Dr & Mrs Cox & Joseph. Made calls &c. There is one elderly friend in Woolongong named John Wilmot, once from Bristol. After dinner Joseph and I again mounted horseback & accompanied Tenie on a call on a neighbour & a gallop on the beach. Had some singing & Pennington in the evening.

Saturday, May 2nd: Walked before breakfast as usual. After reading, Dr Cox drove Joseph, Joe & Dockle in the dog cart, while I accompanied Tenie & Zippie on horseback to Woolongong & then on to a lovely valley called American Creek, up which we went & visited Kerosene Mine. Kerosene is the oil used almost universally in Australia for lamps & answers pretty well nearly the kerosene or petroleum at home. It is not pumped out of the ground as in America but there is a mine from which a dark coalish-looking mineral is obtained & when put in retorts like Gas works retorts gives forth quantities of Kerosene Oil which is distilled on the spot & largely exported to the other Colonies. The mines are well worth a visit. We who were on horseback rode home by the beach when the horse Tenie was on got frightened & back buck jumped (Australian phrase) & at last threw her rider violently on her head. At first we were all much frightened but after a short time she recovered sufficiently to ride slowly home. The evening spent as usual in this quiet, peaceful house.

Sunday, May 3rd: I could long that my beloved Aunt Fxi. Green was here to pick & eat the rich ripe oranges fresh from the trees, so much more full of flavour & juice than the best we can obtain in England. I believe I never eat any here without thinking of her fondness for them. This morning about 11 o'clock John Wilmot & his son came over from Woolongong to join the little meeting held in Dr Cox's house. The employees of this establishment also present. Zippie read a chapter in the Testament after which we sat for an hour or so, Joseph & I feeling a little ability to address & pray with this very interesting household.

Spent the day quietly reading &c till afternoon when leaving Mrs Cox to mind the premises, the Dr drove Joseph & a servant into Woolongong to tea with a Congregational Minister Mr Charter, an excellent man. Joe, Tinie, Zippie & I followed on horseback, going round by the beach & got to the chapel in good time for the evening service given up to my dear cousin & myself. The chapel is large & was very full - every seat occupied I believe & several standing. We were favored to have a very nice meeting in which much clearness & power was felt by both of us in preaching the unsearchable riches of Christ & the practical nature of all true religion. I never had so great a rush for tracts as at the close - a sea of hands being constantly before me to be supplied. Galloped home the 4 miles in 20 minutes.

Monday, May 4th: After the usual walk before & J. Pennington after breakfast, Dr Cox, Joseph & I rode on horses up the mountain to his farm known as The Mountain farm. I never went a more lovely ride. Truly we are now "where the feathery blue trees rise - and the date grows ripe under sunny skies - and strange bright birds on their starry ways - bear the rich hue of all glorious things." The mountain path winds through such a wilderness of bangoloes, cabbage tree palms, tree ferns & other riches of the Australian forest. I saw a large black snake but he was gone before we could alight from our saddles, which we tried to accomplish quickly to rid the colony of a dangerous reptile. I also saw a wild Bandicoot Dr Cox's farm is on the top of a mountain where for a short time we "abode with him & wrought for by their occupation". They were burning off as it is called i.e by means of levers rolling the great timber trees together & setting fire to them. The farm is not half cleared at present & our toils gave us a little insight into the vast difficulty of clearing Australian forests for cultivation. Home to a late dinner. A walk in the woods with Tenie & Zippie wild gooseberry gathering before tea & a quiet evening hymn singing & Pennington as usual.

Tuesday, May 5th: A quiet morning at our lovely quarters packing up, &c making arrangements &c. After dinner Dr Cox drove & Mrs Cox & ourselves to Woolongong to tea at J. Wilmot's. Tenie & Zippie followed after tea & joined us at the School of Art where was held a large M. Band of Hope & Temperance meeting, which we were both speakers at & it was a capital meeting. Took leave of our dear kind friends after the meeting closed - they riding & driving back to Fairy Meadow & leaving us to lodge at John Wilmot's.

Wednesday, May 6th: After breakfast & John Wilmot drove us 15 miles past Dapto &c & left us on our road where we mounted our knapsacks on our backs & commenced a walk southward. Stopped at Jamberoo to call on a Mr Cullen, an excellent goodly man for whom J.W had given us an introduction. Here we had a truly kind colonial welcome - a cup of tea & a most pressing invitation to stay which however we declined just at present, but had a very uniting time of prayer & a ministry of the Word before parting. We had some lunch with J. Wilmot on the roadside - oranges from Fairy Meadow for desert. After walking 12 miles today we reached Kiama in company with from Jamberoo with a Mr Cousins who had ridden over from Kiama to find us & had telegraphed to Woolongong being earnest we should have a Temperance Meeting at his home.

Mr Cousins has most kindly taken us in to lodge at his somewhat humble cottage & we expect to make Kiama our quarters till Monday D.V. made some calls before bed time.

Thursday, May 7th: Kiama is a lovely little sea port; the waves of the Pacific rolling onto the rock bound shore grandly. This morning we made calls & paid a visit to an old servant of J. & M.M. & Norton's of Woodbridge - her name is Hunt. Visited a wonderful natural basin in the rocks of volcanic origin, called the Blow Hole, through which the sea comes boiling up like the pictures of the Iceland Geysers, over 100 feet high & can be seen & heard 1/2 miles off. Standing in the sides of the basin the sea itself is out of sight which makes the sudden deafening roar & burst of water all the more striking. I hear that many travellers come many miles to Kiama to see this strange & really awful looking sight. Before tea James Wilmot from Woolongong unexpectedly rode into Kiama to join us at the Temperance meeting held in the Court House. We had a nice meeting though very long in gathering; the chair advertised to be ~~arranged~~ taken at 7 o'clock was not occupied till nearly 8 o'clock. The cause flourishes here.

Friday, & May 8th: I took J. Wilmot before breakfast to see the Blow Hole, & after prayer in the Cousins' family, J & I walked, James riding, to Jamberoo where we took up our quarters at Mr Cullin's. This good man has been led to see the unsoundness of the system of clergy & laity as practised in almost all christian churches. His views are much like those of Friends though he has become a member and minister of a body called the United Free Gospel. He is now busy erecting a chapel in Jamberoo, which will be open for any of whatever denomination if they be but true Christians to hold services in. He has an excellent wife & large family; eleven living. The elder sons are like their Father, local lay preachers holding services in any little out of the way place where no regular minister is located. He gave us a hearty welcome & we dined & took tea with them, Mrs & some of the Misses Cullen taking us a stroll round their pretty farm after dinner & after ~~the~~ ~~making~~ tea conducting us a mile into the township of Jamberoo, where we held a meeting in the Wesleyan Chapel - not large but quite satisfactory; a solemn quiet time began & concluded at the especial request of some of the people, with a hymn ~~which~~ which I gave out. When the meeting closed the people all kept their seats till I had gone round among them distributing tracts &c. walked home to Mr Cullin's where we all lodged after a nice time of family worship.

Saturday, May 9th: Rose & I walked about Mr Cullen's place before breakfast. Jamberoo is beautifully situated among the Mountain ranges that skirt the Illawarra district, the Woolongong mountains visible in the dim distance, & the blue & restless ocean five miles off in the east. James Wilmot returned home & we walked back to Kiama where we called at Mr Hill's the Wesleyan Minister & accepted the service for tomorrow evening. Spent the remainder of the day at Mr Hunt's & late in the evening made a moonlight visit to the Blow Hole & surrounding rocks, which we watched till we really became fearful of being moon-struck & came to our old quarters at Mr Cousin's. I have certainly never seen the sea dash up with anything like the splendour it does here on the rock-bound

this morning was again one of great exercise. I early felt called upon to kneel in prayer, that the restraining as well as the constraining power might be felt over us & that if any of us ministered, we might do it of the ability God giveth. Dear F. Cotton soon rose & preached very excellently; Joseph followed, then A. Allen, A. Wood, Joseph Dixon & a soldier dressed in full uniform (a Pitt St Friend) all spoke. F. Cotton added a few more words, & we broke up. We three went to dinner at W. Rokes's. The afternoon meeting was a time of uncommon power: a precious close to our labours among Sydney Friends at present. F. Cotton, Joseph & I all gave valedicting addresses in words of comfort & consolation to our dear friends. The Pitt Street Friends not present. Then Joseph knelt in very fervent prayer & dear P. C followed him. John Palmer & H. H. Newman expressed their earnest desire we might be preserved through all danger & their gratitude to God for having sent us among them. P. C & Joseph again bade farewell in the Lord, & I bent the knee in prayer, that whether we ~~we~~ ever all meet on earth, we may meet around the throne of God in Heaven. Had tea at our lodgings. Met a large company at the Bathurst St Baptist Chapel. A large platform takes the place of a Pulpit, so that there was ample room for F. Cotton to sit by us. A hymn was given out by a deacon & sung. Then I rose & requested a time for silent waiting & spiritual worship. F. Cotton gave a very practical earnest sermon then I ~~we~~ offered prayer & my dear cousin preached excellently. I rose to speak, but the well known denunciatory voice of A. Allen sounded from a distant gallery. It was a trying moment & I lifted up my heart in earnest craving for right direction. It was but for a moment & then I plainly requested A. Allen to sit down - knowing on the one hand the terribly unsound doctrines he now sets forth & on the other that were we to countenance his speaking in a Chapel lent to us, we could probably never borrow another. I felt, & we all feel, I did my obvious duty, though I scarcely remember ever to have had to perform a more painful one. I spoke for some time & then dear Joseph closed in prayer. While I gave a parting benediction, A. Wood rose & claimed a hearing for A. Allen, but a deacon said the meeting was over & so we closed & A. Allen preached in the street against a paid ministry & everybody almost not Friends; We supped at H. P. Fowler's & afterwards H. H. Newman prayed for us & afterwards spoke. Joseph spoke & dear F. Cotton was once more heard in prayer & praise. So ended our last Sunday in Sydney for the present.

Monday, July 15th; wrote up our Journals & packed for Brisbane, before breakfast. Now, dear friends, farewell in the Lord! With very much love to you all

I am yours, very affectionately,
Walter Robson.

Received at Saffron Walden: 9th Mo: 12th 1868.

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PART 11th: QUEENSLAND.

Monday, July 13, 1868: Very busy correcting the proof sheets of the printed reply of Sydney N.M. to the document of Pitt St Friends. This, & posting our English letters occupied me most of the day. Left our comfortable lodgings at about 4 p.m. & met at the wharf a large number of our dear Sydney Frds come to accompany us to the ship. A. Davy, J. Falser, W. Rokes, D. Clarke, H. H. Newman were of the number as well as our very dear & revered Frd F. Cotton, who leaves for Tasmania tomorrow morning. A. Allen was at me very sharply for having stopped him last night, but just parting with so many mutually loving, I did not incline to go deeply into debate but simply told him I felt I had done right. Our vessel, the paddle steamer "Lady Bowen" left the wharf for Brisbane about 500 miles North, at about 6 o'clock p.m. Staid on deck a long while & then came down & under the usual difficulties of the rolling & jolting of a steam ship, wrote this & part of a letter to a dear friend in the colony we are so rapidly leaving. A lovely fine starlight eveng; the southern cross at our stern looking peculiarly bright, shining over some whom we have good cause to love & think about as we steam away northward.

Tuesday, July 14th: A very beautiful day & our steamer so steady that not many are at present ill. I think fully $\frac{1}{2}$ our cabin passengers were xxm at meals, yet of course some are unable to eat with us because they feel indisposed. Spent the day reading on deck or writing in the cuddy & admiring the coast of N.S. Wales which is peculiarly fine & in places very bold & grand. Passed Pt Port Macquarie, where Dr J. C. Nield of Bristol resides, 200 miles north of Sydney. This is the port, where I believe Jas Backhouse found a landing so difficult to accomplish. I think it was an old penal settlement at the time our English people used to send our erring brothers to this lovely colony for their country's good. Of course there are few left now who were transported to Port Jackson, but their descendents are often among the best of the Colonists & highly respectable & much respected men.

Wednesday, July 15th: A quiet day at sea, coasting along the due northwards towards the most northerly of our Australian Colonies. About noon we passed a very fine, rugged mountain close by the shore, Mt Warning. It rises very precipitously from surrounding plains & is visible for many miles. Towards night a strong east wind sprang up & at tea we were a very select company I did not retire till about 11, enjoying the cool sea breezes.

Thursday, July 16th: Rose early to find us steering southwards, inside Moreton Head, in the beautiful scenery of Moreton Bay. The sides are richly wooded & great groves of Bananas, interspersed with peach trees in full blossom, & the waving tall bamboos, give a very tropical effect to the Bay which narrows into a river as we approach Brisbane; finding no one to meet us on the landing place, we breakfasted on board, then had our luggage examined & passed without difficulty by the customs officer & then took a car to the Suburb of Brisbane called Milton, where a very cordial reception awaited us from Rachel Hopkins, at whose house we have now taken up our abode. She is living in a pretty little house in a garden; it was built almost entirely by her son Richard Liberty, who lives a bachelor's life

in Brisbane as a watchmaker & boat builder & carpenter. Her daughter Anna Elizabeth has recently married a Frd, a widower Henry Elcock, whose first wife left him with a little girl. They live with R. Hopkins. Her two sons Francis & William are settled & doing well at Rockhampton, 400 miles north of Brisbane. R.H. looks very little altered, except that she does not wear a cap, but the climate evidently suits both herself & her family well. How little did I think I should see these friends of my childhood in this far off land. (Truly "God's ways are not as our ways, nor His thoughts as our thoughts.") Anna looks just as she did at the time we last met in England. The others I have not yet seen. Their garden looks very un-English with its grove of Bananas & its double & single blossom peach trees. Brisbane is a pretty looking town, not so well built as the other capital cities of the Colonies but I should think well arranged for an almost tropical climate. Spent the afternoon making calls on Frds here of whom there are very few; indeed scarce any members except the Hopkins fraternity; saw Herbert Everett, brother of Albert Everett of Ipswich (England) & as we were talking to him at the ferry he keeps, a gentleman & a little girl came up to cross th Brisbane river. He proved to be Louis Smith, a fellow countryman of mine, son of Susanna Smith of Raine. I had a long talk with him; he is in great affliction from the recent death of a beloved wife, leaving him one little girl to care for. He seemed greatly pleased to meet us. We spent a quiet evening. R. Hopkins very much interested in looking over my album of English likenesses & we had a long talk about my dear ones & many well known to us both.

Friday, July 17th: The sun here in mid-winter is decidedly hotter than our English mid-summer; so hot indeed that I feel thankful we are here now instead of a few months later. However the evngs are cool & the mornngs dewy & misty. Robt. Horsenail who is now staying here, took us a pretty walk in the country to call on his cousin Frederic Horsenail, whom we met at Sydney, but who has now taken a situation at a farm near Brisbane. Back to dinner. I went to town in the afternoon & then wrote letters, which I posted after tea. It is about $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles to the centre of Brisbane from R. Hopkins' house, a pleasant walk mostly along the river side & Brisbane river is very pretty, about $\frac{1}{2}$ a mile wide.

In the evening we recd a very kind call from Benjamin Gilmore Wilson, a baptist minister residing here. He came he said to bid us welcome in the name of our Master & to offer us any help he could afford us. His family are Friends & very interesting are many of the things he told us. When he was under great conflict, believing he would have to give himself up to be a Minister, he attended a Frds Meeting in Ireland, where a woman Frd in the gallery from Waterford, spoke to someone present who must be willing to devote his life to be a minister. This settled him. He knows B. Seebohm, having often attended Bradford Meeting & has a specially precious remembrance of Sarah Harris & her ministry. He conducts his prayer meetings like those of Frds & never calls on anyone to pray. Yet on baptism he is a thorough Baptist. He offers us his chapel whenever we like to have it & being a very

influential man in Brisbane, he has (been?) invited to take over the penal settlements &c. This colony was visited by J.B & G.W. Walker when, I believe, it was only known as a penal settlement & it is only the last 8 years that Queensland has become known or cultivated or populated to any extent.

Saturday, July 18th: I went a pleasant stroll along a bush road before breakfast. After reading we - i.e Joseph & I - went into town, had a swimming bath in the river & called at the Kula Union Bank of which a Mr Turner is manager. He is brother of my friend Turner of Woolongong, who so freely lent me his chapels & his siter is Mrs Thos. Crouch of Melbourne. Made another call & then a stroll in the very pretty Botanical Gardens. The most charming part of them is a large lagoon planted round with bamboos; then the water with bridges over it & the centre composed of a lovely walk & a bed of palms & other tropical productions. The bamboo grows very high & is most graceful, affording a beautiful shade. The wind makes a singular noise in the leaves & canes, a sort of creaking as if (as Joseph remarks) they wanted oiling. The canes are from one to twelve inches round & the leaves a pretty light green, such a contrast to the sombre hue of most of the Australian native foliage. We see not a few aborigines in Brisbane as civilization has not driven them so far into the interior as in the other colonies. They are not so degraded looking as most we have seen in the more southerly caesian climes. Wrote letters & diary in the afternoon. Went to tea at Revl B. Wilson's & spent a very interesting eveng. There, conversing, I think, entirely on religious subjects. Home to R.H's house about 11 o'clock.

Sunday, July 19th: A really soaking wet day, raining without intermission. The little meeting held only once a day, begins at 11 a.m. I think we mustered 12 in number. The meeting house is a decent little building about as ungainly & ugly externally as most of our little Essex meeting houses are. The inside is comfortable - the cedar forms being both here & in Melbourne & Hobart Town a great improvement on unpainted or unvarnished deal. The only members of the society here are Rachel & R.L. Hopkins, Rosamund Smith, whose sister Frank H of Rockhampton married, Henry & A.S. Elcock & his little girl. The others are regular attenders & were there a M.M here, would doubtless become members. We had a nice, open time with this dear little lowly company of worshippers & at the close the certificates & furnished us from England were read by A. Elcock. We had R. Smith & some attenders, the Mansells & Fred & Robt Horsenail to dine. I accompanied H. Elcock in the afternoon to a Sunday School in which he & his wife are Teachers. The attendance today being small, I was requested to address the children instead of dividing into classes, so I took the whole affair, singing, addressing & then praying with them. In the eveng Hy Elcock accompanied us to Mr Wilson's chapel, the ar end of Brisbane. Here we found a rather thin congregation, owing doubtless to the very wet eveng, but we had a favoured meeting. Jos in prayer & then both of us helped in preaching to the people. Mr Wilson closed in earnest prayer for a blessing on our labours & our service this night. I announced a service there for next Wednesday & Sunday.

evens & we came home pretty well drenched.

Monday, July 20th: Another soaking day, having never ceased raining since Saturday night. I walked into town, hoping to find letters by the Sydney mail, but found from bad weather it has not yet arrived. Spent most of the day writing. We notice here the great cheapness of fruit: splendid oranges 3d per doz; bananas 2½d to 3d per doz for the primest I ever ate.

Tuesday, July 21st: A lovely change, the clouds all gone & the bright sun looking cheerfully in at our windows tempted me out for a stroll before breakfast, which however was circumscribed by the floods being out right over the roads. Went into town for letters & before dinner & to call on a Mr Brookes, who wants to enlist our sympathies in what he & some others consider is getting the thin end of the terrible wedge of slavery into Australia. The fact is, sugar plantations have been started in this colony & about 1200 south sea islanders have been imported here to work on them. The general impression is, they come of their free will & are free men here, which by law, they certainly are, but it is believed by many that they are kidnapped from the islands & are badly treated & flogged, like slaves, on the plantations, where perhaps their masters are the only magistrates in the neighbourhood to whom they could legally go for redress. A paper in "The Friend" for March appeared & the subject is taken up in England. I do not yet fully see the rights of the case. In the afternoon Robt. Horsenail (who is a brother of Hy Horsenail of Bulford Mills, Essex) walked out with us 4 miles thro' a bush track to a spot on the bank of the Brisbane River where we took tea at Mr & Mrs Spode's. Mrs Spode is a 1st cousin of the Hopkins, one I well remember & my dear ones at home with will, I expect, as a little girl in deep mourning, staying at H. Hopkin's, by name Ada Dare. She is now the wife of a well-to-do farmer & the mother of a nice little boy. They are banana growers for the Sydney market. Their house is close on the bank of the river & at the edge of a grove of 9 acres of bananas. They have the lucious fruit ripe all the year round & at parting gave us one stalk of fruit weighing about 56 to 60 lbs. We had a nice time of family worship before parting. R. Horsenail had a lantern, which enabled us with some little difficulty to find our track home to R. Hopkin's. We went about ¼ a mile wrong, but retracing our steps, came safely back. The floods being out rendered it rather more than ordinarily difficult. Did not get to bed till near 1 o'clock.

Wednesday, July 22nd: Recd a call from our kind friend B.G. Wilson. He seems longing to devote himself in any way to our service. Then I went into town & called on Walter Wetherhill, a friend converted from the Roman faith. Afternoon H. took us to see a nice Xtian man named Moore, late gardener to H & E Hunt of Bristol. He is a lay preacher & is doing many good works. H. Elcock accompanied us into town in the eveng where we had a 2nd public meeting in B. Wilson's chapel. Still a rather thin attendance, but I believe a good meeting concluded by B. Wilson again in prayer. He walked home with us & seems to enjoy being in the company of those who belong to the same section of the church as he once did.

Thursday, July 23rd: Went a nice refreshing walk before breakfast. R. Horsenail walked into town with us after reading & B.G. Wilson soon met us & devoted the morn'g to us. He took us to the Sheriff for an order, speedily granted, for a visit to the gaol tomorrow. Then to the colonial secretary (secretary of state) who was very kind to us & said: "I should like to do anything I can to assist you, but I can only think of one thing - a free pass to travel gratis on all the railways in this colony." We gratefully accepted his kindness & just before we left him the Prime Minister entered & we were introduced to him; he shook hands with us & was very kind. Then we went to the office of the Minister of Lands. He gave us the required tickets to travel, any time during our stay in Queensland, thro' any part or by any railway, free of cost. This is a privilege only granted to gospel ministers. Called on Matilda, the wife of Ed. Barrimore, a friend (non-member) & had a nice chat with her; she is truly a pious woman. I omitted to state the Colonial Secretary gave us an order to go next Monday by the Government Steamer to St. Helena an island out in the bay, a ~~penal~~ penal settlement, where none are allowed to land except by permission of government. We do feel this kind courtesy very cordial to our minds. In the afternoon Jos went to call at the Mansill's & I wrote letters &c. We went to tea at Mr Turner's the manager of the Union Bank. He is brother to my kind friend Turner of Woollongong. Here we spent a very pleasant & I hope improving evening, closing with prayer & ministry.

Friday, July 24th: We went into town this morn'g & called on Mr Wetherhill &c. In the afternoon we met our kind friend B.G. Wilson at the gates of the gaol & were soon introduced to the gaoler & he at once ordered the prisoners to be collected in "a large upper room" furnished & prepared. About 50, all men, attended & among the rest, a celebrated bush-ranger (ie high-way-man) called "The Wild Scotchman". He has only recently been captured & is sentenced for 25 years imprisonment. They all behaved with great attention & quietness. Jos read them the chapter in Luke containing the act of the prodigal son & I engaged in fervent prayer for the poor fellows, after which we all 3 were, I believe well helped in preaching repentance towards God & faith, "living faith" in our Lord Jesus Christ, earnestly entreating them all, leaving the past black pages in their history, to come now & accept the offers of redeeming love & if life be spared & liberty regained, to seek for daily strength to overcome all their easily besetting sins. It felt good to be there. Jos & I went to tea at Mr Brooke's, a wealthy ironmonger in town, an excellent man, the champion of the opposition of the introduction of South Sea Island Slavery into the Colony. Here we met several gentlemen, one a Mr Stephens, one of the legislative assembly of Queensland, another Mr Harding, a Wesleyan Minister who lived at Darlington & knows the Peases & Backhouses &c. We spent a long & deeply interesting evening conversing almost entirely on the subject of this new phase of slavery & closed with reading & prayer, both of which privileges fell to my share. Certainly something ought to be done very decidedly to stop the kidnapping & importing of

these poor South Sea Islanders. Of course they are nominally free, like all other emigrants, but settled as they are at sugar or cotton plantations hundreds of miles in the interior, unable to speak English & driven to their work by the overseer's whip, the only magistrate they can complain to being their own master, their condition is really that of slaves & to make bad matters worse, the legislature have just passed enactments to legalize, by regulations, this sad business, settling by law what food & clothing shall be given the poor fellows & how much room on ship board. A few weeks ago the "Latonia", a little vessel of only 60 tons, landed 180 of these unfortunate creatures. I hope our own English Government will send out its veto on it all. They are imported with no philanthropic feeling whatever, but because the squatters who grow cotton & sugar find they can get these men cheaper & feed, pay & clothe them worse, than they can European labourers.

Saturday, July 25th; Wrote letters & then took them into town to post. Joined by Mr Wilson we crossed the river on one of the ferries which are legion in the Brisbane river, & dined & had tea at the house of a nice Xtian gentleman named Somerset. In the afternoon we walked to a Mr Cameron's to call. He & Mr Somerset have nice gardens on the river's bank. Returned after tea to our quarters & spent the evening writing &c.

Sunday, July 26th; A nice quiet walk alone before breakfast. Had a solemn meeting in the morning in which we were both engaged in prayer & in preaching to the little flock in words of hope & love. H. Elcock also spoke very nicely. Ed Barrimore & Walter Wetherhill to dine. The evening meeting at the baptist chapel was very large & a crowning one. At Mr Wilson's request, he commenced by giving out a hymn after which I read Hebrews xii; Jos offered prayer & then we both were well helped & strengthened to declare to the large audience, as far as we knew it, the whole counsel of God. I knelt in prayer & then B. Wilson spoke for some time in unison with what we had spoken. A great many tracts distributed at the close. Came to our quarters with thankful hearts, having both felt father more than usually low at the prospect of the meeting. The dear people press us to take more services, but I think as other chapels are offered to us, we must hardly identify ourselves solely with one body of Xtians.

Monday, July 27th; Rose at 6 o'clock; had an early breakfast & at 7 o'clock met our dear friend Mr Wilson at the wharf & went with him on board H.M.S "Kate". Being a government vessel, only those are allowed to travel by her who have an order form from the colonial secretary. We had therefore a very select company: a doctor, a high church clergyman, a police magistrate, a visiting ~~magistrate~~ justice, a military officer & another legal magistrate. Had a 1st-rate breakfast, dinner & tea on board this beautifully fitted little steamship. Our first stopping place was about 3 hours steam from the wharf to the island of St "Elean" (called after another isle of exile). It lies out in Moreton Bay & is a pleasantly situated spot only a few miles in circumference, about the size of Sark or rather bigger. This is the penal settlement of Queensland. Certainly imprisonment would be preferable on an island with the blue sea instead of stone walls for the boundary.

About 130 prisoners are here, all men. We were landed in a boat & driven by one of the prisoners in a cart up the soft beach onto the main land, where we talked with several of the poor men & visited those who were sick, speaking a few words of comfort to them. All the men here are in for long terms, 20-25 or 30 yrs or for life. They look well & happy, but those who are illk seen sadly cast down & they have no kind of religious instruction except a visit once a fortnight from a minister - & he is generally an Episcopalal clergyman. After spending an hour or two on St. Helena, we left Mr Bliss the clergyman we had brought to conduct a service with the prisoners & also left the magistrates we had on board & took the steamer 20 miles further to Stradbroke island, a long strip of land protecting Moreton Bay from the sea. Landed in a boat at Fox Dunwich, which is a little settlement on Stradbroke where aged invalids of both sexes are sent from Brisbane & fed, clothed, lodged & boarded at Government expense. We got an old man to ring a big bell & soon assembled the old women in a large bed room, where one or two old ladies were bed-ridden. Here we held a meeting, commencing with a chapter (John III) by Joseph. Then I offered prayer & then Jos, Mr Wilson & I addressed our aged sisters, many of whom are very feeble & great sufferers. Leaving them we had the bell rung again to muster the old men into one of their bedrooms, where were several confined to bed & here we conducted a service similar. Joseph offering very earnest prayer for the poor old fellows. They all seemed very thankful for the visit, but I fear they are in a low, neglected state, both spiritually & outwardly. The steamer, their only means of communication with the main land, only calls once a week for an hour or two & the Doctor then takes his hurried turn round among them. Ministers do not visit Dunwich so often as they do St. Helena, owing doubtless to the English & colonial sympathy with crime, so much more than with poverty. When we asked them for a bible, they had hard work to find one & when it came it required the application of an apron to remove the dust. This, however I attribute to many of the inmates being Romanists, few able to read & that most Ministers would bring bibles with them. At parting we recd a very hearty "God bless you" from many of them & felt thankful for our visit, having been helped in preaching to these poor old colonists. They are free to leave the island when they choose & 4 came away with us in the steamer. One of them is to be sent home to his wife in England at Government expense, another has come in to some property, a third could not stay at Dunwich because they did not allow him quite enough tobacco. We greatly enjoyed our trip, the company so select, the steamer so luxurious, the cause so good. It often reminded me in scenery of a tour by steam ship on the west coast of dear old Scotland. We had the lovely moon to light us up the river to Brisbane, which we reached at 8 o'clock p.m. & accompanied Mr Wilson to a bible class in his vestry composed of young men & we very much enjoyed a free interchange of religious sentiment & hearing a short essay by one of the members on the "Atonement of Christ". Called at a Mr Petty's, a baptist's & came in Mr Wilson's carriage to our quarters, after a very interesting & I hope a profitable

day.

Tuesday, July 28th: Went into town in the vain hope of getting letters, but the Sydney mail has come in without any for us. Wrote letters & then went to dinner at Ed & Matilda Barrimore's. They are very nice people, professing with, but not in membership with Frds. Made calls in the afternoon & to tea in Milton with Wm Moore, the old gardener of H & Eliza Auntz of the Fort, Bristol. He took us over his garden of 6 acres; he grows pineapples for Sydney market, such as we never see at home for size or flavour. A favorite preserve here is the rosella, ~~composed~~ composed entirely of the petals of a flower which grows abundantly in the gardens. After tea we went with him to a meeting of the Band of Hope, in which he is the principal mover. Had a very crowded meeting, as many outside listening as there could be crammed into the interior. After some of the children had recited capitally & we both had spoken, a stranger gentleman rose at the bottom of the meeting & wished to say a few words. He was asked on to the platform & as by his appearance he looked like a publican, we expected an opposition, but to our pleasure found our new friend, weighing 18 stone, to be a teetotaler of 33 yrs standing & I never heard a much more telling address than he gave. We finished with a hymn & came to our lodgings at about 10 o'clock.

Wednesday, July 29th: Met Mr Wilson's carriage & rode in it to his house & had a long talk with him, his wife & a Mr Buzzacott staying with him. He had planned to take us to a meeting at Oxley Creek tomorrow, but our temperance friends are so earnest for one of us to attend a meeting in support of that cause here that we have now decided for Jos to go to Oxley & me to stay here & join him in Ipswich the next day or the day after. Thence we walked into town & called on a Mr Alfred Davidson, who knows R. ~~Wright~~ Chartton. He wished to converse with us about the Aborigines of this colony, who he considers are most unjustly used. He told us of many instances of cruel injustice to them on the part of our fellow countrymen, who seem to think them in the way & on the slightest provocation will shoot them down like dogs. Indeed before we had landed a week in Australia we heard the sad fact that an Englishman, a farmer finding the poor natives were stealing his flour, mixed ~~xxx~~ arsenic with it & poisoned over 100 of the poor untaught savages, whom the christian English have never ~~kneght~~ cared to teach that God has said: "Thou shalt not steal". In this colony nothing is being done, except it be privately, to evangelize them & there is a large camp only 4 miles from Brisbane. We have seen many of both sexes, the gaunt looking savages & their wives (or "gins" as they call them here, or "lubias" in S. Australia & Victoria). Today before breakfast I had a long talk with a poor fellow who could speak a little English & seemed very glad to be spoken kindly to. The government of this colony have set up over them, native police, men picked from their number to keep order among the rest, but the result is the kill any who do not please them, & I fully believe taking Australia tho' the general feeling is that the colonists would be glad to get rid of them all at any price. Were I in England I would certainly lay some dark facts before the "Aboriginal Protection Society" & if I can collect facts will (D.V) send them home for

the information of those who are interested in this neglected race, the real rightful owners of Australia, which was originally planned out by them into huge hunting grounds. They are dying out very fast. Their babies (piccaninies) often do not live to grow up. Our hearts are often sad to think of how badly the Xtian settlers have treated the rightful owners of the soil. We went to tea this eveng at Rd. Mansill's. He & his wife are not members but regular attenders of our meeting. We spent a pleasant eveng with them, closing with a long season of family worship in which we both addressed our Frds & then X R. Mansill & Jos offered prayer.

Thursday, July 30th: I went a most delightful stroll before breakfast in the woods near R. Hopkins. The bush scenery here is more varied than in the southern colonies, where the eucalyptus is the only kind of tree, whose olive green casts a very sombre hue over the landscape. Here also grow the gum trees, but there are mimosae of varied kinds & beautiful creepers hanging to the topmost ~~xxxx~~ boughs of the great trees in splendid festoons. The wild laugh of the jackasses, the cry of the curlew, the screech of the cockatoos & parrots gave a thoroughly un-Englishness to the Australian scenery & when added to this the half-naked savage with his "milla milla" or "bomerang" in his hand & by his side his "gin" with her red blanket & her "piccanini" on her back, cross the bush track, one realizes that this is a land where nature unadorned is yet holding sway. Yet now after nearly 10 ~~xxxx~~ mos in the colonies we get used to these things & they no longer look strange & new to us. I often imagine perhaps dear old England (with her oaks instead of gum trees) presented much the same appearance when the Romans first visited the ~~xxxx~~ us. Made a call at the servants home to visit the matron, Rosamond Smith, a youngish friend from ~~xxxx~~ Braintree. She seems to be filling a very useful post there & was the chief mover in the establishment of a home for servants fresh imported from England or without situations. The house is well arranged & is believed to be the coolest house in Brisbane; all the rooms open ~~ix~~ into a very large hall open to the roof with an immense ventilator. Walked out to B.G. Wilson's to dine. Here Jos & I parted, he on horseback with Mr Wilson to have a service at Oxley Creek en route for Ipswich this evening, while I walked back into town to attend a Temperance meeting. This seemed to be the best arrangement that could be made, as both the Brisbane & Oxley Creek people put in a claim for us. I went to tea at Walter Witherill's & he accompanied me to the meeting, which was not very large, but those who were there were most attentive to what was said to them. I ret'd to my quarters with Henry B. Elcock.

Friday, July 31st: Helped R. Horsenail & H. B. Elcock in preparing for a tour in the bush to investigate some land they contemplate purchasing. When they were gone I went ~~xx~~ a long lonely walk in the beautiful ~~x~~ bush, to a lovely creek along which I wandered collecting ferns &c, which grow in rich profusion along the sides of the water, as well as the rich dark foliage of the burrawongs & the bright green leaves & pretty yellow tufts of blossom on the mimosae. The green grass beneath my feet & the deep blue cloudless sky over my head & the loneliness of

of the place, its stillness only occasionally interrupted by the sharp shrill note of the "coachman bird" seemed to inspire my mind with a feeling of awe & to lift my soul for awhile up from nature to her ~~g~~ God, "who sendeth the springs into the valleys which run among the hills" & who "crowneth the year with His goodness, so that His paths drop fatness." Went into town before dinner & round several letters for both of us from Sydney & one for me from Wollongong. H.H. Newman tells of painful proceedings on the part of our Pitt St Friends since we left them. A good acct from Geo Sayce of our dear Melbourne Frds. In the afternoon I wrote letters & then posted them. In the evening I packed up for Ipswich &c. This according to the day of the week, is the anniversary (52 weeks today) of my leaving dear old Saffron Walden & I seem often in thought to be living over some of those fond memories again. We have travelled over 20,000 miles since then & here we are preserved in pretty good health "monuments of mercy", even the sparing love & mercy of our God., thro' Christ Jesus. Truly our souls should be filled far more than mine often is with gratitude & praise for all the blessings we enjoy & that our dearly loved ones at home are partakers of the rich blessings of Him whose hand is full of blessing, I cannot doubt.

Saturday, Aug 1st: Rose early & had breakfast & at 6.30 left R.Hopkin's on foot for the steam wharf for Ipswich. But having to carry Joseph's & my bags, both very heavy - full 56 lbs each, after about 1/2 a mile my chest took bad & I found it literally impossible to proceed, so set down my burdens till a man came by who for a shilling agreed to carry one bag tho' he groaned under its weight. As it was, I just reached the wharf in time to see the steamer start without me. Left my luggage at the coach office & walked quietly back to R.Hopkin's in time for a 2nd breakfast. After reading R.Hopkins accompanied me a long lovely walk up a high hill & along a densely wooded range to a part higher than the rest, cleared of its timber & called "One Tree Hill". Here we rested, R.Hopkins feeling tired with our long walk but as it was her first visit to this lovely spot, she & I both felt well repaid for our fatigue by the splendid view over river, bay, island & the dense forests of gum & mimosa trees, stretching mile after mile over hills & plains & vallies, occasionally diversified by a little bit of cleared land, where some adventurous emigrant has selected his government grant of land & cleared & tilled & cultivated it & built his little bark hut upon it. Descended to a late dinner & then I walked into Brisbane & to my dismay learned at the office that the coach was quite full. However having stated that it was quite necessary I should go by it, the driver said I might lie on the roof which tho' not very comfortable, I was glad to accept. Just before taking my seat, or rather roof, a strange gentleman came up to me, shook hands & said: "You do not know me, nor I you, but I heard you preach on Sunday night & I bless God for it. Good bye." He walked away & we started, being ferried - coach & 5 horses - over the river at Herbert Everett's ferry. Day light soon merged into brilliant moon light, which made the drive in the cool of the evening very pleasant, bush fires occasionally lending their lurid glare. Reached Ipswich at 9 p.m. Joseph kindly meeting me at the coach office. He is staying at a fine house,

the grammar school, kindly entertained there by the principal, Mr Hawthorn. I am ~~as~~ as comfortably provided for at Mr Leaver's the Presbyterian minister. He knows J.G. Richardson & Jonathan Grubb & has a high esteem for Frds. He & I sat talking by the fire (a superfluity in my view) till nearly ~~at~~ midnight.

Sunday, Aug 2nd: My host is a philanthropist & takes in to lodge in the hay loft & feeds every Saturday night & Sunday, some half dozen south sea islanders who work at a neighbouring sugar plantation. They are Xtians but speak little or no English, but seem to wish to attend Divine Service somewhere & so Mr Lewers makes a home for them & they attend his chapel. They came in to family worship & tried to join in the hymn "we sing of the realms of the blest". In Mr Lewer's prayer he occasionally used the word "Malkassi", the Mari (sic) name for God. This he does to let the poor fellows know he is praying to the same God they have been taught to worship. With the exception of hymns the morning service was given up to Jos & me, in the presbyterian church, a splendid building costing several thousand pounds, with a lofty spire. The church was well filled & we had a good meeting, in which we were both enabled to declare to the assembly the transforming regenerating nature of true religion, &c. The latter half of today was very wet, but our time being very limited in Ipswich we went to dine at Mr Hawthorn's at the Grammar School, where we sat at table with 20 interesting, well behaved ~~gan~~ young gentlemen & their teachers. Then we waded over mud & wet grass to call on an old man living in the country, a market gardener, a Friend named Youfe from Barnstable. He is known to the Veal family. He had a bad wife & a family to watch but they are all either dead or gone away & he lives a hermits life in a clean little house of two rooms. He is so deaf that the only way we could address him was by bellowing close into his ear. He seems in a most happy state, wanting for nothing. He gave us a most hearty welcome & insisted on our partaking very largely of some clotted cream (a la Devonshire) of his own preparing. When we left him, to our amusement he gave us each a most fatherly benediction & a hearty kiss. We attended Mr Lewer's evening service, but owing to the heavy rain only about a score people were scattered over the great building.

Monday, Aug 3rd: J & I met at the railway station at Ipswich & availing ourselves of the colonial secretary's kind grant, travelled free of cost 80 miles to Toowoomba. The line lies thro' the bush most of the distance, but the last 15 miles is up the side of a mountain, so circuitous that it takes 32 miles & by rail to go 12 "as the crow flies". But the views high up are grand in the extreme. We came very slowly so that we gave many tracts to workmen on the line, which were kindly read & on looking back, appeared to be read by the men. On reaching Toowoomba we took up our quarters at the Royal Hotel, a comfortable inn. After dining we went to the Post Office & enquired for Chas. Jas. Long, this being the address his Father gave us a year ago. It would be well if one of my dear ones would inform Chas Long that his son is now gone to the New Queensland diggings at Gympie, to which there is now a great rush of diggers. His postal address will therefore be Gympie Post Office, Queensland.

whether we shall go to Gympie I know not, & even if we do it will be very doubtful if we meet him. We then went a stroll in the country & then came in & spent the evening writing. We intend to post our letters from here tomorrow, fearing being too late for the English mail & knowing our dear ones would rather have 3 weeks news than risk not sending them in time for next mail. We shall not be able to acknowledge letters from home this time, as the English letters do not get to Queensland till 10 days later than they reach Adelaide. I may very thankfully report us to be in good health & tho' often labouring on in great poverty of spirit, & feeling of our own entire insufficiency for the work before us, yet we are often bound, reluctantly to acknowledge that God's strength is made perfect in our weakness & evidences are still granted us that our labours are owned & blessed by the Lord. Tho' I often long inexpressibly to be at home with my dearly loved parents & brothers & sisters, yet there is not now the feeling of being strangers in a land of strangers as we did on 1st landing. We have many dear friends in all the five colonies we have visited, who love us & whom we dearly love & this does much to reconcile us to our nomadic life, yet to a warm lover of home & settlement, I do often long for a quiet settled life at home again in England. Yet I humbly trust the breathing of my soul is "not my will, but thine, O Lord, be done." That God may for Jesus' sake be very gracious to you all, dear ones, is with very dear the prayer of yours

Very affectionately
Walter Robson.

received at Saffron Walden: Oct 11. 1866.

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PART TWELFTH: QUEENSLAND Continued.

Tuesday, Aug 4th. 1868: I omitted to mention one great peculiarity in the Queensland Railways - the great narrowness of the guage: only 3ft x 6 inches wide, making the carriages very foreign & unnatural looking to our English eyes. The object in having the guage so narrow is for additional safety in ~~turning~~ turning the sudden corners which are constant while ascending the steep side of the mountain range at the summit of which stand Toowoomba, where we now are. Had some enquiries to make for a man named Patino supposed ~~to~~ by his deserted wife to be in Toowoomba. Then walked three miles into the Bush to call on Dr Helanson, the Presbyterian Minister here who is the oldest Divine in the Colony - he seemed to know very little of Friends, being from Scotland, but having ascertained from us that we are believers in the great truth of the Gospel of Christ, he has kindly consented to our taking the morning service at his church here next Sunday. Left him & got our meeting advertised. Back to our hotel to dine at 1 o'clock. Then packed up & posted our letters for the English mail this morning, intending to leave for Warwick by coach this afternoon, 50 miles. The drive was one of the roughest we have yet been, no made road, only a track across the wide table land called Darling Downs, scarce a house or a tree except some ghostly looking grass trees, the greater part of the way. Stopped for a few minutes to change horses three times, the last at a little village where we managed to get a little supper, but the former two are merely stables by the road side where horses & a man are kept for the purpose. The jolting was something really terrible, sometimes almost throwing us off ~~our~~ our seats & then bumping our heads against the coach top - happily a leather one. Did not reach Warwick till 1/4 to 2 o'clock in the morning of :

Wednesday, Aug 5th: Not long before we retired to rest at the very comfortable Commercial Hotel at Warwick & did not feel in any hurry to rise. After breakfast we called on a Mr Hawthorn, of the Ipswich family & found from him that the Presbyterian Minister for whom we had an introduction, lives 14 miles away, so we shall not be able to call on him. Called to see Mr Roots the Wesleyan minister, who gave us a cordial welcome as we could wish to have. He at once offered us his chapel, which we accept for tomorrow evening. Then to the printers for some notices & found the printer had been living in York & knows York Friends very well so he too was very kind & hearty & will do all in his power to get us up a good meeting. Thus in a place of perfect strangers we find those who are willing to assist us in any way they can. Walked to Rosenthal Station, a large sheep & cattle ride ~~some~~ about two miles from Warwick to see a young friend, Seymore Melford, son of Ellen Palmer of Sydney & great nephew of cousin Wm Bell. He seems a very nice young man & occupies the position of clerk on one of the immense stock farms in which Australia abounds; ~~containing many of them several hundred thousand head of sheep & cattle.~~ containing many of them several hundred thousand head of sheep & cattle. We dined & had a pleasant time with him. Spent the afternoon writing. Warwick is a very pleasantly situated little town-ship, about the same size as Toowoomba, but a much cleaner,

place every way. We went to tea with Mr Roote's, the Wesleyan minister & much enjoyed his company. It being his service night we accompanied him to his chapel, but finding only an audience of 3 or 4 souls, after we had sung a hymn instead of the regular service, we all engaged in prayer, the minister x twice, sung another hymn & closed with an excellent address from dear Joseph. Altogether it felt to us to be a time of refreshing from the presence of the Lord. I returned to our hotel & wrote till bed time.

