

L. 1/6. 190

McBrown

Sept 20 = 1852.

My dear Father

Since I had received the
melancholy news of the death of my poor
Mother I had written to you but
had misper packed the letter &
having left it in Vermont —
I hope you have been well under
your affliction — My Mother must
have been a woman of great energy
to have been engaged up to her
last moments for the benefit of
her family — no one knows the value
of an dear relation or friend until
they are gone — My last
rest in Heaven —

Since my last I have been travelling
on business — having been in Melbourne

from Portland Galong and Adelaide -
to the same land and time
to sit down quiet and write to
my friends - I am ~~also~~ got a
wrist cold on the left - which
must take care of it is the
change of climate -
I have heard of John Long with
the diggers practicing - he ought
now to have money and settle down
in some respectable place -
I would believe to say -
My Brothers would do no good at
the diggers. It is soft land work
being to men in middle eye and
then if stuck to for 12 months
~~experience~~ in the average - they have
got their own concerns to attend to
and can't stay they proceed with
funds to goods -
My dear one 10000 men at the diggers -

Wellborn is all done with them going
about. They look like old cowards
a bad looking lot - and lots of
intemperance from them - your one
fostered in every future place by
any means -
When in Ark. I bought 570 acres ^{of land}
one hour in the 1200 acres of public
lands the title of my station -

I should like to take the station
and get into a more civilized country
the fatigues of brooking on actual
business is to my great, the last week
I was in a battle with 400 men and
nothing but dirt and fire quite intolerable
and in flat state for 10 days -

I know Mr. Simpson formerly of Campbell
know he looks very much altered for
the worse - but the most be an
old man - O'Gibbs keeps is eye as
black as my one I know - I Gibbs
is on Wellborn - I have not been
home yet - my stay here will be
about 10 days -

If Arthur could spare time he
should, for as a visit I would
do him good; though labor is
scarce and dear I expect to
make it up in wool and sheep-
as great many are unsuccessful
at the present - but with prefer-
a more easy life - and a certainty
of success would be better in
his fortune in the Emigration
with my kind love to you
and my sister and Brothers
Trusting you are all well
concluding

I remain your
affectionate
son

W. A. Peake

Sept 1877