

Deposited in the University of Tasmania Archives in 1987 by Frances Cotton who had received the papers from the late Misses E. & M.F. Robey (granddaughters of J.B. Mather). Items 1098-1188 received with Cotton papers

Access: Application form to be signed.

JOSEPH BENSON MATHER

CORRESPONDENCE

Joseph Benson Mather (1814-1890) was the eldest son of Robert and Ann Mather who settled in Tasmania in 1822. He joined his father in his drapery and hosiery business in 1836 and later established his own business as a merchant tailor and importer in Liverpool Street, Hobart, taking his son, Joseph Francis, into partnership as J.B. Mather & Son in 1874. One of their contracts was to supply police uniforms. J.B. Mather also managed the East Coast Steam Navigation Co. in Hobart 1854-57.

J.B. Mather was for many years Clerk to the Hobart Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends. He spent most of the year 1840 in Sydney visiting and helping Sydney Friends on a visit of "concern" and on his return also travelled around Tasmania visiting country Friends. In 1841 he obtained consent from Francis Cotton of Kelvedon, near Swansea, to "corresponding with his daughter with an intention to an union in marriage" and the following year he married Anna Maria Cotton. They had six children: Joseph Francis (1844-1925), Anna Maria (1846-1900), Esther Ann (1849-1957) who married C.H. Robey, Maria Louisa (1851-1857), Emma Elizabeth (1853-1939) and Frances Josephine (1855-1856) but Joseph's wife and the youngest little daughter died in 1856. Joseph Mather was lonely after her death, as he recorded in his diary, but he cared devotedly for his children, reading to them every night, except when they went to stay with their Cotton grandparents at Kelvedon for country air, and nursing them when they were ill. He nursed little Louisa day and night in 1857 until she died in his arms.

Francis Cotton (1801-1883) settled on the East Coast in 1829, with his wife, Anna Maria (Tilney) and family and his friend George Fordyce Story, a medical practitioner. The Cottons welcomed Joseph Mather into their family as a son and brother. Francis signed his letters as "Your affectionate father" and referred to his own sons and daughters as Joseph's brothers and sisters. He wrote frequently to Joseph giving him news of the family and also giving him many commissions in Hobart as his agent. Joseph bought and sent by sea to Kelvedon most of the household stores needed and also dealt with the despatch of the Cotton family's produce to market.

The bulk of the correspondence consists of Francis Cotton's letters to J. B. Mather, and some other correspondence from members of the Society of Friends (Quakers), family and a few business correspondents and a few letters addressed to J.B. Mather's children.

JOSEPH BENSON MATHER

CORRESPONDENCE

CORRESPONDENCE FROM FAMILY

DX20/

1-894

Francis Cotton sr. to son-in-law J.B. Mather 1862 - 1881

Mainly about business commissions and purchase of supplies for F.C. by J.B.M. in Hobart. Business matters included the shipping for sale of produce such as wool, kangaroo and wallaby skins (1867), apples (French crabs, pippins, russets etc.), wheat (golden drop, silver and Tuscan), barley, wattle bark, potatoes, ham and bacon (smoked), honey (for Thomas Cotton) from Kelvedon and from the properties run by sons John, Joseph and Thomas Cotton. Household supplies requested ranged from clothing for the family, such as Geelong tweed trousers, a felt hat, boots, dress material and stout white stockings for girls, to soap powder and washing blue, soap, and food, including such items as mustard, coffee, tea, salad oil, vinegar, sugar (ration and white) and peppermint lozenges for Mother (1873). General stores needed ranged from a sewing machine, lamp glasses which were always breaking, doors, sashes and wallpaper (28.6.73) to general farm supplies such as shingle nails, "graball" twine, sheep dip, scab cure. Medical supplies were required for Dr Story's patients such as vaccine lymph and a "hydraulic bed" and Dr Story's barometer and instruments from Abbott (1863). Produce and supplies were shipped by coastal trading vessels, especially the "Kingston" or sometimes the "Kestrel" or "Guiding Star" etc. There were sometimes comments on goods sent: some "washing powders" were not found as satisfactory as "soap powders" - Mother did not boil the clothes in the copper but used the powder with very hot water in the machine (25.10.64), a bottle of cod liver oil came uncorked and saturated Rachel's dress and Dr Story's books (15.5.63) and "Hoods specific" for sheep scab turned out to be merely soap (1868).

Society of Friends matters were frequently discussed including Meetings, F.C.'s visit to the Annual Meeting in Melbourne and then to Friends in South Australia (1867-8), Quaker marriage rules - although F.C. considered the word "Quakers" slang and a vulgarism (20.7.73), the new Meeting House (26.8.76) and news of Friends and their families.