Thursday, Aug 6th: My precious Priscie's birthday; the day was spent together at Plymouth. Oh! what would I give to be with her now, but how sweet to feel we do often meet at the throne of Grace in prayer for one another. I omitted to mention yesterday that at the Printing Office here the manager handed me the Ipswich paper, from which he culled the following: I know not from whose hands it can have come except it be from the Presbyterian minister. "The following has been forwarded to us for publication - J.J. Neave & W. Robson ministers of the Society of Friends from England officiated in the St Stephen's Church last Lord's Day. There was a very large attendance & ~~xxxx~~ their ministry of the Gospel fully possessed of earnest faith & love to God, His people & perishing sinners, preached the Salvation of the God of love with impressive & devout fervency, which by the Spirit of God, touched the hearts & consciences of the worshippers we hope & pray to present & everlasting profit. Lasting fruits from their Gospel visit to our Colony, we believe, shall be realized. It is also hoped another opportunity shall be had of having the simple, saving, loving truth as it is in Jesus, from the lips of these devoted & God fearing Missionaries of the Cross of Christ, on their return from the Interior, of which due notice shall be given to the peoples of Ipswich." I believe it is with no desire for self glory that I have copied this extract, but I know it will interest my dear ones at home to see how cordially we are sometimes received where Friends have never been before, & we find these occasional notices help to pave the way for us, & it will be readily believed that when we come to a town of perfect strangers there is something rather comforting in the remark: "Oh yes we have read of you in the papers." We spent most of today writing letters to friends in the Colonies, also in a nice quiet country walk. After tea we held our meeting in the Wesleyan chapel which was well filled & what it is far better, was a time of great & especial favor, in which we were both well helped in preaching to the people, who seem a nice simple-hearted company. Spent a little time afterwards with Seymour Metford.

Friday, Aug 7th: Sending our bag back to Toowoomba by coach, the morning being a favourable one, cloudy yet fine, we walked x 15 miles to a little township we had passed by coach when en route for Warwick last Tuesday. Its name is L Allora. Took up our quarters at a little Public House & then called on a nice christian man named Hardwick, a blacksmith, for whom Mr Roote's had given us an introduction, & consulted him as to the possibility of getting up a meeting there for that evening. He gave us a cordial welcome & said he would do all in his power to aid us, so Joseph went one way, I another & the blacksmith a third

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& called at almost every house ~~in~~ & humpy (bark house) within a mile of Allora, leaving tracts, except where the inhabitants being thorough Roman Catholics would not receive them. Took a tea in the good but poverty stricken blacksmith's humpy & then went to the little chapel where we mustered about 40 persons & had a nice comfortable ~~xxxxxxx~~ relieving meeting. Though there is something peculiarly solemn in visiting places & seeing faces, we never expect to meet or see again till we ~~xxxx next~~ all meet at the great judgement seat. Oh to be as the Apostle Paul, "pure from the blood of all men", having not shunned to declare to them in the ability He alone can give "the whole counsel of God." Retired after a little painful exhibition of intoxication in the public house, to tolerably clean & comfortable beds.

Saturday, Aug 5th: Eight years today since the marriage of my precious sister Elizabeth to Joseph Alexander, & one year today since I gave the last loving embrace to my own precious parents & sisters at Plymouth, & then embarked on board the good ship "Yatala". Today we left Allora at 8 o'clock on foot, taking a few sandwiches in our pockets & walked over the Darling Downs 35 miles to Toowoomba, which we reached at 8 o'clock p.m. The day favored our walking, being cooler than usual, a cool south wind at our backs helping us on our long tramp. Most of our course lay over long grassy plains with no trees except a few most unnatural looking grass trees, 12 to 20 feet high & between the plains, ridges of hills to cross over, thinly wooded. Stopped by a little running stream (alias a creek) where we could accompany our sandwiches with some good cold water, greatly refreshing our rather exhausted frames. Stopped & had tea at a wayside inn 8 miles from Toowoomba & then very, very footsore & weary made our last tramp into Toowoomba. I suffered most, being thoroughly knocked up, hardly able to move on reaching our Hotel. I never valued those nice slippers dearest Mother & Priscie worked for me so much as when I changed my boots & put my poor blistered swollen feet into them tonight. But tired as we both were, we did not regret our long walk as it was the only way we could have adopted to see the people at Allora.

Sunday, Aug 9th: Having been ~~kak x~~ too weary & aching to sleep more than two or three hours, I felt very little fitted to appear in the capacity of a Gospel preacher today. Dear Joseph had fared better, having had a good night. My chest is suffering the effects of overexertion today, but surely having walked as far in search of the falls of Glomak in Scotland & exerted so much for the pleasures of Mount Blanc I should not shrink from the fatigue of doing the same for His dear sake who shed his blood for me on Calvary! Walked to the Presbyterian Church, feeling so faint & ill I thought I could not enter the pulpit, but the strength came at the required time & I never felt more helped I think, than in preaching to the large congregation who filled Dr Nelson's church this morning. Dined & had tea at our Hotel & spent the afternoon quietly resting & reading & then a gentle walk to remove as much as possible stiffness from our weary frames. In the evening Joseph went to the Wesleyan Chapel to attend the service there & I to the English Episcopal, where the minister preached a sermon that would hardly have come ~~sniss~~ from our

worthy elder George Fox, being on the subject of the undwelling of God's Holy Spirit in the heart, the possibility of quenching it & the constant need of abiding in Christ, the living vine. I felt I could ask a blessing on the service.

Monday, Aug 10th: Spent most of the morning writing letters, especially to people whom we want to aid us in arranging meetings in little places. Left Toowoomba for Dalby by rail at about 3.30 p.m. & reached Dalby at 6. Took up our quarters at the Criterion Hotel & after dining called on Mr Grim the Presbyterian minister, who we found to be a loving spirited, earnest man, quite prepared to get us up a meeting & to aid us in any way in his power. He arranged for us to breakfast with him tomorrow & to spend the day together. He said he had read of us in the papers & wondered if we should leave Queensland without ~~xxx~~ a visit to Dalby. He gives a very low account of religion amongst the wealthy squatters, the owners of the immense cattle or sheep stations, which occupy the interior of this vast Colony. Some of the Cattle stations are as big as all Yorkshire & Lincolnshire & the owner is a sort of Autocrat in his vast estate. If he be a Christian he may exercise a vast deal of good influence over his shepherds & other employees, but as alas! is most often the case he is not even a professing Christian, he lets all kinds of religion go, he keeps no sabbath & the only religious observance he has is during the chance visit of some Gospel Minister. Since we have been in the interior ~~we xxxxxxxx~~ & ~~xxx~~ we have seen & conversed a little with some of these lords of Australia & find them for the most part thorough gentlemen, many of them have a seat in the Queensland parliament, but one is pained to hear the constant swearing & taking the name of God in vain, & they attend no place of worship when in towns, speaking of Sundays as "a great bore". Spent the remainder of this evening writing.

Tuesday, Aug 11th: Went a walk through Dalby. It is a quiet scattered little township, as flat as Cambridgeshire & has been entitled the "city of the plain". This is the furthest point the railway has penetrated to in the interior of Queensland about 150 miles inland from Brisbane. There are, however, cattle & sheep stations 500 miles further in the interior. Called on Mr Grim the Presbyterian Minister & he having no Chapel of his own, but holding their services in a Courthouse, now being repaired, took us with him to see the Congregational Minister, a Mr Kirby. He seemed delighted to see us & to our surprise told us he was educated at the Friends School at Sibford. His aged mother resides with him & she was born & brought up a Friend at Buckingham. Her mother she says was a Minister named Johanna Coles, & she well remembers going to High Wycombe to Uncle Edmond's, & also she recollects Uncle William & Aunt Nancy Green. She married out of the Society to a Mr Kirby, but seems to have a deep attachment still for Friends. She spoke of cousin Maria Smith of Highbury & of other friends I know something of. It was indeed a pleasant surprise to us here at Dalby to find some who even know our kindred. We dined at Mr Grim's & in the afternoon wrote out notices for a meeting tomorrow evening in Mr Kirby's church & then he took us to call on many of his parishioners & among the rest to see a young gentleman, the son of very wealthy parents in England

who has lately taken to drinking & is going to Eternal ruin as fast as he will can. He spoke ~~to~~ very plainly to him but he was too much intoxicated to take much notice of what we said. We also invited a few persons to a little public meeting in the cottage of a carnie old Scotch lady who is a sort of Kother in Israel in Dally. This was held at 8 p.m & proved a nice comfortable meeting, those present being I think, serious people & very attentive.

Wednesday, Aug 12th: Spent most of the morning in our Hotel writing. Went to dinner & tea at Mr ~~xx~~ Kirby's & devoted the afternoon to calling on his people. The Episcopalian Clergyman met us & walked to Mr Kirby's with us; His name is Moberly & he is a remarkably spiritually-minded man, who though himself high church is prepared to give a welcome to all & to bid all "God Speed" who love the Lord Jesus Christ in sincerity. We had a very precious meeting in Mr Kirby's Church, which was quite full & so quiet. All three Protestant Ministers; Grim, Moberly & Kirby were there & expressed their unity & thankfulness after the service was over.

Thursday, Aug 13th: Left Dally at 6.50 a.m by train, a really cold morning, ~~xx xxxxxx~~ ice as thick as a lid covering all the ponds & waterholes - the first ice except at table we have seen since the English winter of 1866-7. The trains on this line do not travel fast, so that on both journeys we have given tracts to all the workmen & others we have passed on the road, thus sowing seed broadcast, but they have been almost invariably picked up carefully & read. Had some refreshments at Toowoomba & then continued our journey down the main range to Gatton, where we had written to have a meeting arranged for us. Put up at a neat little Hotel & spent the afternoon visiting the few scattered inhabitants of this ~~xxx~~ tiny township, containing ~~xxxxxx~~ perhaps 20 houses & humpies & ~~xxx~~ distributing tracts & inviting the people to a meeting in the evening. This began at about 8 o'clock & by as there is not Protestant place of worship at Gatton ~~xx~~ ~~xxxx~~ was held in a large room in a vacant public house. About 30 people present & a time of renewal for us in which strength was mercifully given us both to preach to these neglected Australian "Repentance towards God & faith in our Lord Jesus Christ." We wondered to see so many considering it ~~was~~ was a dark night & it is not here as in England where there are roads well made & hedged but in these little townships we have to grope our way among fallen trees & stumps, hills & holes, puddles & great ant hills (3 to 6 ft high) & where it is often far easier to tumble down than to maintain the perpendicular.

Friday, Aug 14th: After breakfast we went a lovely stroll along the river side, gathering ferns with other curiosities, among others the immense pods of the palm tree, a splendid evergreen tree that flourishes in this tropical climate with rich dark green foliage & grand red blossom which at the season almost covers the trees with a mass of magnificent scarlet flowers like red coral. Then came to our little Hotel & wrote letters & c till time to get ready ~~xxx~~ for the train forward towards Ipswich. Alighted at Walloa, one station short of Ipswich, to call on a good gentleman & lady, friends of Mr Wilson of Brisbane named Phelps, who gave us a

gave us a cordial greeting & insisted on our staying the night x with them. They are cotton growers & we visited their plantations; the season of picking is now & itx was to me a very new experience & very interesting. Had a nice time with these dear people before retiring to rest.

Saturday, Aug 15th: Walked nine miles into Ipswich, where we dined at Mr Lewer's, the Presbyterian minister. Made calls in the afternoon & had tea at Mr William's, the Mayor of Ipswich & a great friend of the late Joseph Sturge. Had a nice evening there, closing with reading & prayers.

Sunday, Aug 16th: A very warm morning; it seems hardly possible that we should have had a frost last Thursday, but it is much colder on the Table Land at the summit of the mountain range than in the flat below. We conducted the service at St Stephens this morning & had a large congregation & felt it a season of renewed favor, being owned & blest of the Lord. Joseph dined at Mrs Macdonald's & I at Mr Gibson's, the bank manager, a Glasgow gentleman. We met at St Stephens in the afternoon & addressed, sang & prayed with the large Sunday school connected with that great influential Church of Presbyterians. The dear children beautifully well behaved & quiet. Then we walked out to see our poor deaf old friend Goufe, who was as pleased as before to meet us & not quite so stone deaf as at our last visit. We had a time of religious exercise & then tea before we came away. Attended Mr Lewer's service in the evening & supped at Mr Gibson's.

Monday, August 17th: Took leave of our very kind Ipswich friends, who pressed us to prolong our visit. Mr Lowers saw us off in the steamer for Brisbane (35 miles by the river Bremer) & he wept as we took, probably, the last leave of him in this world, as we do not expect to meet him or to visit that part of Queensland again. The steam down that very winding river is lovely & we much enjoyed it, having also under our care a lovely little girl, a daughter of Macalister, ex-prime minister of the Colony, a very intelligent child who pointed out to us various objects of interest on our passage. Found it very hot in Brisbane where after dining in Town, we took up our quarters again at Rachel Hopkins. Spent a quiet evening there. We are glad to find that our friend Robert Horsenail has (with Henry Niccock) taken some land on the Pine River, which they intend to clear & settle on. R.H. having become engaged to Louisa Dare, a niece of Rachel Hopkins, a lady of about 28 years, a serious, friendly person.

Tuesday, August 18th: Into town for letters & found a goodly budget from England, containing for me letters from my precious Father, Mother, Bessie, Prissie, Joseph, Caroline & cos. Susette D. Hopkins. Very glad to receive tidings of Wilfred H. Hodgkin & co having reached home in safety in the "Holmsdale". Then back to Milton where Robert & Frederic Horsenail joined us in a delightful walk up One Tree Hill as a suitable place to view an eclipse of the sun. It did not however commence as soon as the Queensland Astronomers had predicted & ours was the only one of several parties who had patience to wait for it. It was partial, about half the orb being eclipsed, & so near sunset that before the moon had quite left the Sun's disc, the greater light set to light up our XXX Antipodes. I went into town in the evening.

called on Rosamond Smith &c.

Wednesday, August 19th: I left Joseph at our quarters writing while I went to see after sundry businesses in town, returning to a late dinner. The result of our visit into the interior is to find that religion is at a very low ebb among the wealthy squatters at the great cattle & sheep stations, & we observe that many among them observe no sabbath & are literally living without God in the ~~xxx~~ world. It seems indeed sad for in their position of almost autocrats on their immense estates & employing many hands, if they were Christians they might be the centre of large spheres of usefulness & of evangelizing their employees. It often pained us to hear them talk, swearing & blaspheming, yet in high position, members of the Government of Queensland & magistrates in their own localities. One I had much conversation with pained me greatly by speaking of the poor aborigines, who he boldly said he was obliged to shoot because they stole his cattle. The general feeling seems to be that they Blacks are a nuisance & best to be got rid of at any rate, & we hear the gentlemen & squatters speaking of the native animals of the Colony, enumerating the Blacks, Kangaroos &c as if they were all beasts that perish, not the possessors of ~~xxx~~ blood bought souls. Truly the Anglo-Saxon has set these poor benighted heathen but a poor example of Christianity. It may be interesting to my dearest Father & serve to give some little idea of the ~~xxx~~ vastness of the sheep & cattle runs in this immense colony containing a population of 96,890 persons, to read the census just taken of stock in this wonderful country. In Australia they always reckon one acre to a sheep because of the frequent droughts. Queensland is about 13 times the size of Great Britain & contains 7,278,778 sheep, 919,414 cattle, 52,311 horses & 13,961 pigs. No wonder food is cheap & plentiful & that horses are boiled down for food for the pigs & that sheep sell at a 1d per lb. Of course the most valuable part of a sheep here is its fleece & often when they are shorn they too are killed & boiled down for fat &c. In railway travelling we passed through some of the stations & the flocks in one place were being mustered & I thought I could for the first time realize a little of the sacrifice of 120,000 sheep at the dedication of Solomon's Temple. We went in the evening to B.G. Wilson's chapel where we held their usual prayer meeting. B.G.W conducts it much like a Friends Meeting, except that full liberty is given to anyone present to read the bible, sing a hymn, exhort or offer prayer. It was I think a good time & as no one was called on by the minister but all were left to move as the Spirit should lead them there was much solemn silence in short intervals.

Thursday, August 20th: In town making calls in the morning & among the rest, on Lewis Smith, where we had a cordial welcome & felt drawn into deep sympathy with him in his deep bereavement in the loss of his wife leaving him one little girl to mourn her loss with him. Called also on Herbert Everett whose younger brother Horace has just come out to Australia to try his fortune in this fast Colony. Spent the remainder of the day very pleasantly at B.G. Wilson's, where we met some of his Baptist Friends. I have been nearly blind with one eye all today, owing I suppose to a mosquito

bite. These little creatures are very troublesome, more so than in the more Southerly Colonies, so that mosquito curtains are really indispensable to my comfort at night. One evening I let a very lean looking one settle on the back of my hand & patiently watched till it had satisfied itself. It kept on sucking till I thought it would burst, its little body being fearfully distended like a bladder & as red as its contents. The little beast at last flew off to sleep off the effects of its voracity. If they are allowed to suck in peace they leave no mark & no sore, but if knocked off a little irritating swelling is the result.

Friday, August 21st: In town all this morning making call s. Henry Alexander, son of Henry Alexander of (I think) Cirencester arrived here from Sydney this morning. He is travelling in the colonies for his health. We spent the latter part of the day in writing letters, an occupation that grows on us as we pursue our engagements from Colony to Colony.

Saturday, August 22nd: Leaving Joseph at home writing, I went into town with our kind friend B.G. Wilson who being a friend in need is a friend indeed. The fact is we are rather in perplexity, having stayed too long writing to the meeting for sufferings for more money; we had while in Sydney to borrow £50 from E. Malcolmson & now that is nearly gone we have not the needful for our expenses on to Rockhampton & back to Sydney. Under the circumstances B.G. Wilson has very kindly backed a promissory note for £40 which is indeed a charity as Friends here are not in a position to do it conveniently just now. The sun is very hot in this winter in Queensland; today, 110° in the sun heat, 70° to 80° in the shade. This evening we spent at Mr Griffith's - Congregational Minister who kindly invited us to join Mr Sunderland there to tea. The latter is a dear old Missionary just from the South Sea Islands, & we had much deeply interesting conversation with him about the importation of labourers from the Islands to Australian sugar & cotton plantations. He takes the same view as we have done, that it is nothing less than slavery & he who is a great authority says plainly the missionaries labouring in the Islands altogether disapprove of it, & that very often the poor fellows are kidnapped & sent on board without their knowledge or consent. Mr Sunderland has kindly hinted at our joining a missionary ship to some of the islands to sail from Sydney about next February (D.V) for a four month tour. This of course we have not accepted but only have under contemplation, but I think it more than possible we may fall in with as it is much the sort of tour we wish for both for length & the Islands it includes & we both feel it will be much nicer going in a missionary than in a trade vessel. Joseph closed the evening with reading & prayer.

Sunday, August 23rd: Had a very solemn meeting this morning in our own little meeting house in which we were both very large engaged in ministry & in prayer, Joseph speaking in a very strict manner from the words: "The Master is come & collects for thee". Horrace Everett was there; he has just arrived in the Colony, having come out in the "Young Australian". He seems a nice lad; I hope he may be kept yet out of the many terrible snares into which young men arriving in Australia so often fall while are

getting what is called their Colonial experience. Went to tea again at Mr Griffith's & then held a large meeting in his chapel, a time of much life & favour, owned & blest by the Lord.

Monday, August 24th: After breakfast went to call on Mr Griffith who kindly took us over the Brisbane Hospital, an excellently well laid out & beautifully arranged building, where especial care seems taken over the moral purity as well as outward cleanliness of the patients. Spent the afternoon writing & went to tea at Edward & Matilda Barrimores, where we spent an interesting evening closing as we always like evenings to close, with reading & c & prayers. E.B has had great trials, having been in ~~partnership~~ partnership with Macalick, late Premier of Queensland as a lawyer. He managed to fleece E.B of about his all & then dissolved partnership. E.B intends starting on his own account somewhere but owing to Brisbane not suiting his wife's health, I fear he will leave this Colony; though not members they are real friends & will be a great loss to the meeting here.

Tuesday, August 25th: Spent a quiet morning at our quarters s letter writing. Leaving my dear cousin to attend the Band of Hope in Brisbane, I went to Mr Wilson's to dine & in the afternoon accompanied him & his friend a Christian young man named George Buzzacott on horseback to Boggs, having to cross the river in a little boat. At the house of Mr Strong of Boggs we had tea & at 7.30 about persons were packed into the sitting room for a meeting for worship. Mr Buzzacott opened the meeting in prayer & then I had an opportunity of preaching to the assembled company from the words: "The Master is come & is calling for thee", applying it to some present. I was sensible of being helped in so doing. Prayer & singing closed the meeting, a lovely moonlight ride home to our Quarters.

Wednesday, August 26th: After writing some letters we went ~~ashore~~ on horses kindly lent us by Mr Wilson out to dine at a good Baptist friend named Swan; persons who had come out here penniless & by seeking & obtaining the Divine blessing on their labours have now an income of about 1,000 per annum. Had I trust a profitable as well as pleasant time here & in the afternoon Mr Wilson, Mr Swan, Joseph & I rode over to a lovely spot in the woods owned by our ~~reverend~~ ~~Baptist~~ revered Baptist minister, Mr Wilson. A heavy thunderstorm with most brilliant lightning accompanied our return to the Swans, but it cleared up in time for the service in the Baptist chapel which was a precious meeting time in which we both spoke at some length & offered prayer, as did Mr Wilson. This forms in all probability our concluding religious service in Brisbane & it was indeed a precious memorable time, closed with singing most solemnly several verses of "Forever with the Lord".

Thursday, August 27th: Made several calls in town in the morning. Then out to dine at Mr Wilson's where we spent a quiet hour or two & then Joseph left us to go to Mr Spode's while we went on horseback to Oxley Creek. This is a little settlement out in the woods about 8 miles from Brisbane which having left our horses on this side of the Brisbane river, we reached in a little boat & then had tea at a Mr Strong's, son of Mr Strong of Boggs, & after tea we went to a nice little chapel in the woods. This was crowded to excess & a time of no ordinary exercise in which

Joseph, Mr Wilson & I all had very plain truths to declare to the people, beseeching them no longer to delay making their peace with God, through Jesus Christ. My text was the Parable of the barren fig tree & we all spoke in harmony; we had more than a usual amount of silence & these times of quiet were very, very solemn, & after sitting two hours the people seemed in no hurry to disperse. Leaving my beloved cousin to lodge at the Spode's ~~king~~ ~~afternoon~~ we rode home. I ought to mention that as we were passing Spode's this afternoon en route for Oxley Creek, Joseph was waiting our assistance, having just ~~as~~ as he sitting down on a fallen log to rest discovered a snake basking in the sun. Mr Wilson & all of us armed ourselves with sticks & Mr W killed not only one but two close together; they are whip snakes, small & thin like the lash of a whip, but awfully venomous, their bite being most deadly. Though one may smash a snake or a centipede all to pieces, it is a singular fact life never becomes extinct till sun down & so, though these whip snakes were so killed they could never live again, we left them wriggling about & they did not become quick & ~~and~~ dead till the sun set.

Friday, August 28th: Accompanied Mr Wilson & Mr Buzzacott into town this morning calling for letters but finding none. In the afternoon I went again into town & booked our places for Rockhampton in the "Clarence" for next Tuesday. After tea we went to a Temperance Meeting in town; not very well attended, but a nice meeting. It was presided over by Rev Coldwell, a good old Scotch Minister, a staunch teetotaler & I believe the only abstaining Minister in Brisbane.

Saturday, August 29th: After breakfast, Joseph, & Harry Alexander, Robert Horsenail, Henry Elcock & I went in two boats belonging to people living on the bank of the river, about 13 miles down the Brisbane towards the sea to visit Richard Liberty Hopkins. He is now a Boat builder & clockmaker & his house consists of a boat shed on the viers brink & a room over it in which he & his workmen live, eat & sleep. Being open at the ends & only protected by sacks &c there is no lack of ventilation, but it is far enough from a desirable tenement. However it seems all that Richard needs & he does well there. We mustered up sufficient knives (including pocket knives) & cups & dishes for a tea dinner cooked at a camp fire outside, & enjoyed our visit though I do not believe it is at all for the mental or spiritual growth of a young man this to live far away from folk or the civilization of the world around him. R.L.H accompanied us to Rachel Hopkin's, coming all together up the river in a large boat rowed by Aborigines, having on board 3 men, & gin & 3 piccaninies. Spent the evening writing letters.

Sunday, August 30th: We had a very sweet uniting meeting today, just such an one as I could wish for a concluding one in our little meeting house here. Joseph offered a long earnest prayer; I spoke at considerable length, as did my loved cousin much in the same strain & I closed in prayer & praise. We had all the Friends & attenders invited to R. Hopkin's to tea & had 17 in all to that meal. In the evening Joseph gave some of the most interesting of his details of American travel, after which I read a chapter from St Paul to the Ephesians Church & we settled down

into very solemn silence. Joseph twice addressed us & the second time ~~that~~ said he believed there was one present who was called to a greater devotion to his Lord & very earnestly pleaded with such an one not to delay making the surrender called for. I spoke a few farewell words & we both engaged in prayer, my own petitions chiefly being that if we were ~~xxxx~~ never to meet again on earth; we may all meet around the throne of God in Heaven & there is no human probability of our all meeting again in this state of being. Our friends left about 10.30 & we retired about midnight.

Monday, August 31st: Joseph went to the Mansill's to break fast & I into town to Mackalister's office, where Edward Barrimore joined me & we called at the supreme court to see a gentleman (a barrister) once a Friend, by name Joseph Reynolds Ball, a nephew of cousin William Ball. He seemed very glad to see me & we had a chat for a few minutes but he was busy putting on his professional robes so we soon parted. E.B next took me to call onHuntley, a brother of those of the same name in Sydney & a nephew of John Huntley of High Wycombe. He seems in very delicate health & has just lost one of the Sydney brothers by death. We went over the new houses of parliament which are fine buildings & reflect great credit on the colony. Home to dinner, calling on the way to see a dear Methodist lady, a Miss Snow, who has a brother in Sydney, an attender of Devonshire St Meeting. In the afternoon we wrote letters & then went into town to help our dear friends in settling the trusteeship of their new meeting house, & at the very particular request of the meeting here, the property ~~is~~ is now invested in the names of (as they come) J.J. Neave, W. Robson, R. Horsenail, H.B. Elcock & R.L. Hopkins - their heirs & assignees for ever. ~~M. XXXXXXX & XXXXXXX~~ Returned to tea & spent the evening writing. Must conclude my diary tonight, as we intend leaving here for Rockhampton 500 miles north of Brisbane tomorrow evening by the steamship "Clarence". Our view is to spend two or three weeks there & then Joseph intends to stay at Maryborough to try & find up young Lockwood (Katherine L's brother) while I hope to return direct from Rockhampton to Sydney in time to attend the M.M there ~~xxxx~~ on Oct 1st as it feels to us both that at the present ~~the~~ crisis there among Friends one of us ought to be with them as often as we may be. Then I hope & if all be well to spend a little time with my dear friends at Fairy Meadow, Dr Cox & his family, & if acceptable, hold meetings round the neighbourhood of Harrington Park Marellan the residence of Abraham Davy & to join my beloved cousin at Port Macquarie, the residence 200 miles north of Sydney of Dr J.C. Nield & family. Letters as usual to care of Dixon & Ward, Pitt & Liverpool St, Sydney, N.S. Wales. I suppose ere this part of my journal is in circulation, the dear friends to whom it is usually sent will be aware of the tender tie that now binds my heart to my dearest friend Christian Cox, & therefore I feel most disposed just to allude to it here. I have all along most deeply felt the trial I fear I am bringing on my precious relatives at home & as they well know nothing but the immense distance that ~~xxxxxxx~~ severs me from them & the consequent time that would be taken in correspondence on the subject, would have induced me to take any steps in this extremely important matter without first consulting them.

But I may humbly acknowledge I laid the subject before the Lord, earnestly seeking His unerring counsel & I am permitted to feel such quiet calm peace in the engagement that I undoubtedly believe I have made a step which in great & undeserved mercy is designed for my future usefulness & happiness & that the dear young friend whose hand & heart I have wooed & won, will be well calculated to be a true helpmeet on my heavenward journey. In thus doing I am but following the good example of the companions that have visited this land before me, G.W.W & F.W - with this important exception, they settled in or near the homes of their wives, while my betrothed has promised to accompany me to my dear old English home when our work in these Colonies shall be at an end. One special object I have for introducing this ~~xxx~~ topic into my diary is to ask ~~x~~ on my own behalf one interest in the best desires, the prayers of all my dear ones that this undertaking may never be allowed so to take the first place in my heart that it may not in any degree whatever hinder my mission in this ~~land~~ land nor mar the work my blessed Master has given me to do & that the long separation which must mark the whole course of my engagement to Tenie may be so patiently borne & meekly submitted to by us both that they may ~~x~~ be the means of further sanctification to her & me & teach us more & more to resign our own will to the perfect will of God. Now with very, very dear love which has suffered no diminution, but rather increased by my love to Tenie, to all my dear ones at home & with earnest desires for their prosperity every ~~xx~~ way & that the peace of God which passeth all understanding may keep your hearts & minds by Jesus Christ. I remain yours very affectionately

Walter Robson.

Received: at S.Walden: 11th month 9th 1868.

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PART 13th: QUEENSLAND. Concluded.

Sunday, Sept 1st. 1868: Joseph & I busy today taking leave of dear Frds in Brisbane, he hoping to see them again in a few weeks, but I not expecting ever to meet them again in this world. Finally left our kind hostess R. Hopkins at 6 p.m & having deposited our luggage on board the "Clarence" we went to the Baptist Chapel, where the anniversary tea meeting was being held, for even in this hot climate, dissenters must have their great "tea-gatherings". Here we took a last leave of our very dear friend B.G. Wilson, Mrs Wilson, Mr Buzzacott & c, & then embarked. Most of our Brisbane Frds at the wharf to see the last of us. Our steamer left at about 8 p.m by the brilliant light of full moon. On leaving Moreton Bay a good breeze sent us rolling & there was a more than ordinarily amount of sea-sickness in the night.

Wednesday, Sept 2nd: Still rough so that we were few at breakfast. Soon after this meal we turned up a narrow channel between Frasers' ~~ix~~ island & the main land & just as we did so, a number of our aborigines swam out to our vessel. We never witnessed a feat of more danger or difficulty. I fancy few white men would attempt it. The blacks swam right up to the steamer & without at all slackening speed the Captain flung out a rope & the poor fellows caught it & were pulled on board. The wonder is how they can retain their hold on the rope when it gives them a sudden pull & drags them thro' the water at 10 knots an hour. Several missed their hold & swam back to shore, but about a dozen were safely taken on board. There were men, women, boys & girls, all quite naked but carrying on their heads a queer sort of basket like a tall hat containing what little clothing they possess: a shirt or an old blanket or a bit of print. But the first thing after they had robed themselves was a general gathering round the ship's boiler to dry & warm, after which they had some food & then came up onto the paddle-box platform & went thru the most wonderful & wild performance called a "corrobbery". It is a sort of war dance & the ~~ix~~ time is well kept, all joining in a plaintive & yet savage sort of chant, the poor "gins" beating time by clapping hands while the men & piccaninies put their bodies in the most extraordinary contortions, rolling their wild-looking eyes & showing their white teeth. In fact a corroboree must be seen to be understood. They are to accompany the vessel as far as Maryborough & will be left there till the "Clarence" returns. We are spending a quiet day at sea & now that we are between the island & main land, it is as calm as a lake so that writing is quite possible. Before leaving Brisbane, I gathered from official sources the following fearful facts of the importation of strong drink into Queensland: In the year 1867, there were imported into this colony 225,166 gals spirits, 425,999 gals beer, & 67,141 gals wine. This with a population of 98,025 persons makes nearly 7½ gals for every man, woman & child in the colony & this is exclusive of all the vast amount of wine grown & manufactured & drunk in Queensland. Surely there is a loud call for labor in this direction in Queensland. We are grieved to hear in a letter from H.H. Newman that poor Willie Naish in spite of all our efforts has returned to Sydney & to his

drinking habits. Truly there seems to come a time when all human aid is unavailing & unless an individual is made willing to help himself, no one can help him. Yet the long suffering mercy & love of God in Christ Jesus is matchless & he may yet be plucked as a x brand from the burning. About 12 o'clock p.m. we entered the broad & lovely river Mary. Its sides are most lovely, richly clothed with dense foliage of bright green mangroves & about them is intertwined the wild cane or bamboo of Queensland, while as over all are the lofty tops of big timber trees, the oaks & gums. We reached the town of Maryboro' about 8 p.m. & called on a young friend there named Miss Greer, a sister of Mrs Ed Robinson of Melbourne. She is a teacher in the Primary School. While there a young lady came in to whom we were not introduced until I happened to say I came from S. Walden, when her delight knew no bounds - she had been born ~~xxxx~~ at Shady Camps, educated by Sophia Burch of Walden & lived most of her life at Linton. She is now Mrs Holmes, her maiden name was Reeve. I was the first she had seen during her 5 yrs in Queensland who had known anything of her. We walked home to her house with her & then ~~x~~ ret'd to our vessel. The "Lady Bowen" was also moored at Maryboro on her way from Rockhampton to Brisbane & she had on board a clergyman (a brother of our present Bishop of Rochester) who is expelled his living at Maryboro & is en route for England, having lost his pulpit thro' drink! We retired about mid-night but were roused about 4 a.m. this morning.

Thursday, Sept 3rd: by the "Lady Bowen" getting off & the we followed at 9.30. I had written to Chas. Jas. Long to Gympie, to ask him, as the only chance of my meeting him, to come down to Maryboro 50 miles to see me, but I suppose he could not & at any rate he did not come. I hope my dear Joseph will see him as he intends to visit Gympie. Today the weather ~~x~~ is lovely & I am devoting the leisure of a voyage to letter writing in the cuddy. Before we left Maryboro' we met 2 poor gins with their thick woolly hair stuck full of birds feathers & their faces colored a brick red. We find that is their way of wearing mourning for the dead. The sea rather rough today, causing much of the marine ~~xxxx~~ malady. I feel we cannot be too thankful taking so many short voyages from colony to colony that we never suffer from sickness, tho' I must report myself the best sailor of the two, as dear J is apt to have ~~xxx~~ head-ache.

Friday, Sept 4th: About 5 a.m. we were moored at Gladstone, a very lovely little ~~xxx~~ spot, surrounded on 3 sides by the sea & a river. It is a port of no great importance but we staid here till 11 o'clock discharging cargo & re-shipping S.S. Islanders for Rockhampton. We were much interested in the bright intelligent faces of these islanders; they are from Kari & Iefew. Those from Iefew have bushy heads of black or brown wool such as I have seen pictures of, but never witnessed before. The wool is so prodigious in quantity it looks like an immense cap. We walked about Gladstone & called on Mr Hawthorne of the Ipswich family. I was touched on our leaving the port to see the poor islanders taking a last leave of some we left behind - the hearty shake of the hand & the big tears running down their copper-colored cheeks. We hear good reports of them, that the labors of Missionaries have been

greatly blessed & that the poor fellows are very particular to pray to God night & morning, also to observe grace before meals. As they are come to a sort of serfdom to our Anglo-Saxon race, we can only hope they will set our white brethren an example of how to live "Godly in Christ Jesus". I have been purchasing a comb, worn in one of their heads, curiously carved out of a bamboo - they all wear these & most of them have big holes thro' their ears, so that one came on board with his tobacco pipe stuck thro' one ear & his match box thro' the other. They seem very pleased with any bits of muslin &c that they can deck their woolly pates with. They are all decently clad in European shirts & trousers - their feet are bare & we are told they will not work it on the plantations without being entirely stripped & they only keep their clothes to appear in civilized society in. We have on board a number of gold diggers & in the evng we were pleased & interested to hear them join together in singing - not the ribald songs too often sung by men of such a stamp, but some of our most beautiful hymns, selections from Handel &c. Jos had some ~~xxxxxx~~ serious conversation with them while I was earnestly pleading the cause of the Aborigines & S.S. Islanders with Mr Lamb, a member of the ministry in Queensland, now ax in power. The Fitzroy river was at low tide so we anchored for several hours & it was 9 p.m. before we again moved in 30 miles up the Fitzroy to Rockhampton, reaching our destination about 1 a.m. on

Saturday, Sept 5th: We slept on board the "Clarence" & before breakfast Jos left me to mind the luggage while he went on shore to find out the residence of the Hopkins. We are now very comfortably located at Francis & Felicia Hopkins. William also lives with them. The latter is manager of the largest book & stationary store in Rockhampton, while Frank has an important post in the office of the "Bulletin" newspaper. His little wife is a sister of Rosamond Smith of Brisbane - one of the Braintree family. They are the only members of our society in Rockhampton, but there are several connected with Friends. We have called on a young Chemist named Kenway, who lived with the late Russel Jeffrey & Reuben Paine. Rockhampton is on a large plain, but very near it is a fine range of hills 1,500 ft in height, forming a beautiful back ground to the town, the river Fitzroy running between the range & the town. The latter has a population of ~~xxx~~ 6,000 persons & is or has been a thriving town, well laid out & with very good shops. We refreshed ourselves with a swimming bath before dinner, rather a rough wooden erection inx on the river. A few miles south of Rockhampton yesterday we passed Cape Capricorn, which marks the division between the temperate & torrid zones, so we are really in the tropics now, where at midday in mid summer the scorching sun gives no shadow & shines straight fown the chimneys onto the hearths below. I really feel very thankful we are not likely to spend a summer here; the sun today is terribly hot & with my tendency to a hot head I fear I could scarcely survive the fearful heat of a tropical summer. Spent the evng writing.

Sunday, Sept 6th: After breakfast our dear young friend Francis & William crossed the Fitzroy by ferry to take their accustomed duties at the Sunday School. Felicia & we followed an

an hour after to the same place & read the bible, & the 3 oldest school children staying. Then had a meeting in which our hearts were contrite before the Lord & ability felt to approach His throne of Grace as well as to address these choice young Frds. Spent a quiet afternoon, but recd calls from 3 dissenting ministers, the congregational, primitive & ~~xxx~~ finally the Wesleyan Minister. After tea we held a meeting in the chapel belonging to the Congregationalists & were favored with a blessed sense of Divine Presence under which I trust we ministered in the ability God alone can give. About double the usual number there. After ~~x~~ we got home a young gentleman named Devington ~~xxx~~ called & sat awhile with us. He is a member of the family of Frd of that name in our Midland counties. He is employed in a newspaper office here, under Mr B Zacott & Frank Hopkins.

Monday, Sept 7th: Wrote letters & made 2 calls in the mornng; the sun is so intensely hot we seem, I especially, almost unable to exert much. We spent the afternoon in a mournful mission. We had given us the name of John Feltham, a young man who was a well dressed gentleman at J.J. Neave's wedding. He has subsequently emigrated, being sadly unsteady - his siter's very excellent friends in I think Winchmore Hill. We had heard of his death but earnestly desired to find some particulars. We went to the cemenary where we knew his mortal remains are deposited, but find he died before a regular account of burials was preserved so his last resting place will in all human probability be unknown till the trumpet ~~xxx~~ shall sound & the dead be raised. Picked some lovely tropical flowers in the cemenary to send ~~x~~ home to the poor sisters. Then went over the new Hospital where ~~x~~ we learned from its caretaker that John Feltham had been found ~~x~~ in April 1864 lying on the river's bank utterly destitute & was carried to an old hospital lately abandoned where he lingered for a fortnight with remittant fever & then died. The new hospital is a beautifully arranged well ventilated place on the highest ground near Rockhampton, with a view extending 60 or 70 miles all round except in the direction of a high range of hills on one side only a few miles distant. But the old hospital where poor young Feltham died is a wretched little place & it saddened our hearts to think that a young man, well educated, well brought up & wealthy should die in such a place with, awful thought, we fear no hope of Heaven. A clergyman of the episcopal church visited him, but he is now in Brisbane where I hope dear J will if possible obtain some information as to the state of the soul of this poor prodigal. We spent a quiet day at our quarters, w riting & reading.

Tuesday, Sept 8th: Writing, reading &c & then I went into town to see a little of some of the poor aborigines. Yesterday we met one carrying a boomerang. I told him I would buy it of him if he would 1st throw it. He accordingly did throw it & I never saw so strange a sight of the sort. The boomerang which is merely a piece of hard heavy wood about 18 in long shaped thus: he threw out ~~xxx~~ from him a long way near the ground, when instead of dropping onto the grass it suddenly gave a loud whirring sound & spun round very fast, ~~x~~ soaring up far over the tree tops & finally fell at our feet, coming so close that

our black friend called out "Look out", fearing it might strike us. With these boomerangs a skilled native black will kill a man behind a tree or in a tree, or birds as they fly. I asked the poor fellow the price; he said 1/-, which I gave him & took away my boomerang, both of us, my buyer & seller, well pleased with our bargains. He called to us as we parted: "~~where~~ & where your hump?" I said "I have no hump". He ~~said~~ said: "Well then where you sit down?" I told him where we were staying & he seemed satisfied. They express their idea of a home as where a man "sits down." This evening we went to tea at Mr Buzzacott's & he accompanied us to the Congregational chapel where we held a very satisfactory meeting, in which we were again made sensible of the goodness & mercy of our Gracious God, in that we were enabled to preach the gospel in a measure of its fulness to the people assembled. Religion seems in a very low state in Rockhampton; a great many persons attend no place of worship & among those who do there is too often a sad want of honesty, uprightness or temperance. Yet there are those who love their Lord & whose minds are deeply exercised for the spread of the Redeemer's Kingdom. So many seem to have made their emigration the time for throwing off their profession of religion altogether & are living without God in the world.

Wednesday, Sept 9th: The weather is fearfully hot today, so that the inhabitants of Rockhampton are calling out that summer is come very early this year. The thermometer has stood at 100° in the shade most of the day & tonight there is no wind so that the atmosphere is most oppressive, so that we have felt very good-for-nothing all day. In the afternoon we called to see a Xtian young man, an invalid, who has learned deeply in the school of Christ & had some very interesting converse with him. Spent most of our time indoors writing & reading.

Thursday, Sept 10th: Breakfasted early & then J & I hired a horse & spring cart, which I drove 30 miles to Yaamba. The morning was cloudy & somewhat rainy, but perhaps cooler & pleasanter on that account, tho' making the roads heavy for the horse. It is not common in Australia to stop to bait ~~studs~~ studs en route but only to draw up at a waterhole & let the poor animal drink. This we did, when about half way but found again that our inexperience as bush-men brought us into trouble. A very promising-looking pond near the track along which we were driving presented a favourable place for refreshing the thirst of the horse. We accordingly drove him to the margin of the water, but unhappily the bottom consists of mud to an unknown depth & our poor beast sunk up to ~~his~~ his girths in the mud & in his struggle to extricate himself rolled over on his side. We sprang out & succeeded in releasing him from the trap & then he worked himself onto terra firma. My hat, a pith one, had unfortunately found its way under him just as he lay down in the mud & his weight on the top of it flattened it "out long & thin". Our next job was to get the cart out & this we could not do, its wheels were too deeply sunk in the clay. Accordingly, after trying with levers & main force, J left me in charge of horse & cart, while he went for assistance & returned in an hour with 3 men who like ourselves were in trouble, having a very heavily laden dray fast buried in a swamp a mile away. They gave us able assistance & with the

exception of my hat, which took some time to reshape & wash, we started again uninjured & reached Yaamba about 4 o'clock p.m., having to ford the river Fitzroy at that place. Took up our abode at a comfortable inn & having fed our horse & ourselves, arranged a meeting for the evening in the only available place, the "lock up". There is no place of worship & no minister in Yaamba, & when any Catholic Priest or Protestant minister does visit the place, the "lock up" is seated & used for worship. Spent the afternoon paying house to house visitations, writing ~~xxx~~ x inviting all to attend. Howard & Granville Smith, Felicia Hopkin's brothers, had been written to, inviting them to meet us as they live 15 miles beyond Yaamba, at Bonnie Down diggings; they came accordingly & we were mutually pleased & interested. They are nice, sober young men, but ver disadvantageously placed for the development of spiritual life. At about 7 o'clock the room in the lock up was very full, 30 or 40 being there out of a population of probably not more than 60 or 70 persons. A very solemn covering over us, in which we were both enabled to preach, warning the people to flee from the wrath to come & reminding them that there being no public worship would be no excuse in the great day of judgement, for neglecting so great a salvation. Returned to our hotel to bed, a camp of Aborigines, about 200 yards from our quarters. I paid them a visit but there is something rather repulsive in the black gaunt naked figures of these poor benighted heathens, crouching down in the "Gunyeas", as their bark havelis are called. We long to speak to them of Jesus, but as every tribe has its language it would be the work of a life time to acquire their strange jargon sufficiently to make ourselves understood, & also the words of English they know are not of religion but "smoke" & "drink" & "devil" & such like. There was a great disturbance among them during the night & when we rose this morning:

Friday, Sept 11th: they were gone. The weather today is lovely & as we forded the Fitzroy the bright sun on the waters looked most charming. A big stately pelican with his great pouch beak was quietly fishing in the river, these birds being plentiful in this tropical clime. In the woods close by us bounded up a kangaroo, most elegantly springing over the grassy sward. We took leave of the Smiths & drove without "let or hindrance" back to Rockhampton, reaching here about 3 p.m. went to tea at Mr Hartley's, the primitive Methodist minister's & held a temperance meeting in his chapel in the evening. It was, I believe, the first well-attended temperance meeting in this drinking township. The place was well filled & after J had given a short address I spoke for an hour, being well recd & feeling roused up by the importance of the subject. Five signed the pledge & among the others a young gentleman of influence & in the town, who with tears told me afterwards he was sorry to say he had felt the temptation to drink grow upon him, but had never clearly seen till my address his own duty in the matter. He said his father & 6 uncles ~~he~~ had drunk themselves to death. We really feel thankful we have been able to help forward this good cause in a place where it was almost dead.

Saturday, Sept 12th: wrote letters & I made some calls before dinner. I forgot to mention that at the close of our meeti

at Yaamba on Thursday night, a lady brought me her baby with the request that I would christen it for her. Of course I declared that honor, explaining briefly the fact that we had not been "sent to baptise, but to preach the gospel". The fact of having no minister resident there accounts for the ~~usual~~ demand for baptism, christening &c when such a visit is paid. This afternoon J & I crossed the Fitzroy & joined Fred Knight, once a Frd, in a lovely bush-stroll, not returning till dark. Spent a quiet evening reading & attended a meeting called at the request of a young Mr X Dibbon to try & form a Young Men's Xtian Association here. I hope they may succeed for it is greatly needed.

