

Melrose Trip 18-1949

My Dear Father

I received yours of March 19th
 I am now trying to borrow £1800 for
 three months which I shall have to
 pay at the rate of 20 p cent - and
 difficulty in getting it - I want it to
 see execution as I am situated with it
 The property is worth £15000 taking
 sheep at 7/- and our hutchies are
 about £3000 - you have got
 stock that will be sold this
 winter to the amount of £2500 -
 if we get a good market which
 I hope to do -
 I lose about £500 in the low suit
 and have to take the cattle -
 I may make money out of them unless
 I get them in the sun -
 The expenses of the stations are about
 £3000 - The wool and fat stock

ought to give £7000 p annum
wool at 1/-

as soon as wool rises I have 10,000
sheep with ten to carry 15000 for
sale - when I can get 10/- they are
now selling in PP at 9/6 -

I have one son Gleason that with
some ^{about} ~~from~~ 15000 sheep that are worth
15/- I should want the money
for two years say £2500 - and
if you can get it, we it would make
us a great deal - at least the high interest
~~if you have not already sent it~~
Our lands are large and valuable
having Adelaide for a market -
W.L. and Melbourne - labour is
coming down fast then we get
at £16 p annum -

I have been 2 months in Adelaide
I do not like it so hot -

and the Air is not good - no
salubritas in it for a European -
North or South America is the country
for the European sea.

I shall start in a few days for my
station overland - not one of the
most pleasant trips - 280 miles of land
west -

I have been very much harassed with
business the last 12 months and I
wish to take me some time to get
square again - but the more I know
of it, I find the better I can do it -
I would have come over but I have
so much to do -

With kind love to all at Home
happy to hear you are well -

I remain your
Dear friend

Your obedient son
R. P. Walker

R. B. Leake
April 18th 1849

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John C. Leake Esq
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Care, Union, Land