There are some references to the farm, shearing, sheep, washing wool (9.11.69 530), ploughs, a harvest home supper (10.2.72), a summons for having infected sheep (22 & 24.11.73), servants including a case of a servant Sarah Cole forging a money order (26.4.72, 1.5.72), and comments on land, crown rents, Gathercole's land (1872) etc, and also payments to Martha Martin a beneficiary under the will of J.W. Story of which Francis Cotton was an executor (1873, 74, 78, see also DX19).

Politics and the local Council and neighbours were occasionally mentioned. Prossers Bridge which F.C. considered essential was opposed by Cruttendon and others (22.8.65). A cripple named Samuel Drake was befriended by Cotton in 1866 (24.7.66 303). In 1866 he noted that Graham had approved a free school at Swansea, which would sweep away Barlow's School favoured by the Catholic priest (7.2.66, 328) F.C. commented on the question of state aid to churches (1.10.67 443) and wondered why German immigrants were settling instead of Britons like the Shetland Islanders (26.4.70). He was glad to hear news of Dr Livingstone in the English mail (1.7.72 639)

Family news was usually included in most letters. In 1868, on his visit to Friends in South Australia, F.C. visited his son Tilney at Streaky Bay. F.C.'s son

and his brother, Frank's lonely situation, W. Thomson - something unpleasant about him, sorry Richard Benson allowed to write to Mary, Rachel's foot, knee and hip.

(7 ltrrs 1108-14)

1856 Death of Maria and baby, cradle to be given to Lavinia. (10 ltrrs , some undated 1115 -1124)

1857 Health, household goods required, "perplexed about ths girl" [Bridget Burke] and "my unfortunate son" (Feb.57), Thomas and George "added to my other sorrows", poor Henry Propsting, spiritual, servant Jane, barn, young Francis, problem of schooling for Rachel whose governess about to leave. (5 ltrrs 1125-29)

1858 J.B.M's children, George's foot, sons going to Sandspits, Kelvedon lonely, family worries, death of baby and mother Margaret's behaviour (24.7.57), needs "servant of all work who can milk", Thomas' little girl born (11.8.58), fowls to dispose of, J.B.M's large clothing contract (1.10.58), pleased to hear prospect of situation for Tilney in South Australia, George going to Melbourne - picture of despair can't think how he will part with wife and children - four and another on way (1.10, 12.11), young woman [servant] does very well except washing - "may be rectified when we get the machine", couch and chairs received, Yearly Meeting - none of young men there, unhappy about christening of Thomas' daughter, hopes F.C. will get a decent suit - "his appearance . . . disgraceful" person of his standing making "a merry Andrew of himself", Dr. Story ill, sorry for Abraham Davy. (10 ltrrs. 1130-1139)

1859 Tilney in S.A. - warm weather agrees with him "can oftener draw a long breath than when in V.D.L.", need mattresses, trousers for Papa and Dr., Thomas might have done worse - "She seems to be an obedient and industrious wife ... right to hold out a hand of encouragement to her, although her religious persuasion is a sad affair, there is much that is good about Bridget" (5.3.59), visit of John and brothers from Sandspits - parted with them again on the beach "scene of many a painful parting", also William and Mary (17.3.59), missing Rachel - in town with Lydia Wood - hardly the thing for one perassing with Friends to teach music (6.4.15.4), Dr doing Wells' duty again, Thomas' and George's wife had words, J.B.'s sister's loss [G.W.Walker's death], socks for George's children - ages 7, 5, 3 and one and half, Sandspits - takes several hours to find the bullocks and then day half done - only one of evils of new establishments, Walter Thomson at Mayfield (1150), maid servants (1150), Tilney's Annie (1152). (13 ltrrs. 1140-1152)

1860 F.C. collecting horses from Runnymede, picnics - baskets needed, towelling required, George's wife "making her nest", Francis' second enjoying himself - he and Joseph have nest of young rabbits. (1 ltr, 1153)

1864 Mather grandchildren, George's wife "a little tigress" (897, 899), spiritual. (6 ltrrs. 895-900)

1866-1867 John's wife Marion - anxious about her approaching "event" [confinement], health, worries about Sandspits estate and her hardworking sons, ploughing match, affairs of Henry and George "nearly deprived me of reason", Thomas in difficulties and wife very ill. (4 ltrrs 901, 1154-1156)