Sunday, Sept 13th: Crossed the Fitzroy to an empty cottage to which we had invited the inhabitants of North Rockhampton, but as almost all that side of the river are Catholics, only one man & a few children joined us. Ed Barrimore from Brisbane is here on business & he, as well as our Frds residing here, accompanied us & we were favoured to have a nice little meeting. Young Bevington joined us in the afternoon & we all went to a meeting held at our request in the Baptist Chapel. A large attendance & a very solemn time in which the true believer were exhorted to greater earnestness & the lukewarm & careless aroused. A day to be very thankful for & probably the last sabbath I shall ever spend in Rockhampton.

Monday, Sept 14th: Called at the P.O & were thankfully to receive the very welcome budget news from home. Letters for me from both my very precious parents & Priscie; also from our beloved aunt P.Green & Uncle X H.Hopkins & S.W.Install, all very interesting. But I must confess we are rather ~~perplexed~~ perplexed at there being no tidings of any money for us from the National Stock. £ 90 in debt & no assets! is a painful feeling in a x strange land. I have booked a berth in the "Balclutha" steamship for Sydney & if I find no advice at the bank of money paid over to our account I must either try to borrow more or else give myself up into the hands of justice, but we try to hope for the best. I see, by the Monthly paper sent out, called "Home News" which I generally manage to get a ~~xx~~ sight of, the "Marpesia" has reached England, so I hope J.R.Neave & family are safe at home; also the "Suffolk" which had our Frds Charles Mould of Melbourne, E.Sayce's partner on board. We went to tea at Mr Anslow's, a gentleman whose wife was educated as a Frd. She is a sister of our kind friend Mrs Skinner of Sydney. Spent a pleasant & I hope profitable evening there, sympathising in their many trials & closing with reading & an address from J & prayer.

Tuesday, Sept 15th: Writing letters & making various arrangements during the morning. In the afternoon Mr Buzzacott brought us 2 good horses to ride & we had a delightful gallop with him about 6 miles to Fairy Bower, a lovely spot near a large lagoon. Returned to his house to tea & he accompanied us to the Primitive Methodist ~~Chapel~~ Chapel which was well filled & we had a very solemn closing meeting with the people of Rockhampton, in which we were both enabled to declare to them the utter worthlessness of the best profession without a change of heart & life. I had to speak very plainly to some who, tho' while in England high professors of the name of Jesus, had made their emigration to Queens-

land the time for throwing off all the constraints & restraints of religion. Many staid to bid us farewell at the close of the meeting.

Wednesday, Sept 16th: Took leave of our kind Frds Y.F & W.Hopkins & for a few weeks of my loved cousin also & at 10 a.m the steamship "Y Balclutha" left Rockhampton, several kind Frds accompanying me to the ship. Left this place with a peaceful mind, while conscious of many, very many shortcomings, yet feeling that my labours in Rockhampton have been owned & blessed of the Lord. A quiet day at sea does not furnish much to write about & the constant vibration of the screw makes bad writing worse.

Thursday, Sept 17th: At 5 o'clock this morning I was awaked by a most peculiar & unpleasant sensation; the vessel was trembling from stem to stern & I observed the screw was endeavouring in vain to back us. I hastily dressed & went on deck, where I soon learned that we had run on a sand bank out at sea & every lurch we gave banged our keel violently on the bottom. After it was found useless to try ordinary methods to extricate us, a boat was lowered with the chief mate & several sailors on board to take soundings & finally they carried an anchor out into deep water & then a rope attached to the anchor was united to our "donkey engine" & so by main force inch by inch as we rolled, the rope was tightened till little by little we were moved out our unpleasant fix into deep water, where we steamed ahead, after 3 hours detention; not much of note to day except a light gale in the eveng just sufficient to make us roll exceedingly. Our vessel is a very good one, but not quite water tight so that the smell of bilge water is most sickening - so much so that for a few minutes it made me unwell., but not enough to prevent my conducting myself with becoming propriety at all the meals & I only record it as being the first time in my short history when the sadly prevalent habit of sickness at sea has been followed by me.

Friday, Sept 18th: A lovely day, steaming a few miles from the coast of Queensland, passing outside Moreton & Stradbroke Islands, & then at warning, the dividing line point between Queensland & N.S.Wales. We have so few passengers on board that each of us has a cabin to himself, a luxury I greatly enjoy.

Saturday, Sept 19th: My thoughts very often turn to my beloved cousin, now so far away & I long to hear from him how he fared in his long journey up country to Clermont. I doubt not that the presence of Jesus will be with him, but I do deeply feel leaving him; yet we both feel it is right. I know my own health is not strong enough for such a journey in the tropics & I should only be a drag on dear J. Indeed, he said if I would not let him go alone, he could not go at all. I trust we may meet again in a few ~~xxx~~ weeks, each having done some work for the dear Master, having afresh to tell of His loving kindness & tender, watchful care over us. Another beautiful morning, passing Port Macquarie at about 10 o'clock a.m & expecting to get into Sydney tomorrow early. 800 miles from Rockhampton to Sydney. I believe I have neglected to mention in my diary, that when we met Ed Barrimore in Rockhampton on Saturday, he brought us tidings that 2 days after we had left Brisbane, a little girl was born to Henry B & E. Anna Elcock & both mother & daughter were going on well. This

afternoon at 4 p.m we passed a rock out at sea close to our vessel, called Seal Island. It is a curious fact that on this one isolated rock are many hundred seals & they are found nowhere else, I believe, near Australia. They are curious looking creatures some very large & black, others brown, but the rock is covered with them in such numbers that it looks like one moving mass in the distance. Passed Newcastle lighthouse at 10 p.m.

Sunday, Sept 20th: Entered Port Jackson at 5 a.m & were at the A.S.N Company's wharf at 6 o'clock. I staid breakfast on board & then walked up to S.J.Pulser's, leaving my luggage on board till tomorrow. Went to meeting, which was very full & hot. I never recd a more hearty welcome ~~knxix~~ than from the dear Sydney Frds - except A.Allen & his party, who were greatly troubled at my presence. I was much surprised to see Joe Cox from Wollongong at meeting, not knowing he was in Sydney. A son also of Margt. Beale of Melbourne there. A.Allen soon began to preach, declaiming against false teachers, in so very decided a manner that there was no room to doubt that the "Anti-Christ" he alluded to was W.Robson. Daniel Clarke offered a short, sweet prayer. Then I spoke feeling greatly burdened, knowing there were those present who declare me to be a deceiver & a Jesuit. A.Wood preached against me. I closed the meeting in prayer. O! what will be done? Are the poor Frds of Sydney meeting, week after week, to listen to preaching that is clearly not the gospel doctrines that are not of Christ? I spent the day at H.H.Newman's & he called with me on D.Clarke in the eveng. The afternoon meeting was quieter, the Pitt St Frds not being present. I had a comfortable opportunity of relieving my burdened mind in preaching & in prayer. Poor Amelia Allen present & much affected.

Monday, Sept 21st: A busy day with me in Sydney making calls, writing & having a Turkish bath, a great refreshment after the tropical heat of Queensland. Spent the eveng at H.H.Newman's very pleasantly. A heavy thunder storm in the eveng.

Tuesday, Sept 22nd: I went a walk in Hyde Park after breakfast & then to the station where Joe Cox joined me & we went by train to Campbelltown, thence by coach to Appin, where we called on Mr Armstrong who gave us a kind welcome & a good lunch. Then on by the coach to Dr Cox's gate. I need not say how cordially I was welcomed back to my Australian home, where I am glad to find all in good health, except my dear Christina, who has been but poorly for several weeks & suffered greatly from a very rough voyage she has just had from Newcastle. I omitted to mention that I recd a call from poor young Willie Naish yesterday in Sydney. He has indeed returned like the g dog & the sow in the old proverb. On reaching Sydney he went straight back to his old quarters & drank frightfully. John Osborne, a young man kindly who has recently applied for membership in our Society, has kindly interested himself about him & has induced him to sign the pledge & to leave Sydney, so he has now taken lodgings in Ryde.

Wednesday, Sept 23rd: Drove Tenie, Zip & their little niece Sybil into Wollongong, where John Wilmot & family seemed pleased to see me. I have already recd 2 pressing invitations to address the people, both of Wollongong & Woonona. In the afternoon I walked alone to the latter place to post letters. Read Isaac

Pennington in the eveng. The weather here is most lovely - English oaks in their brightest spring foliage, ripe lemons & oranges still abundant on the trees, the grass not yet burnt with the heat of summer & the Blue Pacific as tranquil as a lake. The coach drive down the mountain among the ferns, bangalos & cabbage tree palms most exquisitely beautiful.

Thursday, Sept 24th: Helped about various household arrangements, lemon picking &c in the morning & after dinner Tenie, Zip, Joe & Ben rode with me on horseback into town & to a lovely little lake near the sea called "Tom Thumb". Read I. Pennington as usual in the evening.

Friday, Sept 25th: A wet day. The Dr drove Joe & me into town to the wharf, Wilmot's &c. A cold wet drive home. The difference between this & Rockhampton weather is most extraordinary, the coolness here being most refreshing. I rode to Woonona before tea to post my letters.

Saturday, Sept 26th: I went a lovely walk down to the sea shore, my mind dwelling on my dear ones at home & the newly loved one here & longing for them to become acquainted. Tenie & I rode to Bulli to call on the Smedley's in the afternoon.

Sunday, Sept 27th: Went a walk after breakfast & then Jno & Mary Wilmot came to the little meeting here. We were favoured to have a solemn time in which I was enabled to address the little company, I trust, under a little fresh feeling of Divine help & strength & afterwards we all knelt in supplication while I vocally poured out my heart in prayer to God. Read till dinner & in the afternoon I went a quiet walk on the hills with my dear Tenie, Zip & little Sybil (Fred & Lizzie's little daughter); sang some hymns & then the Dr sent me on horseback to Woonona to post some letters. A quiet eveng at home. Anniversary services have prevented me from taking a chapel there today, but I find there is a very open door in store for me here, both as a minister & a temperance advocate, so I hope on my return from Sydney soon to get to work in the prosecution of the mission which has brought me to this wonderful land. Oh! that no love of ease or self indulgence now I am with my most precious earthly friend, may ever be permitted to influence me to the hindrance of the higher engagement which has brought me to these colonies.

Monday, Sept 28th: A hot north wind today, making the weather so oppressive that indoors was the most desirable. In the afternoon Joe & I walked into Wollongong & had tea at Jno Wilmot's & then drove his god-cart & horse home with us ready for a projected little picnic tomorrow.

Tuesday, Sept 29th: Rose at 6 o'clock & had an early breakfast then I drove Tenie & Zip in the dog cart & the Dr, Joe & Ben rode on horseback about 18 miles to Kings & Walls near Appin. Here we found A. Davy's three daughters; Helen, Hetie & Rollie, who with their brother Willie & K. Malcolmson, who is their guest had ridden from Harrington Park to join us. Dined in the woods by the side of a pretty running creek & then picked bunches of the grandest wild flowers I ever saw. Warratales are in full blossom & most grand, the head of each as large as a prize dahlia at home & of a rich & crimson. Mountain lilies, with their tremendous bunch of crimson flowers towered over our heads &

numberless, both for quantity & variety smaller flowers made the scene extremely rich. E. Malcolmson went on xxx by the coach to Answer Hill, where the Cox party &c joined him about 7 p.m. After a pleasant but tiring day. E.A. will I hope stay some weeks at this delightful retreat, he is far from well now, after nearly a year in Australia.

Wednesday, Sept 30th: After reading I. Pennington, I took leave of my dear new relatives at Summer Hill for a few days, but hoping soon to return. Went by coach to Appin where I dined & called on the Armstrongs. Reached Sydney about 6 o'clock & went to tea at H.P. Folwer's where J. Falser, H.H. Newman & W.R. Rokes met me & we had a long conversation as to what the M.M can do tomorrow eveng in A. Allen's case. Frds cannot & ought not longer to ~~xt~~ endure the awfully unsound doctrines he & A. Wood now preach week after week. The last Sunday I attended their meeting & the one following they both ~~x~~ spoke with fearful lightness of the vicarious sacrifice, saying that Calvary's cross was nothing to them; "Christ Crucified within" was all they had to look to, not "His atonements for sin, His most precious blood." Oh! ~~xx~~ is not this equivalent to "counting the blood of the covenant where-with we are sanctified an unholy thing." Came to my old quarters, J.S. Falser's, at about 10 p.m.

Thursday, Oct 1st: I went a long lonely ramble thro' the Botanical Gardens before breakfast & found them looking as beautiful as ever. After breakfast I had several commissions to attend to for my dear friends at Wollongong, & met A & J. Davy at the station & had long conversations with them. Turkish bath in the afternoon & to tea at H.H. Newman's. The M.M commenced at 7 p.m. I never knew a more stormy occasion. Every minute read was objected to by Alf. Allen & he would not be quieted. The Clerk insisted on order but all to no purpose, & at one time there seemed nothing for it but to adjourn the meeting. However at last the sense of Frds was arrived at & Jno Osborne admitted a member. When the other minutes had been disposed of, Jno Falser rose in his capacity of overseer (they have no elders in Australia & overseers have to do double duty) & stated that he had repeatedly requested A. Allen to desist from speaking, both as a minister & in meetings for discipline, but that A.A refused ~~x~~ his counsel altogether. A.A rose & said he did not accept J.P as an overseer. I then requested A.A to withdraw from the meeting while the subject of his ministry was before us, as a matter of courtesy & good taste. A.A said "I cannot & ~~xxxx~~ will not withdraw." After much painful exhibition of feeling & the expression by A.A of intense indignation, & accusing us of being false, liars, lovers of darkness &c it was decided to appoint W. Kobson, Dl. Davy, H.H. Newman & Jas Mitchell to visit A.A & report to an adjourned M.M fixed for next Monday eveng. I had appealed to A.A whether he ought to belong to a society consisting of such awful characters as he makes us all out to be, but it was all of no use & we broke up about 10.30. I feel sure no one could possibly believe the distress of these M.Ms unless they were to be present at them. At home when Frds differ, they do so in love, but here if any one differs from A.A & his party, he at once accuses them of being "Anti-Christ" or children of the devil; ~~x~~ perverting the right ways of the

Lord" &c.

Friday, Oct 2nd: Another remble in the gardens before breakfast very refreshing to body & spirit in this troublous time. The ever welcome English mail in today, hearing me precious letters from my dearest Mother & sisters, also from Charlotte & the dear Twins. Tidings that our dearly loved & honored Frd Jno Pease has gone home to his home in Heaven, to be forever with Jesus & surely to "shine as the stars for ever & ever", having turned many to reighteousness. Oh! when I hear of such having passed away, fallen asleep, it sometimes makes me long to be spared the cup of mixture that all here must drink (a cup full of blessings truly, but of sorrows too) & "to depart & be with Chris which is far better." Again disappointed to find no money sent us by the Meeting for Sufferings. I have managed to borrow of Frds here sufficient to pay the promissary note now due, but what we shall do I cannot imagine. Will some one of my dear ones go into the subject, it is really very painful to be thus obliged to borrow of one to pay another, & money at 10% too. After an early lunch I met, according to appointment, at the meeting house, A. Allen & the Frds who were nominated with me to see him. The result was as I feared it might be. A.A says "I care not if you disown me, I will preach in your meetings & you cannot stop me." A. Davy took me to call on his brother-in-law Jno Dawson, a well known & excellent lawyer & we consulted him about A.A, & he says he fears we cannot legally prevent him from speaking as we have no ordained ministry & it is a principle of our church that all may ~~xxxx~~ preach who feel called on so to do. I know not what will be the result. Spent a pleasant quiet evng at H.P. Fowler's, meeting Jno Neild & Newman Cash there, also the young lady that the latter is engaged to, a sensible soner-looking girl (please mention this to dear S.W. Tunstall with my dear love).

Saturday, Oct 3rd: The usual walk before breakfast. Called on my kind friend Dr Brereton & others in the morning. Went to tea at Mrs Skinners at Darling Point. Thos Skinner I suppose is in England now. I met a cordial welcome from Mrs Skinner & spent a very pleasant evng there. An accident in the harbour today, close off the Skinners': a yacht with 12 gentlemen in it sunk in 12 ft deep water. They were providentially all saved but the boat looks so strange, only its top mast & sail above the surface.

Sunday, Oct 4th: Before meeting I went a quiet walk in the Domaine & was favoured to feel such a sweet sense of the love of Jesus that I feel bound, in adoring gratitude, to record it. I have been greatly cast down, especially in the prospect of a troubled meeting this mornng, that ~~if~~ it feels particularly precious to feel a little of the presence of the comforter. Our meeting was very full & really I think the restraining power of the Holy Ghost was remarkably known & felt. A.A & A. Wood both preached but without any of that painful ordering manner so general with them, & there was no unsoundness at all. I also spoke in a more than commonly experienced measure of best help. So again "God has been better to me than all my fears." But it feels so sad to think we shall yet have, I fear, to disown poor A. Allen for certainly the meetings for discipline cannot be held to profit with him present & usually his ministry is of such a

character as to disturb, not edify Frds. He & his party are in constant correspondance & close unity with L. Gilkes, J. Arnfield, Sargent, Lucas, Watkin, Graham, Lucas & Co. I dined at D1 Clarke's; in the afternoon A.A. was again at meeting & spoke, dissenting entirely from what I had said just before. J. Osborne said a few sweet words & H.H. Newman offered prayer. I followed, especially petitioning that all clamour, & anger & evil speaking & all malice might be put away from us, & that we might be tender hearted, forgiving one another even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven us. Spent a pleasant quiet evng at W.N. Hokes.

Monday, Oct 5th: I often am ready to long that my dear nature-loving friends at home could share in my morning rambles in the Sydney Botanical Gardens. There is something so exquisitely beautiful in the full luxuriance of the rich tropical plants trees & flowers & the gentle ripple of the clear blue waters of Port Jackson, that ~~we~~ bathe the boundaries of the gardens. I generally stay there till the 8 o'clock gun is fired & followed immediately by the band on board the "H.M.S. Charybdis" playing "God save the Queen" & "God bless the Prince of Wales." After breakfast this mornng I had a very interesting call from W. Newman Cash. He wanted to consult me about his future movements, so took a quiet hour for doing so. I have decided as the Mail is to be dispatched on the 9th, to post my home letters today. In a note just recd from Summer Hill, I learn that my cousin Thos. Robson has reached home & written to Mrs Cox from there. He was well, I wonder whether my dear ones at home will be able to see him, or any of the Frds now in England whom we have met in these Colonies: the Hodgkins, Chas Mould, J.R. Neave &c. I fear we shall have a troublesome adjourned M.M. this evng, but we must leave the result to God, earnestly desiring that His Kingdom may come & His will be done alone by us, & that while earnestly contending for the faith ourselves, we may allow no personal dislike to arise towards any, or it will assuredly darken our counsel. The longer I am in this poor divided meeting, the more I long to be again in our quiet Thaxted M.M., where however much we differ, we differ in love. Oh! when love is absent from a body of Xtians, then all seems to go wrong. Frds here kindly express themselves very thankful for my help in their meetings, but I do wish some of those on both sides would learn to keep "Old Adam" down & to esteem each other better than themselves. Yet in looking back the 6 mos since we first entered Port Jackson I do undoubtedly believe our coming has been in right ordering, & that even now the little meeting here is in better case than it was then. The deadness has been done away & the deep suffering is as yet their portion, yet I believe these baptisms have driven them (& we too, for I have shared largely in them) to a deeper reliance on the Strong for strength & a most earnest solicitation in all our "ways to acknowledge Him, that He may direct our paths." My next letters had better be directed to care of Dr Cox, Summer Hill, Fairy Meadow, nr Wollongong, N.S.W. We may probably be there about the date of the arrival of the answer to this previously to leaving for the S.S. Islands, if we decide to join the mission vessel as proposed. And if not my dear Friends nr Wollongong will know where to send them, I have not as yet heard anything of dear Jos since we parted at Rockhampton. If I do before the mail closes I

am to send Uncle J. Neave a few lines. I am favoured to be in good health at present, feeling rather languid after a hot windy day yesterday but I doubt not the sea breezes at Wollongong will set me up again. Please give my love to all kind enquirers for my welfare, "Fris" & others. A large share of deep love is in my heart for all my dear relatives & everywhere, but far the most to those loved ones who are "bone of my bone", my precious parents, brothers & sisters.

That God's richest, choicest blessings may rest on you all is the earnest & constant prayer of
yours most affectionately
Walter Hobson.

P.S. A happy Xmas & New Year to all of you.

Recd at S. Alden: Dec 7, 1868.

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PART FOURTEENTH: NEW SOUTH WALES Continued.

Monday, October 5th, 1868: I took tea at H.H. Newman's & he accompanied me to the adjourned Monthly Meeting. I was appointed with D. Clarke to visit Zipparah Cox on her application for Membership. After other business had been disposed of the very painful business concerning poor A. Allen was commenced by the Clerk reading our report which was as follows: According to our appointment we have had an interview with A.A & three of our members earnestly requested him to desist from preaching in our meeting for worship, & from disturbing those for transacting the affairs of the Church. This he entirely refuses to do except upon certain conditions which our committee were not authorized to make." (or to this effect). The M.M gave this their weighty consideration, A. Allen as before refusing to withdraw from the meeting. With three exceptions the unanimous conclusion arrived at was that A. Allen must be disowned, & ~~expelling~~ accordingly this course was most reluctantly taken & our poor deluded friend once more disunited from membership with us. The meeting did not close till nearly 10.30 p.m & several friends kindly escorted me to the Phoenix Wharf, where at 11 p.m I embarked on the steamship Hunter for Wollongong. Had secured a ~~small~~ sofa & laid down on it for an hour but the cuddy was so crowded & with drunken & swearing men who were en route for Wollongong races & to see the Governor who is there, that I was glad to leave the noise & bad conversation of the wicked & to pace the deck until 4 a.m on:

~~Sunday~~ Tuesday, Oct 6th: when we moored at Wollongong. John Willmott & James most kindly met me on landing & conveyed me to their house where I had an hour's sleep on a sofa, feeling very, very weary. At 8 o'clock I drove out to Summer Hill in J.W's dog cart. Found all well here, my loved Christina much better than on my last visit. Drove with into Wollongong before dinner & saw the Earl & Countess of Belmore. E. Malcolmson seems much at home & very happy here. He was with us in town where the Countess christened the new dock by the name of the "Belmore Basin". In the evening Joe, Ben & I drove J.W's dog cart back into town & attended the Band of Hope meeting which was well conducted. I was inveigled on to the platform & had to give an address. Since my

my first visit another Society for Temperance has started in Wollongong, under the name of "the daughters of Temperance". We walked home at the close of the meeting.

Wednesday, Oct 7th: I drove Tena, Zip & little Sybil into town. A quiet day very warm & summer like. J. Pennington in the evening.

Thursday, Oct 8th: E. Malcolmson & the boys accompanied me up the mountain "Brokers Nose" & to make in future a better & more beaten track, we set fire to the trees, shrubs & other vegetation on both sides of us & soon had so furious a blaze rashing & roaring up the hillside that we had literally to run for our lives to escape the scorching heat & suffocating smoke. On the summit the ~~flowers~~ flowers, especially the grand Warratakas were in full bloom & so very rich that I longed again to have some of my dear English flower-loving friends with me to enjoy it. After dinner we walked down to Ballamby to bathe &c, very refreshing to us.

Friday, Oct 9th: Devoted the morning to burning down an immense hollow tree over 50 feet round. As soon as the fire had a good hold at the bottom it roared up the hollow trunk & out at the top. After blazing furiously for two hours the top half fell off with a tremendous crash, setting fire to everything near it & giving us work enough to put out the burning grass &c with boughs of gum trees. In the afternoon five of us rode into Wollongong & back by the sea shore - a very pleasant & health imparting exercise to us all.

Saturday, Oct 10th: ~~XXXXX~~ E.M & I devoted this morning to burning stumps of trees, a very necessary operation on this farm, to clear the land for cultivation. A Mr R Dargon came to tea & spent a pleasant evening here. Another bathe at Ballamby. The summer has commenced very early here & the sun is so hot at mid-day that we cannot do much. I often think of my dear ~~xxxx~~ cousin ~~tx~~ exposed to the still greater heat of the tropics.

Sunday, Oct 11th: A quiet walk with E. Malcolmson before our little meeting, to which John Wilmot & his daughter Sarah came out. I had a good deal to communicate & the doctor added a few sweet words. A time to be thankful for. In the evening I drove the girls & E. Malcolmson into Wollongong where I conducted the evening meeting in the Wesleyan Chapel & was helped to my own humbling admiration to speak at length on the constant presence of Christ with His people, the ever present comforter who teaches us Himself so that we need not to depend on man for help. A day of many mercies.

Monday, October 12th: A wet day, so spend most of the time letter writing & reading, doing anything I am capable of to make myself useful.

Tuesday, October 13th: Spent the morning with E. Malcolmson burning stumps in the Paddocks. A long wearisome job. The more we do of it, the more we see of the vast labours incurred by settlers on uncleared land. Yesterday Joe & ourselves felled a fine bangal palm tree. It was 30 feet high, only 20 inches round at the base, & counting each ring in height for a year, had been 270 years in growing. We ~~cut~~ cut out the centre, which is delicious food, a beautiful white substance resembling both in flavour & appearance the edible part of a coconut. This afternoon Mr Dargon came to

tea & we all walked out to the school of arts at Woonona where I gave a lecture on "Stray thoughts on many subjects" to a rather select audience of attentive listeners. Mr Dargon in the chair. The proceeds went to the School of Arts, an admirable institution to keep the coal heavers & miners from the public house.

Wednesday, October 14th: A nice walk over the hills with E. Malcolmson before & after breakfast. A lovely, cool spring morning. Received a letter from my dear cousin stating that he had reached Clermont in safety, for which I feel very very thankful, & only wish my own health had been strong enough to share his toilsome journey with him - for though exceedingly enjoying my tarriance with my dear ones here, I feel rather as if laid on the shelf. But as long as we are both doing our own work & serving Christ according to His will we need not be anxious about the result. A letter too has just reached me posted more than three months ago by dear Edward by that most undependable route, & via Panama, & returned again to England as the vessel had broken down. Rode into town with Zip in the afternoon to have her enrolled as a "daughter of Temperance". The evening we sent up a fire balloon of E. Malcolmson's manufacture, & as usual read Isaac Fannington.

Thursday, October 15th: The Anniversary of our first settling foot in Australia. Truly a year of many many mercies, calling forth fervent gratitude to the gracious friend who sticketh closer than a brother & who has been better to me than all my dears. Oh! that this year may bring more glory to God, that all within my heart may be & unreservedly dedicated to Him through Jesus Christ. I drove Tenie & E. Malcolmson to town in the morning & walked to Woonona in the afternoon to post a letter.

Friday, October 16th: The Doctor, E. Malcolmson, Joe, Tenie, Zip & I rode on horse back up the mountain to the farm, where we put up our steeds & then went a most delightful ramble along the Creek, overhanging with ferns & Palms to some most romantic rocks - the extremity of the Doctor's ~~car~~ property. To give a sample of ~~our~~ an Australian estate, tho' the Dr has owned the mountain farm for 10 years, he has never seen the whole of it, nor his family, so that the ramble this morning was one of exploration to us all & we marked trees as we went along to find our way back safely. Reached home at 5 p.m to a late dinner. I have accepted the Congregational Chapel next Sunday & the Wesleyan Chapel at Bulli for the one following.

Saturday, October 17th: The Doctor drove Ben, me & Dockle into town in the morning. Spent the afternoon at home playing croquet with the children & cutting wood for fires. Wrote, read & c in the evening.

Sunday, October 18th: After breakfast I rode into town & occupied the pulpit in Mr Charters (congregational) chapel. The house was well filled & we were favoured to feel a measure of the Divine presence with us. Dined & spent a quiet afternoon at Mr John Wilmot's. To tea at Mr Hewlett's, an excellent gentleman who is one of the lights of Wollongong, both as a Christian & as a Temperance advocate. Had the evening service also in the same Chapel. E. Malcolmson drove Tenie, Zip & Ben to attend the evening

service. It was a solemn xix time in which I felt constrained very earnestly to speak on the uncertainty of life & the necessity of preparation to meet Christ at His coming. The dear people were very attentive & so quiet; indeed I think in these Colonies where friends are so little known the people are quieter than in England & more willing to fall in with customs they never knew before.

Monday, October 19th: Spent the morning on the Mountain xix with B. Malcolmson fern hunting & found a few sorts we had not known before. We accompanied the girls down to Bellambi shell collecting in the afternoon & spent a very pleasant hour on the lovely sea beach. After tea I rode Ginger into Town & went to the School of Arts to be initiated as a Son of Temperance. This is an excellent institution & has reclaimed through the Grace of God, many of the worst drunkards in Wollongong & I felt it only my duty to put in my lot with them, so went through the various rather cumbersome ceremonies of being admitted a member of the honorable order. Rode out at 10.30 to Summer Hill, the night so dark I could not see the head of my steed & the little wooden bridges of which there are more than a dozen i.e 17 in all, between here & town & some of these very rotten & full of holes, but giving my mare here head & full liberty to go where she liked & her own pace, I was favoured to get home in safety.

Tuesday, October 20th: A North wind today, making the heat most oppressive. I drove several of the Cox fraternity into town.

Wednesday, October 21st: A good account of my beloved cousin's safe arrival at Clermont, in health & peace. This is indeed cause for deep gratitude. This afternoon James Wilmot drove out to Summer Hill & after tea drove Tenie, & Zip & me into Wollongong to a grand united meeting of the Sons & daughters of Temperance. My dearest Christina was initiated as a daughter tonight, Zip having been one at the last meeting. I do feel glad to see men, once poor drunken sons & a few women of a like nature, now coming so prominently forward in the advocacy of that cause which under the Divine blessing had done so much for them. We walked home, & not getting ~~xxxx~~ here till nearly midnight.

Thursday, October 22nd: Mr Mackenzie, the Dr's tenant for the Bloomfield farm, has been several weeks cutting down brushwood & timber & ~~xxxx~~ he called this morning to say he intended to set fire to it today & would we assist him? We gladly consented & appointed the Dr as "chief fireman" as being most experienced in the work. We set the dried bushes in a blaze & in about an hour a grand scene presented, & such as I never saw before, of masses of flame towering over the tree tops & carrying all before it. Several acres of land never cleared before were soon & only covered with heaps of glowing ashes. One immense tree that caught fire in the general conflagration interested us much. As it became enveloped in flames, three fine opossum peeped out of the boughs & tried in vain to escape. At length with a thundering crash the tree fell in one burning mass, when to our surprise the Opossums rushed through the burning embers & tried to escape, but as they are very mischievous we set a dog to catch them & one was soon killed. The others making their escape. In the afternoon, Tenie, Zip & I all went a lovely ride on

Mr Dargon came to tea & in the evening we went out to view the grand fire still blazing. A finer, grander display of fireworks could not be conceived, than a number of very large hollow trees glowing with fire from top to bottom & sending out millions of sparks, while occasionally some great bough or trunk burnt thro', comes crashing down like thunder.

Friday, October 23rd: Spent the morning indoors making myself generally useful. A nice walk in the afternoon & a quiet evening with Isaac Pennington's writings.

Saturday, October 24th: Daniel ~~Clark~~ Clarke & Joseph Dixon from Sydney arrived here this morning tired with walking out from Wollongong. Spent the day with these two dear friends, the former of whom is very unwell, feeling too deeply the trial of again disowning A. Allen. I hope the change here may do him good.

Sunday, October 25th: After breakfast I rode Ginger to Bulli where I had a favoured meeting the Wesleyan Chapel. For some time I felt as if there was no entrance for the word preached, as though a deaf ~~xx~~ ear that would not hear was present, but as I went on more life seemed to prevail, for which God alone be praised for the work is all His own, whose are the spirits of all flesh. Back to dine & spent a quiet hour or two on the hill in the company of my precious Tenie. After tea I walked to Bulli, Tenie, Zippie, J. Dixon & James Wilnot walking with us. A lovely, cool, moonlight night. The chapel very full & a precious covering over us so that I felt enabled to proclaim at great length the ever present nature of Christ by His Holy Spirit & to plead with the people to accept Him on His own terms.

Monday, October 26th: A walk with Mrs Cox & Dockle & then a ~~quiet~~ quiet morning writing. D. Clarke & J. Dixon adventuring themselves up Broker's Nose. E. Malcolmson has left here this morning to ride to Kiama & Shoal Haven, intending to return here in two or three weeks. In the afternoon Tenie, Zip & I rode into town where I called on Mr Hewlett. Read I. Pennington in the evening & had a long & most interesting discussion on Prayer & our duty & privilege respecting it.

Tuesday, October 27th: A quiet morning indoors making myself generally useful in domestic household affairs. Joseph Dixon left us in the afternoon for Sydney. I rode into Town to address once more the M.A. Band of Hope, which was very largely attended this evening, & very satisfactory.

Wednesday, October 28th: This afternoon I rode through Wollongong & up the side of Mrs Keira to old Mr Robson's at the coal mines & in the evening had a solemn & I believe a blessed little meeting with the coal miners & their families, held in the Primitive Methodist Chapel on the hill side. The people were very quiet & attentive & there seemed an open ear to hear the somewhat plain searching truth I had to deliver. Home to Summer Hill very late in the evening.

Thursday, October 29th: Went into town in the morning & left Daniel Clarke at J. Wilnot's, he intending to leave for Sydney per steamer today. ~~the~~ The remainder of the day spent as usual in the quiet enjoyment of my Australian home.

Friday, October 30th: Mrs Cox very ill & in bed all today. Miss Armstrong from Appin ~~xxxxxx~~ has been a guest here the last

few days. She is a nice girl & a friend of Fonic's & Zippie's. This evening several of us went into town to attend a literary & musical festival given by the daughters of Temperance to the town of Wollongong. I presided & we all much enjoyed the evening. The proceeds to be given to the hospital.

Saturday, October 31st: a soaking wet day. I took leave of the dear ones at Summer Hill & went by coach to Appin. The road so bad in consequence of the rain that the poor horses could scarcely drag us along & I walked some miles of the way to relieve them a little. The wet did not reach Appin where I dined & called on the Armstrongs. On to the old Town of Campbelltown, where Mr Green, a Congregational Minister, met me & took me to his house. He is a converted Jew & surprised me by asking if I knew Mr Hopkins of Brigg. I told him he was my Uncle & showed him his Carte de visite which happened to have with me. He was very pleased & so was I, thus to pick up a sort of mutual acquaintance. I arranged to hold a meeting in his chapel tomorrow & next Wednesday evenings. Abraham Davy drove over for me in his dog-cart & conveyed me to his residence 5 miles from Campbelltown. He lives at Harrington Park, a splendid estate, one of the finest in New South Wales, a thoroughly English looking park & mansion which he bought 15 years ago & has greatly improved. The evergreens in his ~~park~~ garden are more beautiful than I can describe. I find A.D. is related by marriage to Uncles J & H Hopkins. He was sent out of England as a convict under very extenuating circumstances & tho' A.A. & his party set me against him thoroughly, I verily believe him to be a Christian & as long ago as James Backhouse's visit I believe he was a truly converted man, tho' certainly not without his many failings. His wife Jane Davy is an excellent lady. He has two sons living - Daniel & William & four daughters - Helen, Esther, Mary & Jane, all well trained & ladylike young people. A. Davy has lately lost the bulk of his property so that it is doubtful whether he can long remain owner of this splendid estate.

Sunday, November 1st: A stroll through the grounds & to visit the newly made grave of a darling son Arthur - lately gone home, whose remains repose among the lovely evergreens & whose grassy mound is daily strewed with roses by some loving hands. Our meeting in the dining room was a precious season in which tears were shed & the dear Master was felt to be with us. A ~~lovely~~ lovely woodland walk in the afternoon - the dogs started an immense lizard fully 9 ft long. It ran up a tree where we had a good view of it. It was covered with black stripes & spots & looked more like a small crocodile. After tea Willie drove Helen, Ettie & me into Campbelltown where we had a large meeting & one of great favour, in which I was helped far indeed beyond my deserts.

Monday, November 2nd: Our friends here have 40 cows to milk & their cream to churn before breakfast. I watched the operation with no small interest. A. Davy & I went a long ride on horseback to Narellan, Denbeigh & Co & called on the Honble. Charles Cowper, for many years Premier of this colony. He is a sensible & most gentlemanly man & we had a long conversation on the South

Sea Island question, he having a large station in Queensland & employing 200 of the poor fellows. I very freely told him my sentiments & he acknowledged that tho' his own men are & very comfortable, the whole principle is bad. Home to dinner. In the afternoon a heavy thunder storm came on which kept us at home & gave me an opportunity of writing.

Tuesday, November 3rd: I went a long ride with my kind host - first to inspect some newly invented plough & then on to see Mr Pickering, a Wesleyan Minister, but found him not at home so did not complete an arrangement for a meeting there. Made two more calls & fixed for a Temperance Meeting this day week. Home to a late dinner & croquet in the afternoon with the girls who really need some recreation as they work harder than any I ever saw: they rise at 5 o'clock a.m. & have to milk all the cows, do the dairy work & feed the lambs &c before breakfast. Then there is all the cooking & housework for them to do which in a great mansion like this is no ~~mean~~ mean amount of work; then sewing, reading, practising music & in the evening milking & dairy work again. To bed at 11 o'clock p.m.

Wednesday, November 4th: I am trying to make myself useful in doing what little I can to help. I find I can fix & feed a number of motherless lambs with a teapot & assist a little in the dairy too. As all are thus employed it is the only way to have the company of the family at all. A nice & most welcome budget of letters just received written from Old Sam North Wales where my dear ones have been spending a few days & where inclination would have me to join their party. Rode a very swift horse full gallop to the post for letters, but found none. Harrington Park is about two miles from the little township of Narellian & three from Camden & five from Campbelltown. Narellian is the nearest Post Office. After A. Davy drove his wife & Pollie & Jennie & I rode to Campbelltown to attend a meeting. The earlier part was a regular prayer meeting & after that I spoke at considerable length on the high vocation of the child of God & closed the meeting in prayer. A heavy thunderstorm was raging during the meeting & our ride home was really perilous, it was so dark I could not see my horse's head or my own hand if held I held it up. The only object visible was the white skirt of one of the girls which I closely followed as the road was nearly new to me. Suddenly the girls sprang out of the dog cart & so frightened my horse that he spun round & it was with great difficulty that I kept my seat. The trap had nearly upset & soon after horse & conveyance all went over a bridge & were stuck fast. Providentially no harm was done occasionally brilliant flashes of lightning lit up the darkness & enabled my friends to unharness the horse, draw the trap out of ~~the~~ its hole & once more set us on our way. The ~~dark~~ moon rose before we got to ~~a~~ our destination, but it was 11 o'clock before wet & weary we were safely indoors.

Thursday, November 5th: Wet again this morning. Busy writing up my diary & letters for the English mail to leave Sydney tomorrow. I omitted to mention that at the meeting last night evening I met with a man, a deacon of the Chapel named ~~Mr~~ Figgott who says he is from Clavering & that his father kept a business

there & sometimes bought goods of R.G & Cos. On Tuesday I called on a man at Nardellan named Hill to deliver him a note sent me by J.J.R from his mother, I think old Mary Hill. He was respectable, A.Davy says, until he opened a public house, when he lost ground & now though he has no longer the possession of the Inn, but lives in a small cottage, he seems low means & lower in respectability. After dinner today Willie drove A.Davy, Helen & me into Campbelltown where we took the train for Sydney to attend the A.M there tonight. W.N.Rokes the clerk was not at home & the minute books were laid on x the table, but when we reached the meeting house & A.Allen had taken the books & hidden them. He was there & I asked him to be so kind as to tell us where the books were. This he refused to do & after a long hunt for them, we found them stuck in the hedge of the graveyard. This evidently greatly disconcerted Alfred but he came into meeting. I was appointed clerk, pro tem, & as such I requested A.A to withdraw as a non-member. This he declined & after a pause I asked friends which course we should adopt; either to remove the intruder by force or to adjourn the meeting to some place where he would not be admitted. Poor Ruth Allen, Alfred's mother, & an overseer of the meeting interrupted me by calling out to me : "Eh! thee is a wretch." I expressed my surprise at such an expression from the lips of an overseer, when she again called "So thee is a wretch. I say it & I mean it." The noise was awful, she & Alfred & Daniel Clarke all speaking at once, but at last I managed to read a minute adjourning the meeting to the house of Thomas Palsar, where I am lodging. Several of A.A's supporters however remained & held a sort of meeting of their own. We had a nice quiet peaceful meeting in my sitting room, where the business was conducted in brotherly love. Our dear friend Hannah P.Fowler was elected to the office of overseer & Christina & Zipporah Cox ~~xxxxxx~~ added to the list of members after being three months on the books. I felt completely gone up after our meeting was over, no one can understand until they have passed through it how intensely painful these things are, so harrowing to all my ideas of the precious brotherly condescension we have at home however we differ in sentiment.

Friday, November 6th: A stroll in the Botanical gardens before breakfast. They are said to be the finest in the world & I never go there without longing for my dearest mother especially & sisters & father too to help me to admire the exquisite flowers & birds & evergreens. Made poor A.Allen a long visit this morning & also a call on Mr Palmer & fixed with him to hold a meeting on Sunday night in the Bathurst St Baptist chapel. We decided at our A.M last night to close the meeting house in Devonshire St for the present on account of the fearful disturbance there. Now I must post this as the mail steamship "Bombay" leaves tonight. I have a letter from dear J.J.Neave today; he is quite well & was waiting at Broad Sound for the steamer back to Rockhampton. With the earnest desire that every blessing may rest on all my loved ones everywhere, I am yours very affectionately
 Walter Robson.

Received at Saffron Walden: January 3rd, 1869.

PART FIFTEENTH: THE SOUTH WALKS.

Friday, November 6th: Posted my diary & correspondence home & then went to tea at my very kind & always cordial friend's H.H. Newman's. Spent a pleasant & I trust not an unprofitable evening there, closing with reading & prayer. A calm after the Sydney storm!

Saturday, November 7th: Refreshed by a Turkish bath this morning. A. Davy called to consult me about what is to be done. A. Allen & Co have the key of the Devonshire St Meeting House & refuse to give it up. At last decided not to go to any legal authority in the matter but simply to put a fresh lock on the door & take no further notice of this insulting & most unchristian behaviour. Paid D. Clarke a long visit in the afternoon & went again to tea & spent the evening at H.H. Newman's.

Sunday, November 8th: Went a quiet lovely walk in the Domain & sat there under a more than usually sweet sense of the presence of the Comforter. At 11 o'clock we assembled in a large bedroom at my quarters (S.J. Falser's) & I never felt more of the blessedness of communion with the Father of Spirits through Jesus Christ. Only ten of us met, but while feeling our very peculiar position - locked out of our meeting house by one of our late members - yet to feel there was no contending spirit present was an inexpressible comfort after all we have endured in Devonshire Street. I bent the knee in earnest prayer for ourselves & those who had separated from us. I afterwards felt much liberty in addressing words of comfort to our little company. John Osborne spoke sweetly & H.H. Newman closed in prayer & Praise. I dined with D. Clarke who is very unwell & I fear no better for his tarriance at Woollongong. Met again at 4 p.m. & had another time of comfort & peace. Took tea at H.P. Fowler's. She has just heard of the death of her mother who was living in America & was known to J.J.N. At 7 p.m. I once more attended the platform in the large Baptist Chapel in Bathurst St & we were largely favoured together. The large audience most quiet & attentive & the feeling over us was peculiarly solemn & baptizing. Although A. Allen had promised he would be there & interrupt me, neither he nor any of his party were present, which under present painful circumstances was a great relief. Closed this day of many & favours & with prayer & praise at dear Hannah P. Fowler's, where were also the widow Mrs Matthews, her daughter &c. John Moring had staid this morning at Devonshire St to watch proceedings. A.A. & his party came & finding the gate locked, took it off its hinges, but when he found his key would not open the meeting house, he & his friends held their debating conventicle under a tree in the graveyard. Poor creatures! I fear they know not what manner of spirit they are of.

Monday, November 9th: A public holiday in Sydney - the Prince of Wales birthday. A dull, wet morning, disappointing to many pleasure-seeking picnic parties. Called on Hannah P. Fowler & in the afternoon on Louisa Kindred, J.J.N.'s cousin. I found her & her three dear little ones quite well. She expects the Captain home again in a short time. Then went a stroll in the Botanical Gardens, where I found thousands of people in holiday train,

enjoying the beauties of these, the finest Botanical Gardens in the world it is said. To the station at 5 p.m. Several friends there to bid me farewell. I accompanied Helen Davy to her home, which we reached at about 8 o'clock. We staid up talking over Sydney troubles till near midnight.

Tuesday, November 10th: A bright summer-like morning. The strange wild cries of some of the Australian birds, especially the curlews & coocumen are well worth hearing & wake me at daylight here. Rode for letters to the Narellian office & had the pleasure of welcoming one from my revered friend John Hodgkin. Afternoon: busy driving the cows, horses &c, an acquirement which practise alone can make one competent to perform. In the evening I rode with A. Davy to Camden to initiate mine host as a Son of Temperance. At 8 o'clock we had a large public meeting - A. Davy in the chair. I was the only speaker. Willie & all his sisters joined us, the two elder girls on horseback & we had a splendid gallop home after the meeting closed. Several persons had signed the pledge at the Meeting & the four misses Davey are proposed as Daughters of Temperance.

