

L. 11/8. 116

White Hills, S.A.
July 6th - 1842

My Dear Father

I want you to advise us how to dispose
of our wool ~~at~~ ^{but} this clip; If I can sell it here for
cash near its value I shall; but cash being
so very scarce the merchants here wish to take the
advantage and buy wool much below its value;
To be the safest way appears to send the wool to
some safe house in London or Liverpool and
draw upon the wool. I want an introduction to
some house, that I should be safe with
the South Australian Bank with allowance of 2%
but would not be enough on washed wool;
their charges on Exchange is ^{also} high - If we can
draw for 1/4 on washed wool or 6 in the gross
we may be obliged to shear in the grease, or put
but we shall take every possible pains to get
it up washed or unwashed in good condition
we shall finish shearing early in Dec. - It can
be shipped from this port direct to London or Liverpool
with as much ease as from Lancaster -

I received yours of the 22 March - You ask whether
Leavis sold our wool here; He has, out of 45 bales
he sold 38 bales to C. Beck & Co. stating to him
that he ^{meant} had to amount to me for the ~~above~~ ^{same} 13/10.
that it might fetch in London, and that the wool
was to go home in ^{our} ~~my~~ ~~own~~ ~~name~~ ~~at~~ ~~the~~ ~~rate~~ ~~of~~ ~~11~~ ~~sh~~ bales he had
sent to his agent in London and the remaining 3 he

Wrote to Hunter & Hamilton how his account of it is
very unsatisfactory as yet, he as had two hearings
before the Judge he as not heard the court yet
my agreement with him which is a written one, is that
he was to give me 9th of advance, £150 in cash
£50 in one month the remainder in three months - the expenses
were not to exceed £1000 he was to send it
to his agent in London; I have not received
a farthing, for he declared himself insolvent shortly
afterwards and I find I lose £100 by him of
the wool the year before

We have finished lambing we have cal. 2100
lambs & expect 300 more in the spring - we have
sold 500 wethers from 14 lots the wethers have
served us from breaking - we have 100 more
to sell - the best of our wethers are only 14 months
old - the old ones I imported are almost off -
we shak have 3200 ewes to lamb now next
spring if we do not get it off - the good town
is doing us so much per head on sheep & cattle,
we shak have to go a long way back for
good ones - now we may have to contend with
black's expenses of carriage &c - it wants a large
capital to do any good with that - but
with talk very much - houses in town are to
be bought at one quarter what they cost and
less - ewes are the only valuable stock
in the Colony - we pay shepherds £25 per annum
with 18 - with rations which cost 1/2 of that each day
we have plenty of fine grass at this season being
4. looked wethers 70 to - the crops are looking
somewhat better with I expect after harvest wheat
with 4/6 of bushels - without it is 3/6

See this line in a miserable text that has our own
you see also being quarrelled it is very much in line what
is trying to the constitution in the west whether
I have shown which piece my offer. I have also written
some of my own from the same text - I am sorry I
did not receive your answer according to Mr. Smith
I had refused to pay him for 12 months when he had
an offer of £400. with a wife going to enter an action against
me for £400. he took £15. which I could pay you get back
he is a little sage.

As there is now answered my letters to him I suppose
it is our time in cultivating at Asby; cultivating
being not by here nor work as in 1851. Cultivation
will be done by means of small capital. This is
done by good value land here with best any elsewhere;
it is to high here to cultivate on a large scale
the cultivate in acres hardly a cabbage bed - in the
the men to job about the stations - we had
a few sheep & we have 4 or 5 big - for hard times -
every thing is very dear. You do not see any more
because they do not any they work here to lower
to give very much. Those that have bought
land they have paid too much for it among them
to whom did you not say that you had sent
your wool to George, wife Angus, for he as bought
a great deal of land here which through accident and
an other as cost me £2 here I believe he as near
£3000 involved in the colony which brings him in little
nothing; if he is not a man of any large capital his
speculation may break him - his agent here
paid 27000 acres at once without his having coming
back him to do so which he afterwards agreed to take
Bessie sold one ^{30 acres} section - and we sent another with
after Shrimp. - Now that I now know it would
have been much better for us if we had gone
to Mr. Phillip we should have had more sheep
and some better in every respect

Wrote to my Mother some time ago I never
knew whether she got my letter
I had Ed. writing in kind love to you etc
Trusting you are all in good health

Remain your
affectionate
son
Robt. R. Lester

Dear Mother
Tom Harrison Esq

John R. De Loos
Brookfield
Dear Campbell Esq

Robt. R. Lester

6th July 1852



The Hocks that have the seat in them in the stomach
As you are liable to cause great loss by the slightest
sight for such spreads any part next sleep are folded
We have very little but it requires our utmost atten-
tion to keep it down we mix with cornice sublimate
and tobacco water, we must endeavor to chase them
or we shall have something to do as our flocks
increase