1868-1870 Thomas' wife dying - A.MC.'s hands full with Eliza and Emma (902), William Benson, Isaac Sharp visiting America, Tilney's new run - Tilney "so steady and industrious" and Annie a "true helpmate" 5 children the last 5 months old (1869, 904), families at Grange and Bend recovered but Frank still poorly and little Helen very delicate, material needed for coat for Joseph (1869, 904), George likely to lose "means of providing for increasing family" (1870, 906). (5 ltrrs 902-06)

1872-1874 Frank's ankle (1872 908), Margaret ill, Sarah Cole (908), Thomas sending 60 boxes of apples (908), Dr "near quite blind", William May, S. Skeggs' baby (25.11.73 910), Joseph painting long room - need ceiling paper (1873, 910), her erring son [John] at the graveside of his little son [Harold] acknowledged the hand that dealt the blow but Marion keeps weeping for her

"murdered baby "(4.12.74, 911 - see also 797-811). (7 ltrrs 903-911)
 ND [c 1878-80] Health, family, Hannah Hall (1157). (2 ltrrs. 912, 1157)

DX20/

- 913-4 Edward Octavius Cotton to brother-in-law J.B. Mather 1867
 Henry and his three boys, arsenic sheep dip and "Hayes specific", land, religion.
 (2 docs.)
- 917-917 Francis Cotton jr. to sister and J.B. Mather 1850, 1854, 1858
 Invitation to Kelvedon, his illness, family: his wife Margaret improving, little boy, written from Kelvedon, Grange or Bentmore.
 (3 docs.)
- 918-9 Henry Cotton to J.B. Mather 1872
 Tutor needed for his boys - Denholm recommended, house almost ready, Barrington land. Note added by Francis Cotton.
 (2 docs.)
- 920-934 James Backhouse Cotton to J.B. Mather 1859, 1863-4, 1867, 1872, 1875
 Voyage in Oberon, warrant on property of Francis Cotton at Earlham for debt of Thomas Buxton failing to pay road rate (18.6.59), supplies (1859), business on behalf of father: shipping wheat, barley, apples, fattening sheep on mangolds, cattle shed (20.8.64), John Mather's illness and tailoring business, sewing machines (19.7.64, 28.8.64), William Rasche amusing himself with Dr's photographic materials (23.6.67), S.A. Friends' Meeting (1872) case of possible disownment by Society of Friends, enclosing J.B.M.'s draft letter (3.10.75). From Kelvedon or Earlham.
 (15 docs)
- 935-950 John Cotton to brother-in-law J.B. Mather 1855-1859, 1867
 Clothes, wants winnowing machine, plough, Sandpits land and farm, problem of water supply (7.5.59), friends, Society of Friends "scandalised in consequence of Tilney's doings" (1.8.55), shipping of stores, family, J.B.M.'s acquittal from charges of Chapman and Thomas (17.4.56), East Coast Steamer Co. (18.5.56, 24.6.56), Earlham wool, sheep stolen (1867). From Glencoe or Earlham Sandpits, some letters cross-written.
 (16 docs.)
- 951-2 Tilney Cotton to brother-in-law J.B. Mather 18,28 Sept.1858
 Arrangements about debts before T.C. leaves for Adelaide. From Kelvedon.
 (2 docs.)
- 953-4 Rachel Cotton to brother-in-law Joseph 1864
 Family, ploughing match at Cranbrook and dance in barn, friends, finances.
 (2 docs)
- 1163-7 George Fordyce Story, Kelvedon, to J.B. Mather 1843, 1846, 1848, 1864, ND
 955 Shipping wool, bulbs for Dr. Clarke, supplies. A.M.C. wants silk velvet, flannel fit for servants, lambswool worsted for knitting socks for Rachel, soft hairbrush like J.B.M.'s sister Sarah uses for James B., wicks for reading lamps, pocket comb for Thomas, cricket ball for Thomas, coffee, cloak or coat, peaks for caps, black hat etc. F.C. attended sale of Britten Jones' stock at Evandale, plants from James Dickenson for the garden, quills needed, dry weather stopped all the mills in the district so sending bags of wheat to be ground in the town, "Henrietta" dragged anchor in heavy sea (12.6.43); fire burnt roof, escape of 12 convicts from Rocky Hills,

Francis jr. suffered a mental breakdown and committed suicide in May 1872. In 1874 Mary Conolly, a pregnant servant of John Cotton at Earlham, died (Oct.), apparently of poisoning by ergot of rye, and a charge was brought against John although no case was found, but the trouble may have led to an error in the treatment of the illness of his six year old son Harold who was buried at Kelvedon in December 1874 (797-811, see also 911). F.C. commented that Catholics were against John because he had given Bibles to two servant girls.