Wednesday, Nov 11th: wrote & read after breakfast. In the afternoon A. Davy & I rode over to the beautiful estate of the celebrated Sir William Macarthur, one of the best as well as wealthiest colonists that have helped to ~~king~~ elevate & improve N.S. Wales. It is a large place & the gardens &c very extensive & well laid out. Home to a late tea. I omitted to mention that as we were coming through Harrington Park on Monday night, we saw a splendid ignisfartuus. I never saw any before & the sight was very interesting. There were two brilliant will-o-the-wisps like bright lanterns moving slowly about in the vicinity of a creek on some low ground about $\frac{1}{2}$ a mile from this house.

Thursday, Nov 12th: A soaking wet morning spent indoors reading, writing &c. Afternoon fine - driving the sheep & lambs, assisting in any little manner that one so unaccustomed formerly to farming can do, but I feel my ignorance of the simplest every day, duties of dairy or stock farming, while my desire is when staying at such a place ~~x~~ as this, to be like St Paul at the house of Aquilla, when "he abode with them & wrought."

Friday, Nov 13th: Fine & really cool today, so that a fire in the dining room was very acceptable. Rode to the post before dinner & in the afternoon Helen, Ettie & I went a very pretty ride to a most lovely little village almost perfectly English called Cobbetty, whose little stone church among the trees would grace any little English hamlet. One great difference between the scenery here & other colonial districts is that all the paddocks round this neighbourhood have been cleared, not only of trees, but ~~x~~ stumps also, giving a far more finished cultivated aspect than where the ground is full of ~~wt~~ ugly half-burnt tree stumps. A drizzling rain brought us home sooner than we had intended.

Saturday, Nov 14th: The weather singularly cold for the time of year. I rode to the Narellian Post office before dinner, but was so unwell all day that I did not feel fit for much exertion. We were expecting poor Amelia Alice to arrive today, but she did

not come. I drove Jane Davy to Camden to see if the coach had brought her there by mistake, but she did not appear. In the evening Willie Davey drove out to hunt for her & came in again very late & badly hurt, having sustained an accident which but for the preserving care of our Heavenly Father might well have proved fatal. The horse had snied & dragged the dog cart into a ditch & then bolted with it, breaking the axle-tree in the midst, so that one wheel came off & poor Willie was violently thrown out & his ankle so badly sprained that weeks must probably pass before he can do anything but rest his leg on a sofa. He nearly fainted while his boot was being removed.

Sunday, Nov 15th: On the sick list today from a rather severe attack of a sort of Cholera, very weakening & difficult to cure. We had a nice meeting in the morning in which A. Davey & I ministered at some length & I trust in the ability that God giveth. Rested in the afternoon. After an early tea Helen, & Ettie accompanied me on horseback to Camden where I had a large meeting in the Wesleyan Chapel, which was well filled by a most quiet audience, tho' I did not feel quite so much clearness & entrance as I have often been favoured with. Possibly the fault was mine & I desire to take it to myself, but somehow there seemed a state present that I could not reach. However towards the close I hope Truth arose more into dominion & I left them uncondemned by any feeling of having withheld wilfully any of God's counsel.

Monday, Nov 16th: Feeling much better this morning. My dear kind motherly friend Jane Davey's treatment has answered well. Rode to the Post & received letters from Wollongong & James Martin. In the evening A. Davy & his four daughters all accompanied me on horseback to Camden, where I gave a lecture to a very attentive audience entitled: "Stray thoughts on many subjects." It was for the benefit of the School of Arts. Did not reach Harrington Park till nearly midnight.

Tuesday, Nov 17th: Took leave of my dear kind friends the Daveys at about 10 o'clock, having sent my bag in the Wollongong coach. I was lent a very nice grey mare to ride 34 miles to Dr Cox's & A.D. accompanied me to Campbelltown. On reaching Appin I rested at Mr Armstrong's where I fed my horse & had lunch. Then rode on towards Summer Hill & when about 5 miles from my destination I was cheered by meeting three horses ridden by E. Malcolmson Zippie & my dearest Tenie, who escorted me home.

Wednesday, Nov 18th: Very poorly again today with a decided attack of Dysentery. Kept quiet in the morning, but in the afternoon rode with E. & the 4 girls to call at the Medley's at Bullie, hoping the ride would do me good, but it had a contrary effect & I could hardly keep my seat from exhaustion & sharp pain. Went to bed immediately on my return & did not rise till nearly noon the next day.

Thursday, Nov 19th: & Feeling so weak & ill that the sofa was my resting place most of the day. The only diet that seems any good is boiled milk & flour very thick & containing the juice of a ~~pr~~ pomegranate. I do not remember ever to have felt more thoroughly weak & am so thin & boney I could hardly believe a few days illness could have so reduced me. Chlorodine is some little

relief, but not sufficient.

Friday, Nov 20th: Rather better today, but so weak I am unable to take any exertion & my complaint not cured yet; went into town in the dog cart but even the jolting tired me intensely. Surely I have great cause for humble gratitude that when so far away from those who would have so tenderly nursed & cared for me at home, I am surrounded by those who do all in their power to alleviate my suffering & make me better. I only feel rather apprehensive as to my being able prudently to go to Moruya next week as I had hoped to, but the future is in far better hands than ours.

Saturday, Nov 21st: Feeling considerably better today & able to assist in various household duties. E. Malcolmson left us on the horse I borrowed from A. Davey - he & Ben going together to Harrington Park. E.M. does not expect to be more than 3 months longer in the Colonies before embarking for the dear old country. I do not expect to see him again in Australia. He is taking quite a museum of beautiful birds, reptiles & ferns home with him. I expect he will start from Adelaide & he hopes to accompany the Holdsworths in the same vessel, ~~xxxx~~ but this is doubtful. This afternoon I went a gentle ride with Tenie & I think it ~~xx~~ did me good, tho' I came back very much tired. We find that my poor old inebriate W. Nash after a sad drinking bout in Sydney has come down to Wollongong & taken up his quarters at John Wilmot's, where ~~x~~ he is to stay as long as he can refrain from ~~thex~~ taking the cursed stimulant.

Sunday, Nov 22nd: ~~x~~ Much better today, only feeling very weak & good for nothing. Up to breakfast for the first time & my complaint is, I believe, cured. The Wilmots did not join our little meeting but I think we felt it ~~x kxxx~~ to be a time of refreshing from the presence of the Lord. Spent a quiet day - a sabbath of rest, & I do not feel as if I had anymore to do in the way of meetings in town at present. In the afternoon I rode into Wollongong & called to see poor Willie W. He is looking more decidedly besotted, but I hope even now there may be hopes for him, if he will but turn to the Strong for strength, owning his own ~~xxxx~~ weakness & utter powerlessness to overcome sin.

Monday, Nov 23rd: I drove Mrs Cox into town in the morning, where I had another interview with poor Willie. He is quite sober today & he is taking J.V. Hall's preventive medicine, but he has broken out once already since coming to Wollongong. After dinner I rode out to Bulli with Tenie, collecting for the Benevolent Society. A quiet evening at home. W. Nash & the Wilmots to tea.

Tuesday, Nov 24th: Wrote letters & ~~kn x~~ after our early breakfast & spent a quiet day not feeling able for any exertion till evening. Mr Turner called & at his somewhat urgent solicitation I have accepted his chapel in Wollongong for Sunday morning & at Bulli in the evening. After tea I drove Tenie & Xippie into town to attend a large meeting in which I was a speaker of the Temperance Society. Did not reach Summer Hill till after midnight.

Wednesday, Nov 25th: After breakfast the Doctor drove Mrs ~~Cox~~ & Dockle while Tenie & I rode into Wollongong & then to see

a very eccentric old gentleman living 4 miles beyond town named Cummins, a great poet in his own eyes, reminding me in many ways of our immortal bard John Searle, only this is a gentleman married & living in a very lovely house. We staid dinner & I had some religious conversation with him. Back to tea, where some guests were awaiting our arrival.

Thursday, November 26th: To town in the morning, but the heat so great we could scarcely bear it. Indeed in my present somewhat weak physical condition I find the heat almost insupportable. Poor Willie Waish came to dine: he has a kind letter from his poor wife holding out prospects of ultimate reunion. Mr Henry Freeman of the Lands Office, Sydney, rode from the city across Bottle Forest today & reached us to a late tea. He seems a very sensible, clever young man. I admire the Doctor being so diligent in his reading of Isaac Pennington, he never omits it whoever is here - Protestant or Catholic, though the book is full of plain faithful truths against all professors of every sort who are not in Christ.

Friday, November 27th: A sultry melting hot day. I drove into town in the morning. Spent the rest of the day with Mr Freeman.

Saturday, November 28th: I drove with the Dr & Mrs Sox into town, while a party accompanied Mr Freeman to the Kerosine Mines on Mount Kembla. Croquet in the afternoon; a quiet evening. My health is still far from strong, great care as to diet being necessary & so little strength to bear up against the heat of the weather.

Sunday, Nov 29th: I rode into Wollongong & conducted service in the Wesleyan Chapel where much help was in mercy given me in speaking on the subject of prayer & its reality, & great privilege to the Christian. Out atain to dinner. Hotter than any day I yet remember, a north wind blowing in great puffs as if from a furnace, & this morning riding to town the heat was greatly increased by a large bush fire quite close to the roadside. Much exhausted on my return. A thunderstorm in the afternoon cooled the air & made the walk to Bulli chapel in the evening a pleasant refreshing one. A large & most attentive meeting there, to whom I felt drawn to speak of the man whom Jesus loved who had kept the commands of the Decalogue from his youth & yet lacked one thing, such a needful thing, that without it we cannot be true disciples of Jesus.

Monday, November 30th: A delightful breeze from the ocean makes it very delightful this morning & we greatly enjoyed accompanying on horseback Mr Freeman 11 miles on his journey back to Sydney. Home to a late dinner & spent the rest of ~~the~~ my last day at Summer Hill for the present, quietly in the company of my dearest one. Watched this morning in the bush a curious sight, a wonder in natural history. The laughing Jackass is such a useful bird in destroying all sorts of venomous reptiles that it is protected by law & a heavy fine imposed on any one found destroying them. They catch the largest snakes, fly with them to the top of a high tree, drop them, fly down after them & continue to do so until the ~~snaky~~ deadly monster has expired, when ~~the~~ he furnishes a good meal for the clever little Jackass. We witness

We witnessed one with a big snake in his mandibles this morning in the act of destroying his victims.

Tuesday, December 1st: Packed up my luggage & prepared to leave Summer Hill by the coach, but after waiting a long time, no coach came & I accordingly was not very reluctantly compelled to spend another day here. Received my ever welcome Budget of English letters today, a prospect of nearly sufficient from the meeting for Sufferings to pay our old debts. Very interesting in every minutest particular of news from the old country of Domestic affairs. Public & Political tidings are voluminously described in the Colonial newspapers.

Wednesday, Dec 2nd: Took leave of the dear ones at Fairy Meadow as usual at Appin & went by the coach to Campbelltown, dining as usual at Appin & calling on the Armstrongs there. Left my baggage at the station & walked 5 miles to Harrington Park, where a warm welcome awaited me from the Davys, E. Malcolmson & my future brother-in-law Ben who is their guest at present. The day was so hot & my health so feeble that I think the five miles tired me almost as much as 30 would have done on a cool day in Scotland.

Thursday, December 3rd: A long talk with A. Davey about the present position of Sydney troubles & from him I gathered some fresh particulars. On 1st day Joseph Dixon brought a bag of tools with him & was about to break into the Meeting House but was prevented by a strong body of police. He & his companions finding ingress impossible, held a meeting in the Roman Catholic Cemetery, where they loudly denounced us for turning them out of their rightful inheritance &c. This afternoon I accompanied Abraham & Jane Davey to Sydney to attend the Monthly Meeting held as last, in a room in my quarters. But we decided after going through much of the business to adjourn till next week & hold the meeting then in the new meeting house.

Friday, Dec 4th: Hope to welcome my dearly loved & longed for cousin in Sydney tomorrow, if he be favoured with a safe voyage from Brisbane. He writes of being well in health though of course cast down with Sydney troubles. Certainly I have learnt some lessons since coming to this city 8 months ago concerning our society & the absolute necessity that its members be subject one to another in brotherly love or else the consequences may be as here they have been, the utter ruin of good feeling & order in the Churches of the Saints. Not that I call A. Allen & his deluded disciples Saints but they ought to belong to a meeting strong enough to deal faithfully & firmly with those who walk disorderly. I believe if spared to reach my dear home, I shall more than ever feel how essential it is to endeavour to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of Peace. The mail closes at 9 p.m. today, so I must finish this. Letters to me had better be directed to the care of Dr Cox, where we may be on their receipt seems more than ever uncertain. At present I seem so little able to bear the heat of summer or to take any exertion that I often feel discouraged for fear I may be a hindrance instead of a helpmeet to my loved cousin. But Oh! for more ability in this, as well as in all my future concerns to

breathe the prayer Divinely taught: "Thy will be done."
With very dear love to all my dear relatives & friends at
home & everywhere

Yours most affectionately
Walter Robson.

"Brethren, pray for us."

Received at Saffron Walden; 30th of January 1869.

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END OF VOLUME ONE OF THE JOURNAL.

PART SIXTEENTH: NEW SOUTH WALES.

Friday, Dec 4th: 1868: My kind friend H.H. Newman called for me this afternoon & escorted me to his house to tea. He is a very kind friend to me in my lonely condition, always giving me a hearty welcome.

Saturday, Dec 5th: Woke this morning by the dear familiar voice calling at my door: "My dear cousin thee naven't been for thy morning walk yet", & then dear Joseph entered looking so well & comfortable. I could not help wishing I had felt more able to go about with him & help him, but today I am feeling more than usually weak & good for nothing. We both bathed in the sea, but I think it hardly did me good as I was so thoroughly exhausted with dressing & walking home. But I quite hope (if it be consistent with the Divine will) soon to feel better after a few days of quinine & quiet. Called on H.P. Fowler & spent the remainder of the day writing.

Sunday, Dec 6th: Feeling so much better today that I enjoyed a quiet stroll in the Domaine before meeting. Met in our lodgings as usual & had a very favored time. H.H. Newman offered prayer very earnestly; Joseph spoke sweet words of encouragement; I added a few words & dear Joseph poured out his heart in prayer & afterwards quoted a sweet text before we broke up. We dined at the Newman's. The afternoon meeting was small. I engaged in prayer & dear Joseph spoke again at some length very comfortingly. Spent the evening at H.P. Fowler's & while J was reading the Bible before we parted, John Moring (who was also there) was suddenly taken with a sort of fit, very painful to witness, depriving him of consciousness but not of the power & control of his limbs. Got him off home as soon as possible.

Monday, Dec 7th: Resumed my plan of a walk in the Botanical Gardens before breakfast & much enjoyed it, tho' even in early morning the sun bears great power now. J. Moring better we hear this morning. Made calls in the morning & after dinner J. ^{Walser} accompanied us by the steam ferry to the North Shore where we called on two ladies named Hogan, excellent people with whom we had a very relieving & satisfactory time of religious exercise. Went a walk up onto some high ground commanding a view over Sydney Harbour & Botany Bay. Met one of that extraordinary sect of Christians called "Israelites" or Beardies who believe they are bound both to the Law & the Gospel. We had much conversation with him & found him possessed of a very loving spirit, though holding some serious errors. Took tea at Joseph & Ann Simpson's & found that the former had been much more satisfactory of late & had not given way to drink since our last visit six months ago. Had much vocal service with them, closed by prayer from my dear cousin. Returned home to our lodgings, thankful for the mercies of the day, but feeling sorely cast down at the most grievous state of things among friends here. Since my return from Wollongong A. Allen has been down there & in his ever winsome way had made my dear friends there believe (having no one to contradict him) just whatever falsehoods he had liked to tell about Friends in Sydney. He spoke very lovingly of me, well knowing how best to "play his cards."

Tuesday, Dec 8th: Made calls on Mr Freeman (who I met at

Wollongong) & ~~was~~ on old A.J. Holroyd, & in the afternoon we called on Daniel Clarke - a distressing visit! & took tea at John & Ellen Palser's, closing with reading & a sweet address from Joseph & prayer from W. Robson & J. Palser. Called yesterday on Dr Sunderland the Agent of the London Missionary Society & find from him that he is expecting the "samoa", a brig from England, the property of the Society, to reach ~~the~~ Port Jackson in February & to sail ~~from~~ for the Islands about the beginning of March & to make an eight months tour visiting all the Stations in connection with the congregational body in Polynesia. He offers us a passage in her & I expect "if the Lord permit" we shall go, but the future is very uncertain. Oh! how well to feel it is ~~far~~ in far better hands than ours.

Thursday, Dec 9th: A lovely lonely walk this morning in the Botanical Gardens enjoying nature's beauties & I trust a little communion with Nature's God. Went to the week-day meeting - small & at first a low time. It was held in the little old meeting house in Devonshire St of which the Allenites still hold the key. John Palser & John Osborne said a few words & the latter seemed remarkably to open the way for my enlarging on what he had introduced. My beloved cousin closed the meeting in earnest prayer that in God's own good time ~~this~~ the breaches in this little church might be really healed. In the afternoon we called at J. Dixon's, where was Alfred Allen & J. Mitchell, so we had it "hot & strong" for an hour or so, but Alfred was in a far more loving & moderate mood than usual. Attended a Committee of Ministers of various denominations held in the Temperance Hall on the subject of the introduction of the S. Sea Island labour into Queensland & decided to memorialize the government of that ~~our~~ colony on this sad subject. To tea at dear H.P. Fowler's where we met & spent a very pleasant evening with John Neild jr & Newman Cash & their brides. Clara Neild is a lovely but very delicate looking girl. Mrs Cash I have met before with Newman before their marriage. We closed ~~with~~ with reading, followed by a very earnest feeling address from Joseph. I bent the knee in earnest prayer for the bridegrooms & their brides. I omitted to say that a few days back Joseph & I paid a visit of curiosity to the Jews Synagogue in Macquarie St. It ~~is~~ is a nice substantial building & it seems remarkable that a house built by one who in life denied his Lord should now be used by a people who do not believe in our only hope of glory. John Tawell built it at his own cost, a masterpiece of hypocrisy.

Thursday, Dec 10th: Another lovely walk in the Botanical Gardens. Went to find up the poor wife of Richard Marsh & found her getting an honest comfortable living for herself & children while her wretched husband is still in Darlinghurst Gaol refusing to accept a discharge from his wife. He has been living in laziness there for 13 months & seems quite content with his present circumstances. Went to tea at J. Smethurst's, an old man who living with his daughter Lavinia Patino & her little boys, ~~it~~ obtains a scanty livelihood by making & hawking shoeblackening. He & Lavinia have recently applied for membership. We had a nice evening there, closing with a solemn time of devotion, reading & earnest prayer.

Friday, Dec 11th: Hoped to have spent a quiet morning

writing but before 10 o'clock A. Davy, H. H. Newman, J. Falser with W. B. Hokes called to see us & hardly had we settled down to conversation when poor Alfred Allen called to see us & so I tackled him in the hall & left Joseph in our sitting room to take care of our quieter guests. Alfred only stayed talking with me for three hours & a half, trying to poison my mind against Abraham Davy, J. Falser & the whole crew of Devonshire St friends. It was very painful, indeed I can hardly describe to anyone how painful such details are: he proves clearly to his own satisfaction that dear Francis Cotton is a deceiver & liar, & he will not admit that he is disowned & insists on being present at the Monthly Meeting. Went to an early tea at H. H. Newman's & he accompanied us to the M. M. which was held in our new meeting house, a really nice commodious building with most comfortable cedar forms & much prettier than the generality of our English meeting houses. Appointed a door keeper, who while admitting all our members, managed to keep Alfred Allen outside. Joseph went out to speak to him for a while & then Alfred went away. It was after a long discussion decided to open the new meeting house for the public worship of God next Sunday morning. Much fear was expressed but I hope a little faith was given, & fully believe it is a right step to open the place, for to my mind it feels more than sad while friends have a good new meeting house to be meeting in a bed room in private just because of the disorderly conduct of A. Allen & A. Wood. Some other matters had to be discussed & among others a very insulting letter from James Mitchell, which business J. J. Neave & John Waring were appointed to investigate. There is unfortunately a spirit of ~~intolerance~~ ~~of a~~ ~~kind~~ ~~of~~ ~~intolerance~~ ~~of~~ ~~a~~ ~~kind~~ ~~of~~ ~~intolerance~~ prevalent, not only among the Allenites but also among some of the sound friends, that was rooting out; a spirit of intolerance of a fear of too much freedom & an unwholesome idea of the dignity & infallibility of the decision of the M. M. Broke up the meeting at 10.30 thankful that the iron hand of law had not to be enforced to get rid of a mistaken though I believe a sincere man.

Saturday, Dec 12th: The hottest morning in Sydney this season, almost too warm to enjoy a walk before breakfast. Soon after that meal we received a visit from A. Davy, John Falser & John Osborne. The former said he had come with a heavy burden on his mind for us, & we had to listen for about 1/2 an hour to a long address from him, in which he expressed his decided sentiment that our visit to Sydney has done more harm than good because we had not refused to hold any intercourse with the Allenites & he wondered at our obtuseness that we could not see that Devonshire St Friends were all right & Pitt St all wrong, even as far apart from each other as light from darkness & Christ from Belial. He added that any who sympathised with the lying spirits in Pitt St were as bad as themselves. Well, we heard him out, but I found afterwards from dear Joseph that he felt with me, that this long harangue was like "pouring water on a duck's back." It seemed not to cling or belong to us in any way. We cannot feel that one side is all right & the other all wrong, for on the Devonshire St side are some who love the preeminence & would crush all liberty of thought or action, while on the Pitt St side though we most completely disapprove of the conduct of Allen & his coadjutors.

yet there are among his people some who live very near to Jesus, & with those spirits we feel quite as much unity as with any of the other body. Thus because we feel it our place to take a middle course, we are as it were, disowned by both parties who seem each to have got into a rut from which they cannot or will not move & as we walk between the ruts neither section has unity with us. In the afternoon we wrote letters & after tea called on H.P. Fowler & James Mitchell; with the latter we spent a long time conversing on the subject that causes so much feeling here. This evening the wind has turned south & is blowing what in Colonial phraseology is called "a southerly burster". The dust blowing in great clouds, blinding the eyes, getting into the teeth & every feature of the face & choking the throat most unpleasantly.

Sunday, Dec 13th: At 7 o'clock this morning we went to the breakfast for the Destitute in the Temperance Hall. Twenty wretches, bloated, drunken looking women & over a hundred men in similar condition generally makes a most sad & affecting spectacle when met in this land of plenty, half starved & miserable, to accept a charity which none but the most degraded & sunken in vice would care to receive. When breakfast was over a Presbyterian minister read in the Scriptures & said a few words to them. Then dear Joseph knelt in earnest prayer. I addressed them at considerable length, imploring them while yet the door of mercy remains open to accept the offers of Redeeming love. Joseph added a few sweet words of welcome back to a Father's House & I closed in fervent prayer. At 11 o'clock the new meeting house in Devonshire St was opened ~~in the~~ for the first time for worship, except that a few weeks ago the Allenites broke the door open & got in, causing the painful necessity ~~to~~ call the Police to protect the premises. Today however the feeling on all hands seemed to be "bear & forbear" & the fine pretty building was well filled, not really full but sufficiently so to give a comfortable look of an absence of empty forms. Soon after the meeting settled I was engaged in prayer, earnestly petitioning that tho' "God dwelleth not in temples made by hands" yet that when His church were ~~xxxx~~ assembled here He would dwell with them by His Holy Spirit, ~~en~~ enabling them to worship Him in spirit & in truth. A. Allen spoke soon after & really said nothing that anyone could object to, except it were the fierce way in which he lays down the law. John Falser offered prayer especially for Joseph & me. Joseph spoke in a very solemn weighty ~~xxxxxx~~ manner & I also addressed the meeting on the blessed reality of the promise of our Lord: "Lo I am with you always, ~~xxx~~ even unto the end of the world" & the necessity of "not refusing Him that speaketh to us from Heaven." Alfred rose again & gave a less ~~xx~~ satisfactory address than his first, being to caution his friends against those there who were "false prophets" "wolves in sheeps clothing". I was painfully reminded of Edward Sowerby of Devonshire House sounding-board refutation. Arthur Wood spoke, referring to what I had said, but not insultingly. Joseph closed in solemn prayer & praise & we broke up under a feeling that after all the meeting had not been so painful as we feared it would. We spent the day at W.N. Roke's. The evening meeting was small, Pitt St friends not present as they hold an "edification meeting" in Pitt St still on Sunday evenings. Joseph & I felt

helped in addressing words of faith & hope & love to the poor tried little body & I closed in prayer. Supped at H.H. Newman's & after reading Joseph gave us an earnest, feeling address & I closed this days ~~xxxxxx~~ of exercise & many mercies in prayer & praise, especially remembering our absent loved ones everywhere.

Monday, Dec 14th: Another sultry day. Spent the morning writing. We are deeply feeling our present position here, both bodies against us, as it were, because we cannot take part so fully with one against the other, as both think we ought to. The fact is that in Sydney meeting there are many nice excellent friends, but they seem quite unable to fit in with each other to form a united meeting. We often remark to one another that almost any of them would form valuable additions to an English meeting, but it seems impossible for them to settle down in harmony though all declare that they have no feeling ~~bx~~ but love to each other. And their way of evidencing that love is by constant strife, conflict, evil surmisings & misconstruing motives & actions!! Deliver me from such love as that, for as the poet says: "They first shake hands before they box, then give each other plaguy knocks, with all the love & kindness of a brother." This morning ~~xxxx~~ Alfred called & sat a long time with us; he was in one of his very fieriest humours, denounced us both & told us we had done incalculable harm to the truth & he longed for us to go home. I think such treatment makes one long to do that more than ever. He says he is going to Melbourne Annual Meeting & shall try & get justice there as we refuse to give it him. I can see no end to it our Melbourne friends are so ready to believe all he tells them & to espouse ~~x~~ his cause always that I fear if he goes he will so completely set them against us that we shall find no further place among them yet whom need we fear if we be followers of that which is good? & as long as "our hearts condemn us not we have confidence ~~xxxx~~ towards God." The truth will ultimately prevail. Blessed be God! After dinner I called ~~xx~~ alone on Alfred & had a quiet satisfactory time with him in his office. He is really apined at the recent conduct of A. Davy. A. D. has written to the board of education of to complain of Arthur Wood's disorderly conduct in our meetings, with a view of getting him dismissed from their public school service. This seems too much like taking the bread out of a man's mouth for conscience sake & a thing I cannot think a Christian act. I had received yesterday a note from Mrs Freeman of the Land Office, the gentleman I met at Summer Hill, earnestly begging me to call on him at his office. Accordingly I went this afternoon and found he was in deep distress owing to the infamous conduct of his wife. Thus was I introduced into another most painful tragedy & one so closely connected ~~xxx~~ with the most sacred honor of the family of Dr Cox that with M M Joseph's full approval I decided to go down to Wollongong by the steamer tonight to do all that can be done to set things straight there. It no way interferes with my individual happiness & this is about all I can well or suitably place on paper of one of the most abominable scandals ever originated by a lady, Mrs Freeman proving the truth of the Solomon; Jealousy is cruel as the grave. Joseph & I took tea at Daniel Clarke's & closed the evening very satisfactorily, after which my dear ~~xxx~~

cousin accompanied me to the Phoenix Wharf where I embarked in the "Hunter" for Wollongong.

Tuesday, Dec 15th: Reached Wollongong a little before 4 a.m. but did not leave the cabin till 6. Then walked out to Summer Hill to breakfast & found all the dear ones here well, though deeply grieved at the conduct of Mrs Freeman, of which I had the painful duty to inform them. I spent a quiet day of domestic enjoyment in good company. We try not to look anxiously to the future but my dearest Tenie & I do sometimes deeply feel the prospect of a long severance while I accompany my dear cousin to the far off Islands of the South Seas & New Zealand.

Wednesday, Dec 16th: Dr & Mrs Cox with Tenie & me into town in the dog cart to call on my old friends the Wilmots. I am glad to be able to report that poor young Willie Naish is still a strict teetotaler & has been enrolled a member of our Band of Hope. A real hot north wind, a sort of suffocating gale blowing all day.

Thursday, Dec 17th: Rode 'Ginger' into town for the letters & to see what time the steamer leaves this afternoon for Sydney, as I must join my dear cousin tonight for a few days. It was rather suddenly arranged that the Doctor should accompany me, as he has business to do in the city & as my dearest Tenie has a very pressing invitation to old Judge Holroyd's of Paramatta, I had the pleasure of her company also. Just as we were sitting down to an early dinner at Summer Hill, Mrs Cox noticed some smoke issuing from one of the paddocks at the back of the house. We made a tour of discovery & found that one of the neighbours had thoughtlessly lit a fire to boil some water & from the dry state of the atmosphere & the high hot wind the fire had spread & run along the ground & burnt the fence for some 50 yds, endangering greatly the whole crop. With strenuous efforts we put the running fire out using green boughs for that purpose & a man cut down the fence so as to disconnect the burning part from that which had not yet caught fire. Drove into Wollongong & embarked in the steamship "Illalong" at 3 p.m., reaching Sydney at 8.30. Took Tenie to Redfern to lodge at H.H. Newman's & left here there after supper. The Doctor, also James Wilmot who came with us, are our fellow boarders at the Palsers.

Friday, Dec 18th: An early breakfast at H.H. Newman's. Brought Tenie into town to call to see my dear cousin; also Alfred Allen, H.P. Fowler &c. After I had consigned her to the care of A.J. Holroyd at the station, Joseph & I called on George & Margaret Boothroyd & had a relieving time with them of religious exercise. They have been greatly pained & prevented from joining fully with friends by the conduct of poor Alfred & his party. A call from Arthur Wood concluded the day.

Saturday, December 19th: I spent some time writing. Then went to call on Mr Freeman at the Lands Office, also with Dr Cox to his lawyer on will business. Then we called on Frederic Suttley. After dinner called on John Moring & he accompanied my dear cousin to James Mitchell's to tea, but as they were there on Monthly Meeting appointments, I did not go with them but Mr Freeman overtook me in the street & took me to his mother's to tea, where we were joined by Dr Cox & spent I believe a not unprofitable

evening. Returned & wrote letters till bedtime.

Sunday, Dec 20th: It is very trying to me than in consequence of the great sympathy our Melbourne friends have with the Allenites & their believing all they chose to tell them, our friends there have in the capacity of a meeting of Ministers & Overseers written to both of us to express their complete disunity with me. It is hard to bear when suffering so much far from Sydney friends to have the sweeping & unanimous condemnation of some who have very incorrect information to go on, & yet write as feeling perfectly certain their doing so is under Divine guidance. I doubt not it is part of the discipline I need, or it would not be permitted. Our meeting this morning was pretty large. After A. Allen had spoken, I think nicely, J.J. Neave offered prayer & then Dr Cox spoke for about 45 minutes, very earnestly testifying to the power of grace & love of God that had changed his heart & was given to change all hearts if we would submit to it. I spoke on an event which had brought some of us into deep feeling - the very sudden death at Woonona of Arthur Wood's sister. The Doctor, Alfred & Joseph all spoke, as did John Palser - the latter to remind us of the solemn purpose for which we were met. The Doctor & ourselves spent the day at Daniel Clarke's & after dinner paid a visit to his brother Joseph. In the evening meeting the Doctor said a few words, then I followed, as did J.J.N & J. Palser, all on the plain duty & blessed privilege of prayer & thanksgiving. This I afterwards poured out at the Throne of Grace on behalf of us all. A few loving words from Joseph closed the meeting. J went to supper at H.P. Fowler's & I with H.H. Newman. A day of much exercise & many mercies.

Monday, Dec 21st: My usual constitutional before breakfast. What a contrast between my circumstances now & those of my loved ones at home: they are probably shivering with cold in overcoats & other wraps & we glad of our umbrellas to protect our heads from the glare of the midsummer sun, 126° in the sun & 102° in the shade! Spent most of the morning writing & called on Mr Freeman. To tea at H.H. Newman's with dear E. Malcolmson, who I suppose we shall not see many times more in these colonies as he leaves for Melbourne probably next week.

Tuesday, Dec 22nd: Joseph & I went by special invitation to breakfast at John Graham's. He is the Newman Hall of Sydney, a Congregational Minister of unbounded popularity, who succeeded Mr Cuthbertson here & for whom I had a note of introduction from Robert Starling. Met Dr Sunderland & another gentleman there. Before breakfast Joseph & Mr Graham offered prayer. The subject of our meeting was to discuss about the poor South Sea Islanders & the great demonstration they are endeavouring to get up in Sydney on their behalf. I left Joseph there at 10 o'clock & joined Tenie at the Wharf embarking on the steamship "Kemball" for Wollongong. The wind being in our teeth most of the passengers were very bad, but my dearest & I escaped. Joe met us at the landing place & drove us home in the dog cart.

Wednesday, Dec 23rd: My precious Tenie is 21 today. How earnest are my desires that now she has reached her womanhood, who has ~~xxx~~ been the guide of her youth will still guide & guard & bless her all her life long. After dinner we went a ride into

town hoping to meet H.H. Newman, but he did not come. Mr Dargen & Willie Maish rode out with us to tea & we spent a pleasant evening. Poor Willie really does seem climbing the ladder back from vice to virtue & he seemed pleased that I could tell him of having called on his wife in Sydney & received a message of love for him & strong hopes expressed of final reunion, if only he will be steady & abandon drink. Yet ~~his~~ his heart is unchanged by Divine grace; there seems no repentance, no real Godly sorrow for sin or faith in Jesus.

Thursday, Dec 24th: The weather has been gradually getting hotter till today when it seems to have reached a climax. It is really ~~as warm~~ too warm to do anything but read or write. A north wind blowing very fiercely, as if from a furnace. Walked down to the entrance gate in the evening but the puffs of heated air were almost suffocating. When we retired at 10 p.m. the thermometer stood at 98 under the verandah. Dr Cox is much annoyed by flying foxes which hover over the ground at night robbing us of hundreds of rich ripe peaches which fruit is just coming into perfection, & on which horses, pigs, cattle & ourselves all regale. The flying fox is rather like an immense bat with a face & ears like a fox, his coat a rich brown & his wings when spread out measuring over 3 feet. These last are hooked & the little beasts can hang most oddly by the extremity of one wing. Joe shoots a great many & when shot they will often hang dead by their wings, emitting an odour not to be desired.

Christmas Day, 1868: This morning we rose unrefreshed by a hot night, our lips parched & our throats sore, but as the day advanced a cold south wind sprang up, bringing a refreshing shower of rain & great relief every way. Drought in these Colonies is something fearful & it now threatens us. Here the grass hepper by tens of thousands are eating up the grass & from several ~~many~~ weeks of dry weather the feed is becoming alarmingly short. I rode into town for letters & in the afternoon Fennie & I went a quiet ride to Belamby together. Several guests to tea.

December 26th: Rose at 4.30 & after an early breakfast, J. drove me into Wollongong where I took the steamer "Hunter". Reached Sydney at 11 o'clock & joined my loved cousin at our old quarters to spend a few more days in this troubled scene prior to going to Newcastle. Cheered by letters from home awaiting my arrival: one from each of my precious parents, from Priscie, Joseph & Caroline, Arthur Robinson & Stanley Fumfrey. News of the death of good old Samuel Allen, also Constance Alexander, Catherine Hopkins, Priscilla Stokes & several others we have known, bring with the closing of 1868, many solemn thoughts. "Be ye also ready for at such an hour as ye think not, the Son of man cometh." Too tea with H.P. Fowler, called on J. Dixon in the evening & then wrote letters till bed time.

Sunday, Dec 27th: The meeting this morning was a time of deep exercise to many of us. Alfred, Arthur & the Doctor had much to say; Joseph & I also spoke for a short time. It seems impossible ever to get any settled silence when the "Allenites" are present - A.A. usually begins as soon as the meeting has gathered & A.Woo soon follows him. Feeling a little quiet to be best for ourselves

today, Joseph & I dined at our quarters for the first time we have done so on Sunday since our arrival in Port Jackson on April 1st. Took tea with Newman-Cash & his nice young wife & I really longed that dear S.W.T. could have ~~me~~ looked in upon us at her brother's comfortable little home. In the evening meeting my mind was deeply solemnized under the feeling of being the last Sunday in 1868 & I gave expression to my concern at some length. John Falser spoke nicely; Joseph closed in very solemn prayer & praise. Supped at H.H. Newman's & bent the knee in prayer before we parted.

Monday, Dec 28th: E. Malcolmson called while we were at breakfast to take a last farewell of us before leaving for Melbourne, Adelaide & home! He has very greatly endeared himself to us both, especially myself, so that we felt sorrowful at severing another tie to the dear old country. Joseph & I went by the train to Windsor about 30 miles. This is a nicely situated town on the beautiful river Howksbury. It contains about 4,000 inhabitants. Hoped to meet the object of our search at the Post Office but the letter we had sent had not been delivered so we had 5 miles to walk through the most broiling heat I ever remember, & then came to the comfortable little cottage of Ephraim Keeden, brother ~~me~~ to so many who have worked for us at home. He seems a very respectable man, has a nice wife & family, the latter about grown up. Has had many losses through floods during the fifteen years he has been in the colony but as foreman to a good farmer he is now doing well & seems possessed of a thankful spirit. Had a pleasant time there. His master's son drove us back as far as the river, which has a punt over it; met W.H. Rokes here to our surprise & accompanied him to Sydney. Our railway journey in the morning was uncomfortable owing to having with us several gamblers & one young man evidently a card sharper. However we both spoke very seriously to them all & gave them tracts. The sharper changed carriages at the next station & the others acknowledged how wrong it was to bet & gamble & wished they had never begun. This evening Joseph Dixon with his brothers Thomas & James, the former from Moruya, the latter a young seaman, came to tea with us & spent the evening, as did Dr Cox. The latter we accompanied to the wharf & saw him on board the "Hunter" bound for his lovely home.

Tuesday, Dec 29th: writing letters for the English mail, with some calls & banking business in town occupied our time this morning. After tea we addressed a Temperance Meeting held in a school room in Dyley St. The meeting was a satisfactory one & I have noticed in all the colonies we have never yet been present when no name has been added to the pledge or enrolled as a son or daughter. This evening several signed. One part of the performance amused us much: the chairman announced that a juvenile young lady would sing & truly it was so, for a tiny pretty child only 2 yrs & 3 months old was stood up on a chair & warbled forth three songs beautifully, the air as correct & the time as perfect as many a professional singer. Sorry to hear that poor Joseph Simpson the friend on the ~~the~~ North shore with whom we have often laboured & for whom we have prayed, has again fallen deeply into the sin of drunkenness. It often seems like hoping against hope.

Wednesday, Dec 30th: A small but a very refreshing meeting

this morning. John Falser spoke very sweetly; Joseph followed in a spirit of earnest address; I prayed for a blessing on the new year & returned thanks for the mercies which the old one had been so full of. Then H.H. Newman knelt in fervent & supplication for a blessing on our labours & our support every way. Spent most of the day writing for the English mail. To tea at John Falser's & he accompanied us to a Temperance Meeting held in the Temperance Hall. A gentle rain kept some persons away but we had a good meeting & ten people signed the pledge. Supped at our dear ~~xxxxxx~~ motherly friend H.P. Fowler's. "The rain today is indeed a blessing to the parched ground & will give the grass a start again. The feed for cattle & horses has been getting very short & no wonder for the heat this past week is greater than has been known for many years: 115° in the shade! Now it is much cooler.

Thursday, Dec 31st: The last day of x 1868! A year of many mercies to us who are here & to our dear ones at home. May gratitude & love be the covering of every heart under a sense of our own utter unworthiness & God's great love & mercy towards us. The language of my heart today is "It is of His mercies I am not consumed because His compassion fail not, they are new every morning, great is Thy faithfulness." We want to exercise more faith, more simple trust & childlike confidence in Jesus for all God's promise are "Yea & amen in Him." If spared through another year may the retrospect be more satisfactory to myself, may my poor young heart be more dedicated to God & Oh! may I be just what the Lord would have me to be & do all He would have me to do, so that His great name may be glorified. Truly I have very much cause for special gratitude to Him for His goodness towards me in permitting me to win the loving heart of my dear Christina & though next year may be & probably will be one spent mostly far away from her, yet I desire not to repine but cheerfully to enter in the right time on that most trying, uncertain & perhaps perilous part of our mission, the long voyage in the "Samoa" to the Islands of the Southern Seas. It will, I know, be very trying often to be a long time without any tidings either from my dear home or from Summer Hill & to be unable to send any to either place, but it will be a useful lesson to me in exercising faith that in very deed God will bless & protect all I love as well as ourselves for Jesus sake. Our address, at least mine, had better be as last to : care of Dr Cox, Summer Hill, Fairy Meadow, or Wollongong, New South Wales. I have just received a note from Joseph Dixon informing me that the Pitt St friends are memorializing our English meeting for sufferings complaining of me as doing great harm in these colonies - building up sects instead of pulling them down. I hardly suppose it will be needful for me to do anything in the matter; the writers are not "Friends" with the exception of three who support Alfred Allan & Arthur Wood in all they do, but I understand 30 persons are going to sign it. After tea we both went to Pitt Street & spent from 7 till about 10 o'clock in very spirited controversy with A. Allen & several of his party. But as usual they were altogether perfect & right, being born again they ~~see~~ can never sin, while we who are in the first birth stumble & fall constantly. Left them with the feeling that any further discussion would do no good & that our great desire

for them was that they might be brought more under the power they so stoutly, in words, contend for. At a little after 10 o'clock a dear old saintly man, a Mr Armstrong, called with his wife at our lodgings & accompanied us to the female Refuge, to hold a midnight meeting with the poor ruined inmates. It would not be seemly for me to give many particulars of this interesting institution but suffice it to say the only condition on which any girl may be admitted is that she had been morally ruined & wished to reform. They have 27 now in the house, but 40 can be accommodated & it wants some Christian ladies to visit such characters & draw them from their abominable haunts to this place of refuge. We soon had them assembled in their dining room & at about 10.30 commenced a meeting with them. Poor girls, some of them are very young, one not 12, another 14, another 15 & many under 18. Some of the ~~oldest~~ older ones looked fearfully degraded as if their course of vice would soon plunge them into eternal ruin. Mr Armstrong gave out a sweet hymn; then Joseph read the chapter in Luke containing the blessed parable of the Prodigal Son; he immediately afterwards offered long & fervent prayer for all present, petitioning for grace to keep us from all sin during the year & close upon us & for pardon for the past. Then I spoke to the poor fallen sisters of the love of God, His compassion & goodness towards them & pleaded with them to give their hearts to Jesus now that so, they might have in truth a happy new year & live henceforth to the praise of God. Joseph followed much in the same strain & at about 10 minutes before midnight we dropped into very solemn silence, only occasionally interrupted by the sobbing of some who had been deeply affected by our addresses to them. The silence continued till, as the new year arrived, the clanging fire bell close by us rang out, a custom in Sydney to announce the birth of another year. So ended 1868 for ever!

Friday, January 1st 1869: When the noise of the bell had ceased another hymn, ~~xxx~~ one for the new year, was sung & then I bent the knee in earnest supplication that God would hear the breathings of our souls poured out before Him during the silence that He would bless all good resolutions then formed, & strengthen us all with might by His Spirit in the inner man to overcome every easily besetting sin, every weakness & help us to live nearer to Himself than we had ever done before. We then sat down to a repast of tea &c with the Matron & inmates & left about 1 o'clock, having spent the few hours when one year merges in another more to my taste than usually the case, especially more than last year when we quietly slept through the change. Rose about 8 o'clock & finished up our correspondence for the mail which closes today. I have received the Friend regularly, except this last time & once a few months ago. I prize it so much that I do not like to give it up. My journal is longer this month than sometimes but there seems more to record while we are labouring in this great city among such a painfully heterogeneous mass of opposing parties. If all be as we have planned my next part will describe part of New South Wales we have not yet seen: north of Port Jackson, the Hunter River, Newcastle & Port Macquarie. Now with the earnest craving that this may be a blessed new year to all my loved ones everywhere & that grace, mercy & peace from God the Father & from

our Lord Jesus Christ may be multiplied to you all.

I am yours very affectionately
Walter Robson.

Received at 2a Linden Lodge: February 26th 1869.
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PART SEVENTEENTH: NEW SOUTH WALES.

Friday, Jan 1st: 1869: Spent the morning writing, not feeling quite rested after the exertions of last evening. Indeed 3 hours combat with A. Allen would tire any one I believe. Packed up before dinner & in the afternoon we took our luggage on board the "City of Newcastle". Then to tea at H.H. Newman's & with him to the Monthly Meeting at 7 o'clock. I suppose there is some fresh move among the Pitt St Friends as not one of their party were present. Accordingly the business of the meeting was gone through ~~quietly~~ in a good degree of quiet, but there is a spirit among the dear friends here I wish could be rooted out, of animosity to the Pitt St Friends which shewed itself painfully, distinctly tonight - a feeling that would put the worst possible construction on what they say or write or do, & will hardly listen to any palliating suggestions Joseph & I may feel it best to make. This however is not universal; it concentrates largely in poor A. Davey. At the close of the meeting tonight dear H.P. Fowler handed me a letter addressed to us both, with the particular charge that I would not open it till we had left Sydney & that A. Davey & family were to know nothing about it. Broke up the meeting & took leave of Sydney Friends at about 10 o'clock & went on board the "City of Newcastle" steamship, leaving the wharf at 11. Took berths in the steerage to economise English Friends money - dirty & not comfortable, but passable. The night was beautifully fine when we left Sydney but soon a heavy squall came up & it blew a gale all the voyage.

Saturday, Jan 2nd: Soon after midnight to my great surprise my dear companion was ~~very~~ violently sea-sick, ~~which I met~~ while I only enjoyed the tremendous rolling of our vessel. Opened the letter H.P. Fowler gave us & found it contained a most loving expression of unity & fellowship with us; sympathy in our exercises & trials on their account & expressing their prayers for our preservation & restoration to them again. It was signed by all the Devonshire St Friends (the Daveys excepted) who ~~we~~ were to be kept in ignorance of it. This document feels very precious to us both, ~~is~~ so kind & so unexpected too. Sighted the headland called the "Robbys" at about 5 & reached Newcastle at 6 this morning when we steamed into smooth water & entered the Hunter River. Only staid about an hour at Newcastle, just time to go on shore & look about & then we steamed up this fine river past a pretty little township called Raymond Terrace to Morpeth, 30 miles from the sea. Our friend Frederic Mainby met us at the wharf. He is a brother of Mira M Mainby of Winchmore Hill & lives at Phoenix Park close to Morpeth. He had a little boat in which he rowed us up the river to his house where we arrived about 11.30, hungry & tired from having no rest hardly on board & only half a night the previous. F.M lives in a very nice English-style of house of two

floors & all raised on blocks of stone & piles to protect it from the prevalent floods, being close to the Hunter. Rested most of the day, feeling too tired to do much.

Sunday, Jan 3rd: Had a nice sitting with F. Nainby, his amiable wife & sweet children. He has two daughters, girls of 8 & 10 & a son of 6 summers. One, much older, away from home. We both had much exhortation for them & my dear cousin offered prayer & as did I, for them & my ~~cousin~~ ~~xxxxxx~~ their children. Two meetings having been arranged for us in Morpeth today, we rowed down the river after dinner & found the Primitive Wesleyan Chapel well filled. Sat some time in solemn silence among them, & tho' at first there seemed some hard states ~~xxxx~~ to reach, yet I believe as the meeting proceeded truth rose into dominion & we left them peaceful. Returned to Phoenix Park to tea & rowed again into town in the evening where we found the same chapel well filled again & had a most relieving meeting with the people; both have been conducted today throughout as friends meetings, which I increasingly feel the benefit of when it is possible to do so. I think we have seldom if ever felt more power in preaching than tonight, for which many we give all the praise to our adorable Lord who thus condescends to His creatures wants & supplies their great & varied needs. Frederic Nainby of Newcastle, a nephew of our host, came to Morpeth today & is also a guest at Phoenix Park. He seems a very agreeable man.

Monday, Jan 4th: Soon after breakfast F. Nainby accompanied us down the Hunter into Morpeth to call on some whom we know something of. Among the rest a Wesleyan Minister, Mr Martin, late of Gainsboro' Lincolnshire, well known to R & M.E. Thompson. He was, when they kindly furnished his address, living at Kaima in Illawarra, but has been here about 9 months. He gave us a very cordial greeting & we had while at his house a long conversation with a young minister from New Zealand, who was born & brought up there & has seen much of the Maories & their struggles. He did much to enlighten us on some points we had not clearly understood about their conduct. After dinner F.N. & ourselves had a delightful row up the Hunter, which winds extremely & has an almost constant succession of groups of weeping willows along its banks. We rowed several miles & then landed about a mile from Largs, a little township to which we walked & arranged to hold a meeting in the Wesleyan Chapel there next Thursday evening. Back to a late tea & spent the evening writing notices of our meeting at Largs &c.

Tuesday, Jan 5th: After breakfast I rode w F. Nainby's horse to Largs to take the notices of our meeting & have them put into circulation. On my return F.N., Joseph & I went by rail 4 miles to East Maitland & walked thence to West Maitland, the second largest town in New South Wales. Called on a gentleman, a photographic artist named Elizah Hart, who was brought up at Rawden School. He was born at Liverpool & used to "sit under the main stay" of my late revered Grandmother. He is now a member of the Congregational Church. He seems a very nice man, immensely tall, standing 6 ft 6 inches! He sent for Mr Hill the Minister while we were there & with him we planned to have the morning & evening meeting at his chapel next Sunday. Back to tea & spent the evening trying in vain to get cool sitting in the verandah with the thermometer at

92° & the ever sanguinary mosquitos bleeding us in all available points.

Wednesday, Jan 6th: A shower of rain greatly refreshing, but did not cool the air. Joseph rowed F.N & me to the Railway station & then rowed himself down the river to Hinton where he arranged a meeting for Friday evening. F.N & I went down to Newcastle by rail & there separated - he to his business & I to mine. I called on Mr Pepper, congregational minister, a son of Mrs Cater of Launceston, Tasmania, our kind hostess there from whom we had a letter of introduction & to Mr Pepper. I fixed with him that we should occupy his pulpit (d.v) next Sunday week & that during our stay in Newcastle Joseph should be his guest. Then I called on Mr Pritchard, Primitive Methodist minister, with whom I arranged for us to hold meetings somewhere round Newcastle every evening next week except Saturday. There are many settlements with considerable population round the coal mines & he thinks there is an open door for us to labour among them. Having completed my business I called on Frederic & Lizzie Cox for the first time to make ~~xxxxxxx~~ my acquaintance with my new brother & ~~xx~~ sister-in-law. Here I received a very cordial welcome & staid till the train returned to Morpeth. Lizzie is, in face & person, almost the facsimile of her sister Fennie except looking thinner & older. They have four dear little children: Mabel, Freddie, Sybil (still at Wollongong) & ~~xx~~ Ellen, about 4 weeks old. I was very glad to see at last the only member of Dr Cox's family I had not before seen. Their house is close by the station as Frederic is Station Master in the great Northern Railway. Met F. Nainby at the station & we reached Morpeth to tea. Spent the evening writing. A cool fair from the South has at last sprung up & greatly lowered the thermometer. A singular occurrence telegraphed from Sydney: two years ago the great Catholic Cathedral of St Mary was burnt down. A large temporary one was erected till a more substantial edifice could be built, & now that has just been burnt to ashes with a loss of £5,000 to the Romanists.

Thursday, Jan 7th: Spent the morning writing & reading, also part of the afternoon, the weather being too hot to make out door exercise profitable in any way. In the afternoon after early tea, I pulled F.Nainby & dear Joseph three miles up the Hunter in the little boat & moored at a tiny ~~xxxxx~~ wharf where we landed & walked a mile or two to the little township of Largs. Here we had a very full meeting in the Wesleyan Chapel & a more ~~xxx~~ than usually solemn & relieving meeting it was, in which we were both well helped to preach to the people the practical, transforming nature of the truth as it is in Jesus. The rush for tracts I hardly ever saw exceeded - indeed our stock is so nearly exhausted that we are greatly hoping for the arrival of the "Ben Lomond" with a fresh supply. We shall probably not have enough ~~x~~ for this tour. When meeting was over we returned to our boat by the light of a lantern & Joseph rowed us home, but being cloudy the night was extremely dark & we found we were rowing away from Morpeth instead of towards it, but were soon corrected by a man on the shore. Just then we charged through a shoal of fish - mullet I believe, & one big fellow jumped into the boat & lay floundering about till he expired. Another knocked me on the head. However we reached Phoenix Park safely & got to bed before morn-

ght.

Friday, Jan 8th: I woke early with another sharp attack of Dysentery which has kept me to the sofa most of the day, but how thankful I should be that I am at the house of a retired chemist, F. Nainby having been one at Maitland & in partnership with a Doctor for many years, so that I have good advice, & good medicine & through the kindness of Eliza Nainby, suitable diet in the way of spoon victuals. After tea F. Nainby & I crossed the ferry & joined Joseph who had gone to tea at Mr Micklejohn's & we drove in company with Mr Martin, Wesleyan Minister, two or three miles to Hinton, a lovely little township where we had a meeting in the Methodist Chapel, well filled & a time of favor, but perhaps not so relieving as some. Yet I think we left Hinton with easy consciences as having, in the ability graciously given us, declared to those assembled the counsel of God. Reached Phoenix Park about 10.30, myself feeling rather exhausted from the continuance of my malady & want of food.

Saturday, Jan 9th: Feeling much better, though not well, feeble & unable to exert, but glad to have no meeting in prospect for this evening, especially in prospect of two at Maitland tomorrow. F. Nainby has just brought us in a great curiosity he has ~~xx~~ found on the river's bank - 4 eggs like birds eggs but not so well shaped. They are lizards eggs & one that he broke contained a Jew lizard with its long tail coiled up, some 6 or 8 inches long. The eggs are about as large as a blackbirds at home & are white with several little spots, long & rather straight sided but not all the same shape. The shell is extremely thin & whether we can preserve them is very doubtful. The heat so great today that the only occupations suitable were reading & writing & of the latter we are getting an increasing share every month, I think.

Sunday, Jan 10th: Frederic Nainby's nephew Frederic came from Newcastle to spend the day. He is a very agreeable young man. At 10 o'clock out kind host drove Joseph & me with his ~~two~~ two dear little daughters in the dog cart to West Maitland, Frederic riding the poney. Met a large congregation in the Chapel belonging to the Congregational body & were both well helped in preaching & in prayer for the assembled company. As we broke up the rain so long wanted, came down in a copious shower on the parched scorched thirsty ground so that we were glad to borrow cloaks to ~~draw~~ drive home in. After a quiet afternoon & early tea, we went again to West Maitland & had a still more ~~xxxxix~~ satisfactory & most relieving meeting. It was commenced by dear Joseph reading the two concluding chapters of the Revelation. I had read in the morning 12 Hebrews. We did feel a very solemn covering & over both our meetings, for which I trust we are very grateful, especially so as we dreaded these Maitland meetings peculiarly on various accounts. Our dear friend Eliza Nainby accompanied us to this evening meeting. The weather was fine as we drove home & I believe we can leave this part of the Hunter River district with peaceful minds.

Monday, Jan 11th: Wet again this morning. Packed up our baggage & got all things ready for leaving this pretty spot. Morpeth & indeed the Hunter River district generally is occupied

in the growth of Lucerne hay, which with its pretty purple blossoms & sweet smell gives a very pleasant appearance to the country. The climate, even in times of drought, suits Lucerne well & they always reckon on 3 crops a year. It is very carefully trussed when dry, not with hay bands but after pressure in a powerful iron press it is bound in iron bands with lathes of wood & shipped to Sydney & other places. It is worth about 15/- to 20/- a truss or 80/- per ton. This makes land in the district as valuable as in England, selling at £40 per acre. We really felt parting (probably for the last time) with our dear friends the Nainbys. They have been most truly kind to us & are really excellent Christian people. I long they had a meeting of friends to belong to at Morpeth. This morning brings the tidings that one gentleman (Mr Wisdom) who attended & was deeply impressed at one of our Morpeth meetings yesterday week, has suddenly died of English Cholera. Another lesson! Oh that people would learn that it is awfully unsafe to put off to the slender chances of a death bed the souls preparation for the great eternity that lies before us. Left Morpeth at 12 o'clock & F. Nainby accompanied us as far as Maitland. We reached Newcastle at 2 o'clock & dined at Mr Pepper's the congregational minister's. Called on Mr Pritchard (Primitive Minister) after dinner & found he has most kindly fixed meetings for us every evening this week except Saturday. Then went to tea at Frederic Cox's & afterwards walked about 5 miles to Waratah, a large mining settlement where we had a blessed & most relieving meeting with some of the ~~best~~ coal workers, the Chapel being very full & members outside unable to gain entrance. The rush afterwards for tracts I was wholly unprepared for & had not sufficient to supply. It really made some confusion owing to the crowd outside pressing in to receive them & stopping all egress for a while. I finally announced in a loud voice that I had no more but would send some by Mr Pritchard next time he came for those unsupplied. A good man very kindly volunteered to drive us back to Newcastle & we accepted his offer, but were probably nearly as long again coming back as we should have been on foot - ~~x x~~ the cart was a heavy one, the horse a light one & the road a very bad one, so it was 11 o'clock when we reached here. Joseph is comfortably quartered with Mr Pepper & to my pleasure I am most kindly pressed to make my home while in this city at my future brother Fred's. Found all the household gone to rest but managed to let myself in, lock up & go to bed without waking any one. I had no sooner put out my candle than I heard strange noises in my room, as if it was occupied by other visitors. I lit a match & my candle & found I could hardly step on the floor without doing grievous bodily harm to some poor insects which were flocking about the room in all directions. They are Australian Cock Roaches, an insect not so repulsive looking as our English ones, being a light brown about the colour of a dead English oak leaf & about 2 inches long or rather more; they were rushing about in every available place: on the floor, over my clothes, in & out of my bag, up & down my mosquito curtains, across the bed & indeed seemed to be as busy as bees. They have not a sweet odour but are not really obnoxious unless trod on. They were literally having what the Aborigines would call a corrobberie in my room. These & the mosquitos kept me lively for

sometime till I fell into the arms of "tired natures sweet restorer, balmy sleep."

Tuesday, Jan 12th: A warm damp morning. Lizzie not well enough to preside at the breakfast table. Busy writing & in this pretty little house most of the morning & assisting dear little Mable & Freddie at their play. Went with Frederic on to the wharf to inspect the coal shipping ~~xxx~~ which is here carried on to a large extent, coals being exported to China, India, & (I think) America as well as to the other Colonies. There are always a large number of colliers in port receiving their cargo which is put on board by steam cranes, which high engines pick up the truck bodily, swing it over the hold of the vessels & then shoot the contents into the depths below. Joseph & I met at Mr Pritchard's to dinner & tea & then we all rode on horseback through the bush to Lambton, another mining township where we found waiting for us a chapel filled to suffocating almost & more persons outside than were in the building. They were soon made quiet & we had a long exercising, but very relieving time with them, especially addressing those who had not yet made a covenant with a covenant-keeping God. We had a good supply of tracts with us tonight & so were ~~xxxxx~~ ~~xx~~ enabled to distribute to all who rushed ~~xxxx~~ so eagerly for them. We did not reach Newcastle till after midnight but I managed to let myself into my home without waking anyone & was so tired that the nightly sports of the cockroaches did not keep me awake. The heat & now is very exhausting. I never know what it is, day or night except while in the act of bathing to be free from profuse perspiration & I feel it is weakening & requires a pretty strong constitution to stand against it. Probably this may be the last summer we may have to spend on this continent.

Wednesday, Jan 13th: A cool refreshing wind from the south this morning, a thing to be very thankful for. After writing letters &c I went with Frederic a walk along the beach & over the rock-bound coast at the entrance to the Hunter river. After dinner I went up to Mr Peppers & rode his horse in company with Mr Pritchard 8 miles to Walsend. My dear colleague walked, preferring walking to horseback exercise, which he is never fond of. Fred Mainby jr walked with him. We had a large favored meeting in the Primitive Chapel, Walsend, where again we had gratefully to acknowledge the presence of Jesus by His Holy Spirit enabling us to declare among the people "the unsearchable riches of Christ." We were comfortably & most hospitably entertained at the house of Mr Reed, a miner & a devoted Christian, & staid the night with him.

Thursday, Jan 14th: Rose at 6 a.m. & after an early breakfast, before leaving our kind friend at Walsend we bent the knee in solemn prayer together. Then leaving my dear cousin to come by train, Mr Pritchard & I rode back to Newcastle, arriving here about 9 o'clock. Found Lizzie better & able to be up & about, for which I am very glad as I feared she was going to be very ill when I left her yesterday. Spent the morning writing. In the afternoon, went to Mr Pepper's & after tea was held (at our request) a meeting in the Primitive chapel ~~xxx~~ in this city, Mr Pepper being very earnest one of us should address ~~xxx~~ ~~xxxxxx~~ ~~xxxx~~

his Band of Hope, we arranged accordingly. Joseph went to the Primitive chapel, opened the meeting & addressed the people while I gave the dear children a discourse in the Band of Hope. Then I joined my dear ~~next~~ companion in the pulpit at the chapel & concluded the vocal service of the meeting there. Again were our hearts lifted up in gratitude to God for His condescending mercy towards us.

Friday, Jan 15th: F. Mainby jr, Joseph & I went a beautiful walk over the cliffs, descending onto some rocks where we had a delightful bathe in the bright blue sea. After dinner F. Mainby accompanied us in a walk over to Pit Town alias Bore Hole, where we had tea with Mr Willis a schoolmaster who was brought up a Friend at home - his family living in Dorsetshire I believe. He is a very excellent religious man & like most others we have met with who were Friends he has not ~~not~~ shaken off the blessings of his Quakerism. He & one of his daughters were our companions some two miles to Barwood where we found the Primitive chapel full & we had a very comforting meeting with the people (principally miners) & their wives & families. We both had much to communicate so that the meeting held about two hours, but the congregation seemed in no hurry to go tho' the evening was exceedingly hot, the chapel very close & the mosquitos excessively irritating. Indeed I could hardly have believed how these little insects affect one, making it so difficult not to think about them while speaking to the people or during the time of silence as ones hands are almost constantly employed in knocking them off our faces, necks & every available place for a bite.

Saturday, Jan 16th: Lizzie very poorly again today & lying down most of the morning. Joseph & I went a walk intending a bathe but found the tide too high. In the afternoon Fred & I went a pleasant sail in his little boat a few miles up the Hunter, where we dropped anchor & cast some hooks & soon caught many fine fish - Jew fish, Schnapper, Flatheads, a Fiddle or small Shark & a Stingaree, the last named being a curious creature with a fearful sting in its tail capable of inflicting very serious wounds. Sometimes bathers in the Hunter are frightfully hurt by them. Returned with our finny spoil to a late tea & spent a quiet evening.

Sunday, Jan 17th: Much religious conversation with my dear brother & sister elect after breakfast & then I attended the service at the Primitive chapel while my dear cousin attended the Congregational. This division was made to prevent slight or offence to the leaders of either body, who have shewn us no little kindness. In the afternoon we occupied the Pulpit in the Primitive chapel, which was well filled & proved a time of open service & renewed favor from the Lord, so that we, & I trust many besides, ~~xxx~~ felt it good to be there. In the evening we held a meeting in the congregational chapel, a very crowded meeting & most relying of any we have had here I think. But while the Methodists have left us at full liberty to dispense with singing & to hold our meetings fully after the manner of Friends, the congregational Minister (Mr Pepper) seemed to fear his people would not like it & accordingly requested us to give out a hymn to commence & conclude with. I felt rather trying as it was the first time in the

Hunter district we have had to do so & our having done so in other places has brought ~~some~~ concern on Friends in Melbourne & even in England, as we know by a letter to me from a dear friend at home, that we wished if possible, for our church's sake to ~~steer~~ steer clear of it. Joseph gave out the first & I the last hymn so we are both "tarred with the same brush", to use a familiar simile. However the meeting was a very highly favored one & what does it matter if we are misunderstood if only the Truth as it is in Jesus prevails & His dear name be glorified? I often call to remembrance for my own instruction the words of a dear minister at home to me (M.B.B) "Walter, care little for either the praise or blame of ~~any~~ thy friends, but be faithful to Him who hath called thee." A day to be very thankful for in every way.

Monday, Jan 18th: Joseph & I had another bathe in the Pacific Ocean & then walked nearly to Barwood to call on some persons named Crosser connected with friends in some way. In the afternoon Frederic & I went a walk crossing a long the great Breakwater to the Nobbys, a fine headland, once an island, protecting the mouth of the Hunter & surmounted by a lighthouse & signal stations. After tea we had a temperance meeting in the Court house, very crowded & a satisfactory meeting, but the cause is young in this city & we took no signatures.

Tuesday, Jan 19th: A cool fresh morning, very invigorating after the intense heat of the last few days. I hardly know how colonial heat could be borne were it not for the occasional changes, rather suddenly, from heat to comparative cold. Made enquiries about Macquarie Steamers & to our surprise find that there is not one till Saturday at the earliest. Called on Mr Pepper & to dinner at Mr Fritchard's, after which F. Mainby jar & ourselves walked to Pitt town & took tea at Mr Willis's, after which we sang some hymns, read in the bible; Joseph addressed these dear friends at considerable length & I offered earnest prayer for a rich blessing upon them. Greatly enjoyed the cool walk home by lovely brilliant moonlight.

Wednesday, Jan 20th: This morning Mr Pepper, Joseph & I went a long stroll on the lovely sea beach for some three miles, picking up shells, sea weed & other wonders of the Pacific. In the afternoon wrote letters & enjoyed a long talk with Lizzie. Then I went on to the wharf to watch the removal of a ponderous steam crane capable of lifting 20 tons of coal, but proved not strong enough for its work. It is the first ever made in the colonies, I believe, & it seem a pity it should be a failure. I was an interesting sight to see the ponderous iron beams smashed with the pressure put upon them. Newcastle is a busy harbour, exporting 15,000 tons of coal per week on the average or rather more than that quantity I believe. To tea at Mr Pepper's & then accompanied him to his week evening service. He took his accustomed place as Pastor but called on us both to preach, which we did in I trust a good measure of best help & I closed the meeting in earnest prayer. Principally church members present.

Thursday, Jan 21st: Walked over to Mr Fritchard's to breakfast & while there making arrangements for meetings at Minni & Hexham, a tremendous thunderstorm commenced & I had to stay & shelter there a long while. Lizzie very ill again & quite confined

ed to her bed with an extremely painful complaint - abscess.

Rather surprised to find in the morning paper Joseph's & my address at the Temperance meeting last Monday evening given at full length occupying three columns of the Mercury. Our names are very often in print now, sometimes satisfactory but not unfrequently in a way we little desire, as the Reverend J.J. Heave & Walter Robson &c. However it is often the means of our finding an open door to labour where otherwise we should have great difficulty. When we come to a strange place it is so common to hear it said "Oh yes we have often read of you in the papers," Joseph went by train to Minni & K Mr Pritchard & I intending joining him there on horseback, but the heavy rain & fearfully vivid lightning induced us to give it up, especially as a meeting could not be held there if it continued wet. The road moreover in wet weather is impassable. We therefore sent a ~~xxxx~~ letter to my dear cousin recommending his return in the morning as the next meeting which had been proposed will hardly be held in such weather & we find the steamer for Port Macquarie is expected to call at Newcastle very early the following morning. Visited the wharf again when the clouds for awhile held up, but the lightning has been incessant all day, like one continued flash & generally forked & it followed by very loud thunder, such a day as we rarely experience in the dear old country. Spent the evening writing.

Friday, Jan 22nd: Another stormy day, the long droughts seem to have completely broken up. We must post our letters today as we may have to leave early tomorrow for Port Macquarie. My address care of Dr Cox &c. In sending off this portion of my diary I may very thankfully report that we are both in good health, my beloved cousin especially so. The heat seems to suit him well; this I cannot say of myself. Languor & lassitude are my portion, yet to be able to survive & labour on in the almost tropical heat of a N.S.Wales Summer is a mercy to be very thankful for & it is more than I had dared to hope, two months ago when summer heat first set in. The visit to the far off Polynesia seems coming very near, if as we hope we join the "John Williams" in her voyage early in March. I feel glad the name of the Bayne has been changed. There are already two vessels named "Samou" engaged in South Sea traffic & one of them not very respectably so & the John Williams the missionary was murdered & two vessels named after him have since been wrecked yet we feel no misgivings on that account. Probably we shall be able to send at least ~~xxx~~ one more diary home before starting & then we & all our loved ones at home must make up our minds to a possible long silence & commit each dear one to the care of that blessed Caretaker without whom not a sparrow falleth to the ground & by whom the very hairs of our heads are all numbered. But there will I expect be times when faith will be at a low ebb, perhaps with dearly loved ones in England & with us on the great waters, but oh! however low it may be, let us pray for strength to keep it alive. "Lord increase our Faith." If it should be the gracious will of our God that our lives should be sacrificed to him in this, or any other part of our labours, how better could we be employed? Yet I have no secret impressions of this sort, only I want us all to be earnestly "looking for that blessed hope" of meeting where sin & sorrow & parting can never, never come. I should like my dear love give

to all my friends at home as opportunity offers. Very often are they the companions of my thoughts & for them my prayer is, that "the peace of God which passeth all understanding may keep their heart & minds through Christ Jesus," & that we all may be built up in to him in all things, who is the head even Christ & be strengthened to fill just the place in His vineyard he may appoint for us, whether of service or of suffering. In this feeling & asking to be often remembered in your prayers, my dear ones, I remain in unaltered affection

Your deeply attached & loving
Walter Robson.

Received at S. Walden: 3rd to 30th 1869.

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PART EIGHTEENTH: NEW SOUTH WALES.

February 16th, 1869: It is with feelings of no small pain that I take the pen to write the recollections of the last 3 weeks of pleasant interest of which my Journal, written regularly up to last Friday night is now, I suppose, a lost for ever. To explain this I must at once narrate the very trying & serious loss which I have just sustained - a loss part of which can never be made up to me. We left Port Macquarie last Saturday morning in the steam ship Ballina, & owing to extremely rough weather, & the voyage to Sydney lasted 38 hours instead of 22, its usual length. Indeed the gale from the south was so exceedingly strong that we made little progress & even my pride in good seamanship was removed by having to go to the side of the ship more than once while my dear cousin was confined to his bunk. It is my usual practise on board a vessel to empty my pockets into my travelling bag for additional security & to sleep with the bag in my bunk for protection. This I did on board the "Ballina" & retired to rest on Sunday evening about ten o'clock. Feeling tired & weary with our tempestuous voyage we neither of us woke when the ship moored at the wharf in Sydney harbour about midnight, but to my dismay on waking yesterday morning about 6 a.m. I discovered that some daring thief had entered our cabin & stolen my bag. I at once went to the King Police office & to that of the detectives, also offered & advertized five pounds reward for its recovery. But I have no hope of ever getting it or its valuable contents. I know my dear ones who read this will sympathise with me in the serious pecuniary loss it entails, besides the loss of all my most prized papers, letters &c. My bag was a fitted one with every requisite for a gentleman's toilet & cost about £6:10:0. In its outside ~~compartments~~ pocket was my swimming belt & several other commodities. The inside bag contained my pocketbook with £5 in notes (numbers not known & never taken much notice of in Australia) being 31 notes). The bag also contained my certificate from the nexted ~~meeting~~ meeting with the endorsement from the Meeting for Sufferings, several English letters & letters from Fanie, some cherished likenesses of her & of some other dear friends; also the writing case my dear brother & sister J.J & C gave me with letters in it

in it I had written ready to post to dear Bessie, Charlotte Mounsey & Tenie, as well as the precious note of last loving words given me by my dearest mother just as I took my departure from her, which I always have carried in my pocket whenever I go. Then there was my rough account book containing all the items of my own & the meeting for "offerings expenses during six weeks away from Sydney, so that I cannot furnish the latter with items as usual during this period. A number of cartes of Aborigines given me by a friend at Maitland & several of myself. Some beautiful little pearls given me in Queensland; a little nugget of Gold from Ballarat; a good map of N.S.Wales & many other sundries valued more for their associations than for monies worth. Not the least loss in my bunch of keys which will involve the breaking open of my portmanteau, large writing case with Bramah lock, hat case &c. Besides all these there were 9 letters given into my charge by Dr J.C. Nield to post or deliver in Sydney, and my diary written as usual from the date my last was sent home to Friday night last. Of course I can charge no part of this to the meeting for "offerings but must bear it all myself & I calculate that the pecuniary loss will amount to £25. It feels a very serious loss at a time too when I was doing my best to economise in prospect of the future which seems to lie before me, rendering economy more than ever incumbent on me. Many of the articles I must replace as they are essentials to my travelling in this land. This is one of those trials in which I feel it peculiarly difficult to realise that it is designed to work for my good - difficult to see the hand of "od in it, to feel that even this will work "the peaceable fruits of righteousness" to me, if I be rightly "exercised thereby." I cannot of course give from remembrance a diary of the last 3 weeks but I will endeavour now to retrace a little of our proceedings since I posted my last from Newcastle, where we were then waiting for the "Ballina" to carry us on to Port Macquarie. I think it was on

Friday, Jan 22nd: that day dear Joseph returned from Minni & hexham where he had small but satisfactory meetings.

Saturday, Jan 23rd: My beloved cousin decided to return to Morpeth & try to arrange a meeting at East Maitland for tomorrow. I should have accompanied him but had fixed with Mr Fritchard the primitive minister to help him. In the afternoon Frederic took me again on to the Hunter in his boat & we sailed to a little wharf near Waratah. Here we landed & a walk of a mile brought us to a beautiful garden belonging to a market gardener, where we regaled ourselves with all the peaches, nectarines & grapes we could pick & eat; also filled our pockets &c & paid for the whole the sum of 1/-. This will give a little idea of how cheap fruit is now. Walked about with Frederic in the evening.

Sunday, Jan 24th: After breakfast I walked two miles to Burwood where I occupied the pulpit in the Primitive Chapel. The day was intensely hot & the building so poorly ventilated that I nearly fainted with exhaustion, while the perspiration literally dropped from my face & hands on to the Bible & pulpit cushion. Notwithstanding we had a favoured meeting for which the Lord be praised. Back to dine at Fred's & after that meal I joined Mr Fritchard on the wharf as we had advertized an outdoor meeting.

We soon got the people together. After my friend had prayed & given out two hymns, I addressed those present at some length, taking for my text those words so full of meaning: "God is love." I preached at the top of my voice that many who were on board the ships could hear & the people, many who never attend a place of worship, were quiet & attentive & some seemed very serious afterwards. After another hymn had been sung, I closed in earnest prayer. After tea I walked again over to Burwood & had a very crowded & blessed meeting. I never was sensible I think of a more solemn feeling over a meeting, though I had very plain truths to declare, especially querying whether many who so often prayed "Thy kingdom come" had known that kingdom already established in their hearts or were ready for the solemn announcement "the Lord has come". Many tears were shed & I walked home very tired & exhausted, but thankful for the blessings of the day. Mr & Mrs Prosser & their son walked with me. They were Friends while in England & would be here were there a society to join near Newcastle. The son especially seems a very serious young man.

Monday, Jan 25th: My kind host left us early this morning for a day's shooting & I spent some time in ~~prx~~ paying farewell calls. Joseph returned in the evening after a very pleasant visit to the Nainbys & a nice Public Meeting at East Maitland. Lizzie & I had a great deal of religious conversation in the evening, choosing the coolness of the verandah till Fred's return about midnight.

Tuesday, Jan 26th: Rose early & found the "Ballina" ready at the coal wharf & to sail at 3 o'clock this afternoon. Took leave of Mr Pritchard who has indeed been a friend to us & the best hand at arranging meetings we have yet seen in these colonies. My new brother-in-law x saw me aboard the steamer where dear Joseph soon joined me & we took (I suppose forever) a last leave of Newcastle & the Hunter river, feeling thankful for the many mercies vouchsafed us in this part of our vast field of labour. The "Ballina" is not a very comfortable steamer & dear Joseph retired early leaving me to talk to a Catholic Priest. We had much free conversation together. He seems not so bigotted as some of his body are, but fearfully in bondage to the laws of their "infallible church". We got on to the subject of the celibacy of the Clergy & while he acknowledged it was against an ordinance of God yet said he was bound by the Church to keep it & added Plo Nonno can alter it whenever he likes. Retired about 11 o'clock.

Wednesday, Jan 27th: Rose at 6 o'clock to find us just crossing the sand bar that protects the harbour of Port Macquarie. It is only accessible at high tide & as we passed over, a sailor kept constantly fathoming & one time we were only about six inches from the bottom. However we were permitted to land in safety & were met by Daniel Davey who is here, engaged & at present in fitting up sugar mills. Dr J.C. Nield soon followed & escorted us to his nice hospitable home, a cottage close to the sea, just out of the little town of Port Macquarie. The town is old & was built fifty years ago by Governor Macquarie as a penal settlement & such it was when J. Backhouse & G.W. Walker visited it. The houses are mostly out of repair & very shabby, while the population does not, I think, exceed about 5 hundred. Dr Nield is government

Physician & Surgeon to the gaol here, as also to a large Infirmary. The Nield family are well known to our dear friends the Lurys & were highly gratified to recognise their portraits in my Album. J.C.Nield kindly gave me his purposely (in part) to shew the Lurys but it is in the stolen bag & I expect is lost to me forever! Maria Nield is a sweet lovely lady whose maiden name was Greenwood - she used to attend Liverpool meeting when my revered grandmother ministered there. They have 3 sons: John who lives in Sydney & is lately married to Clara Emily Gertrude Agau; William who lives 6 miles from his father & married a lady from New Zealand; and little Frankie a fine bou of 14 summers, born in New Zealand while his parents resided there. They have one daughter: Mary Alice (Minnie) a sweet girl of about 23. A young gentleman who is Minnie's betr thed lives with them. His name is Allnut, a nephew of Newman Hall & grandson of the late John Vine Hall. His Uncle of that name that name is a captain living in Sydney & a fearful drunkard. Fr Allnut is an Episcopalian & when the clergyman of Port Macquarie is away officiates in his place. The Nields attend Church now they live so far away from Friends. Maria Nield is & has for years been in very delicate health & rarely rises from bed till noon. Our dear friends have had many trials. They came ka out to New Zealand 15 years ago & had built a house & were doing well there but the rebel Maories burnt their house & nearly ruined them. They then came to Sydney & the Dr obtained a good practise there, when hsi wife's health rendered it essential to move again & they came to this lovely secluded spot 200 miles north of Port Jackson. We are lodged at a house 300 yards from the Doctor's as they have no spare bedrooms. Clara Nield is now their guest. We have greatly enjoyed our visit to them. The Dr is exceedingly poetical, has an endless stock of quotations - English & classical & is an especial admirer of the poems of a fellow teacher of his at Ackworth during the reign of Robert Whitaker. His name is W J. Morsley from Woodbridge whose works were never published but surely should have been, as they are of the first water both in style, sentiment & deep religious feeling. We greatly enjoyed a long evening sitting in the verandah, conversing on everyday themes but in a way to be long held in thankful remembrance.

Thursday, Jan 28th: Rose early & ran down the cliff close to our lodgings & had a most delicious bathe in the clear warm sea. After breakfast accompanied the Dr to the gaol. Here are mostly invalid prisoners sent from Darlinghurst & Cocka too &c; only about 50 here now. While we were here at Port Macquarie the Dr wrote to Sydney to request permission for us to have a meetin with the prisoners & before we left a document came to us saying we might do so, provided the appointed chaplain of the English & Roman Churches were willing. Their leave (of course) could not be obtained so we did not visit them as Ministers. From this establishment we went to the Infirmary, likewise a government establishment & said a few kind words to the inmates who are generally old convicts long since liberated but left to linger on a feeble existence & then to die in this secluded place. In the afternoon J.C.Nield drove Joseph, Frankie & me to Blackman's point to inspect some sugar mills just started. J.C.N is about to commence in

this line himself & has several acres of cane already for crushing & only waits the arrival from home of the Concretor-centrifugal & other necessary machinery. We watched the process with much interest & hope this new branch of industry will do much to improve the people in this settlement. The soil & climate are beautifully adapted for sugar & the consumption is tremendous all over these colonies. This evening was the band of hope meeting which we attended. It is held in the Wesleyan chapel. Several hymns & recitations & then our addresses, both well received. J.C. Nield added a few words. He is the most Testotal physician I have ever met with, Several signatures at the close of the meeting.

Friday, Jan 29th: I think we spent most of the day & the next day in letter writing. One evening we had the clergyman & his wife to supper - very nice people & after the usual reading I felt constrained to kneel in solemn prayer for a blessing on them & specially that all of us who are called to preach in the name of Jesus might, for His sake, be endued with more holy boldness, more of the Divine unction - "the demonstration of the Spirit of & of power." We also had a nice call from Mr Holland the Presbyterian Minister. One afternoon Joseph & I went a beautiful ride with Alutt & his Minie along a coast road with beautiful peeps of the sea. There is much in the scenery here that reminds me of dear Illawarra - its profusion of Bangals & Cabbage palms, Tree ferns &c, only it is not so mountainous & not so well watered. I think it was that Saturday morning I was walking on the rocks when a man met me & asked if I did not think something was wrong at the gaol. I had observed very profuse smoke but supposed it to be burning weeds or some kindred cause of smoke; however I advised him to call & inquire & I ran to J.C. Nield to give the alarm, for it soon became evident that the Fort Macquarie gaol was in flames. We hurried to the place & were readily admitted through the usually shut & barred gates. The worst of the prisoners were locked in their cells but the better ones with the Governor, turnkeys, officers & ourselves were soon hard at work handing buckets, drawing water & helping in every way we could. For a while the result seemed doubtful but at last the fire was got under with only a large portion of the roof of the kitchen & female ward burnt. It seemed sad to see the poor prisoners helping to save the very place that confines them. Well might the inhabitants do their best to subdue the conflagration, for had the gaol been consumed, the prisoners & some of them desperate fellows would be loose on the town & endangering the lives & property of peaceable inhabitants.

Sunday, Jan 31st: We held a meeting in the Wesleyan Chapel this morning, a time of favour, tho' there felt to be some deadness, some states difficult to reach, yet we felt it good to be there. After dinner J.C. N. drove Joseph & me in his buggy to Blackman's point where is erected a little plain wooden chapel. This we found full, but just as we commenced meeting a furious storm broke over us: the lightning right over our heads followed crashing awful thunder. The rain came down as it only does in tropical latitudes & the building not being weather proof, we soon were pretty well wetted. When the lightning & thunder were at their height some nervous fear began to be evinced & it felt to be my place to rise with the words "the God of glory thunder-

eth" & to remind the dear people that not even a sparrow falls to the ground without His notice, in whose name & to worship whom we were assembled. The quietness was wonderful & a very favoured meeting we had, in which the conditions of some unknown to us, but confirmed by the Doctor afterwards, seemed reached. The storm was over when we broke up & we had a pleasant drive home. In the evening we had a large & blessed meeting in the Presbyterian Chapel which was well filled & as there was no service in the Episcopal, we had both the English & Scotch Churches largely represented. Dear Maria Nield at the evening, a rare thing for her in her very delicate state. Joseph commenced by reading a chapter in the bible & we both had much plain truth to preach, ~~XXXXX~~ arousing the careless & encouraging those who are weak in the faith. A day of many mercies commenced in solemn vocal prayer for the special presence of the Holy Spirit with us.

Monday, Feb ~~XXXX~~ 1st: Spent the morning writing & in the afternoon I think we went a ride with Mr Allnut & his Minnie.

Tuesday, Feb 2nd: A quiet morning as usual in writing letters, alas! now stolen & gone. After dinner J.C.Nield drove his wife & Joseph & me to Lake Innes about 6 miles inland. This ~~ix~~ was the Doctor's residence but now he had moved into town to be near his patients; his son William & wife live at it. There is a fine old mansion built by the late Major Innes & I believe J.Backhouse & his dear companion lodged some time there. Rebecca Thursfield knows the family I believe. But since the Major's day the estate has been let run to waste & now the house is fearfully decayed & fast falling a victim to the inroads of the white ant. The ground is overrun with a plant, a greenhouse pet at home which was introduced there as a rarity years ago, but now has literally choked up everything; beds, grass plots, paths & all the Lantana. We spent a pleasant evening here with William & his wife & waiting till the moon rose, did not return till midnight.

Wednesday, Feb 3rd: This morning we mounted on horses most kindly lent us by J.C.Nield & were escorted by a nice Christian young man for our guide thirteen miles through the bush to a little settlement on the banks of the Hastings river, known as Red Bank. Here our guide left us & a kind Swiss settler, a sugar grower, rowed us in his boat across the river, our saddles in the boat, our horses swimming behind while we held them tight by their bridles. After reaching the far side in safety we remounted & rode partly through the water to a Mr White's, a dear Wesleyan gentleman who with his excellent wife made us a good dinner & gave us a most cordial welcome, having read of us in the papers - but she ~~was XXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~ said never expecting we should come so far as to her house. After tea they rowed us in their boat to a chapel by the river side where we had a sweet meeting & felt it good to be there. As it had been given out that we should be there on Sunday, we felt it would not do to disappoint the people so we fixed for me as the horseman to ride over again on Sunday morning & have meeting there then. After meeting we rowed back to Mr White's, singing hymns all the way & the night being very dark, the whole scene was a peculiarly solemn one; the river seemed full of phosphorus, not only did the oars brilliantly illuminate the scene, but even holding our hands in the

water each finger was followed by a bright streak of light. We lodged at the White's.

Thursday, Feb 4th: Mounted our horses & young Mr White acting as guide, we rode through a most circuitous bush track to Rolland's Plains. Here we endeavoured to get up a meeting but the population there is very scattered, very lifeless & very scanty. No one, and we called on most, gave us any encouragement; all threw cold water on it - besides this it was a size time in Port Macquarie & several more there, so having distributed a few tracts & spoken a few kind words to the few we met, & fed our steeds & ourselves we remounted & rode back to Port Macquarie feeling easy in having made the attempt & reached Dr Field's about 8 in the evening.

Friday, Feb 5th: I think it was this morning we visited the Infirmary. The poor old men were first assembled in their mess room & Joseph read to them, & after I had earnestly besought the Lord to bless them we both addressed them at some length. They were very quiet & attentive & some seemed contrited. Most of them are men who were some 50 years back sent out to these colonies as convicts. Now this home has been provided for them by Government & they are comfortably fed & clothed & looked after. Yet as they die off unregretted, unmissed, there seems something peculiarly sad about it. After the men had been dismissed we held a meeting with the old women. We had it in one of their bedrooms as several are confined to bed. I read to them & as the meeting went on, tears were shed & a very contriting time we had with them. I do not remember much that we did today or on Saturday. The weather was very showery & we did not go out much except to make a few calls. One of these was on to a poor old man & woman named Freeman who were visited by J.B & G.W.W. They are connected with Friends & the man is an Uncle, I think, of the Horners of Halstead & a cousin of Grover Kemp's wife & the Rickmans. He is a nice tender spirited old man, but has some very heavy trials to bear. His wife, a fine, noble looking old lady, is perfectly childish - her only talent left is music. She plays on the piano beautifully, but her faculties of every other kind are gone. Yet she is happy & in her dotage blesses everyone in a most cordial manner. They have two daughters married to bad husbands & they had sons, but these or one of them were drowned. We paid the poor old man two nice visits, in which ability was granted to pray vocally for him as well as to address words of comfort & encouragement to him.

Sunday, Feb 7th: Frankie accompanied me on horseback to the turning down to Lake Innes & then leaving him to take care of that establishment, William & I rode to Red Bank. It was a most soaking rain so that to keep ourselves dry even with our Macintoshes seemed out of the question. Riding full gallop through the Australian Bush requires a little experience to enable one to enjoy. The bush horses have discernment enough to take care of themselves but the rider requires the same gift as they will rush along under great boughs only just above the saddle, so that one has to lie flat down on the beast's back to prevent being knocked off. A really well trained Australian horse stands for nothing in the shape of fallen timber, but leaps over everything of that

xxx sort that comes in his way. Such a ride we had to Red Bank & when we had reached it were I think as wet as if we had bathed with our clothes on. There was only time to wash the mud off our faces & then go to the chapel which to my surprise I found well filled. Before I had been many minutes in the pulpit the floor of it was one pool of water from my lower extremities. However we had a good meeting in which some fresh ability was given to preach to the people the necessity of "repentance towards God & faith towards our Lord Jesus Christ." The rain held up after meeting & we had a pleasant row down the river to the island where "r white lives. Here our worthy hostess kindly furnished us with dry clothing while ours was being dried & in her zeal for the welfare of our saturated garments burnt one of my boots almost to a cinder, necessitating the purchase of a new pair on re-entering Port Macquarie. Read & prayed with the family before we went to the evening meeting of the two, in which our hearts were contrited together. William & I had fixed to return tonight but it was so intensely dark that we found there would be little hope of finding our way through the entanglements of the bush & so accepted the offer of a bed at a Mr Garrett's to which we repaired after a time of reading, prayer & praise with the family.

Monday, Feb 8th: Started back at 7 & reached Port Macquarie at 10 o'clock. I find Joseph had a satisfactory meeting yesterday morning in the Wesleyan & in the evening one in the Presbyterian Chapel. A very affecting event occurred about this time: Dr J.C.N was sent for during dinner to see a man, a butcher who had been taken ill. J.C.N soon returned to xxxxx tell us it was all over - too late! The man had been living a drunkard's life & up to last night had been intoxicated. Suddenly as in a moment a fit came on & he was ushered into the presence of the Judge of quick & dead. "He who being xxxxx often reproveth & hardeneth his neck shall suddenly be destroyed & that without remedy." Oh! that all may take warning. The poor man had often been faithfully dealt with, but all to no purpose. I do not think we did much today except letter writing.

Tuesday, Feb 9th: Judge Meynott came to breakfast & staid our usual reading. He is a sensible old man, but has had some sad work here at the Assizes. Several men were had up for cattle stealing which is carried on in Australia to a fearful extent & is done by altering the brands. One man is sentenced to 16 years at Cockatoo island for stealing about 600 cattle. This afternoon Minnie took us a lovely walk fern collecting & in the evening she, J.C.N & I sang many hymns while Mr Alnutt accompanied us on the piano.

Wednesday, Feb 10th: There is a curious circumstance in colonial life occurring here now. Living in Port Macquarie is a man named Aubrey John Somerville - a small grower of sugar cane. The last Illustrated London News brought out tidings of the death of Lord Somerville & stated that his next heir was his cousin Aubrey John. Our kind host first read the tidings & had the pleasure of informing his neighbour of the high honors conferred on him. The Panama mail brings out the legal information & Lord Somerville was our companion on board the "Ballina" to Sydney en route for Scotland, to take his estates & titles. Rather unfort-

unately his Lordship is engaged to a half bred Maori who has so much of the rough untidy habits of the Maori's about her that she will hardly grace the title of Lady Somerville. Her betrothed promises faithfully to return to Port Macquarie & take her home as his wife. Dr Nield drove us ~~km~~ to Riverslea, a pretty spot of the Hastings about 5 miles from Port Macquarie where the dear Dr has fixed to build himself a house if his sugar prospects should prove successfull. He will be about 2 miles from his sugar mills & on a very pretty site for a nice residence. We went to tea & spent the evening with Mr Davis, the Wesleyan Minister, who is about to be moved to Shoal Haven. He is a very interesting man & had spent several years as a missionary in some of the islands we are expecting to visit.