894 letters letters arranged in annual bundles:-

1-97	1862	97 letters.
98-173	1863	74 letters plus 2 incomplete
174-254	1864	78 letters plus 3 part letters
255-321	1865	66 letters plus 1 part letter
322-393	1866	72 letters
394-461	1867	67 letters plus 1 part letter
462-492	1868	31 letters
493-535	1869	43 letters
536-590	1870	55 letters
591-605	1871	15 letters
606-686	1872	76 letters plus notes of goods shipped, insurance.
687-765	1873	78 letters plus notes of goods shipped
766-814	1874	48 letters
815-835	1875	21 letters
836-838	1876-1877	3 letters
839-848	1878	10 letters
849-876	1879	28 letters
877-884	1880	8 letters
885-894	1881	10 letters

Dx20/

1098 Anna Maria Cotton to son in law J.B. Mather 1837 - 1880

-1157, Letters about stores needed, family, Friends etc.:-

895-912

1837 Departure of Friends [G.W.Walker and James Backhouse] hopes Sarah will not fret, needs material, white sugar for preserving (1 ltr. 1098)

1838 F.C. at Waterloo Point to welcome Governor and Lady Franklin (A.M.C. invited but declined), Daniel & C. Wheeler, S. Crouch and baby, female servant needed £12 p.a. - free or from ship of female prisoners - as last a vile character), wants box of "plumbs" and bag of rice and moleskin trousers for F.C. and Dr, comb., H.H. Bidder. (2 ltrs 1099-1100)

1839 Health, intends to "put all the girls and boys from George down to little Teddy into tartan with the intention of sparing washing the coming winter" considerable quantity needed from Robertsons, also calico for lining, stays for girls, stockings for Doctor - woman's size, moleskin trousers, riding hats not bonnets, saddle sent Maria, drugget to go before fireplace in long room--kiddermister carpeting not worth buying, add basins and pail for packing. (3 ltrs 1101-03)

1841 J.B.M.'s departure [Sydney], Ann & Robert, W. Thomson possible tutor for children - member of Society of Friends until his transportation, extreme drought - sheep starving - Henry dispirited, old Gray at Grange bitten by black snake and died, little Joseph just beginning to walk and talk, gingham being dark will spare washing, 2 farm workers needed, not taking Meredith's property.

(4 ltrs, one damaged by sticky tape, used on tear 1104-07)

1843-1845, ND Family, sending Mary to help her sister, eggs for sale, economy needed, servant badtempered woman, cloth for coats, shingle nails, kitchen window panes broken, J.B.M.'s little boy's birthday 7.7.45), schooling for George

children improved under their new master (19.5.46); commissariat returns, memo for Courier about chloroform, Ellis the blacksmith and three others - former Cotton servants - drowned in flood (1848); Case of hardware, trousers, gloves, Yearly Meeting, "Mother" [ie Anna Maria Cotton] requests material and pair of doeskin trousers for Edward. See also note by G.F.S. on letter of F. Cotton asking for pasteboard for binding books (17.8.67 DX20/435). Also undated letter (1167) written on back of bottle label "Champion & Co's celebrated vinegar" asking for a box of bottles of vinegar as on label, also in want of kerosine oil, sago and oatmeal, pair of braces.

(7 docs)

MATHER FAMILY

DX20/

- 1158 Ann Mather to son Joseph 1828, 1830
Copy of letters on spiritual matters to her son Joseph (1828) and to "My very dear boys" (1830).
(1 doc.)
- 1159-60 Joseph B. Mather and wife (Anna) Maria (Cotton) Mather 1850,
Children, Walker cousin children, the box for father and "the girl" by "Swansea Packet" (6.8.50); A.M.M. to Joseph: loss of her "little pet" [baby], little Emma strong. (29.3.56).
- 956 Anne (Mrs R.A.) Mather to brother-in-law J.B. Mather 1856
Family, J.B.M.'s health, J.B.M.'s children's governess, F.Mackie to open school.
- 957-965 John Mather to brother J.B.Mather 1856
Business, debts, voyage to Melbourne and search for debtors in Melbourne, D'Emden's problems, Ransome bought Killymoon for £30,000, family: Isabella and baby, Friends, Yearly Meeting. From Hobart or Melbourne.
(9 docs. some cross-written)
- 966 Annie B. (Mrs W.E.) Shoobridge (nee Mather) to Uncle J.B.Mather ND [1878]
Hawthorn Lodge: harvest, Meeting, death of Robert and Annie's child little Douglas.
- 967 Triphenia (Mrs S.) Mather to brother-in-law J.B. Mather 16 May 1857
Family, personal. Cross-written.
- 968-974 Anna Mather to father 20 Jan. -13 Feb. 1871, 30 Dec.1877, 1878, 1879
Family, hot weather, to J.B.M. in Melbourne for Yearly Meeting (1871), passage to Melbourne (1877). See also F. Cotton to J.B.M. 26.9.63 including letter from Anna to Papa.
(7 docs)
- 975-978 Emma Mather 1871, 1876
Family, Maggie's health, books, Kelvedon: shearing, cattle. From Hobart or Kelvedon.
(4 docs.)
- 1161-2, Esther A. Mather to father ND [1853-5], 1871, 1875, 1877
979-981 Child's scrawls hoping father better (1161-2); family, Melbourne trip, friends, health, visit to Wollongong (1875).
(3 docs. and 2 scraps of paper)