Thursday, Feb 11th: This & the following days were spent much in writing & paying farewell x calls on people we had known or were interested in. On Friday afternoon Dr Nield, Joseph, Mr Alnutt, Minnie & I went a beautiful ride to Tacking Point, a splendid headland seven miles from here, commanding a grand sea view. A large riding party met us returning; they consisted of Lord ~~xxxxxxx~~ & (Lady?) Somerville & a great many who were accompanying him in his last ride at Port Macquarie. We spent a pleasant quiet evening with our dear friends, to whom I have been especially attached, they are so much more English than almost any friends we have yet seen in these colonies & have not contracted any of the little roughnesses so common among the generalit; of the people x of this continent.

Saturday, Feb 13th: After breakfast we had a very sweet parting season with our dear friends. J.C.Nield knelt & invoked a blessing on us & our labours everywhere. Then my dear cousin addressed them all at some length & we again knelt, which I commended them & ourselves to God, never expecting to meet these dear ones again till we meet where sin & death & partings can never come. The Dr & Mr Alnutt accompanied us to the wharf, where we embarked on board the "Ballina". Daniel Davey was with us & intends very soon to visit England. I have given him a sort of introduction to my dear home & should he visit S.walden I hope he will receive a cordial welcome for he really is a very superior young ~~xxx~~ man, tho' very reserved & shy. He is a poor sailor & was very bad all the voyage. Joseph was thoroughly prostrated, ~~xxxxxx~~ while I managed to take all my meals. Yet occasionally I was sick & I believe ~~xxx~~ no passengers on board escaped & even the chief mate was suffering from the same malady. Coming at once into a tremendous sea, we had no time to prepare for it.

Sunday, Feb 14th: Not so rough today & making rather better headway, but dear Joseph kept his bunk all day till evening. Passed outside Newcastle Nobbys about 1 o'clock & were moored at the wharf in Sydney at midnight. I suppose it ~~xx~~ was owing to the exposure ~~xx~~ & tire of constant tossing about for two days with little rest & the fact that the night before I had slept on deck (always a disturbed sleeping room) but anyway we neither of us awoke when we were moored to the wharf & when I rose at about 6 o'clock on:

Monday, Feb 15th: my bag with all its valuable contents was stolen & gone! As soon as I was dressed I hurried off to the Police Station & laid my complaint. We then came back to our old quarters at Thomas J. Falser's, 660 George Street. Most of today I spent in the vain endeavour to hear something of my lost property. Had a long conversation with the Inspector of Police & a detective is set to work, but I fear no good will result. We had tea & spent the evening with H.H. Newman.

Tuesday, Feb 16th: Busy writing up a new diary, balancing cash & trying to ascertain the extent of my sad loss. Went to tea at John & Ellen Falser's & spent a pleasant & I hope profitable evening there. Things among friends here seem worse than ever & patience is well nigh exhausted. Alfred Allen, Joseph Dixon & Walter Barton have been attending Melbourne Annual Meeting where they met Frederic & Rachel Ann Mackie from South Australia, & Joseph Benson Mather from Hobart Town, having no one to oppose them & ~~was~~ or correct their terrible mis-statements. Thus it has happened that the Melbourne Friends have become evilly affected towards my dear cousin & myself & have issued & sent home to England a minute of disunity with us, on the grounds that we "are in the practise of holding appointed meetings not after the manner of Friends" This is a gross misstatement. Our practice is to hold them as Friends meetings but we have felt it best sometimes to read a portion of scripture & occasionally when it has been especially requested or has seemed our duty to do it, we have given out hymns. We have written to Alfred & Gilkes our appointed correspondent in London, but I fear dear friends at home will be brought into much needless suffering on our account.

Wednesday, Feb 17th: After breakfast we were pleased & surprised to welcome our old friend John Wilmot of Wollongong, who is in Town on business. He accompanied us to meeting where I was mercifully helped to say a few comforting words to the few who meet here on week days - the only time in the week when a quiet meeting can be insured as the Pitt St friends never come then. Joseph closed in very earnest prayer for these poor afflicted people. Spent most of today writing. Alfred Allen has gone to greater extremes since his return from Melbourne than ever before & we are grieved to hear than a few days back he was so personal & offensive that Friends went out & held their meeting in Joseph Sims' cottage; Alfred soon broke his way in & tried to preach there, but W.N. Roakes in his endeavour to get him out, some way managed to knock him down so Alfred is now a sort of martyr to his cause & "having (to use his own words) been knocked down & very nearly killed at the Friends meeting."

Thursday, Feb 18th: John Falser called for us after breakfast & accompanied us in the steamer up the Paramatta river to Hunters Hill, where ~~was~~ his son Henry resides. It is a very pretty spot, commanding a beautiful view of river & bush scenery. Wandered about in the grounds & had much converse with our poor dear old friend about Sydney troubles, which are sadly bowing him down. In the afternoon we took a little boat & Joseph & I rowed John Falser & his two little grandsons up Lane Cove. While we were resting on our oars & I was busy mending a rowlock, we unconsciously drifted out of the channel on to some mud & as the

tide went down we found ourselves 70 yds or more from the river, firmly embedded in almost bottomless mud. After some consideration & remembering that we should have to remain all night if we would wait to be floated off, dear Joseph ~~announced~~ denuded himself of most of his garments & got out into the mud up to his waist. He & J.P. & I then set to work with our hands & worked a channel right through the mud sufficient to float our light craft & after two hours hard work were happy once more to reach the channel & be able to row back to Hunters Hill, which we reached at about 8 o'clock & after tea returned by way of Balmaine to Sydney & retired about midnight.

Friday, Feb 19th: a day spent much in writing letters, our correspondence ~~is~~ with Melbourne &c is just now very heavy, & I have had to condense a months writing as much as possible into a week. Went to tea at dear Hannah P. Fowler's; she has moved from Park St into Castlereagh St since we left Sydney. In the evening an adjournment of the M.M. was held & at her house. We had the painful duty of disowning Joseph Dixon & James Mitchell - the only thing to do though to us it feels very unsatisfactory. Two other names brought forward for disownment were left, Ruth Allen & Daniel Clarke, of which we are glad. Then it was decided to close the new meeting house after next Sunday, as the dear friends here cannot bear the constant persecution of the poor deluded Pitt St friends. I should hope things are now about at their worst. ~~Mr~~ Alfred will not cringe to anyone, will not even be civil to us now. He told me today that Joseph & I are as bad as any of them, & that our doings are hellish.

Saturday, Feb 20th: I spent most of the morning writing. Our last English letters we received on landing at Port Macquarie & I had the pleasure of welcoming one from each of my precious parents, from Priscie, Edward, Kate, Uncle H.H, dear Harriet & uncle G. Neave; for all these I am very thankful. The tidings of the decease of two old neighbours brings them very closely to my remembrance: W. Burroughs & J.F. Singleton. The English mail ~~is~~ is just in again & we are expecting our ever welcome budget shortly. I had a call from a detective last evening as he hoped he had obtained a little clue & I am waiting in this morning to receive a visit from him ~~xx~~ again, but I fear as he has not come that no further evidence of the thief has been obtained. I omitted to chronicle that we were present at & addressed the usual weekly Temperance Meeting here on Wednesday evening, rather a thin attendance but satisfactory & one or ~~two~~ two signed the Pledge. Just before dinner a detective policeman called to tell me that he had obtained a search warrant for the under steward of the "Ballina", who had suddenly left that vessel & joined the "Alexandra" for Melbourne. Accordingly he had made arrangements with the captain of the last named vessel for us to go in her from the wharf & examine the man, when there could be no chance of his escape. This I did & quietly secreted myself at the stern of the Alexandra till she had left the wharf, when the detective called me below & summoned the poor fellow, a Greek named Constantine to appear. He at once recognized me as the gentleman whose bag had been stolen but though a most vigorous examination of his person & luggage followed, no trace whatever of any of my belongings could be found. One great reason for suspecting Constantine

was his having stolen a portmanteau of the captain of the "Ballina". This he freely confessed when the detective questioned him about it. Finding nothing we had to let go our supposed prey & left the vessel in a boat for shore more than ever convinced that the bag & its contents are gone forever. But at the request of the detective I went to my lodgings & made out a most minute list of all I had lost, so that should any clue be obtained it will be followed up. Joseph spent the evening ~~xxx~~ at Arthur Wood's & I at H.H. Newman's.

Sunday, Feb 21st: I had a quiet walk in the Domaine after breakfast, a lovely warm morning, but not so oppressively hot as some of the Sydney weather. We went to meeting at 11 & it was without exception the most distressing meeting I ever attended. Soon after we were seated Alfred Allen gave us a long harangue without much point except to find fault with us & all who differ from them. Shortly after he knelt in prayer, I thought satisfactorily, with one great exception - it was addressed to the "great eternal Spirit", & no mention of Jesus, no pleading in the name of our only Advocate. Arthur Wood preached for some time on the entire littleness of the bible, saying "itx contained only a leaf or two or God's will to man." Almost immediately after he sat down, Ruth Allen rose & shook hands with her son Alfred, which was the signal for all their party & poor dear Daniel Clarke included, to withdraw. As they rose to leave the meeting, John Palsar announced that after today the meeting house would be closed for public worship, owing to the painfully divided state of the meeting. Alfred called out that it was not the act of the meeting but only of two trustees illegally appointed that the house was to be closed & then proceeded to read a long letter he had received from England, the writers of which I should much like to know more about & perhaps some of my friends can tell us. It is signed by William Sessions & Joshua Ashby. It is written in most perfect sympathy with A. Allen & party, expressive of the greatest love for & sympathy with them. It goes on to express disunity with the whole society of friends, "including those who call themselves the remnant, but who in reality are no better than the rest." Then it speaks of the wickedness of Friends in supporting likenesses & insurance Societies, also "the utter absurdity & unsoundness of Temperance Societies & Societies against war." From all these it especially warns the true friends (A.A & Co) to keep quite clear. When this extraordinary document was ~~finax~~ finished the Pitt St Friends withdrew & except for their talking outside we had a quiet time during which my dear cousin knelt in most fervent prayer - pleading for help from Him who only could help us in this most distressing time. When we broke up, we found the Pitt St Friends still standing outside & A.A announced in a loud voice that owing to the wickedness of Sydney Friends & their unsoundness in Discipline, a new Monthly Meeting had been formed which would be acknowledged at home & in the Colonies as the "Society of Friends" - but anyone joining the must come quite out from the old body. The company then withdrew & we went with H.P?K Fowler to dine at W.N & L. Roakes. Spent a very pleasant afternoon there, in which we had a sweet time for religious exercise & pr-ayer. The meeting in the evening was not

attended by Pitt St Friends & was, I trust, a time of edification & encouragement. We both has something to say to the poor distressed little company & I knelt to beseech that our Lord in His rich mercy would restore the poor deluded ones to the way of peace - the one blessed fold of which Christ is the only shepherd. Supped with our always kind friends the Newmans & retired after a ~~day~~ day of no common trial & exercise. I believe no one who has not had it to do, could possibly understand the painful feelings attending such scenes as we have ~~xxx~~ witnessed among the Society of Friends - better called enemies - in this city.

Monday, Feb 22nd: Wrote letters after breakfast. About noon today an accident happened in George St, about 1/2 mile from ~~my~~ our quarters, which involved the almost miraculous escape of several persons. A grocer's shop with room over it suddenly fell with only a few seconds warning, while the plate glass front was smashing to pieces. Six persons were buried in the ruins but none killed. I was on the spot soon afterwards & it seemed scarcely credible that in a very crowded street at midday such an accident could have happened not fatal to any one. The floor, walls & iron have fallen in, one frightful smash. In the afternoon dear J.J.M went to the North Shore to visit poor ~~xxx~~ Joseph Simpson, who he found very drunk & his poor wife in a most deplorable, heart-rending plight. I accompanied John Palmer to a tea meeting in the Bathurst St Baptist Chapel, convened to welcome back their pastor, who has just returned from a tour in England for his health. His name is Voller & he is a most excellent evangelical man, hating sectarian differences & loving all who love God. The tea was in the school room after which we adjourned to the chapel which was well filled. One of the deacons Mr Illage presided. Many ministers were on the platform & not a few of them known to me: Graham, Sunderland, Kent, ~~xxxx~~ Sharp, Slaytier &c. Mr Palmer gave an address of thanks to the ~~xxxx~~ many ministers who had occupied the pulpit in the absence of their pastor; my friends may remember this was the chapel where A. Allen & A. Wood disturbed our meeting 7 months ago. The best address was given by Mr Voller himself, who gave most interesting details of his visit home. It was more intensely interesting to me than I can describe to hear his impressions of the dear old country, after an absence of 15 years. The thing that most impressed him on landing, last May, was the extreme beauty of England. His views of the religious state of affairs at ~~xxxx~~ home deeply interested me. Several others spoke, myself amongst the number, & we broke up about 10 o'clock.

Tuesday, Feb 23rd: A lovely, lonely stroll in the Botanical Gardens before breakfast. Much interested in some fine Emus & in a new set of flowers which as the seasons change, always make the gardens fresh & lovely. We spent most of the morning writing. In the afternoon went to Daniel Clarke's & spent a nice evening there. We both feel deeply for him & his wife because they do so earnestly desire to do what is right in these distressing troubles, but they see so many faults in Devonshire St & Pitt St too that they are doing what (were I living here I think I should do) standing neutral - aloof from both parties. We had a nice time of religious exercise & prayer before we left.

Wednesday, Feb 24th: On returning from my before-breakfast

walk, I found our dear friend James Martin from Moruya just arrived. We are both greatly pleased to welcome him again here. He has been with us to meeting & engaged in very earnest prayer - in which we felt a measure of the power of the Holy Ghost. Joseph & I both addressed the little company. Today's mail from Wollongong has brought us our dear budget from home. For me there are most interesting letters from my dearest Mother, Triscie, B & K, S.W.S. & not the least interesting a letter from my beloved brother JJ giving me the very welcome tidings of the birth of his little son & enclosing a pencilled note from the dear mother. It seems to make one realize how long our absence has already been when we hear the fact that J.J & C have had two treasures added to their family since I left Saffron Walden. News of the death of poor G. Burrows, W. Niccock & very affecting. I suppose the long of career of our venerable Aunt G.E is probably closed or soon, very soon, to do so, & of dear James Backhouse the same seems likely. So, one by one we are being called away & yet the words of Young continue true of so many: "All men think all men mortalk but themselves." I am deeply grieved this afternoon to receive a note from dear Dr Nield to tell me that my loss is also his, as one of the letters he gave into my charge contained £12;10:0 which we fear is irrecoverably gone. Ought I to bear this pecuniary loss as well as my own? Yes, I cannot allow our dear Port Macquarie friends to be the losers, especially knowing that from many losses already sustained, they cannot afford ~~any~~ ~~it~~ any better than I can. After dinner I called to see J.C. Neild junr & was very glad to learn from him that the cheque for £12:10:0 has not yet been cashed & though the bank refused to stop its payment if presented, I have some hope as a fortnight will soon have elapsed since my bag was stolen, that the cheque was destroyed, so I will leave it at present. In the afternoon we walked to Waverly to call on the wretched husband of poor old Ruth Allen. William Mat Bell Allen is living next door to his wife & in open, vile sin & has several young children. The woman told us he was not at home but advised us to call at a Public House, where we found him & had a very solemn interview with him. We both addressed him faithfully (I hope) & after a while he seemed softened & the desire he first shewed to defend himself & blame his poor old wife & sons William & Alfred, gave way & at last admitted his great sinfulness & wept when we parted. The night being very bright & moonlight, we walked 5 miles further to the South Head where is a fine Lighthouse, over ~~the~~ looking the entrance to Port Jackson & the Pacific Ocean. Macquarie Lighthouse stands in a most commanding situation & the cliffs below it are grand. We walked round it & then descended into Watson's Bay, just inside South Head. Returned by a nearer road & after a walk of 16 miles reached our lodgings at a little before 11 o'clock, ~~the~~ ~~was~~ ~~very~~ ~~tired~~ but well pleased with having seen rather more of the beauties of this most beautiful Harbour.

Thursday, Feb 25th: Rose not very early. We are greatly enjoying & our health is, I believe benefited by, the quantity of fruit that now takes the place of so much meat as is the colonists' usual diet. We generally have peaches, stewed or in puddings for breakfast, dinner & tea & as they are to be bought at 1d or 2d per

doz. they are as cheap as any food we can live on & very nourishing. Spent the most of today writing letters for the mail, which closes tomorrow, for England. My address had better be, as last, to care of George Cox M.D., Summer Hill & & as my dearest Tenie is the only person I should like to trust to denude the letters of their envelopes & repost them to wherever we may direct. We intend to leave here tomorrow for Abrahamian Davy's at Harrington Park. Meetings are arranged for us at Camden for next Sunday & I expect to leave my dear cousin there for a few days & visit Summer Hill. We are eagerly awaiting the long expected arrival of the "Ben Lomond" with our box of tracts, books & clothes. It has been 102 days now on the water. The "John Williams" sailed from England the day before & she is daily expected. We rather hope (if possible) to make an arrangement to go in her, part only, of her tour to the island & as many vessels ply from Samoa & to New Zealand, our wish is to visit that colony before returning to this ~~xxxxxx~~ continent. We shall I expect send one more budget home before leaving for Polynesia & but one; after which our communications will be far more uncertain. We are to go to H.H. Newman's this evenings, so I must close this part of my diary. My ~~xxxx~~ friends at home ~~xxxx~~ will see it has been written partly from memory & under ~~xxxxxx~~ circumstances of more than usual trial, perplexity & conflict. Soliciting as interest in your prayers & desiring that every blessing may be yours for Jesus sake.

I remain, with very much love,

Yours, most affectionately,

Walter Robson.

Received at Saffron Walden 4th Mo: 23rd, 1869.

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PART NINETEENTH: NEW SOUTH WALES.

Thursday, Feb 25th: 1869: After spending most of the day finishing our diaries & letters for the English mail, we went to tea & spent the evening at our dear friends H.H. & A. Newman's. As usual we closed the evening with reading & solemn prayer.

Friday, Feb 26th: Writing letters & making calls all this morning. John Falser, H.H. Newman & James Martin accompanied us to the station, when at 5 p.m. we left Sydney by train & reached Campbelltown about 6.30. Here Abraham Davy met us in his dog cart & drove us to his beautiful home Harrington Park. A cordial welcome from James Davy & the family awaited us there & we spent the evening in quiet conversation.

Saturday, Feb 27th: I rose early to render any assistance in my power at the dairy work. After reading, A. Davy came with us to Camden to make arrangements for meetings to-morrow & for Joseph to deliver a lecture on his American journey in Camden next Thursday evening. Drove on to see the grounds of the celebrated old colonist McArthur. In the afternoon Helen, Ettie, Joseph & I went a beautiful ride up a very high hill called Bagdallen from whose summit is a most splendid view over hill & dale nearly to the sea. On our way I was galloping somewhat carelessly & my ~~xxx~~ steed being full of spirit, suddenly stopped short & sprang across the road, I ~~xxx xxxxxx~~ & ~~xxx~~ ~~xxx~~ throwing me violently on to the hard road. I was however only shaken & not hurt so remounted with the useful lesson engraved on my memory, to ride more carefully & stick closer to my saddle in future. In the evening enjoyed a moon light game of croquet on the lawn & retired about midnight.

Sunday, Feb 28th: A. Davy drove Joseph, Follie & Jeannie in the dog cart & I rode to Camden where we had a meeting in the Wesleyan chapel - rather a low time, not such a feeling of life as in most of our meetings with the people. Alfred Thorne from Sydney who is in Camden on business came home to dine with us & accompanied us again into Camden after tea. The evening meeting we held in the Primitive Methodist Chapel & we were blessed with a precious sense of the Saviour's presence. The Wesleyans having given up their service, were also with us & the Chapel was ~~xx~~ crowded. Much help experienced in preaching to the people the glad tidings of a Saviour's love. A bright moonlight drive home concluded the day.

Monday, March 1st: My precious father's 67th birthday. Earnest prayers for him were the breathing of my soul this morning. After breakfast A. Davy took us a long hot walk about the park. Afternoon the two elder girls & ourselves went a pretty country ride of about 12 miles. In the evening I became very poorly with a sort of influenza cold & retired on hot water & possett.

Tuesday, March 2nd: Willie Davy drove Joseph & me into Campbelltown where I was left, my dear cousin intending to prolong his visit here till the end of the week, while I took the coach for Appin & dined with my very hospitable friends the Armstrongs, & then proceeded by coach to within 5 miles of a Summer Hill. Here I was met on horseback by my dearest Tanie & Zippie & I walked by their side to my dear Australian home.

Glad to find my darling onewell in health. News today that the "John Williams" has reached Port Jackson ready for the Islands, as also that the "Ben Lomond" is in, so I suppose our box from England has at last reached its destination, Mr Dargin came to tea at Dr Cox's. He is very rapidly becoming convinced of Friends principles & comes out here to be at the first day meeting.

wednesday, March 3rd: My cold still heavy but better this morning. After breakfast I drove Tenie into town, called on John Wilmot but found he had gone to Kiama to open a branch business there. A quiet afternoon & evening.

Thursday, March 4th: The Dr drove Mrs Cox, Tenie & me into Wollongong this morning & in the afternoon, Zip went with us a nice walk thro' the woods down to the beach where we sang hymns, picked up many beautiful little shells & greatly enjoyed the majesty of the great Pacific Ocean.

~~Kritxyxxxxxxk ktkx Tmx Bx akava kxakxkx, xkxkx & kx kxkx kxikxgng thix mxxkixkxkix kxkxkfkxkxndkxkix~~

Friday, March 5th: We hear that two Friends from Melbourn W & M Creeth have just arrived in Sydney & wish they may have con with unprejudiced minds, illumined to see the present state of things as it really is & not predetermined to establish the Allenites & condemn the other friends unheard. Busy miling & wit other household duties this morning & in the afternoon drove Tenie & Zip into town to be present at a meeting of the Daughters of Temperance. This excellent institution is doing great good now in & around Wollongong. I was elected pro tem to the office of Most Worthy Patriarch. There is one wretched exception to the generally reformed state of Wollongong - poor Willie N. Since he left John Wilmot's he kx lived some weeks in a low public house, then being turned out of that place in debt, he has taken private lodgings & only gets drunk when his money comes in & then he goes on dreadfully.

Saturday, March 6th: A quiet day at my dear Australian home, joined in the afternoon by Mr Dargin who is fast becoming a Friend & regularly spends his Sundays at Summer Hill & devotes his leisure time to the very attentive peruaal of Friends books.

Sunday, March 7th: After breakfast I rode into town for letters & found one for myself from my loved cousin written on his return to Sydney from Harrington Park, to tell me the "John Williams" is about to sail on the 25th inst. Some kind letters from Melbourne Friends enclosed, but the latter breathe strong condemnation of Joseph & me & complete unity with the "Allenites" Yet the lady Friends of that meeting have very kindly sent us a large box of little valuables to give to the kx Polynesians, such as pincushions, dolls, thimbles, needles &c. Some of the ladies however have entirely refused to contribute "because it would not be right to encourage Walter Robson in his doings" - tho' what these doings are, I cannot conceive. One letter I have just received is most cordial to my often wounded feelings & - it is from J.B. Braithwaite, written at the request of the Continental Committee after hearing some perfectly false reports of my doings in Australia, to assure me most lovingly of the continued love & confidence of my English Friends & giving me a fatherly caution to be very circumspect. It is worth some suffering to receive such consolation as this from such a channel.

We are very sorry to hear today that Willie Nield & his dear young wife are plunged into deep anguish at the terrible tidings from New Zealand of the massacre of her father, a loving missionary among the Maories, who have now murdered their benefactor in cold blood. It will be a terrible blow to the loving hearts of our dear friends at Port Macquarie. Our ~~xxxx~~ little meeting this morning was a very favoured one, in which some fresh ability was given me in preaching & in prayer, for which I desire to give all the praise where alone it is due. Tenie & I spent the afternoon & evening together reading & in sweet converse, not soon to be forgotten by either of us.

Monday, March 8th: It is a pleasant sight after breakfast every morning to see Joe, Ben & Dockie mount their horses & ride together into Wollongong to school. All children in these colonies bred in the country seem to take to riding as naturally as to walking & are usually very expert at it. They are sadly troubled with flying foxes here at night, who' they leave plenty of peaches for the household & the pigs which latter fatten well on them. The Dr drove Tenie & me into town this afternoon. In the evening at about 9 o'clock William & Margaret Creeth from Melbourne arrived from Sydney via Campbelltown. Had much conversation ~~xx~~ in the evening.

Tuesday, March 9th: After breakfast Joe, Tenie & I accompanied the Creeths up Broker's Nose, which we all greatly enjoyed, gathering ferns, little palms & other beautiful & curious things. In the afternoon M. Creeth who is an Overseer of Melbourne meeting had a long private talk with me, during which she expressed the greatest disunity with Joseph & me & earnestly exhorted me at once to return to England. This she said was the universal feeling of Melbourne Friends. I asked her what charges they had against me, but ~~xxx~~ all I could gather was that A. Allen had told them several things which I had never done or thought of, but it was of no use attempting to deny any of her accusations, all I got from her was really insult, that I was a good hand at trying to justify myself, that I was wise in my own council though & she admitted I had a right to ~~xxxx~~ contradict false accusations & this was all I did. We read F. Pennington in the evening & discussed several things, but I found they were completely "Allenites" in all their views - indeed they are what he has made them.

Wednesday, March 10th: The Creeths left by coach this morning, no doubt comforted in their own minds to think how sharply they had dealt with me, but leaving a very unpleasant impression on some of those living in the house of biased judgement, & narrow views & little love, needing greatly the beautiful little prayer in the Episcopal litany: "from all uncharitableness, good Lord deliver us." I spent the morning writing & in the afternoon Tenie & I walked to Wonona to post a letter. A quiet evening, reading.

Thursday, March 11th: We drove into Wollongong in the morning & find from ~~xxx~~ telegram that the "Galatea" & her royal captain Prince Alfred are again in Sydney. This is to a private visit & no great or expensive preparations are made for his reception. A note from Sydney yesterday informs me that some relics of my stolen property have been found in a waterhole on the Botany Road - ~~vix~~ viz the lock of my bag, some of my writing & a

washed out likeness of myself. The police were going to have the hole dragged & I hope to hear more on reaching Sydney tomorrow. We went into town in the morning & Mr Dargin came out to tea & read I. Pennington with us in the evening.

Friday, March 13th: Much tossed in my mind as to what is my duty in connection with my position as dear Joseph's companion. If what Melbourne Friends say is true, that I have left a bad sa your wherever I have been, surely it cannot be right for me thus to continue - a stumbling block in the road to others. Yet as the same is said of loved cousin, him self, I suppose we must stand or fall together. I often long that we could consult viva voce with some dear members of the Meeting for Sufferings & lay the case fully & freely before them, for we cannot feel that confidence in the judgement of ~~the~~ Melbourne Friends that we could desire because their sentiments are so fickle. How ~~was~~ was it they expressed in their Epistle to England their full unity with & thankfulness for our visit & then in their last Annual Meeting pass a Minute of censure against us, seeing no change has taken place in our practices or doctrines between times. And now the Creeths tell me that while I was in Melbourne the Friends "only endured me because I was Joseph's companion!" Joseph & I feel the only solution of the problem is: "Surely an enemy hath done ~~this~~ this." I have letters from E. Sayce expressing the greatest encouragement & his sense of the blessed help afforded to us both in our ministrations while among them, & now all we hear is, we have sold our principles, betrayed our trust & Melbourne Friends with one voice say to me I ought at once to go home to England. The fact is, A. Allen has obtained a complete ascendancy over these dear friends & whoever he disapproves, they disapprove, whoever he encourages they encourage. They complement my beloved cousin by saying "he is a weak minded young man, easily led, & fearfully under the influence of his cousin W.R." the Creeths say that the unanimous feeling of their meeting is "that W.R. is 1/3 a high churchman, 1/3 a Methodist & 1/3 a Friend." I am beginning increasingly to doubt whether there is much more good for me to do in these colonies. I left an open door at home & I believe should ~~have~~ find one there still, but here the door seems fast closing & I fear the precious truth may suffer through me. Oh for a little clear light from Him in whom all fullness dwells! that we may both do just what is our Lord's will however crucifying to our natural parts, that being slain we may rise in His likeness who made Himself of no reputation. This is my earnest constant prayer & I believe we shall yet know the blessed promise to be fulfilled, "My grace is sufficient for thee" & "to those who fear His name shall the Son of Righteousness arise with healing in His wings." Read the Bible & I. Pennington after breakfast before Mr Dargin left for Wollongong. In the afternoon I drove Tenie & Zip into town, where we called on Mr & Mrs Blackett who have lately come to reside there & the former is Joe Cox's schoolmaster. I called because I heard Mrs B knew S. Walden, & was pleased to find she is well acquainted with the ~~xx~~ place, being own sister to John Jackson our late Tinner, who as my friends will remember, emigrated with his wife Jessie & their children to New Zealand. I find from Mrs B that they have been very unsuccessful there & Mr J having broken his knee has had to give up

all active exertion. They have 11 or 12 children, but the Black-ett's have not heard very recently. Their last address was Onchunga, near Auckland. Tenie & I spent most of the evening quietly together.

Saturday, March 15th: Rose at 5 o'clock. My dearest one up to get me refreshment. Left Summer Hill at 5.20 on horse back for Wollongong & found the Steamship "Hunter" which ought to leave for Sydney at 6 am, not in, & we did not leave the wharf till nearly 8 o'clock. One thing struck me forcibly this morning: it was quite dark when I left Summer Hill except bright starlight, & ½ an hour after the sun rose out of the Pacific & it was broad daylight, so short is twilight in these colonies. After a smooth voyage we were moored at Sydney about 1 p.m., passing in the harbour the "Himalaya" man of war just arrived - the largest ship in the world except the "Great Eastern." We also sailed close to the "Galatea" & saw her royal captain, Prince Alfred, on her quarter deck. Sydney is looking very gay with flags &c to welcome back our prince. I little thought when we landed here a year back & he had just been shot at that another year would see him again in New South Wales. In the afternoon Joseph & I saw the Creeths off for Melbourne - a large number of Allenites at the wharf to see them off. Then to the station to see A. Davy - also ran on board the beautiful little barque "John Williams" where we met Dr Sunderland who shewed us which would be our cabin, a very comfortable & little one. The vessel is a remarkably nice one, well fitted & very sea worthy. After tea, we walked out to Wolharra to call on poor friend Matthews, who has recently had added to her already almost ~~an~~ overwhelming troubles the sudden death of her son, who was struck dead by lightning about 2 weeks ago, leaving a widow & family. Had reading with her & my dear cousin addressed her sweetly & comfortingly afterwards. On our return we had a very long conference on our own future movements, but at last left it, decided to lay the subject once again before the Lord, earnestly seeking his Holy counsels.

Sunday, March 14th: Rose early & both united in the decide feeling which I may now pen as fact, that I should accompany my dear Joseph to the South Sea Islands in the "John Williams" & if ~~xxx~~ possible leave at one of the islands to go on to New Zealand but that I should leave Joseph there & at once return to Sydney & thence to our dear home; many have been the conflicts of spirit that have led us to a decision to part, but as it appears to be the unanimous feeling of Melbourne Meeting, corroborated by F & R.A. Mackie, we feel it would not be right to run counter to their judgement. I feel quite persuaded it is a right decision for I know I should stand in my dear cousins way in the other colonies & among Friends in New Zealand. I am also very humbly sensible that my contact in this city with the terrible metaphysical, argument loving minds of some of A. Allen's party has had a very ~~xxx~~ prejudicial effect on me, tossing me about most painfully & while it has led me to dig more deeply than ever before into the ground works of our faith, yet in some things it has led me to cut out as it were a path for myself & while in Brisbane six months back, after much conflict on the subject, I felt it clearly required of me to submit to the ordinance of water Baptism; feeling

deeply my position as dear J.J.N's companion I thought it safest to have the solemn rite gone through privately & had the minister & Mr Buzzacott adhered to their trust nothing would have been known of it till our work was done in these colonies. Independently of this Melbourne Friends acting under the overpowering influence of the "Allenites" who reign supreme there, have conceived a great want of unity with us both, but very especially with me, & now that my submitting to what appears so unquakerly an act, has been published it seems to act as a climax & to lead us both to feel that we must accept the judgement of Melbourne Friends & separate when our Polynesia tour is at an end. The "M John Williams" is arranged to visit all her islands before her return to Port Jackson & our wish is if at any island when she has about completed her first visit, we can find a vessel bound for N.Zealand to saift from the "John Williams" to into her & on reaching N.Zealand to part, leaving dear Joseph to labour among Friends there while I return without loss of time to this city & taking my dearest Femie to be my wife, return at once to England with her. I feel almost overwhelmed at our decision, for I always desired to go with Joseph where he goes & return to England only when he returns, but I know this cannot be. It would be impossible for him to be well received in the other meetings were I with him & surely no ties of love or fellowship, however strong, should stand in the way of the duty to our Lord. I am willing to take all the blame if such be my dessert, for while unconcious of being untrue to our principles as Friends, yet I am now well aware they are not prepared to accord to me the liberty I have taken. I am quite sure a great deal of Melbourne friends disliked for me arises from false reports & misstatements but be it as it may, I have not been sufficiently watchful & I now can only long & fervently pray that no real hurt may be done to the precious truth, as it is in Jesus, by the course I have taken. Of one thing I must speak - it is the very decided feelings of us both that our coming out to the colonies together was in right ordering; we have been so wonderfully preserved & helped on together that we can never doubt that & we have had so many precious meetings together, owned & blessed of the Lord, that it would be indeed a want of gratitude to him whose very name is I've to doubt his having led us hitherto. I cannot feel it was wrong in me to be immersed in the name of the Father & of the Son & of the Holy Ghost, because I have felt a sweet peace in making that sacrifice. I subjoin a brief summary of my feelings on the subject & I would ask my dear ones at home to suspend their judgement till my return. If we be permitted to accomplish our present views, I think next Christmas may see me once more at home, but I cannot write definitely about this because of the uncertainty of finding a vessel. I can scarcely realise what I am ~~writing~~ now writing, but I feel it is best, I only regret I have not proved a better companion to my beloved cousin. We have now been together about twenty months & have laboured on in much unity & brotherly love & I know his own feeling still is, that he would not have changed me for another, but from delicate health I had to leave him on two occasions on both which he ~~xxxxx~~ seemed specially to need my care. Well! if we part we shall part in love, it will be with no sharp contention as with Paul & Barnabus, as to who was acting

under Divine guidance, because we both feel united in the belief that He who sent us out together has now commanded us to part. Oh! may He go with us both & be our Guide & Reward. We met at H.P. Fowler's at 11 a.m & had a very full room & I trust a favoured meeting. After I had bent the knee in prayer, Joseph spoke in a very weighty manner; then a man named Jones who we met a year ago in Ballarat, spoke. He is not a Friend but an earnest revival minister & is doing a work among some of the lowest of the low. He is now on his way to California. Joseph closed the meeting in praise & prayer. We dined at our quarters & spent a quiet afternoon there. Took tea at H.P. Fowler's where several Friends met us. The evening meeting was large & a good time. I spoke to the little company, exhorting them to "quench not the spirit" but to allow of all the operations thereof in their own hearts & if He call any * to speak a few words in the name of Jesus, not to be disobedient to the Heavenly vision. Joseph spoke & so did John Falser, W.N. Roakes & H.H. Newman, & then Joseph closed the meeting in prayer. We supped at the Newman's.

Monday, March 15th: we called at Dr Sunderxland's office, & made other calls & find we have plenty to do before we sail. I went to the Police station to identify all that has been yet found of my lost bag & contents. Many of my letters, some likenesses washed off their cards & a heterogeneous mass of things now utterly worthless - not worth a penny, are all that is left me of my nice property. Wrote letters in the afternoon & went to tea at Dr Brereton's, where we spent a very pleasant evening.

Tuesday, March 16th: Spent this morning in xix writing - a heavy task this time, as we shall be unable, & in all probability to send letters ~~may~~ home again for some time. I omitted to mention that yesterday I received a call from a woman named Cockshead, who is from St Barfield U lives with one Abigail Knight. She knows friends there well & called on me in consequence of a letter she had received from P. Frelove. She seems to be doing well & does not ~~complain~~ complain, but has had a great trial in the loss of her husband. We went to tea at the Skinner's at Darling Point & spent a ~~xx~~ pleasant evening there. A wet night - always a treat in these hot climates.

Wednesday, March 17th: Went to the little meeting this morning, which was a time of renewed favour. H.H. Newman offered long & fervent prayer for every blessing to attend us - in our voyages, among the heathen & at home. John Falser said a few words & dear H Joseph spoke very sweetly. Spent the afternoon in buying & otherwise ~~xxx~~ arranging things for our voyage. Met the Captain of the "John Williams" - Mr Fowler, a very nice man, & my dear uncle ~~Mackin's~~ ~~with~~ Mr Henry Hopkins will be interested in hearing he is a Scarborough man, was there last summer & pointed out to us very correctly on a picture my uncle's house. He says he is a brother of Fowler the owner of the North Shore bathing machines. My dear cousin gave a free lecture in the Temperance Hall in the evening but I was unable to attend from heavy cold & threatened influenza. His subject was "a talk about America" & I hear it was well attended & in everyway satisfactory.

Thursday, March 18th: Still feeling poorly from my cold & unable to do much except rest on the sofa. A heavy rain has also

made indoors the best place for me, & as a great number of ~~my~~ intercolonial letters of explanation of our plans have to be written I have when ~~xxx~~ able, spent my time in this occupation, which I find trying & very wearing - the having so often to tell dear friends in the colonies that I never expect to see them again on this earth.

Friday, March 19th: Very busy all day getting ready for the islands. In the afternoon to our surprise & pleasure the box we wrote for 10 months ago came to hand. Really we had given it up all hope of having it before we sailed for the islands, & our long wait for it, ~~xxxxxx~~ ~~xxx~~ seemed to make it the more welcome. I am glad to say everything was in good condition, the books, tracts & clothes all being as good as fresh looking as if just packed. Extremely busy all the rest of the day unpacking & arranging the tracts, doing up parcels of them for persons in Queensland & South Wales promised months ago. At 11 o'clock I left Sydney by the steamship "Kembala" to pay a little farewell visit to Sumner Hill before going to Polynesia. The cabin so crowded with sea sick passengers that I was soon glad of the cool air of deck. Reached Wollongong at 5 o'clock on the morning of:

Saturday, March 20th: Somewhat tired & lazy today from the effect of walking about instead of sleeping last night. Joe met me at the steamer with two horses & we rode out home together. John Dargin came out in the afternoon.

Sunday, March 21st: A nice solemn little meeting this morning, in which a little renewed ability was felt to address my dear ones. The doctor followed in the same strain & the meeting closed in earnest prayer. In the afternoon a quiet stroll on the sea beach & a sweet evening alone with Tenie.

Monday, March 22nd: A cool wet morning. This changeable weather is not helpful in ridding me of my cold, which is heavy & keeps me weak & very languid. A very sore mouth, full of little fatherings inside is a trying addition to my ailments. I drove Mr Cox & the 2 girls to Wollongong after dinner & saw poor Willie Naish in a drunken sleep, from which I did not think it wise to awake him. Poor fellow! I think he has now sunk about as low as possible, for a man to sink in the moral sense.

Tuesday, March 23rd: Spent the morning getting beads &c ready for the southern islanders. After noon the Dr drove Mrs & Cox, Tenie & me into Wollongong where I embarked in the steamship "Hunter" & took a long tearful farewell of my dearest betrothed one, not again to meet till my return from Polynesia. Just before I left I received my ever welcome English letters: one from dearest Father & Mother & Priscie & one from Harriet, Alice & Minnie. I cannot reply to the latter so they must accept my thanks, much love & the will for the deed. News of the death of our very venerable Aunt Edmonds not unexpected. Dear James Backhouse too had at last finished his glorious course on earth & been gathered into the eternal fold. How I wish things in Sydney were now in as healthy state as when he left them! Reached Sydney at 9 p.m. & find we do not sail till Thursday morning.

Wednesday, March 24th: My precious mother's 85th birthday. I spent the last in Melbourne & I am not without hope I may (if spared) spend the next at home with her. How the recurrence of

of these annual events bring especially near to me the absent loved ones now so long parted from us. I must finish & post this today as we may have to go on board the "John Williams" this evening. The Captain expects we shall be about 20 days reaching our first landing place - the Society Islands & Tahiti. Then we proceed to the Hervey Group; Savage Island & then to Samoa. After that the Loyalty Group - Mare & Lify. This I think includes our whole round so far as we know. If from one of the Loyalty Islands we can find a vessel for New Zealand I expect dear Joseph will avail himself of it & if one for Sydney, I hope to return here in it en route for home. And now my dearly loved ones, farewell in the Lord! May he keep & bless and guard & guide you is the earnest prayer of my soul. You may ~~hear~~ probably not hear again from us till our return from Polynesia, but if there should be a chance of sending letters, of course we will avail ourselves of it, but should four or even five mails arrive in England after this without letters from us, please do not give way to anxiety, for we are in His hands without whose notice not a sparrow falls to the ground. "The water floods lift up their voices & rave but mightier is than the mightiest wave."

Thus commending you & ourselves & all our loved ones here & everywhere to our gracious God & His good keeping, do I once more bid you farewell.

With very dear love

Yours, very affectionately

Walter Robson.

Received at Saffron Walden: 5th Month 25th 1869.

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 (Here in the Journal is an illustration of the 3-masted Missionary ship "John Williams.").

PART THE TWENTY-THIRD: POLYNESIA.1889.

Wednesday, March 24th: We called & had our interview with Mr Sunderland who thinks it doubtful whether the "John Williams" will be ready to sail tomorrow. However we completed our packing & in the afternoon hired a dray & conveyed our luggage on board. Our little cabin is comfortable & all we want is elbow room. There is not an inch to spare - just room to dress but no space for boxes or sitting or writing, but as we shall not be crowded with passengers the cuddy will do for that. We have both provided ourselves with some fancy work for the voyage. Frederic Horsenail has just appeared in Sydney & accompanied us to the vessel. I rested & early retired in the evening, feeling very unwell. Joseph attended a farewell missionary meeting in the Pitt St Congregational Chapel & there learnt that the sailing of the "John Williams" is unavoidably postponed till next Monday.

Thursday, March 23rd: Still feeling poorly & at the earnest solicitation of some of my friends here consented to consult a doctor. Called on Dr Boyd, a friend of J.C. Niels, & he put me through a very searching examination & tells me I am perfectly sound but require a cooler climate. He says this summer in New South Wales has been a peculiarly trying one & he fears the heat of the Islands will be oppressive to me, but thinks the voyage will do me good. He says I perspire far too freely & must wear very little clothing & finally gave me some tonic medicine & a command to call again before we sail. I feel glad I have called on him because in prospect of our Polynesian trip & of marriage soon after, if the Lord permits, I felt anxious to know how my state bodily really is. I know I want quiet for my state mentally & spiritually & trust through the goodness of the Lord that our long voyage will furnish me with many hours for deep inward proving, that I may become more settled & centred on Christ the eternal Rock. I received a very kind visit from A & J Davy while alone, Joseph having gone out to tea.

Good Friday, March 26th: A wet morning disappointing to many excursionists. Spent the morning writing. A & J Davy called to take leave in the afternoon & we went to take tea at J.P. Sunderland's, the Secy of the London Missionary Society. Spent a very nice evening with him & his amiable wife. They have lived on some of the islands & gave us much useful information about them. During the evening I read a chapter in the bible & dear Joseph engaged in prayer.

Saturday, March 27th: Spent most of the morning fitting up our cabin on board the M John Williams. Its dimensions being small we have had to set our wits to work to fit as much as possible into a very tiny space. Two very handsome watchpockets worked by the young Davys add much to the beauty of minute sanctum. Wrote & rested in the afternoon. Joseph spent the evening with the McDonalds, who we met at Ipswich in Queensland, & I at the Newman's. A farewell visit before sailing for the Islands.

Sunday, March 28th: I think the weather is nearly as hot & quite as oppressive now as in midsummer - very trying to ~~xxxx~~ one so given to perspire as I am. I find it almost impossible to

to keep cool. A solemn prayer from dear Joseph after our morning reading with the Pulsers - a nice parting season with them. We had a favoured little meeting at H.P. Fowler's in the morning. I bowed the knee in prayer for us, for absent loved ones & especially for the separated body of friends. Joseph spoke solemnly from the words "No man, having put his hand to the plough &c"; I followed from the address of Christ to Peter: "Lovest thou me &c". We dined at our lodgings & I had to pay my doctor a parting visit in the afternoon: he says I am much better but must keep on with tonic medicine. We went to tea at dear H.P. Fowler's & had a solemn closing meeting afterwards. John Pulsar knelt & earnestly invoked the Divine blessing on us; he then spoke very sweetly on putting our trust in God; I followed; then H.H. Newman spoke & soon after prayed very fervently & at great length for every blessing both on those who go & on those who stay. John Osborne spoke nicely & dear Joseph gave a sweet farewell address.

Monday, March 29th: Busy finishing packing & getting prescriptions for the voyage made up at the Chemists before breakfast. Our dear friends John Pulsar & H.H. Newman accompanied us to the wharf where we took a little boat & were rowed to the "John Williams" which we found was already loose from her moorings & lying in the harbour; many good people were assembled on board to bid our fellow passengers & ourselves farewell. It had been arranged for a steam tug to take us out of the harbour, but as this is Easter Monday & a great day for picnics here, no tug was to be obtained so after several ineffectual attempts to sail out, we again dropped anchor & decided not to start till tomorrow morning. Dined on board. Mr & Mrs Sunderland & many others with us & in the afternoon service was held on deck, the captain & crew being present. Mr Sunderland read & prayed; hymns were sung & Mr Johnson a congregational minister, Mr Sunderland & our fellow passenger Mr Powell addressed us. The former speaking to captain & crew & the others addressing the passengers & visitors. Morace Kindred - Joseph's cousin, came up to us in his boat & took us with him aboard the barque "Melrose" where Louisa & their little ones were, & we had refreshment & spent some pleasant time with them, returning to our vessel in the evening & taking up our quarters for the night.