- DX20/
982-86 Joseph Francis Mather to father 1871, 1879
Esther and George Sayce, business: police uniforms and other orders - Eagle Hawk Neck district constables suits with gold lace on collars, complaints about police caps not stiff enough (1871); building of Meeting House (10 Oct.1879).
(5 docs.)
- 987 Margaret (Maggie, Mrs J.F.) Mather to father-in-law J.B. Mather 2 June 1876
Thanks for primrose, Amy, Frank.

CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED - GENERAL & SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

- 988 Cecilia M. Basham 1 Sept. 1877
Woolahra: family troubles.
- 989 H. Baudinet 24 Aug. 1879
New Meeting House, Yearly Meeting, general.
- 990-991 Sarah Bell 1856, 1858
When she lived in the Friends Meeting House it was not very habitable so illness prevented her carrying out duties properly. From Goulburn and New Zealand.
(2 docs.)
- 992 C. J. Coffin 1 Mar. 1883
Friends Yearly Meeting, from Richmond, Indiana U.S.A.
- 993 Rhoda Coffin 1 Feb. 1883
Her brother Eli Johnson and temperance cause.
- 994 Sarah Creeth 21 Apr. 1858
Death of J.B.M.'s wife.
- 995 Sarah Crouch 28 May 1858
Society of Friends
- 996-999 Abraham Davy 30 Mar. 1872-1873
Society of Friends, death of daughter (10.6.72), Daniel entering engineering business (10.6.72), Sydney Friends Burial Ground (10.6.72). From Harrington Park, Narellan N.S.W.
(4 docs)
- 1000-7 H. D'Emden 1857
Insolvency case, gaol, appeal to Governor.
(8 docs.)
- 1008-10 James Dixon 1858
Sister, servants, land (8.4.58), Leases, timber.
(3 docs.)

DX20/

- 1011 H. I. Finch 10 June 1872
Sydney: J.B.M's son's accident.
- 1012 Hannah P. Fowler 30 Sept. 1872
From Sydney: family, friends.
- 1013 Hannah Hall 23 Dec. 1879
Adelaide: thanks for kindness of J.B.M and daughters on her visit, family, Society of Friends, voyage.
- 1014 James Lambert 22 Mar. 1872
Ballarat East: Ballarat Friends' Meeting.
- 1015 J. Lawson 10 Feb. 1841
Cocked Hat Hill, Evandale: Society of Friends, visit, J.L.'s fault.
- 1016-7 Thomas Lidbetter 1858, 1871
From "Swarthmore", Sydney: Friends, Quaker emigrants (1858), from Melbourne: J.B.M's safe return, enjoyed his visit (1871).
(2 docs.)
- 1018-9 Frederick Mackie 17 Feb. 1879, 10 Feb. 1880
Fairfield, Mount Barker: epistle to Annual Meeting, subscription to new Meeting House, petition to Parliament against military drill, Friends.
(2 docs.)
- 1020 Edward May 16 June 1857
South Australia, spiritual, family.
- 1021-30 William May 1855-1859
Mount Barker, South Australia: wish to marry Mary Cotton, hoping Francis Cotton would travel with her on Friends' mission to South Australia (25.8.55), death of Maria J.B.M's wife, Steam Company (May 1856), Friends, May family, F. Mackie, Tilney Cotton in South Australia (17.11.59). Also letter from Mary May: J.B.M's health, family (13.6.57).
(10 docs.)
- 1031-33 Joseph J. Neave 1869, 1879
Sydney: Society of Friends, Meeting House, debts, unemployed. For letter from I. Sharp, South Africa to J. Neave on Friends' Missions in South Africa (9.4.79) enclosed with J.J.N's of 29.7.79 see I. Sharp DX20/1042
(3 docs.)
- 1034 Francis Nixon, Bishop of Tasmania 12 Aug. 1857
Hesketh. From Bishopsbourne.
- 1035-6 R. Nutt 1857
Recommending oatmeal porridge for constipation.
(2 docs.)
- 1037 Annie Oxley 15 July 1872
Victoria: Friends.