Tuesday, March 30th: My last birthday I left Melbourne for Sydney & this one I leave on another voyage. Rose at 6 a.m. & found the steam tug "Breadalbane" all ready to pull us out. We soon started & on reaching the Heads our Pilot left us & we sailed right out from the coast due eastward with a heavy north wind making our little vessel roll fearfully, so that we were all indisposed, even the mate & crew being very sea sick. Our passengers are Mr & Mrs Powell, old missionaries returning to Samoa; Mrs Royle & her daughter; the former, wife of Mr Royle missionary in Aitutaki. Mr & Mrs Shaw, young school teachers going ex for the first time to labour for the Lord in Samoa - a young man almost a boy named Drummond, son of a Samoan missionary who came out from home in the "John Williams" & is en route for Samoa going home - die. Poor young fellow he seems in the last stage of consumption having almost constant hæmorrhage & we all feel it very if he reaches home alive. These with our two selves form

With unaltered love to you all, my very very dear ones
 I remain
 Yours very affectionately
 Walter Robson.

Received at S.Walden Nov 7th 1869.

PART THE TWENTY-FIRST: VICTORIA & N.S.W. 1869.

Saturday, September 4th, 1869: went to tea this evening to Jos & Indiana Pearson's, where we met several friends & spent a very pleasant evening.

Sunday, Sept 5th: A soaking wet day, making the attendance at both meetings not quite so good as sometimes. Soon after we gathered in the morning Eliza Lewis said a few words, then Jos knelt in fervent prayer & praise. E. Bayce, Mary Hope, Elizth Alcorn & Jas Swinburn spoke briefly. Jos gave us a very excellent sermon & under a feeling of peculiar reluctance & trembling I spoke on the one only true baptism, that of the Holy Ghost & of fire. It was a solemn & I believe very favored meeting. Oswald Marriage & Cooper joined us at dinner. The evening meeting was also a favored time in which dear Joseph exercised his gift in the ministry & I bowed the knee in prayer. Walked home with J.A. Horsefall who had much deeply interesting & solemn conversation with me. He & his wife want me to continue as J.J.N's companion during the remainder of his engagements. This brings renewed conflict, but I doubt not is intended for my good, whatever results from it.

Monday, Sept 6th: sent by rail to Sandridge to try & get our luggage from the "Briton" but found she is not to be at the wharf till tomorrow & accordingly returned to town & called on Jas & Mary Hope &c. Went to tea at Wm & Margt Creech's & spent a very deeply interesting evening there. Much that passed between Margt & me at Wollongong was reviewed & she admitted having said too much. We parted on good terms & I felt thankful for the visit, altho' I am greatly concerned that A.C. so completely supports A. Allen, both in his unsound & mystical doctrines, as well as in his sayings & doings. Perhaps the time will yet arrive when she will be undeceived about him.

Tuesday, Sept 7th: we walked to Sandridge this morning & hired a boat for our luggage out had great trouble in getting it examined & passed by the customs officers who made us undo & open the big box I had made in Apia (7 ft by 3 by 2 1/2) full of curiosities. We did not get much else done in town today as we had ~~sent~~ to be early to tea at Richd & Sarah Creech's. These dear choice frds are a recent addition to the circle of frds here from Dunedin, New Zealand & form a very excellent & weighty portion of the meeting, A.C. being assistant clerk. At 7.30 we met at the meeting house about 50 frds & others there, the soaking rain keeping many away. I had extracted a model canoe &c this morning for the occasion, wishing to make our evening as interesting as possible. Jos & I each spoke about an hour giving general outlines & some details of our visit to Polynesia. The audience seemed deeply

interested & expressed their satisfaction at the close. A very stormy rough ride home to Earlhamhope.

Wednesday, Sept 8th: Went to meeting this morning, where several small communications took place & both of us gave prting addressed to our dear Frds whom I do not expect again to assemble with to worship God on this His earth. Jos closed in solemn prayer for them. I returned to Earlhamhope & spent the afternoon writing, Jos busy making calls in town. There is a great public funeral in town today, at which the Governor & all sorts & conditions of men are to be present. It is the last obsequies over the late Falconer, the first man who settled in Victoria many years before Melbourne was founded or thought of. His age was 77. He is styled "the founder of the colony". This evening we attended an adjournment of the M.M. held in the Meeting House cloak room. After the routine business had been gone thro', S.I. Levitt expressed his earnest desire for dear Joseph that the Lord might go with him wherever he goes. We both spoke & then dear B. Sayce expressed his concern for us, that we might again solemnly weigh our position before finally deciding to part & evinced his desire that we should continue together & return when J.J.N.'s work is done. We feel that we can decide nothing till we reach Sydney & there see ~~what~~ what the Meeting for Sufferings feels on the subject & then it will be for us to do what we are led to believe is the Divine will in the matter. I feel in no hurry as to being married or returning home - my desire is to remain & finish my work, but till this visit to Melbourne I supposed the disunity of Frds was so great as to render such a thing impossible. But our sweet little visit here & the excellent counsel we have received has greatly altered my feelings. A sweet note too from my Christina this morning tells me not to hurry on her account; she would much rather wait months longer for me than that I should leave Australia with a burdened mind. So we are again in conflict, desiring to do the will of ~~him~~ ~~in~~ our Father in Heaven but at present not clearly seeing what that will may be. After supper at Earlhamhope while sitting round the fire dear Jos addressed our friends very impressively & our beloved host knelt in very earnest prayer for us, specially pleading for a right direction in the important matter of whether we separate or remain together.

Thursday, Sept 9th: Bid farewell visits to S.I. Levitt & Jos & Indiana. Took a last leave of Earlhamhope at 11 o'clock & went up to town accompanied by George & Lily. A large number of Frds to see us off at the wharf: Horsefalls, Creech, Beale, Robinson, Sayces &c. Helen Davy waiting our arrival on board. Steamed away from Melbourne at noon in the steamship "You Yango". Outside Port Phillip Heads we had a rough sea & poor Helen was soon ill & had to retire.

Friday, Sept 10th: A cold lovely morning, not rough but a head wind is keeping us back a good deal. The "You Yango" is a curious vessel: her 1st class accommodation is a house on decks about midships, but the plan is a good one as ~~my wife~~ ~~who~~ ~~was~~ ~~by~~ ~~the~~ ~~name~~ ~~of~~ ~~the~~ ~~ship~~ ~~is~~ ~~the~~ ~~same~~ ~~as~~ ~~the~~ ~~one~~ ~~at~~ ~~which~~ ~~the~~ ~~meeting~~ ~~was~~ ~~held~~ ~~at~~ ~~the~~ ~~house~~ ~~of~~ ~~the~~ ~~late~~ ~~Mr~~ ~~Williams~~ ~~of~~ ~~the~~ ~~same~~ ~~name~~ ~~at~~ ~~whose~~ ~~house~~ ~~the~~ ~~meeting~~ ~~was~~ ~~held~~ ~~at~~ ~~the~~ ~~house~~ ~~of~~ ~~the~~ ~~late~~ ~~Mr~~ ~~Williams~~ ~~of~~ ~~the~~ ~~same~~ ~~name~~ ~~at~~ ~~whose~~ ~~house~~ ~~the~~ ~~meeting~~ ~~was~~ ~~held~~ ~~at~~ ~~the~~ ~~house~~ ~~of~~ ~~the~~ ~~late~~ ~~Mr~~ ~~Williams~~ ~~of~~ ~~the~~ ~~same~~ ~~name~~ ~~at~~ ~~whose~~ ~~house~~ ~~the~~ ~~meeting~~ ~~was~~ ~~held~~ ~~at~~ ~~the~~ ~~house~~ ~~of~~ ~~the~~ ~~late~~ ~~Mr~~ ~~Williams~~ ~~of~~ ~~the~~ ~~same~~ ~~name~~ ~~at~~ ~~whose~~ ~~house~~ ~~the~~ ~~meeting~~ ~~was~~ ~~held~~ ~~at~~ ~~the~~ ~~house~~ 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Saturday, Sept 11th: A lovely quiet day at sea. Managed to get Helen on deck, where she spent a day lying wrapped up in my possum rug, wretched ill & sick. Put in at Two-fold bay for passengers & then at Mermibula, 30 miles farther north. Passed Moruya this evening where our dear friend Jas Martin resides & by daylight on:

Sunday, Sept 12th: were close off Kiama where we spent several days & had a meeting last year. Passed Wollongong & in clear sight of Dr Coxes pretty home, Summer Hill, at 10 o'clock. were moored in the wharf at Sydney by 3 o'clock & met there W.N. Rokes & S.J. Palser. Went to our old quarters, 660 George St, & after tea I escorted Helen to Piermont where she is to lodge with some friends of ~~mine~~ theirs. The evening meeting was as usual held at the house of dear H.P. Fowler. The little company met there gave us a very warm welcome back & we were permitted to have a good favored meeting. I soon constrained vocally to return thanks for the many many favors which had been the ~~part~~ portion both of us who had been so long voyaging & our dear friends here. Jos, H.R. Newman & I spoke & J. Palser offered prayer. Walked home with W.N. Rokes who has moved to another house since we left here 6 mos back. Retired to bed about midnight.

Monday, Sept 13th: A busy unsettled day getting our luggage up from the "Yon Yanogo" & unpacking it in our lodgings. Called on Mr Sunderland of the L.M.S. Daniel Clarke came to see us. We are surprised to find Jos Dixon about to leave Sydney & commence sugar growing in Queensland, Jos Mitchell about to settle on some land in Queensland & Alfred Allen seeking to be liberated from his soap business to travel as a sort of hawker in the same colony. Thus it seems as if our poor dear persecuted friends here are likely to be rid of their injurious neighbours without any planning or contriving of their own. We have long advised them to "stand still & see the salvation of God" & now it seems in part to be fulfilling. We are deeply affected to hear of the death of Elizabeth the wife of Thos Skinner of Darling Point. I feel to have lost one of our kindest & most ladylike friends in these colonies, one who always seemed the same, so cordial & good. She died at her daughters, Mrs Christians near Morpeth on the Hunter. What an additionally trying is that her husband has not yet returned from his tour to England & his sons went by P&O Mail to Point de Galle to meet him but he was not there & they sadly fear the result of so great a shock to him. I expect their ~~very~~ lovely home at Darling Point will be broken up in consequence. I saw Helen off by train to Campbelltown & then joined my dear cousin at H.P. Fowler's to tea where we met several friends to whom we imparted in the evening some details of our Polynesian tour & closed with reading & a few sweet words from J.J.N. He then accompanied me to the Phoenix wharf where I parted with him for a few days & embarked on the "Hunter" steamship which left at midnight & reached Wollongong at 4,40 on:

Tuesday, Sept 14th: Joe met me in the dog-cart & drove me to Summer Hill where a joyful happy meeting awaited me from my dearest C & her mama & the rest of the family. The Dr is staying with Fred & Lizzie at Newcastle but is expected home very soon. Spent a day of quiet but intense enjoyment, a feast after a long fast. After tea Tenie & I rode & Mama, Joe & Zip drove into town

to a very interesting lecture on "New South Wales" giving us much interesting information as to the physical state & ~~the~~ future prospects of this colony 5 times as large as ~~the~~ all Great Britain.

Wednesday, Sept 15th: Tenie & I rode into Wollongong this morning for letters &c & walked to Woonona in the afternoon. The country looks very lovely here now from recent rain, so green & bright. Oranges very ripe on the trees & all nature rejoicing in the spring weather.

Saturday, Sept 18th: A few days of quiet enjoyment at Summer Hill after the excitement at Melbourne & the battering about of the week of gales in Basses Strait are particularly welcome. Dr Cox returned last evening after a very pleasant visit to Sydney & Newcastle. Poor John Wilmot is in sad trouble. He is I believe a truly nice man but Wollongong is a dull township & too easily accessible from Sydney for trade to be good there. He has struggled on in low water a long while but has now been compelled to declare himself insolvent & is to be sold off on Monday. ~~I~~ Yesterday we went up Broker's Nose, a lovely walk on a beautiful summer-like day.

Sunday, Sept 19th: A southerly burster to use a common colonial phrase has made it quite cold today so that we were fain to have a fire in the parlour & hold our little meeting there. It felt very sweet once more to sit down with my dear ones to wait upon God in dependance on the one true Source for help & strength. The Doctor & I both spoke & I bent the knee in prayer & praise. A lovely walk to Woonona in the afternoon & a quiet evening with the excellent writings of Isaac Pennington.

Monday, Sept 20th: We have had an instance today of how God raises up friends in the hour of need for those who are His people & put their confidence in Him. Years back when poor John Wilmot was an habitual drunkard he was sold off & everything was taken from him. Today he has again had his goods sold & to his joyful surprise almost everything was presented to him by those who had bought them when the sale was over! I believe only about £15 worth of goods are really taken away, & all the rest are given him to sell again & get a living by. All his neighbours & ourselves did what little we could to help him in this way & tonight he is overjoyed to find himself legally clean of debt & in a fair way to continue shop keeping & get an honest living.

Tuesday, Sept 21st: After reading I rode with the Doctor up to his grand old mountain farm & helped in burning off some stumps. Busy with the cows in the afternoon. Drove with Tenie, Zip & Joe into Wollongong in the evening to the Band of Hope where I gave probably my parting address to the dear friends who have always so cordially welcomed me among them.

Wednesday, Sept 22nd: ~~I~~ Tenie & I rode out beyond Bulli to call on a dear pious old lady Mrs Hicks. Leaving my dear one there I went down to the rocks & had a refreshing bathe, the day being very warm & pleasant. Called ~~at~~ at the Smedley's on our way back & reached home to dinner. Walked with Tenie, Zip & Joe into Wollongong & back in the evening to attend the first anniversary tea meeting of the Daughters of Temperance. It was well attended & good proof given that the blessing of God is resting on the labourers of the devoted supporters of Teetotalism. Several of their

own sex who had been habitual drunkards are now sober respectable women while the pecuniary aid they afford to any distress is very valuable. Several addressed in the evening, one from myself among the members.

Thursday, Sept 23rd: After a quiet morning at Summer Hill & an early dinner I walked into town accompanied by the Doctor, Tenie, Zip & Ben & left them by the little steamer ship Kiama at about 3 o'clock. Did not reach Sydney till 10 o'clock where my dear cousin met me at the wharf.

Friday, Sept 24th: we have ~~not~~ ^{now} I believe fully decided for me to marry & return home without ~~a~~ needless delay, not on account of any disunity of Friends for that seems about at an end ~~is~~ except with A. Allen & party, but I find dear Joseph has long felt he must visit New Zealand alone & expects there to have to undergo a great deal of walking, ~~at~~ which he & I are ~~not~~ well aware from past experience I could not do & I should be a burden rather than a help to him. This being the case he has told me plainly he believes it would be best for me to return home unless I feel very strongly bound to New Zealand. This I cannot say I do except as his companion & therefore feel quite easy to accept my release from further service in this hemisphere. We spent this morning looking over several homeward bound vessels but have not fully decided on any. ~~Called~~ ^{Called} on a sister of Mr Gill of Mangala South Pacific & on dear old Henry Royle's daughter ~~who~~ were very glad to have tidings of their dear ones we have so recently visited in their far off ~~IXIX~~ Island homes. Went to tea at Moses Brown's (a Jew) whose family are converted. They are great friends of Dr Cox & very excellent people.

Saturday, Sept 25th: After breakfast we went again down to the circular quay & went over a new vessel, then to the agent, Gilchrist, Watts & Co & engaged a stern cabin on board the ship "Commissary" Captain Francis Wagstaff. The cabin is a very fine one, large & commodious with a good horsehair sofa as well as a bunk big enough for two to sleep comfortably in. There is another bunk below which will do well to hold luggage. A more comfortable cabin I never saw & the cost is only £7:10 per head more than ~~the~~ the price ~~of~~ per Yatala & a longer voyage in prospect. There will doubtless be much motion, but that we shall I trust soon get used to. There are two large port holes & two smaller ones. Captain Wagstaff is quite a gentleman. In the voyage out he had the new Bishop of ~~the~~ Grafton & Arundel & his lady - they occupied the cabin I have engaged & have given the captain a very high testimonial of their ~~great~~ satisfaction with him & his vessel. There will not be much fresh to procure as we have had our goods from Adelaide sent here in readiness. Called on H.F. Fowler & met Newman Cash who was rejoicing in the fact that his wife had this morning presented him with a little girl & both doing well. I stayed at home this evening letter writing & trying to arrange for us to ~~have~~ have two or three meetings round A. Gavy's before we finally separate.

Sunday, September 26th: I went a pleasant lovely walk before meeting. Had a nice little meeting; Joseph offered solemn prayer for the little company who meet often under such discouraging circumstances. I spoke on the importance of allowing Christ to

to carry on His great sanctifying work in our hearts even though it be a crucifying work. We went to H.H. Newman's to dine & take tea. He is now alone, Mrs Newman & Eliza being at Murrumbidgee on account of the delicate health of the latter. Paid a visit to John Smither's in the afternoon; he is very feeble, having been paralyzed while we were in Polynesia, but he is very lively in those things which are enduring & eternal. The evening meeting was a favored time. We both spoke to mourners present & for them I offered ~~my~~ prayer before we separated.

Monday, September 27th: A day of fatiguing secular business ordering things for the Commissary - a long job, there being no shop in Sydney like Silver & Co of London where every requisite is obtainable, but here one has to go to one shop for a chair, another for a mattress, a third for a curtain & so on, & all things very expensive. To tea at Layman Harrison's at the Glebe. He is father to Mrs Gill of Mangala & an excellent old man originally from Coggs Hall & related to the Friends of the same name at home.

Tuesday, September 28th: Walked up to Darling Point to call on Mrs Howe & Miss Stonis the widow & companion of the late missionary to Tahiti whose tomb we visited at K Baratonga, he having died there on his way to Sydney for his health. We had a deeply interesting visit there, the dear old lady so ~~pleased~~ pleased to hold converse with those who have so recently been to Polynesia. Thence to the exquisitely beautiful home of Thomas Skinner. We only saw one of the lovely little daughters - poor girls they deeply feel the unexpected death of their dear mama. It seemed very sad to be in that pretty drawing room & feel we could never see her there again, who was the life of her home. Tom Jr is in Melbourne waiting the arrival per "Great Britain" of his father from England so as to give the mournful tidings of the death of his dear wife before reaching Sydney. We did not stay long as the grief of the poor girl seemed of too sacred a character for a comparative stranger to intermeddle with, so we gave her a few words of comfort, commending her to the only true source of comfort & then came away. I hardly expect ~~we~~ ever again to visit this lovely spot. I think Elizabeth Skinner's last words to me were: "Do not forget Mr Robson you promise to bring Mrs Robson to see me before you sail for England" - and now she has passed from earth forever. Went to tea at Daniel Clarke's where we met John Palmer & Henry H Newman & did our best to settle amicably a very trying misunderstanding which had arisen between two of them. Surely there are no Friends on earth so easily offended with each other or so ready to misconstrue motives as some who compose this little meeting. In the evening we addressed a public meeting of the Daughters of Temperance in Riley St - a good meeting. The Sons & Daughters here now muster many hundreds & are always adding to their numbers; they seem doing very much good.

Wednesday, September 29th: Spent most of today packing up boxes "not wanted on the voyage" for us to take ~~in~~ home in the "Commissary", getting sundry cabin fittings ready &c. This evening we each gave a short lecture in the Temperance Hall on our tour in the "John Williams", well attended & eagerly listened to. Exhibited a few specimens of native work, canoe &c. Supped at R.P. Fowler.

Thursday, September 30th: Busy today letter writing & pack

ing up. Went to tea at John Falser's & he accompanied us to the week-night meeting in Devonshire St, a small but I trust not a lifeless time. Dear Joseph spoke very earnestly on the necessity of watching unto prayer as being the Christian's only safety. I closed in prayer that we might experience more of this.

Friday, October 1st: Another busy day of ~~wrk~~ writing, packing & purchasing needful things for the homeward voyage. Went to tea at Hugh Dixon's. He & his wife are a very pious young couple but our special object in going there was to meet Elizabeth Mainby from Morpeth, who is their guest. It was very pleasant to meet this dear choice friend once more & to unite in much serious converse with them all. Closed by dear Joseph in prayer.

Saturday, Oct 2nd: The English mail arrived but my letters not yet sent from Wollongong. Glad to find that the letters we left at Tahiti to be sent via San Francisco have reached home safely. Busy all day writing letters & packing. After tea we walked out to Marrickville where we called to see Alfred Allen's wife & little ones - her husband is now in Queensland. Then to Arthur Wood's where we had a long interview with this singular man & his wife - excellent in their way but still as tenacious as ever in their disunity with us, their praise of Alfred Allen & the maintenance of their strange views. I asked them to be guests at my wedding, but no they could not eat with such wicked people, children of Belial as the Devonshire St Friends are, & we as bad as any of them. So we parted, I believe in love, only a curious way of showing it. Did not get to our lodgings till nearly midnight & then found that Henry X Marsh had just been liberated from his long incarceration in Darlinghurst jail & had called to see us.

Sunday, Oct 3rd: Finding that H. Newman's dear wife & Eliza had come home, we called to see them before meeting. The meeting today was unusually large - H.P. Fowler's parlour more than full, several having to sit in the shop. Joseph soon knelt in fervent prayer, then I had to speak some plain words on the crucifying nature of the work of Christ in the soul. Joseph spoke in the same strain. At the close he read a very interesting letter from an Irish friend to the Neilds, giving a wonderful account of the last Y.M. there. Went to W.M. Roke's to dinner & tea & in the evening held a public meeting in the Congregational chapel at Waterloo near poor old friend Smither's house. The chapel was very crowded several ~~wrk~~ we wished to see were there. The Huntleys, Charles & Annie Brom (Jews), Mr & Mrs Mills, the old Apia Missionaries, poor Henry Marsh &c. But better than all we had the dear Master with us & a blessed meeting it was. There seemed no necessity to introduce our silence to the people, they seemed to settle down at once into solemnity in which feeling after a while I bowed the knee in earnest supplication. Joseph spoke at some length & I followed. He said a few more sweet words & soon after closed the meeting in prayer & praise.

Monday, Oct 4th: Went down to the Commissary this morning to see all right there. Writing letters for England mail most of the day. We leave for Harrington Park at 5 o'clock this afternoon & think it well to post home letters before we go. A Davy has kindly arranged a few public meetings round his home for us this week & we intend going & on to Wollongong next week.

Now I must bid my dear ones farewell. It will not be worth while to write any more to me as I hope so soon to be once more on the trackless ocean - but I would request my dear ones ~~may~~ very often to pray for the safety of our vessel & ourselves. It often felt a great comfort on the "Yatala" & on the ~~X~~ John Williams to feel how many prayers for our safety were ascending from those on shore.

"Oh! Trinity of Love & power,
Our brethrens shield in danger's hour,
From rock & tempest, fire & foe,
Protect them wheresoe'er they go.
Thus evermore shall rise to thee,
Glad hymns of praise from land & sea."

Yours, in very dear & unaltered love,
Walter Robson.

Received at S. Walden December 6th, 1869.
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PART THE 22nd: NEW SOUTH WALES.

October 4th 1869: Availed ourselves of our kind friend Dr Brereton's generosity in allowing us Turkish baths at any time gratis. Found it very refreshing. Left Sydney at 5 p.m. & reached Campbelltown at 6.30. Called on Jacob Green the Congregational minister to arrange meetings & then Abraham Davy drove us to Harrington Park, where we had much interesting conversation & did not retire till near midnight.

Tuesday, Oct 5th: A soaking wet day. Spent the morning reading & writing. A meeting had been planned for us at Greendale this evening, a place 16 miles from here, but the heavy continuous rain rendered it almost impossible to go & reluctantly we gave it up & spent the evening quietly here.

Wednesday, Oct 6th: A fine morning after the wet of yesterday has made the country look most charming. After breakfast our kind host & Joseph & I rode on horseback to Suddenham, the principal settlement in the Greendale district to explain if needful our not coming last night, but we found through the schoolmaster having suddenly left the place, no notice of our meeting has been given & from the scattered character of the population I feel we have great reason for thankfulness that we did not attempt the journey last night as we could have had no meeting & probably could not have travelled over the bad bush road in such inclement weather at all. Rode 4 miles further to see a dear old Christian shoemaker named Mr Harrison. He is a very active lay preacher among the Primitive Methodists & has a most quakerly controversy with a paid ministry. Spent a pleasant hour with him partaking of their simple fare & then dear Joseph addressed them sweetly. After ~~at~~ riding 36 miles we reached Harrington Park about 3 o'clock & after tea & eating, 3 of us drove or rode into Camden where at the school of Arts Joseph & I gave our addresses on the South Sea Islands remembrances. Joseph was in the ~~gr~~ dog cart, I was on horseback & the 45 miles today in the ~~at~~ saddle has made me still & weary tonight.

Thursday, Oct 7th: Wrote letters most of this morning & went a stroll through the Park with A. Davy. This evening he, Ettie, Janie, Joseph & I rode ~~x~~ into Camden where we held a meeting for worship with the people in the Primitive Chapel, not largely attended but we were favoured with a precious sense of the Master's presence which is far better than a large congregation without it. Both laboured largely & we left feeling it had been good to be there.

Friday, Oct 8th: We have been exceedingly interested the last few days in hearing Daniel Davy's account of his voyage to England & his travels in the dear ~~xx~~ old country. It is peculiarly interesting to hear what the first impressions of an Australian are in visiting scenes so familiar to us & to hear of his wonder & surprise at what we, who have been accustomed to it from our infancy, never thought wonderful at all. I rode to Narellan for letters. Mr Kenny came here to tea; he is the Primitive Methodist Minister from Camden. He ~~xx~~ ~~x~~ was born & brought up a rigid Roman Catholic & it was very interesting to hear him narrate some things connected with what he was & what he now is. Before he left dear Joseph addressed him & us very sweetly.

Saturday, Oct 9th: Spent the morning before breakfast churning - turned out two beautiful batches of butter. After breakfast we rode, A. Davy & Joseph one way & I the other round the neighbourhood to invite the inhabitants to be present at a meeting to be held here tomorrow morning. Met in several places a cordial reception but whether a large meeting be the result remains to be proved.

Sunday, Oct 10th: A soaking wet morning so that only a very few persons ~~xx~~ availed themselves of the invitation we gave them yesterday to ~~xxx~~ come to our meeting, but we had a solemn time. The meeting was held in the great dining room & commenced by my reading a chapter ~~x~~ in Ephesians. We both spoke, as did A. Davy, & prayer was offered both at the close & near the commencement. After a quiet afternoon Willie drove J.J. Neave, Helen & the servants while Pollie, Janie & I rode into Campbelltown to a meeting in the Congregational Chapel. The Pastor requested us to have some hymns which he had selected & they sung accordingly. We had an open relieving time, probably my last with the people of this dark Catholic township. During my prayer at the close, a girl was seized with violent hysterics which somewhat unsettled & prematurely broke up the meeting. Our horses became pretty much unmanageable going home & bolted with us full gallop. We however stuck to our seats & were safely landed in A. Davy's yard.

Monday, Oct 11th: Abraham & M. Jane Davy & Joseph went in the dog cart & Ettie & I rode through Camden to the foot of Mount Hunter, about 9 miles from Harrington Park. Here we left our horses & ascended the mount, partaking of some provisions we had carried up with us. From the summit is a splendid view of the surrounding valleys many miles around & of the distant blue mountains which form a sort of backbone to this Colony & Queensland. Reached home to tea & spent a pleasant evening reading &c.

Tuesday, Oct 12th: After an early breakfast Willie drove (tandem) the dog cart with J.J.N., Helen & Janie while Ettie, Pollie & I rode through Campbelltown to Appin where we pulled up at

the Arnstrongs & then proceeded to Kings Falls where we picniced very pleasantly in the sun beside the cool stream. I lighted our fire & cooked some tea & had a nice meal, then our dear friends took leave of us - they to return home while we with one horse between us which Joseph rode most of the way came on to Doctor Cox's. It most unexpectedly began to rain in torrents before we had proceeded many miles & we were thoroughly drenched before reaching our destination. Soon however we were clad in dry clothes & comfortably at home in my dear Australian home where round a merry fire we spent a pleasant evening with our old revered friend Isaac Pennington.

Wednesday, Oct 14th: to October 16th: A few quiet days of much enjoyment, reading, writing, driving into town &c &c. On Wednesday we attended a meeting of the Daughters of Temperance in Wollongong - quite satisfactory: money voted for a sister in trouble & other actions taken for relieving or helping as needs be. Tenie & I rode out to Bulli to visit a poor woman in sore distress her husband a lunatic & threatening her life continually. A difficult case & one where advice without help seem almost useless. On Friday we rode out to the mountain farm, carrying provisions for a picnic which we much enjoyed on the wonderful rocks far in land. I suppose this sort of scenery is almost unequalled in the world unless it be in parts of Canada. Rode home in a soaking rain so that we were ~~were~~ thoroughly drenched before reaching Summer Hill.

Sunday, Oct 17th: A very wet stormy day, especially the early part of it. At our little meeting Dr Cox addressed us very sweetly, as did Joseph. I bowed the knee in prayer at the close, petitioning especially for those who would most deeply feel the approaching separation, that strength might be given in the needful time & the presence of the true Comforter known when most required. This is in all human ~~probability~~ probability the last Sunday I shall spend at dear lovely Summer Hill. It cleared sufficiently after dinner for us to go our accustomed walk up Dosses Hill & sit a while in quiet there, overlooking the broad rolling waves of the mighty Pacific. After tea Joseph, Joe & I rode into Wollongong to attend the Congregational Chapel which was given up for a Friend's Meeting. I think we never felt less fitted for such a service & never more sensible of best help. My dear cousin said to me as we walked to the chapel: "I hope thou wilt relieve thy mind for I feel to have very little for the people." When we were in the Pulpit I felt wretched, as if I could say nothing, & longed to be away, but very soon Joseph knelt in prayer & soon after I rose with the words of Zechariah "Sing & rejoice daughters of Zion for lo! I come & will dwell in the midst of thee saith the Lord" & went on to speak of its present fulfilment in connection with the promise of our risen ~~Xrist~~ Saviour "Lo! I am with you always." Joseph followed in a remarkably solemn clear manner & I closed in prayer & thanksgiving. Reached home about 10 o'clock.

Monday, Oct 18th: The morning being fine Joseph, Tenie, Zi & I ascended Broker's Nose, Tenie & I for the last time. Enjoyed the wonderful panorama of sea & mountain from the summit very much. Descended to a late dinner.

Tuesday, October 19th: Ben & I rode into town shopping aft

breakfast & after our return I was busy getting some things of Tenie's ready for our now nearly approaching voyage in the "Commissary". In the afternoon I drove Joseph, Tenie & Zip into Wollongong to tea at our kind Christian Friend Mr Hewlett's & then attended & addressed once more the Band of Hope. A lovely moonlight drove home.

Wednesday, Oct 20th: After our morning reading of Isaac Pennington, dear Joseph addressed us at considerable length & afterwards fervently supplicated for us all. Then he took leave of all here. Dr Cox, Ben & I riding with him as far as the mountain farm whence he has gone on Abraham Davy's mare to Appin to hold a meeting there; one at the Pass & then proceed to Harrington Park where I hope to rejoin him on Saturday night. We had a slow ride back having a cow & her very infantile calf to drive to Summer Hill.

Thursday, Oct 21st: Busy in the morning coring up & sending into Wollongong almost all my Tenie's earthly possessions; Mr She, Dr Cox, Joe & Ben escorted me to the wharf in the afternoon when I sailed in the Kiama for Sydney. Did not arrive here till nearly 11 o'clock. Found Joseph's bed occupied by our old friend Mr Holland, the Presbyterian Minister who was so kind to us at Fort Macquarie. Our hostess Elizabeth Falser has given birth to another daughter during our absence.

Friday, Oct 22nd: Spent this morning in getting the heavy luggage on board the "Commissary". This occupied all the early part of the day. A Turkish bath in the afternoon. To tea at Daniel Clarke's & spent I trust a profitable evening there.

Saturday, Oct 23rd: Busy packing up for England until nearly 5 o'clock when I left & by train for Campbelltown. Thence I went by coach to A. Davy's entrance lodge & walked up to his house. The night very dark but the lightning so brilliant in all directions as to be quite dazzling. I never saw it more incessant or bright. Sat up talking till nearly midnight.

Sunday, October 24th: Spent a quiet morning reading &c till 11 o'clock when we started for Greendale: A. Davy, Helen, Little & I on horseback & Willie with his mother & Joseph in the dog cart. A ride of 16 miles brought us to the little township of Suddenham in the Greendale district & is where the chapel, school &c of the neighbourhood are. Here we unsaddled our steeds & drove them into a fenced in paddock, then sat down by a water hole & partook of some dinner brought in the dog cart. The first meeting was at 2.30. The chapel well filled & a nice meeting on the whole, only it felt hard work as if there were some hearts present who would not receive the truth, however fully declared. We found afterwards that many Roman Catholics were present. Our good friend Harrison was there & had brought some tea with him, of which we partook together in the chapel after the people had gone. Then A & J Davy drove home in the dog cart not liking to have to traverse so bad a road after dark & left their tandem horse for Willie to ride. We went a quiet walk & sat on a log & rested till 6.30, when the evening meeting was held. The chapel was very full & many stood outside. About 250 persons would be there. It seems wonderful where all the people come from as there are so few houses in sight for miles around. We had a nice solemn & relieving meet-

& as soon as it closed we mounted our steeds, Joseph riding A. Davy's, and after a very dark but safe ride were permitted to regain Harrington Park at 10.30 after a Sunday of no common interest.

Monday, Oct 25th: After a morning with the young people left A. Davy's in the dog cart for Campbelltown, A.D kindly driving us. This is in all probability my final farewell to Harrington Park & Willie, Mary, & Janie Davy as well as their excellent & truly kind mother. The others I hope will be guests at my wedding. Took tea at H.P. Fowler's & spent our evening there arranging who to invite to my nearly approaching marriage.

Tuesday, Oct 26th: A very busy day, writing invitations & to the wedding, packing up &c. A letter has come for us from our dear friends the Shaws of Port Apia, Samoa. Willie Drummond passed from earth to heaven a week after we left in an unclouded hope of a glorious immortality, through the atoning blood of Jesus. Our dear friends have begun their school among the English & half-cast children. A letter for me from Ann Mather of Hobart Town tells of the wreck of the "Victorian Tower" off Melbourne on the Barcoo Sands. She had on board Captain Lidbetter & his family who have come to reside in Melbourne. All on board were saved but I fear our friends will be great pecuniary sufferers. Perhaps Fanny Swift had better be told of it, as she may get to hear false rumours of her brother. Ann Mather also says her daughter Annie is to be married in December to young Shoebridge of New Norfolk, a Wesleyan Alfred Allen has returned from Brisbane. I met him today; he has bought land 70 miles north of Brisbane & intends going to reside on it shortly. He says there are no friends worthy the name of such in Brisbane, but he was kind in his manner which was better than I dared to expect. Very hot in Sydney now, full summer heat, oppressive to bear. Called to see Mrs Mainby this evening.

Wednesday, Oct 27th: Called on my kind friend Arthur Todd Hclroyd, Master in Equity, who has seen the Registrar General & arranged with him for Tenie & me to be married at his office at three o'clock on the 5th Prox. Of this I feel very glad for one of the clerks at the Registry Office told me yesterday we must be married at Wollongong as being the usual residence of the Bride. Busy today writing & on board the Commissary. attended the temperance meeting in the evening - pretty well attended & gave in all human probability my last speech on that subject in Sydney. John Falser presided. Joseph also gave a short address.

Thursday, Oct 28th: Spent the morning settling various outward concerns & writing ~~ix~~ letters. Attended the usual week-day meeting in the evening; 10 friends present & a nice refreshing time. John Falser offered exceedingly earnest fervent prayer & praise & Joseph spoke on our Saviour's injunction "If ye love me, keep my commandments" & this is my commandment: that ye love one another as I have loved you." Called on Henry H. Newman & stayed supper there, after which Joseph prayed very fervently that the continued trial of poor Eliza's bad health might be ~~xxxxx~~ sanctified to them all.

Friday, Oct 29th: W. Wrokes has another little girl we hear so Sydney meeting is looking up to number & I trust also in some respects in spiritual life. I wish it were in a condition for our

Y.M. to acknowledge as ~~their~~ then the difficulty about opening the new meeting house would be at an end & no longer any controversy as to which body of so called Friends were the proper & which assumed. I confess I look forward with some apprehension to our meeting in the new meeting house; I fear Pitt St Friends may think it a suitable time to come & bear their testimony against us, but we must hope for the best. After tea this evening we walked up to Darling Point to pay on my part a last visit to poor Thomas Skinner & his family. His four sons & four daughters are all with him but he feels very greatly(?) his great & sore bereavement, the loss of his dear wife. He was coming back from England full of spirit & plans for the future when his son met him at Melbourne with the stunning intelligence.

Saturday, October 30th: Received a visit from our tall friend (6 ft 10 inches) Eliza Hart of west maitland. It was pleasant to meet him again. Then I called on H.H. Newman about making a will & he went with me to see the "Commissary" & to visit the free library where it was interesting to see so many persons intently reading so many useful books. It is a most valuable institution. In the evening we walked out to Paddington to call on dear old Mrs Howe the widow of the Tahiti missionary & spent a very interesting evening with her & Miss M Stomer.

Sunday, October 31st: Went a quiet walk in Hyde Park before breakfast meeting. The gathering this morning was as large as usual & a favored time. I spoke on the words: "Shall we not much rather be in subjection to the Father of Spirits & live?" Dear Joseph closed in earnest prayer that such might be the experience of each one of us. Went to dine & tea with Daniel Clarke & after dinner Joseph gave them a very sweet encouraging address. Then we called on Joseph Clarke, D.C.'s brother, who took us a walk in Rivore Park, a new improvement not yet completed. Our evening meeting more than filled H.P. Fowler's parlour. Joseph spoke at unusual length & very clearly, J. Palmer said a few sweet words & I knelt in prayer, especially beseeching that Christ who condescended to be present at a similar occasion in Cana of Galilee, would be present at the solemnization of our marriage next Friday & that all might feel the calming influence of His Spirit with us. Stayed at H.P. Fowler's to make some arrangements for door keepers &c & did not come to our lodgings till bed time.

Monday, November 1st: As I shall not have time on the wedding evening to give particulars of that event & the English mail closes that night at 9 p.m., I think it well to draw this part of my diary to a close. Today I expect to be very busy on board the "Commissary" fixing up our little home which I wish should look comfortable when its dear mistress visits it next Saturday. I intend to go to Wollongong by tonight's steamer to pay a last short visit to my lovely Australian home & to escort my bride & her papa, brother & sister to Sydney on Thursday evening. If our lives & health are spared & all is as we may expect, I hope ere this reaches England to be in the South Atlantic or about rounding the Horn. So far south in midsummer though the weather is always cold the nights will be so short that there will hardly be any darkness or great comfort in the region of icebergs. Let me now express my earnest desire that all my dear ones may have a x

very happy Christmas & a blessed New Year. I had hoped to have been at our Christmas hearth but ~~was~~ our detention in Polynesia rendered that out of the question. Will my loved ones often pray for the young couple one of them on her first long voyage, that they may be protected from all harm, not only from outward perils but that their hearts may be cleansed & kept clean from every defilement & that Christ may reign without a rival in our hearts & that bound up in the closest bonds to each other, we may be more & more united to Christ & Jesus the living word of God. To him I commend you. Very dearly farewell.

Yours lovingly
Walter Hobson.

Received at Saffron Walden January 8th, 1870.
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PART THE THIRTY-THIRD: AUSTRALIA CONCLUDED.

Monday, November 1st 1869: Busy almost all day getting our cabin nicely arranged. A letter from Zippie has given me great anxiety. Tenie quite confined to bed with neuralgia & swelled face & glands! I left in the Hunter steamship at 11 p.m. & reached Wollongong at 4 a.m. on:

Tuesday, November 2nd: Walked from the wharf to Dr Cox's, arriving there at 6 o'clock. Found my darling Tenie ~~x xxx~~ in a very unbridal condition, thoroughly prostrate & ill though better than for the last few days. During this & the next day I drove into town, Tenie going with us for fresh air. Took a last ~~x~~ farewell to several we knew & among the rest, John Wilmott, good, kind, honest, poor John Wilmott, His wife & Sarah & Harry; James we did not see as he is at Kiama. Should have telegraphed to put off our wedding but felt that it had gone too far in arranging to do so if possible. Wet unsettled weather makes it more trying for my poor little bride & doubtless the separation from her loved ones makes her feel worse.

Thursday, November 4th: Dearest Tenie better today, the swelling lessened & the pain removed. After an early breakfast we took our last leave of dear lovely Summer Hill. It was sorrowful work. I went round with my bride but as Mary Ann the servant, darling Dockle & worse than all Mama sobbed out their last adieus to her they so much loved, I well nigh broke down especially when Mama remarked through her tears "poor child! the place that knows her now will know her no more." Dear Tenie was wonderfully calm & supported & seemed to bear up better than any, she hardly realizes yet the final nature of her separation. Papa, Joe, Tenie, Zip, Ben & I went together to Appin some on horses & the rest in the dog cart. Took some lunch with us, which we ate at Kings Falls. Dined at the Armstrongs ~~ix~~ at Appin. Took leave of Ben there and were driven in their dog cart to Campbelltown station. Here Joe took his last leave as he is to return home to take care of his Mama, Ben & Dockle. We reached Sydney at 6.15. Papa has gone to lodge at his friends Moses Brown's & Tenie & Zip at n.p. Fowler's. Spent a busy evening making sundry preparations & did not retire till near midnight.

Friday, November 5th: 1869. I rose at 6 o'clock & went down

to the Commissary before breakfast to see that all our possessions were safe on board. Breakfasted with Tenie & Zip at H.P.Fowler's & then I walked to Surrey Hills to fetch Dr Cox to John Dawson's the lawyers office, where we completed the power of attorney for me to act for him in all circumstances in England. Then to A.J. Holroyd's Office in the Supreme Court & from there he accompanied me to the Registrar General's, where we filled up all the needful legal documents ready for our marriage. Lunched with my bride & her bridesmaids at H.P.Fowler's & then left them to dress in their wedding garments while I went to my lodgings to do the same. A carriage came for me & Joseph at about 3 p.m & we called at H.P. Fowler's where my darling & Zippie joined us & we proceeded to the Registrar General's Office. Here A.J.Holroyd was in waiting for us & signed his name as a witness on the various documents which are required. Theodore James Jacques the registrar General then declared Tenie & Walter to be man & wife & we returned in the carriage to H.P.Fowler's. It had rained almost unceasingly up to this time, when the clouds cleared away & the bright Australian sun shone on my darling bride. After our carriage had taken J.J.Neave, H.P.Fowler, Ettie Davy & Annie Brown (the youngest bridesmaid) to the new meeting house, Devonshire St, it came back for us & Tenie, Zippie, Helen & I soon completed the assembly waiting in the old meeting house to walk into meeting in proper style. Thus it was; Dr Cox & Hannah P.Fowler; J.J.Neave & Elizabeth Mainby; Walter Robson & Christina Robson; Zippie & Helen; Ettie & Annie; James Martin & Abraham Davy; John & Ellen Falser. Soon after we were seated Joseph rose & said a few words in explanation of our views as to marriage, after which a solemn silence ensued - a good, solemn time! Then we rose & taking my wife by the hand, I declared as followeth: "Friends, I have taken my friend Christina Cox to be my wife & in the fear of the Lord & before this assembly I promise to be unto her, through Divine assistance, a loving & faithful husband until it shall please the Lord by death to separate us." The dear bride repeated nearly the same words & we sat again in silence. John Falser rose & expressed his earnest desire for a rich blessing to rest always upon us & then Joseph knelt in earnest prayer for us, for spiritual as well as temporal blessings & for some present who were under trial. A.Davy spoke on the great importance of knowing that the Divine blessing rests on our various movements in life & especially one of such importance as marriage. Joseph spoke very sweetly at some length & H.H.Newman spoke nicely. James Martin gave a very solemn & earnest exhortation to all to yield their hearts to the work of the Spirit, not merely to do so in theory as a matter of creed but in practice to be the Lord's own people. Joseph then rose & after we two had signed the parchment certificate, he read it aloud very clearly. We then withdrew, leaving the assembled witnesses to sign their names. Poor Thomas Skinner was there - it was a great effort for him. He just managed to speak to the bride & then hurried away. We was accompanied by Daniel Long from Melbourne, a gentleman once a friend. At 6 o'clock most friends had assembled at Thos J.Falser's where a splendid tea was provided. It was spread on a T-shaped table at which 36 were seated. A splendid brides cake was given by J.J.Neave & a substantial cold collation was spread, consisting of joints,

fowls, ducks, hams, tongues, pastry, jellies, creams, bananas, oranges, strawberries &c with tea & coffee. No wine or other intoxicating liquor on the table. After tea the tables were removed & I slipped out & finished a letter home to tell we were safely married, to go by the mail which closes this evening. On my rejoining the company, to our great surprise, John Falser rose & presented us on behalf of Sydney Friends, a splendid family bible beautifully bound & illustrated, with Brown's commentary. I expressed our gratitude in a short speech & then we spent a social evening till 9.30, when Joseph read Psalm 103 & Dr Cox gave us a nice address on the subject of the word of God - quick & powerful. Joseph again knelt in fervent prayer & praise, after which my wife & I went round & said farewell to all our guests & soon after drove off to the "Old Town Hall Hotel" in Winyard square, where my precious bride & I closed the day in fervent prayer & adoring gratitude to Him who has at length permitted us to consummate our union after so many painful partings & trials of varied kinds.