- DX20/
1038 Jesse Pullen 14 Dec. 1858
Request for signatures for a testimonial.
- 1039 J.W. Quliton 5 Nov. 1857
Thanks for letter of condolence. From High School.
- 1040 George Rushby 14 Mar. 1872
Ballarat: Ballarat Friends" Meeting.
- 1041 Edward Sayce 29 Sept. 1879
Hawthorn, Vic.: J.B.M's health, Friends, Hannah Hall.
- 1042-3 Isaac Sharp 4 Sept. 1879, 22 Nov. 1881
Letter to J. Neave from South Africa: Friends missions in South Africa
(9.4.79) enclosed with letter from J.Neave to J.B.M. of 29.7.79 (see DX20/1033);
from Melbourne: Friends (1881)
(2 docs.)
- 1044 J. Swinbourne 1857
Thanks for offer, wife's health.

CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED: BUSINESS

- 1045-6 M. Andrew 20 Feb. 1855, 15 Jan. 1856
Thanks for opinion on opening at Falmouth but decided to stay in Melbourne,
from Government Immigration Dept. Melbourne; inquiry about chartering "Fenella"
to run Melbourne - Launceston and draft reply (1856)
(2 docs.)
- 1047 J. Barwell 10 Apr. 1856
Plea to be re-employed when recovered from illness and draft reply: forborne
enough - "intemperance thy ruin". Also note from Mrs Barwell, London, asking
husband's whereabouts.
- 1048 Richard Creeth 21 July 1858
Fruit, expense of advertising.
- 1049-51 James Grant 1856-1857
Steam Navigation Company business. From Tullochgorum, Fingal.
(3 docs.)
- 1052 Stephen Henry Grueber J.P., Rheban ND [1855-8]
Statement of Berry about 2 stolen bullocks.
- 1053-4 James Hope, Melbourne 1856, 1857
Apples, recommended J. Swinbourne for position.
(2 docs.)
- 1055 Abraham Leach, Collingwood Vic. 4 Jan. 1858
Recommending Walter Brown for position as cutter

DX20/

1056-8 J. McLachlan 1857

Debt owed, Ransom bought Killymoon for \$30,000. From Hobart or from schooner "Tommy".
(3 docs.)

1059 James Morris 22 Sept. 1858

Business, potatoes to Melbourne.

1060-65 Thomas Ransom 1856-1858

Diggers at Fingal, butter store, steamer, company affairs, inquired possibility of purchasing "Duncan Hoyle" for coastal trade. From Millbrook, Fingal (1856-7), Killymoon (1858).
(6 docs.)

1066 Edward L. Shaw, Melbourne 28 May 1856

Sale of cases of apples, Melbourne.

1067-74 Frederick Lewis Stieglitz, Killymoon 1855-1857

Business, pure saxon sheep, Mrs Mather's health (13.4.56), dissolution of Steam Navigation Company (June 1857), Killymoon coal (26.8.57).
(8 docs.)

1075 Alexander George Webster 9 Oct. 1857

Boats.

1076 Theodore West 8 may 1857

Sympathy on illness, order for raspberry and blackcurrant jam. From Sydney.

DIARIES

1077 Diary 11 Nov. 1840 - 2 Oct. 1842

Diary notes on loose pages (incomplete) mainly relating to Society of Friends mission visits in Sydney and Tasmania, Meetings for worship and monthly and yearly Meetings. Also references to brother and sister and family matters, eg.: "spoke to father on subject of marriage, no objection" 5.4.41), F. Cotton's consent to "corresponding with his daughter with an intention to an union in marriage".

a 11 Nov. 1840 - 27 Dec. 1840 (sewn gathering, pages numbered 91-[104])

b 29 Dec. 1840 - 2 Oct. 1842 (loose pages numbered 1-[42])

1078-82 Diaries 1857 - 1861

Diary type (but not always daily) memoranda of reflections, recollections of family and death of wife, spiritual reflections and some notes of home and business life. Including, for example: son's birthday (10.4.57), lonely while children in country for their health, full description of illness and death of little Louisa and poem on dying child, his own illness, Society of Friends, frequent fires nearby frightened little daughter Anna Maria, letter to son on his fourteenth birthday

(1.4.58), reading to children and hearing them recite poetry (1858), disputed case of F. Cotton (?land) put in hands of three friends to consider agreement, business - police clothing contract (12.10.58- 4.11.58, 8.1.59, 19.1.59, 16.2.59), fire at G.W. Walker's (3.11.58), New Year presents to employees with "word of counsel and warning and encouragement" (1.1.59), death of George Washington Walker and obituaries (Jan.59), servants - little jealousies between 2 female servants (5.3.59), Robert and Sarah Lindsey (1860)

1078	1 Jan. 1857 - 31 Aug. 1857
1079	1 Sept. 1857 - 31 Mar. 1858
1080	1 Apr. 1858 - 31 Dec. 1858
1081	1 Apr. 1859 - 29 Nov. 1859
1082	1 Dec. 1859 - 6 Jan. 1861

(5 thin octavo notebooks)

ACCOUNTS

DX20/

1083 Receipts 1829 - 1831, 1841-1845, ND

J.B. Mather's miscellaneous receipts for small cash payments, including: books, Bible and prayer book, Sydney expenses, house rent, post and rails, H. H. Johnson for putting up water closet (1841).
(ble)

SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

1084 Testimony of Disownment of William Holdship (draft) [1836]

1085 Draft epistle ND

Incomplete draft of an epistle referring to Isaac Sharp's intended visit, J.J. Neave in Sydney, separate Meeting of Women Friends in Tasmania

OBITUARIES

1086 G.W. Walker: obituary by James Bonwick 12 Feb. 1859

Addressed to Editor of the Christian Times (ms.). Found in J. B. Mather's diary.

1087 Obituary notice of J.B. Mather

ANNA MARIA (COTTON) WIFE OF J.B. MATHER

CORRESPONDENCE

1168-70 Anna Maria Cotton to daughter (Anna) Maria 1836, c 1839, 1843

Family - "little James is as stout as ever and begins to chatter very fast",

meeting to be held then Friends James Backhouse and G.W. Walker leaving for Launceston, asks Sarah Mather to teach Maria rug making then she can make "some teapot rugs" when she comes home, servants (25.12.36); To Maria and Mary: hopes all well and little Edward and Tilney - hopes little Teddy not forgotten his Mama, bought knives with two blades for her younger brothers, suits of clothes for Henry, Francis and Tommy, muslin, a bonnet each and parasols for Maria and Mary, Christmas, Yearly Meeting - only 9 in number (ND c 1839, 1169); Maria's troublesome cough, Elizabeth Mason confined of little girl but very ill, family well, little James Backhouse unwell with head owing to fall some time since, servant Mary Fitzpatrick to be married to Franklin the blacksmith- wants to give her dress of printed saxony in green, also ribbon and pair stays, given up nursery for the tailor and turned Mary's room into nursery for Joseph and Rachel (1843).
(3 letters)

DX20/

1171 Tilney Cotton to sister Maria 15.4.43

Child's letter (age 7): James fell from rock when they went to the "sheep wash" to see a "hamper whale" washed in after being killed by whalers - obtained two large casks of oil from it, little Rachel being weaned, Jane very kind to Joseph and Rachel, mother's garden, weather, fishing.

1172 Henry Cotton, Grange, to sister 14.5.43

Good season - grass green and sheep in beautiful order and clean - not diseased like last year, ploughed, dismissed Messenger and his wife - he "was so sausey", Mayfield in the house promises well, father gave he and Francis a horse each, built shed by barn for bullocks, turnips and to keep sheep dry at shearing time, drank beer while out with father as no water, other side of Cross Marsh very dry.

1173 Sarah Benson Mather [later Mrs G.W. Walker] 18.10.1838

Hobart Town improved -a number of streets "levelled and metalled", offered to share bed if one of girls comes to Yearly Meeting, sorry mother hindered by baby from coming, brother Robert well, Samuel grown but still at school, J.Backhouse and G.W. Walker well at the Cape

1174 Rachel Chandler (nee Cotton, sister of F.C.)London, 27.3.1844

To niece Maria Mather: congratulations on marriage, health, family.

1175-6 Sarah Crouch 16.10.1838, 1856

Thanks for letter, expecting father for Yearly Meeting, 11 in house including brother-in-law John Crouch, her new baby John Marston born last 11th month, elder sister Lettice Morris and son - a lad of 13 working at T.W. Roland solicitor; messages on back from children: G.S. Crouch, T.J. Crouch, S.R. Crouch. Also letter from A.M.M. to Mrs Crouch: hopes to be home soon, baby better but still emaciated, mother busy not having efficient servant - so much cookin, baking etc, love to Maryann, George's wife expecting to be confined of her third child any day.