Saturday, Nov 6th: After a rather late breakfast at our quiet comfortable Hotel, my wife & I walked to the circular quay where I had the great satisfaction of showing my dearest our vessel & the comfortable little cabin home I had fitted up for our voyage. She was greatly pleased with everything. Papa & Zip joined us there & Tenie's three other bridesmaids. Also to our surprise, A. Davy, J. Falser, D. Clarke, H. H. Newman, Vincent & Charlie Brown & H. Freeman. All expressed much satisfaction at the comforts provided. After our guests left we returned to our Hotel & spent the remainder of the day together as happy as a pair of little Love birds could possibly be. At 11 o'clock this evening we went on board the splendid steam ship "Morpeth" & embarked for Newcastle. Elizabeth Nainby & her friend Mrs Dixon were also going by her, which made it pleasant for my dear wife. A southerly gale made the voyage rough but when we had rounded the "Nobbys" at 6 a.m. on:

Sunday, Nov 7th: My dearest made her exit from the ladies' cabin I was rejoiced to find she had not been sick & she really seemed better for the voyage. We soon roused up our dear brother & sister Fred & Lizzie & then I went back to help Elizabeth Nainby off by the train to her home at Morpeth. At 11 o'clock Tenie & I attended the congregational chapel where Mr Pepper our old friend gave a good practical sermon. I went a walk with my dearest on the cliff in the afternoon & after tea she again accompanied me to the congregational chapel where I was ascended the pulpit & was well & most mercifully helped in preaching to a full chapel. The necessity if we would really desire & pray for Christ's kingdom to come on earth, to know it established in our own hearts, turning out all that is opposed to it. It was (I venture to believe) a time of renewed visitation to some present.

Monday, Nov 8th: Spent most of today in the quiet enjoyment of my great new happiness. I called on our dear faithful friend Mr Pritchard, who arranged so many meetings for us before in the Primitive Chapels round Newcastle. I found him ill in bed from cold & over exertion. He spoke of much good still going on - a real revival in Hexham, Minni & Burwood & the Lord's work prosper-

ing here. He seemed sorry my stay would be so short, as he wished me to hold meetings again, which I cannot do. My wife & I went to tea at Mr Shaw's, a friend of hers, & spent a pleasant quiet evening there - several acquaintances meeting us.

Tuesday, Nov 9th: A holiday throughout the colonies, being the birthday of the Prince of Wales. Tenie & I availed ourselves of a cheap excursion train for a last look into the interior of N.S.Wales, going up 80 miles inland to Musswellbrooke, the extremity of the G.Northern line at present. Spent some pleasant hours there but a hot north wind made the temperature extremely oppressive. The little township of Musswellbrooke is very prettily situated among high hills & a very English-looking church among some beautiful willow trees made it well worth a visit. Bought some biscuits which we ate under the mx shade of a gum tree & returned to Newcastle via L Singleton, Maitland &c in time for tea. In the evening I joined Mr Pepper & other Temperance ~~advocates~~ advocates a full large Band of Hope meeting in the Odd Fellows Hall. Many recitations given, some performances of the band of music & a speech from me. We live at Fred & Lizzie's but lodge in a room at the Great Northern Hotel as they have no room to spare at our brother's. He intends to build himself a house soon in a healthier situation.

Wednesday, Nov 10th: Darling Tenie poorly today & unable to go out much. I sat with her, reading ~~her~~ to her & writing most of the day. This evening I went to the congregational chapel & gave a lecture on the Missions in the South Sea Islands in connection with our late tour in the "John Williams". The attendance was considerable & the people seemed greatly interested. The meeting was opened by Mr Pepper giving out the dear old Missionary hymn "From Greenland's icy mountains" & offering prayer.

Thursday, Nov 11th: Took my darling bride a nice little walk on the hills before breakfast & afterwards a stroll along the beach & up a hill where Fred is about to build his new house. We went by rail to Waratah in the afternoon & walked round the fine vineyard, orange & fruit gardens there for an hour or so, returning to tea.

Friday, Nov 12th: At 10 o'clock this morning we left Newcastle in the steamship "Korpeith". It was a terrible trial to my dearest, parting from dear Lizzie. Since Fred took Lizzie away as a bride seven years ago, Tenie has spent the greater part of her time with them & is most deeply attached to them & their dear little ones. It was hard work to tear my wife from them, but a kindly flood of tears relieved her. Had a fine smooth passage to Sydney & were met at the wharf by Papa & Joseph. They joined us to tea in the Temperance Hall, after which Tenie & I went on board the "Commissary" to leave & procure some clothing & then took our seats in the Steamship "Phantom" where a 3/4 of an hours passage brought us to Manly Beach, just inside Fort Jackson North Head. Here we have taken up our abode at Mrs Mile's lodgings where we hope to remain as head quarters till the "Commissary" sails for dear old England. My friends may remember we held a meeting here at Manly Beach 15 mosk ago & lodged here as Mrs Miles' guests then. Her house is cheap, retired, homely, clean & comfortable. While at Newcastle Alfred Allen has taken his final departure from Sydney

to reside in Queensland as a sugar-grower. His wife & little ones do not accompany him. I regret I cannot feel sorry he has gone from a meeting which he has so long troubled with his presence.

Saturday, Nov 13th: A cooking wet night but fine before noon today. We took the steamer for Sydney & after a call on H.P. Fowler & some necessary shopping, went by train to Paramatta & thence walked out to Sherwood Scrubs where a warm welcome awaited us from A.J. Holroyd & his wife. Our dear sister Zippie was staying there. Spent the remainder of the day in pleasant conversation with this great learned gentleman - an old Cambridge student - possessing now all that makes a man happy except the "one thing needful". He has a beautiful home, a sort of charm rests over his place but religion seems to be completely absent. Oh! what will he do when he has to leave his earthly home for eternity!

Sunday, Nov 14th: Tenie, Zip & I went to Paramatta in Mr Holroyd's carriage & thence to Sydney by train in time to attend the morning meeting at H.P. Fowler's. This was to me a solemn time in all human probability the last meeting I shall attend with Friends here. Dr Cox spoke nicely, then John Falser offered short solemn prayer. I then gave a parting address, commending all of us to God & the word of His Grace & earnestly exhorting all to obey & the dictates of Christ, the living word of the Father. Joseph followed in the same strain; then H.H. Newman knelt & earnestly commended me & my wife to God, petitioning for a safe voyage, a happy welcome & home & every spiritual & temporal blessing we stand in need of. He afterwards spoke on the excellency & comfort of the Holy Scriptures & we soon after broke up meeting. Stayed to dinner at H.P. Fowler's & returned to Manly Beach at 2.30, taking dear Zip with us. This is the last steamer on Sundays or we should have stayed the evening meeting. We find the "Commissary" is now advertised to be towed out to sea at day break on Thursday so our time now seems limited to three days. Attended the evening service at the Congregational Chapel, a small but I think a good meeting addressed by a young Mr Cullens, one of the family with whom we lodged (J.J.N & I) at Jamberoo.

Monday, November 15th: A nice walk with dear Zippie before breakfast to a lovely spot called Fairy Bower & after reading with my wife & Zip, up a high commanding a beautiful view over sea & land. Then into Sydney where shopping & making calls - farewell visits have occupied my darling & me all day - also most of:

Tuesday, Nov 16th: Painful necessities are parting calls. We shall rejoice to get them well over. This evening our dear cousin came with us to spend a last evening with us on Australian Shores.

Now in haste farewell,
With our very dear love, I am
Yours in deep affection
Walter Robson.

Received at Daffron Walden: January 29, 1870.

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PART 24th: VOYAGE HOME TO ENGLAND via Cape Horn.

Tuesday, November 16th, 1869: Manly Beach. Evening. My dear cousin came with us to our lodgings & gave us a sweet address before we retired to spend our last night on Australian shores.

Wednesday, Nov 17th: Came into Sydney by the early steamer & my wife & I went on board our vessel to make our bed & get all things ready for our voyage. Then to H.H. Newman's where we found dear Zip come from Paramatta to spend the last day with her loved sister. Paid farewell visits at Newman's, Mitchell's, Moses Brown's & c & took the ferry to Balmain to call on Mrs Serry, Tenie's old schoolmistress. Dined in Town, then some more sad partings, some of which well nigh broke me down, especially with Thomas & Elizth - also the kind friends at whose house we have so long made our home. Took tea at dear Hannah Fowler's, where Ellen - also & H.H. Newman joined us. After tea I read two commendatory psalms & after a long tearful silence dear H Joseph knelt & very fervently commended us to Him who "is mightier than the noise of many waters yea than the mighty waves of the sea." I followed in prayer for my precious cousin, earnestly petitioning that in his hours of loneliness the Comforter might be very very near him. Then a Cab was brought & we took leave & were soon on the ~~Xxxxxxxxxxxxx~~ Circular Quay where we found that the "Commissary" was already towed out into the harbour. We therefore engaged a boat, Joseph & H.H. Newman accompanying us. After a few minutes on board, they left us & I took leave of him I love so dearly, my more than brother-cousin. We embraced with tears & then Tenie & I watched by the bright moonlight the little boat slowly convey them from our views. So much noise on deck with passengers & their friends that it seemed useless to retire till quite late.

Thursday, Nov 18th: A terrible hot North wind in the harbour made us glad to be out of Sydney & we spent a quiet morning on deck. Though my precious one deeply feels leaving her native land & all that makes it dear to her, she keeps very calm & seems especially thankful that most of the partings were got through brightly. Dear Zip seemed quite cheerful when we gave her in charge to Mr Holroyd at the station last night & Papa shewed clearly at parting that his was the bright hope "Yes, we part, but not for ever." We did not weigh anchor till 1 o'clock p.m. & passed the Heads about 2 o'clock. The North wind soon gave place to a sharp Southerly burster which made some on board sick & my precious bride among the number.

Friday, Nov 19th: My dear one sick but with her husband's aid she came on deck & spent most of the day there. Only a few of us at table in the Cuddy. We have 16 first class passengers including two male children - Knifflers, who with their Mamma occupy the cabin next to ours. They are very noisy & Mrs Kniffler has such faith in flogging that I do not much wonder at the screaming. We have three very interesting passengers on the main deck, in very strongly barred cages: an immense African lion & lioness which the Captain bought in Sydney of a broken down showman & is taking them home on spec. & a Leopardeste, a beautiful but very savage creature. His majesty is the finest lion I think I ever saw & often makes his presence known by a tremendous deep bass roar.

Sandry parrots, cockatoos &c with pigs, sheep, a cow &c make up our live stock. There are ~~xx~~ 40 sheep on board as food for the lions & leopardess.

Saturday, Nov 20th: Tenie better today. A nice breeze but very damp & wet in the afternoon. We have a nice little company of passengers on board viz.- in the other stern cabins: Mr & Mrs Wilkins of Sydney (the former Secretary of the Board of Education for New South Wales), their son, a lad of perhaps 14 years occupies another cabin. Dr Pocock (a nice young gentleman) is Doctor for the vessel. Mr & Mrs Hardy in similar circumstances to ourselves, he having left London & gone to Sydney for a bride. They have now been married three months & she (like my Tenie) has left all her relations for her husband & his home. Mrs Wainstaff (the Captain's wife) is a nice amiable ~~xxxx~~ young lady of 24. They have one son whom she left in England & is returning to welcome to herself. Mrs Aniffier with two little girls, has the cabin next to ours in the side. She has left her husband in Sydney to follow her home to Germany. Miss Holste (a young German lady, a beautiful musician who only landed in Australia a month ago) has been sent for home to be married. In the next cabin is a young lady Miss Forster of whom we know but little at present. An old French gentleman, Mons. Bourzac (J. Raques de Bourzac). A young gentleman (Mr J.P. Charles), another rather fast young man - Kingscote & an Israelite (Mr Marks) complete our first cabin passengers. There are three men, second cabin: G. Girdle, G. Cecil & Rogers. Our two mates are very nice fellows - Davidson & Wilson. I am much pleased to recognise among the sailors our dear old friend Cosh, who left the "John Williams" from ill health at Braumauga. I trust he will have a blessed influence over his fellow sailors, for he is a true disciple of Jesus.

Sunday, Nov 21st: ~~RM~~ Too much sickness on board today to attempt any kind of religious service. A quiet day of rest & nursing my dear wife.

Monday & Tuesday were nearly calm, uncommon weather for such high latitudes. Spent in reading, writing, working & attending to my darling one & marking off my chart of the world. Tuesday my dear Tenie was very much better & able to be at our meals in the cuddy & to do some & needlework on deck.

Wednesday, Nov 24th: A brisk breeze makes it cold & rather rough today, writing is difficult & too much wind to do much on deck. Sighted a shoal of fin backed whales today very near the ship. There are a large assemblage of sea-birds always at our stern: molli-hawks, albatross & mother caries, also occasional cape pigeons. Dr Pocock & young Kingscote are busy catching birds & have by means of a strong line & baited fish hook landed on board several splendid albatross measuring from 9 to 11 feet from wing to wing - also some X molli-hawks.

Saturday, Nov 27th: Little to record except the steadily increasing cold with a very stiff gale on Friday, with wet foggy weather.

Sunday, Nov 28th: Very rough & cold so that no attempt at public worship could be made. I got dear Tenie on deck for a few hours, but the cold is almost too searching to make it possible to keep her warm there even with my good old friend the possum rug

which on board the "Briton" was bed, mattress, bolster, pillow, sheets, blankets & counterpane to me. All the ladies are sick & ill at present except Mrs Knifeler who seems always well. She is a great traveller, has been wrecked or nearly so & knows what "roughing it" means. At midnight a heavy gale from the South set in & all hands were piped on deck to get the sails taken in & today (Monday) we are under close reefed topsails. We are now directly south of New Zealand, ~~we~~ having passed last night Auckland Isle where the "General Grant" was so mysteriously sucked into a cavern two or three years back. The night-time ~~is~~ now are very short. It is daylight before 3 a.m. & not dark till nearly 10 p.m. This is a great change after the long night & short twilight of Australia & the tropics.

Saturday, December 4th: Not much of interest to report this week. It began with gales & is ending with calms. The last 3 days we have hardly done 2 knots an hour but before that we had good runs. On Wednesday we passed the Antipodes Islands about 25 miles distant - too far off to see them. Of course we had to have two Wednesdays, Dec 1st, so now we are gradually approaching England & English time. This is the third time in 1869 I have crossed the Antipodes of "Greenwich. During this calm our friends on board have recovered from their sickness & my darling bride has been able to sit & work on deck & in the cuddy. Games of quills & deck croquet have been ~~we~~ played & had the thermometer been at 90° instead of 50° we should have fancied ourselves in the tropics. Fannie & I are sorry to see the constant gambling & card-playing of some of ~~the~~ our young men passengers. I suppose their pleas to be "nothing else to do". I find no lack of employment, what with writing, reading, chart making, exercises on deck & attending to my dearest one my time is fully occupied. While the "Commissary" was in Sydney, one of her sailors a nice quiet fellow, dropped down dead in the street. According to custom, a few days ago his ~~is~~ ex-chest was opened & everything sold to the highest bidder on board: the Captain takes charge of the money for his friend's in England. I bought his well worn pocket bible, thinking it ought to be sent to his friends, especially as it contains in pencil these few words, so full of rich deep meaning & consolation: "Christ is my salvation."

Saturday, Dec 11th: Cold weather, too ~~we~~ cool to sit on deck or spend any time there except in very brisk motion. My dear wife has (I trust) entirely recovered from her sea-sickness & is able to wash & dress comfortably & have her meals in the Cuddy as well as to take exercise on deck. We are now making over 200 miles on our course every day with winds varying from N.W. to S.W. Yesterday the quicksilver sunk to 28.75 in the barometer, lower than it has been since Wagstaff left England. He is hourly expecting a heavy gale which (~~at~~ noon) has not yet come on. We have seen many whales this week; one, a sperm whale, was blowing within (I should suppose) 20 yards of our vessel. Our usual days employment is reading, working & exercise, while feeding in the day & sleeping at night form no unimportant part of our days work. Some of the single young gents do not rise till luncheon & waste almost all their time to whist or else the loudest & most unmusical singing - comic songs being all the rage. My darling & I have our own

quiet time of reading, silent waiting & often vocal prayer, every morning & evening & we feel it an especial blessing ~~now~~ to be able to do so, as with the very meagre exception of grace at meals: "For what we are about to receive, may the Lord make us truly thankful. For Christ's sake. Amen" I said by the captain in a most hurried voice, religion is scarcely named from Sunday morning to Saturday night. "Coah", my old friend from the "John Williams" has undertaken to distribute some of my tracts among the sailors, but I feel no opening for religious work among them, at present. Last Sunday morning Mr Wilkins read prayers & at his request, I read the lesson from the Old & New Testaments. The Te Deum &c were chanted & "Eternal Father! Strong to save" was sung. Then my precious wife & I had our own little meeting alone in our cabin in which a precious sense of Jesus' presence was felt & our knees bowed in prayer. In the evening, Mrs Wagstaff told me the passengers would like the evening prayers to be read, but I was the only person able to read them - Wilkins & the Captain being poorly. I reluctantly consented & felt at the time that prayer did ascend from some hearts to Him whose ear is ever open to receive the cry of the humble, even though fettered by the bonds of the Episcopal System, & wretched fetters they are, compared to that liberty wherewith Christ makes His children free.

Monday, Dec 20th: We have made some good runs & since I last wrote & are now in the latitude of Cape Horn & only 550 miles distant ~~is~~ from this long extremity, of South America which ~~is~~ so greatly increases the dangers, distance & difficulties of a homeward voyage. Our greatest cold on deck heretofore has been 34° but the difference between the N & S winds is most striking as to temperature. God is granting us at present a very fine voyage - a really bad weather - three heavy gales but these being in our favour, we have run before them & suffered no harm. My Tenie has had a rather poorly week mostly spent in bed till Sunday (yesterday) when she enjoyed walking 80 times the length of the poop deck, being a mile. Today with more motion, she ~~is~~ is sick again. Yesterday week ~~at~~ at the solicitation of some of my fellow passengers, I read the prayers morning & evening while yesterday I only read the lessons & Dr Pocock read prayers. I exceedingly disliked it, but it seems at present that or nothing as to any religious service on board. The ladies have started working two morning in the week, Tuesdays & Thursdays for a bazaar to be held if convenient the day we cross the Equator, the funds to go to the "Merchant Seaman's Hospital". It gives something to do & think about which some of them greatly needed, though whether the host of little neck ties, pen wipers, pin cushions &c sell among so few passengers remains to be proved. The day we left Sydney we bought four little Budgerigees & a cage. They were fixed up in our cabin, but while attending them one morning, one little bird flew out to sea & of course was drowned. Last Saturday I took one out to get & shew Tenie, but it struggled away & soon appeared on the main royal brace - the highest ropes on board the vessel. The steward hung our cage & the two remaining treasures in it up the mast to call the fugitive back but with no avail & as evening came on we lost sight of the beautiful little green bunch of feathers from our rigging & I was reluctantly compelled to bring back our two remaining pets to ~~the~~ ~~their~~ their home ~~trax~~ in our cabin where I hope to

take more care of them lest they should share the fate of their little brethren.

Tuesday, Dec 21st: The longest day. Broad daylight from 2.0 to 9.30. we are making a good run & have gained 8 days on the voyage of the "Commissary" last year.

Wednesday, Dec 22nd: The Steward called me this morning to come on deck & see the little island of Diego Ramirez due South of us. This is how it looks in the distance, & I believe it would not improve on a closer inspection as it is merely a large barren rock (Sketch). After breakfast the bold outline of the coast of Tierra del Fuego was in full view to our north. It looks very fine - rugged, barren mountains covered with pure white snow almost to the water's edge. Far out, ahead of us, are the islands, one of which Cape Horn is our most southerly point & divides the two great oceans, the Pacific & Atlantic. (Two sketches). What abundant cause for gratitude to God have we, that He has guided our vessel safely across this mighty Pacific 8000 miles & permitted us to reach the turning point (as it were) in our homeward voyage. My dearest was very ill yesterday, but is much better this morning. While at dinner today the Captain called us all up on deck to see a vessel in full sail we were just passing. She came close to us to signal to us her number, that we might report her at home. She is bound probably to Valparaiso or San Francisco. There were some gentlemen & one lady on board who waved their handkerchiefs to us in passing. This afternoon we are abreast of Cape Horn, which looks a fine promontory from the sea & loses its island character. (Sketch). A little to the left of the Cape is a mountain, evidently an extinct volcano, the crater full of snow. This evening a gale from the NE has set in, right dead on end & there is more motion than since we left Sydney, so that we could not get to sleep till early on the morning of:

Thursday, Dec 23rd: My precious wife's birthday. It feels nice to be really in the Atlantic again ocean, whose waters bathe the shores of dear old Britain & to feel that a few days of fair wind will bring us into warm weather once more.

Saturday, Christmas Day: The third since I left home. The first I spent with Melbourne Friends at Dandenong Fern Tree Gully the last at Summer Hill & this off Falkland Islands - lat 54 South, long. 55 west. A lovely bright sunny day, just such an one as we should choose for "Christmas Day". After breakfast, service was held in the cuddy, Mr Wilkins reading prayers & I the beautiful lessons for the day: "Unto us a child is born" & Luke II, bringing in blessed freshness the great GIFT of God unto our minds. The rest of today was not so spent as we should desire, - as much fun & mirth as could be, consistently with not being intoxicated. The dinner was of no common order & to give an idea of how well we fared, I will subjoin the "Bill of Fare". Mulligatawny soup; roast turkey; ducks; saddle of mutton & lamb; boiled fowls; cold ham green peas; & potatoes. Plum pudding; mince pies; cheesecakes; olamange; currant pies; tarts; cheese; oranges; pineapples; preserved ginger; almonds & raisins; rich cake; Champagne; Claret; & Port & Sherry. Rested in the afternoon & had much singing in the evening, closing with a large snap-dragon.

Sunday, Dec 24th: Our Captain has been very poorly for sev

eral days with a painful abscess, but was sufficiently recovered to be at prayers this morning. Neither he nor Mrs Magstaff joined us yesterday. I read the morning service today. We are nearly ~~back~~ becalmed today, only going about 2 knots per hour. One of our daily occupations in fine weather is a visit to the noble king of beasts, who is now moved into a den by himself as the lioness is very savage & she had ~~x~~ hurt his leg. He allows any one to pat his great head & mane. The ~~manx~~ leopardess is extremely tame & I often rub & stroke her as I would a cat while she lies purring loudly. She goes by the name of "Jillie". A very annoying circumstance occurred in the night - two sailors have broken into the lazaret & stolen several bottles of wine. The entrance is close outside our cabin door but we were just in our first sleep when it happened. Mrs Kniffier heard them but thought it was the steward. The thieves have been detected & will suffer by having no grog or other privilege during the voyage & a few weeks in goal on reaching England. They have been well treated & had a first rate dinner yesterday.

Thursday, Dec 30th: A few days of mild calm weather have been very delightful, but have not given us very good runs & today the wind is dead on end so we are sailing considerably south of east. Yesterday morning we overtook & soon left far astern a pretty barque in full sail who signalled us to report her. She is the "Crescent" of Halifax, Nova Scotia. This morning we are gradually nearing a fine vessel bound for England, which we hope e'er long to get near enough to signalise. Dearest Tenie is, I think, better now than she has been since her illness just prior to our marriage & the last two mornings has enjoyed a good walk on deck before breakfast & has been very busy writing her first letter home - a sad task, I know, from experience on board the "Yatala". By the way, it is a curious coincidence that the "John Williams" & the "Commissary" were being built at the same time, side by side, at Hall's yard, Aberdeen & that a sailor (Cosh) & myself should be voyaging in both vessels the same year with out any for knowledge about it.

Jan 1st, 1870: A few hours later, on Thursday, we neared the vessel sufficiently to signalise ~~x~~ her, when the following conversation took place: Commissary to stranger: "what vessel are you?". Stranger: "The Centurion from Sydney." Com.: "are all well on board?". Centurion: "All well, thanks. Are you all well?" Com.: "All well, thanks. Did you pass a vessel on the 6th of December?". Cent.: "No, we passed British vessel "Martha Birnie on Christmas Day." Com.: "Have you seen any ice bergs?" Cent.: "No". Com.: "How soon did you pass Cape Horn?" Cent.: "On the 2nd December." (same day as we did). Com.: "what day did you leave Sydney?" Cent.: "On ~~the~~ Saturday November 20th." (two days after we did). Com.: "A happy new year to you." Cent.: "The compliments of the season & a safe voyage home." Thus on the wide Atlantic two vessels several miles apart, by means of Marriot's Code of flag signals, can converse on any subject they like. After our last words we dipped our ensigns as a mutual farewell & though she is still in sight, we have held as yet no further communication with the good ship "Centurion" except that just at midnight, as 1869 passed away for ever & 1870 began its course, we burnt a blue light which she

answered with another. My darling Fennie was very unwell yesterday & spent most of the day in bed. Almost all the other passengers sat up to hail the new year. I rang out the eight bells at midnight, announcing the arrival of the New born year. This was followed by the most unmusical babble of sounds imaginable: both the big bells in incessant clamour, a drum & triangle struck as quickly as possible, the first class passengers on deck singing "God save the Queen" while the second class crew were marching about singing "As we were marching to Georgia." A good deal of brandy & whiskey had been drunk, which accounts for much of the clamour. This morning a gale is blowing from the E & S E - a sad hindrance to our progress. Dearest Fennie & I had a precious season of near access to the throne of Grace this morning, craving for ourselves & dear ones everywhere, blessings for the New Year. How little I thought when 1869 began that 1870 would find me a married man, sailing for dear old England - my dear cousin left to labour with no earthly companion - but I believe God has willed it so & I would not have it otherwise & I would not again be a bachelor on any account, now I know the blessing of a good, dear, loving little wife.

Wednesday, Jan 5th: A very heavy gale has been our portion since last I wrote - the heaviest since I was on board the "Yatala". The sea was rolling mountains high. It commenced on Saturday evening & blew terribly all Sunday night in our teeth so that all we could do was "to heave to" under lower top sails & fore top mast stay sail. The next day it hauled aft & we ran before it in splendid style. The "Commissary" rode it out beautifully, quite unharmed but pitched & rolled fearfully, smashing plates & dishes in abundance. Dear Fennie was unusually well till Saturday, when she became so ill I had to get Dr Pocock to her & she is now much better. Today everybody is putting on cooler clothing, the first hot day since we left Sydney.

Tuesday, Jan 11th: Since I last wrote our progress has been slow owing to calms & very light winds, but now a nice little breeze is fanning us gently along. The weather is very warm & delightful & our sofa is as cool & comfortable a resort as any on board. The Ladies & Gentlemen's baths are now much in requisition before breakfast, while a sheet at night is more than sufficient clothing. Yesterday a large vessel was seen approaching & our captain thinking she might be bound for Australia requested us to get any letters we had written finished ready to send. We soon came within hail & both ships hove to. Our neighbour proved to be the "Gladstone" a ship of 1100 tons bound from England to Bombay with coal. Her Captain came in his boat & was soon welcomed on board, Captain Bagstaff recognizing him as an old acquaintance. He asked for fowls & potatoes which he wanted, having lost his by accident in the English channel. The Captain of our vessel supplied him & took a budget of letters for England. While it was very disappointing to us not to be able to send Australian letters, we were glad to see a stranger on board & to hear the latest news from the dear old country. The "Commissary" & "Gladstone" have both been at sea fifty three days. My dearest Fennie keeps very weak, tho' I trust she is on the improve.

Monday, Jan 17th: We have had a week of very poor runs:

light winds or else dead on end, but after a dead calm on Saturday the glorious South East Trade began very gently to blow & are now giving us splendid runs - 205 miles yesterday. On Saturday morning we were slowly revolving a few miles off another vessel was doing the same & our captain had his boat lowered & Davison, Pockok, Marks, Minicote & young Wilkins with one or two seamen, rowed off to her. They did not return till after dark, giving us all some anxious thoughts. Captain Wagstaff had some blue lights burnt & a red light & slung in the rigging which was at last answered by a light from the boat made by burning the gents pocket-handkerchiefs. When they got back, we found the vessel to be the "Shausze" from South Australia out 73 days bound for London. One or two of our passengers were drunk & have not been much seen yet.

Tuesday, Jan 25th: Passed the Equator & re-entered the Northern hemisphere at 11.30 this morning after a fine run through the South East Trades, which have now very nearly ceased to blow & gave place yesterday morning to a heavy squall from the North & North East. On Sunday morning we had service on deck but had to gather up our books & rush downstairs before we had finished to shelter from a heavy tropical shower. Intense heat has been our portion the last few days, especially Saturday & Sunday - too hot to read, write, work or almost to think. On Saturday afternoon we held the bazaar. We all dined at 2 o'clock on the Main Deck, a place being nicely cleaned & hung round with flags. First the officers & crew had a good dinner, paying 2/- each for it, to the bazaar fund. At 4 p.m. the Bazaar was opened & the various pretty useful & useless articles spread on the tables or hung on a line overhead, were soon sold, as was also a table full of good things in the pastry line prepared & sold by the steward. Young Wilkins presided at a revolving stereoscope, exhibited at 6d per head. An auction of the more valuable articles & second hand clothes contributed by the passengers, finished the Bazaar. A tea at 1/- each followed & a Concert in the evening. A substantial cold supper in the Cuddy closed the day & at supper the Captain announced the £35 had been collected in all for the Merchant Seamen's Orphanage. It was amusing to us that the lions which were very quiet during any comic songs, roared loudly at anything sentimental & especially when we closed with the National Anthem, their roars were almost deafening.

Saturday, Jan 29th: For four days we were nearly without wind, with very heavy showers - a thorough dose of doldrums - but last evening the North East Trades began to blow gently & now we are making splendid progress. This morning we came on deck to find ourselves close to a homeward-bound ship of some 600 tons, the "Corlic" from Calcutta. During the week we have sighted more than twenty vessels, with some of which we have communicated: "Prince Alfred"; "City of Peking"; "Orisco" & a Norwegian barque we passed close by yesterday. We have now left the "Corlic" far astern.

Sunday, Feb 5th: A week of splendid runs has brought us into cool pleasant weather. We have now sighted since we left Sydney, over 70 vessels, some very distant but many close enough to read their ensigns or rather their flag bargies. This day week we caught up a pretty little French barque, quite close, so that the ladies could wave their handkerchiefs & receive bows in

return - the "Anna Marie" of Nantes. We have had a very painful circumstance which has cast a temporary gloom over us all; last Sunday our Israelitish companion Mr Marks became unusually talkative, especially to me. We all thought he was drunk, but on Monday & Tuesday he became much worse & Dr Pocock pronounced him mad. One day he was fearfully abusive & used waful language to me. X I complained to the Captain, who reproved him sharply. He appeared in his full dress suit & announced that he was Jesus Christ & said that I who talked so much of our Lord was perfectly ignorant of Him. As he had been wandering about during the previous night, he was locked into his cabin at bed time, but roused us up in the night by attempting to smash the thin partition which divides his Cabin from Miss Holstes. We were all greatly alarmed, especially the ladies. Miss Holste & Mrs X Kniffier took refuge in our cabin while Captain Wagstaff was being called. He soon came & ordered a mid-shipman to watch outside Mork's door & speak at once if he attempted violence. He was thus kept moderately quiet except an occasional heavy kick or blow on Miss Holstedek cabin or a song sung at the x loudest pitch of his voice - "I wuld I were a bird" &c. The next morning he appeared at breakfast but soon afterwards made a sudden intrusion into Mrs Kniffier's cabin, nearly frightening the poor lady into a fit. The Captain then ordered the poor man to be locked up into his cabin till he was better & as his cabin is in such close proximity to the ladies, Mr Davison our chief officer has changed cabins with him & he is now sleeping next to the doctor. Today, Marks seems pretty well again & is allowed to be with us - he seems to have been suffering partly from religious melancholy, but our Captain says he was cautioned about him in Sydney as he has been occasionally lunatic x before. I hope my dear Tenie is (on the whole) better, but is far from strong & the now rather poor variety of food we get does not increase her little relish for eating. I long to get her safely home, but we have great cause for thankfulness to be having such a favorable voyage & so many comforts.

Monday, Feb 14th: We have had varying winds since last I wrote & yesterday & today are hove to with an East wind, only 100 miles from the English Channel - rather tantalizing so nearly home to be thus detained, doing almost nothing. We passed the Azores almost in sight on Thursday night. A very affecting event has cast a deep shadow over our heretofore light hearted party. Monsieur de Bourzac, a gentleman we were all fond of - his constant kindness & gentlemanly behaviour having endeared him to us all, has been ill for a few days & last night about 8.30 he quietly breathed his last. His history as far as we have from time to time gleaned it, is briefly this: He was a republican in principle & had to leave France in 1848 on that account. He then resided in New Caledonia for many years, where he realized large property but x where his health completely gave way from exposure to heat &c. Since that he has been NB elgixian consul in Sydney & was returning to France, intending to end his days with a beloved sister & her family at Nice, in a climate more congenial to his shattered health & diseased lungs. He one day x told Tenie & me he never was married, having had a disappointment in love in early life. He is now about 60 years of age. During the warm weather he seemed

pretty well, but since we left the tropics, has complained of coldness & powerlessness in his limbs &c. Last week an attack of pleurisy came on & Dr Pocock spoke doubtfully of his recovery but had no idea the end was so near at hand. I very often went into his cabin but there seemed little ~~my~~ any one could do. He was an avowed Roman Catholic & never attended our services but there was much about him to make us hope he was not altogether a stranger to the work of Divine Grace in his heart. Yesterday morning the Dr gave ~~g~~ him to understand in writing (as he was very deaf & spoke in broken English) that he was not likely to recover, when he sent for the Captain & gave him directions as to where to send his luggage on reaching England. As yesterday advanced he became gradually worse & just before we were going to commence our evening service, the ~~xxx~~ steward announced him to be dying. The Captain & I watched him as he lay gasping for breath. He seemed conscious, swallowing some brandy & when offered beef-tea, said distinctly "By & bye". The doctor came & soon said he was dying but would probably last till the morning. He had not gone many minutes & the captain also withdrew, leaving me & the steward alone with him, when the laboured breathing ceased & ere we could call the Captain back, the soul had left the poor body & all was over! It seems a very very solemn thing & has set me longing to know where the immortal soul has gone; whether or not the joyful welcome has awaited him to our Father's house? This morning we have committed his mortal remains to the deep ocean. The funeral was at 10.30. The tolling bell called the sailors on to the poop & most of the passengers also were present. The body was sewn up in sailcloth & at the feet were placed heavy blocks of holy stone to load & sink it. It was laid on a board & covered with the union jack. Our captain read the burial service very solemnly - when he came to the words "We commit this, the body of our beloved brother to the deep to be turned to corruption" the sailors raise the end of the board & shot the body over the taffrail, with an awful plunge the remains sunk into the deep. It was an awfully solemn time & one I think I shall never forget. It seemed so strange to have one from our little circle & so near home too, snatched from us & his body thrown overboard. The Captain & Mr Wilkins are busy taking an inventory of his effects.

Tuesday, Feb 22nd: The afternoon of the day I last wrote there was an auction of Monsieur de Bourzac's old or soiled garments, bedding, sheets &c while his money, new clothing & other valuables are packed in his portmanteau & sealed securely. Since that solemn event till this morning we have been hove to in a heavily easterly ~~gix~~ gale, going a little north but getting no nearer England. It has been very trying to us all so near our destination to be thus unexpectedly detained & our trouble has not been lessened by having run short of many of our creature comforts. For the last 3 weeks we have had no flour except that we sent a boat off to a barque before this gale set in & obtained 12 lbs of this essential from the kind hearted skipper who ~~hx~~ gave us half his own stock. He is a Norwegian named Harris - barque Bebbikan. Since then we have seen several vessels hove to like ourselves. We are now out of butter, flour & ground rice, the latter having while it lasted proved a pretty fair substitute for flour. This morning

a South west wind has sprung up & we are once more en route for England - we fear too late to catch the February Australian Mail & the Wool sale which closes on Friday morning next. It is great & renewed cause of thankfulness to Him whom winds & seas obey, that during the late long & xx wearisome gale we have suffered no harm & that our vessel is once again well on her way towards our dear home.

Saturday, Feb 26th: A westerly wind has at last sprung up & now we are slowly nearing the English Channel. On Thursday morning we were nearly becalmed & were so near a large vessel that after an interchange of signalls our captain went in a boat to her & soon afterwards returned with her captain MacPetrie, ship "Ben Nevis" from Melbourne 96 days, bound for London - 1000 tons & a passenger Mr Hall who went out in the Yatala to Adelaide last year. They brought us a bag of flour, a most acceptable present. They were so hard up for ship bread that their sailors were on 2½ biscuits per diem & were glad of some from us as well as a sack of ~~xxx~~ coals which they were out of & had been choppin up the spars for fire wood. Our guests staid an hour or so & the a breeze springing up we parted. Today they are "xx playing the ship's ~~xxx~~ piano" - that is, getting up the great anchor-chains from the hold ready for dropping anchor in the Thames D.V.

Wednesday, March 2nd: We have had very varying weather since I last wrote - on Monday a slashing Sou Wester brought us (as we supposed) into the English Channel. Fortunately at noon the sun enabled the captain to ascertain our position. He found that a very strong Northerly current had taken us up into the Bristol Channel & accordingly he altered our course & we ran south but at 5 p.m the thrilling cry of "land on the weather bow" was heard. Lands had soon hove in sight almost close to us. All hands were soon at work to shorten sail & then about the ship. As night drew on the wind increased into a terrific gale from the eastward & by mid night it blew a hurricane. It was indeed Providential that we sighted land by daylight or we should very probably otherwise have been wrecked on that barren rock-bound shore. As night came on, Long Ship, St Agnes, Seven Stones & Bishops Rock lights were in sight. Yesterday it was nearly calm & very thick all day - a sort of Scotch mist, so that we could scarcely see a mile off & ~~x~~ in the afternoon anxious to know our exact position, the deep sea lead ~~xxx~~ line was dropped. This is a very interesting & laborious operation, taking all hands. We found we were in 70 fathoms with a sandy bottom & by referring to our chart we found out exactly where we were. Last night a favourable breeze sprang up. At about midnight another very interesting event occurred - Mrs Wagstaff gave birth to a little girl & is doing very well. Mrs Wilkins is head nurse. Today we are really in the Channel & at 10 a.m several Pilot boats came off from Plymouth & one of them was entrusted with a telegram to London & letters from passengers, among the rest a note from me to my dearest father. I can scarcely realize how ~~xxxx~~ ~~x~~ near we are to the dear old home of my childhood. Oh! how I long to know how all the dear ones are.

Friday, March 4th: For the last two days we have been beating about in the Channel with the wind dead on end, making some Easing on the one tack & losing more than we made on the other.

Yesterday the Captain deemed we drew near to Brighton but today we have crossed to near the French coast & this evening I obtained the almost unanimous opinion of the passengers that it would be best to land somewhere without loss of time as this beating about in the Channel is very dangerous & provisions are so short that the old cow which has given us milk throughout the voyage has been killed today for food for us & the wild beasts.

Saturday, March 5th: This morning I told the Captain before breakfast of our wish to land somewhere & he said he had made up his mind to give us a chance of doing so today. This, of course, set us all busy packing up & getting ready for the shore. By 10 o'clock we sighted the Isle of Wight & hoped to have made Portsmouth but the wind had too much Northing in it for that & by noon we found that Ventnor was the most Easterly point we could make. We therefore neared the shore & hoisted an ensign & then squared the rigging yards & ran before the gale till we rounded St Katherine's Point. Just then a tiny boat was seen nearing us & we hove to, till it came along side. It was a little two-oared dingy but the two men who rowed it said they could land four passengers in safety. But there was not a moment to lose as we were fast running to leeward. I asked if a lady could go & was told yes, but our Captain strongly dissuaded me from attempting to take Fennie in her. However I felt in my own mind that it was worth some sacrifice of personal comfort to land in safety & so quickly decided to go if possible. Three other passengers were going - Dr Pocock, Marks & Kingscoté, & we should make five - one more than the men offered to take & our ~~and~~ bags besides, but it was decided in a moment & our leave takings had to be hurried through, tearfully but thankfully I trust at the remembrance of the preserving care of our Heavenly Father. We were soon all seated in our little dingy - Marks kindly nursing our cage of Budgerigees while Fennie was wrapped up in our Possum rug. We were soon far away from our floating home but we quickly discovered that it was the "Commissary" & not ourselves that was moving. A heavy gale was blowing off the shore which though it made the sea smooth, prevented our poor boatmen from making any headway for a long while. Two oars to pull a tub of a boat with seven persons & luggage against a stiff gale was terrible work & for awhile we all felt fearful lest we should drift further out to sea while the ship was so fast leaving us that we knew she could afford ~~no~~ no assistance. Our men were brave fellows & after about an hour we seemed to make a little nearer the shore & after another hour of toil & getting soaking wet with spray, we got close under the lee of the high cliffs of Niton & Black Gang chine & then kept well in, almost running aground till just off St Katherine's Point where we turned the head of the boat & instantly ran her on to the shingly beach. I can in no way ~~describe~~ describe my feelings when I first put my foot on English land again after a voyage of 103 days. A crowd of feelings - gratitude, wonder, pleasure - almost to a painful extent in strange confusion. But we were soon called to help draw the boat on shore, where we left her; The sailors helped carry our bags up the cliff, which is rather steep in places, & we were so little used to walking that we got quite weary before reaching our destination for the night - "The Sandrock Hotel". Here we changed

our wet garments, paid the brave ~~xx~~ boatmen & then partook of a sumptuous repast. Soon after at about 19 or 10 p.m we retired to our comfortable room - a rich treat after the short cramped bunks of our cabins on board.

Sunday, March 6th: After breakfast a Coast Guard called to inquire whether we had brought any contraband goods on shore. Of course we assured him we had not, but he evidently felt he had run a risk to his own character in not keeping a sufficient guard to prevent our landing without our luggage being searched. We five passengers took an open fly to Ventnor, where we had lunch & then another fly took us past Bonchurch, Shanklin, Brading & Sandown to Ryde. Here we had a warm at a fire in the Pier Hotel & then crossed in a steam vessel to our own dear land, reaching Portsmouth about 7 o'clock p.m. Soon after we were rushing along towards London where we arrived at 9.30. Here we parted with Dr Pocock, Marks & Kingscote - our last remaining link ~~with~~ to Australia, which dearest Tonie felt much & realized sadly. I took her in a Cab to the old "4 Swans" where we lodged.

Monday, March 7th: Left my dearest To see about breakfast while I went to the nearest Telegraph Office whence I sent a message home announcing our safe landing & our return home by mid-day train. Left London by about 11 o'clock & travelled over the forty miles, so familiar to me, that divide the city from our home in a sort of dream, scarcely able to realize the fact of my long travels coming to closely to an end. I have travelled 60,000 miles since leaving S.Walden - 3,000 on foot & the remainder by sea or land in various methods. At Judley End station I saw my precious father on the platform & soon had the luxury of a loving embrace from him. Our Brougham quickly conveyed us to dear Linden Lodge. As no words could describe the dreadful pang of parting ~~with those whom I love so dearly~~ so can none portray the intense pleasure of reunion with those whom I love so dearly & who have ever been my faithful & precious ones at home. Tears flowed down our cheeks as I embraced once more my dearest Mother, Bessie & Priscie & presented to them my dearest new treasure, my loving wife. Little Edie was also at Linden Lodge to welcome us home. Letters for me from my dear cousin & for Tonie from her far off home were awaiting us, only we could not obtain them till late that evening. The fact was the note I sent from off Falmouth had induced my dear Joseph & Caroline to go to Gravesend hoping to meet us on our landing there & hand us our letters & escort us home. Our sudden disembarkation at the Isle of Wight was unknown to them & though father telegraphed our arrival to them, they did not get home till nearly midnight. And now that I have been permitted to reach home again after an absence of two years & seven months, I desire humbly to record the Lord's great goodness & long suffering mercies to me during all my travels by sea & land, preserving me from ~~some~~ some imminent perils of my life, many dangers seen & doubtless ~~xx~~ many more unseen, & bringing me back in health & safety, enriched by a faithful devoted & a very loving wife - to find all my dear ones who have ever made home so dear to me & for whose presence I have so often pined while far away - in ~~my~~ health & comfort - God having blessed those who staid at home as well as the travellers & graciously heard our prayers for them as well as

theirs for us. But while I can & do feelingly acknowledge that He hath done all things well for me, I must also record how poor I ~~were~~ often served so good a Master. I ~~xi~~ went out at His ~~living~~ bidding ~~wh~~(I reverently ~~think~~ believe) but have I always done His bidding while away on His service? Oh! no. Love of ease, love of the good opinion & admiration of my fellow man have often prevented my service being of that pure & single character as to the Lord & not to men that I have been robbed of the peace which would have been often my portion & not left so good & holy & savour behind me as I long I had done & which would have brought more glory to Him to whom only it is due. Is it possible that at some time yet far distant when more established strengthened & settled in the faith of ~~A~~ Jesus, He may call me again to bear testimony to Him on the other side of this earth? I ~~do~~ know not, neither would I wish to know, but this I abundantly feel - that the love of God is boundless to me or He would not even now give me any portion of service in His vineyard among Friends & others at home & my earnest prayer is, that I may yield unflinching obedience to all His holy will whether for service or suffering & that I may be far more purely body, soul & spirit dedicated to Him. What shall I render to Him for all His benefits towards me? Oh, to abide in Christ! to be filled with His Holy Spirit, to have that mind which was in Him! that so I may exalt Him by life & conversation as well as by preaching & that sinners may be brought to Jesus & washed in the fountain of His own precious blood!

"From all that dwell below the skies,
 Let the Creator's name arise,
 Let the Redeemers praise be sung
 Through every land, by every tongue."

"Now ~~think~~ unto Him who is able to do exceeding abundantly, above all that we ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us, to Him be glory in the Church by Christ Jesus, throughout all ages, world without end."

Amen.

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 THIS IS THE END OF WILL SWALTER ROBSON'S JOURNAL OF HIS JOURNEY TO
 AUSTRALIA.