1177 Prayer written by A.M.M. 1855

CHILDREN OF J.B. MATHER

1178-9 Francis Cotton to grandson J. Francis Mather 1869, 1871, 1872, 1876, 1879

1088-92 Wool bales for shipping, Isaac Wright's bags of bark, flour and other good received by Kingston, need broom head, paper of starch, scrubbing brush, 3 pairs of stocking (good), lamb's wool for Dr. and F.C., 3 pairs stockings A.M.C., bushel of

malt, bush fires raging, barley threshed(1869); accepted draft for expenses but some of debt should be paid (1871); F.C.'s son Francis being deprived of reason deprived himself of life by strangulation (1872); death of J.F.M's wife Maggie (1876), Meeting House: roof, width of entrance hall etc. (1879)
(7 docs.)

- 1180 E. O. Cotton to Frank Mather 19 Jan 1898
Accounts, Australian federation.
- 1093 William May to Frank [J. Francis Mather] 1884
Letter about Quaker principles.
- 1181 Anna Maria Cotton to granddaughters Anna Maria and Annie 7 Feb 1855
Present of shells
- 1182 Anna Maria Cotton to granddaughter Anna Maria [Mather] ND
Sending jars of jam to make tarts - if papa allows, fires must have been terrible but trust in God, story of her mother as a little girl in storm on voyage out.
- 1096 Anna Maria Mather ND
Note that Anna Maria Mather received first prize for writing and satisfactory progress.
- 1183 Anna Maria Mather's "Album" 1861, 1862
Small album of coloured pages inscribed "Anna Maria Mather with love from Aunt Ann 29 of 11th month 1861", entries include copies of poems, photographs of Kelvedon House and Creek and Lagoon in flood probably by Dr. G. Story, (entries where dated are 1862).
(octavo vol. bound imitation leather with tooled design)
- 1094 Esther Mather to sister Anna 13 Oct. 1875
Letter: visit to Wollongong and Sydney, clothes.
- 1184 Esther Ann & Emma Elizabeth Mather: Stories by an Uncle ND c 1863
2 stories, illustrated, addressed "to my dear nieces E.A.M. & E.E.M."
- 1095 Esther Ann Mather: Birthday Scripture Text book 1871
"E.A. Mather from her brother J.F.M. 27.9.71". Birthday diary interleaved with scripture texts for each day, including birthdays of Mather, Cotton and Walker families etc.
(small pocket book).
- 1185 Emma Robey, London, to Miss Mather {? Esther Ann} 5 Sept. 1882
Emma was the only Robey sister at home now, missed sister Nell, letter from Harry - must have changed since he left home, Miss M's uncle [James B] Cotton and Mrs Hall visited and now on their way home via Suez and India.
- 1186 Photograph: Esther and Emma Mather as girls ND [?1860-65]
Small photo print, faded (?by Dr. Story)
- 1187 Photograph: Charles H. Robey and Esther Ann Mather wedding group 24 Aug. 1884
Group including Mather relatives and William and Mary May. Photo by Bishop Osborne

ELINOR JOSEPHINE ROBEY

Elinor J. Robey (Linor) (1885-1971) daughter of Esther Ann (Mather) and Charles Henry (Harry) Robey.

DX20/

1188

J.B. Mather to granddaughter Linor Robey ND [c 1893-1900]

Thanks for letter and picture, nice to bathe, Aunt Anna not well but frequently talks of little "Linna" and "Margy".

MISCELLANEOUS

1097

Pencil drawing of 2 masted yacht.

DX20 NEW SERIES COTTON PAPERS

Numbering NOT consecutive with previous 1000 series

Deposited: Mrs. Daphne Moore 3/146 Hopkins Street, Moonah 7009
 Phone 62789998 for Mrs Frances Cotton who is 101 years old!

Access: Open access

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- 2089 Francis Cotton to Joseph B. Mather 1860-1861
- 2090 Francis Cotton from Cotton grandchildren some are Howard G Cotton 1879 Augustine Cotton, Mary
- 2091 William Driscoll 1857 (1 letter)
- 2092 Francis Cotton to Joseph B. Mather 1835 (2) 1836 (6) 1838 (25) includes 1 letter from JBM to Francis Cotton 19.5.1837
- 2093 Francis Cotton to Joseph B. Mather 1839 (25) 1840(3)
- 2094 Francis Cotton to Joseph B. Mather 1841 27 letters and letter from A.C. Flower to Francis Cotton 17.1.1835
- 2095 Francis Cotton to Joseph B. Mather 1842 (28) G.F Storey to J.B. Mather 1842 (2) [35/10]
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- 2105 Francis Cotton to Joseph B. Mather 1857 35/11
- 2106 Francis Cotton to Joseph B. Mather 1858 (75)

2107 Frances Cotton 'Kettle on the Hob: a family in Van Diemen's Land"
1828 1885"' Orford, Tas.: Joan Roberts, 1986