

C4/057

Left in Cottage
Alcega St
New Town

GEORGE PEACOCK,
WHARF, HOBART,
BOX POST OFFICE, SYDNEY.

Sydney

July 15th 1883

Dear Jessie,

From my heart went out towards the
 old circle on July 4th. I think it was more in
 Tasmania than in Sydney all day and I
 kept thinking to my self - "What are they doing
 now?" particularly in the evening when I formed
 momentary pictures of what was going on.
 I was regretting with you that poor old Joe has
 not not time to sing the praises of another of
 the glorious band whose fearless pursuit of
 duty has placed them on "Sun-crowned heights of
 memory". I wonder whether Joe's 4th was
 as tame and lonely as mine. I did intend
 keeping it up properly and had arranged
 to present my card to the U. S. Consul who
 held a sort of levee and of afterwards going
 to the picnic at Botany Bay where Sherman
 the actor read the famous declaration of
 independence. Mrs P had kindly offered to look
 after business to enable me to do so and I went
 out of bed full of hope regarding the Star of Spangier
 banner custody. But the day was very wet and

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I had only just recovered from a cold so I gave
it up. Things I was afterwards sorry as the
afternoon proved fine and the picnic was
a great success. There was a large number of
Americans there and quite a representative body
of Australians including three Ministers of
the Crown. I spent the day at work and had several
hangers of going to the nearest pub. I went
for all hands and proposing "the cause of
democracy throughout the world"; but I met
Pryde and he went and had the whole thing
and a long quarrel about American national
life and the progress of the world towards the
democratic idea. I send you a paper in
the American letter of which you will see an
interesting part. on the present state of the
North & South feeling, and the letter is interesting
in other particulars.

Mrs and the Child here both left the cottage which
is pretty lonely now. They had stopped so long that
a sort of family love had arisen among us
and when I originally looked forward with

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Some relief to the time when I should be left alone
 I felt miserable the day they were leaving. I quite
 love the child and I've been like a mother
 to me - so much so that I kissed her when she
 said goodbye at the train. I shall have to occupy
 my time now with books and I intend to do
 some serious reading. I have seen enough of
 Sydney city though I intend to take little trips
 to the suburbs on Sundays. I went to Coogee
 Bay this morning with Payne and his children
 I think Kendall has celebrated the beauty of the
 place and it certainly is beautiful - not on
 the shore side for it is mostly sand hills, but
 the shore line of sandstone cliffs and beautiful
 white beaches is a pleasing sight and the
 water seen under the sky we had is marvellously
 pretty. The deep blue of the wide ocean and
 the lucid blue and green of the little bays
 with the white surf and sand and a brown
 sandstone island out to sea makes a picture
 you could sit for hours looking at. Large
 numbers of people visit this place on Sunday

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by means of
through the Steam Tram which runs right to
the beach. I have accepted invitations to
spend Saturday night and Sunday at a hut
on a hill prominent spot kept from by
some young fellows here, and another Sunday
on the Blue Mountains by way of his famous
zig-zag. I saw Sheridan the actor play
Henry Lear last week to an immense house.
He was assisted by professional and amateur
friends who had assumed a benefit to him. Some
of these were great sticks and were turned and
laughed at by the jocos who here occupy their
proper position in the top gallery (the gallery)
Sheridan's Lear was grand in parts but as a whole
it was not so good as Old Cromwell's.
I have been to several other things in the theatre
way but have not seen anything better than
I have seen at home. Last night I went to
Paddy's Market by myself and spent an hour
and a half listening to the quacks, cheap shows
and showmen jabbering and the tarskers
chaffing each other. The place is Quis generis

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and with a long description. I have not been
 to the Unitarian Church lately for they do not
 open now in the evening and I generally go for
 walks in the mornings. I went to the Anglican
 Cathedral two weeks ago and last Sunday to
 the Catholic Cathedral - a splendid building as
 yet only half finished. I was really pleased with
 the persons of the Catholics as compared with
 the Anglicans. The former worship with
 candles go through a form of conventional respectability.
 There is a great deal of religious conservatism
 going on in Sydney both through the medium
 of the platform and the press. The press of
 free thought indulged in here makes me draw
 back a little. Paid free thought lectures are given
 at Sunday picnics with brass bands and
 other amusements and the stuff spoken
 in the name of free thought is philosophy in
 caps and bells and ignorance with scientific
 long clothes.

Remember me to the boys John Clark and the little ones
 if you write soon tell me what you think of the Mercury
 Co prospects about which I am getting a little
 anxious for I want money to start married
 (over)

life with. I find I cant see much out of my
screw bottom I stay at home altogether and
though Mrs I would assist me by letting me
have the furniture on credit and advancing
me some money no proper man would
marry a woman on these arrangements.
It would, however, appear that I must
continue myself to wait for July says she
will not leave Charlie while his health is bad
and it does not seem much prospect
of improvement - poor fellow. She is such
a sensible little woman and writes such
dear sensible little love letters that I
would not of I could after her death
All things come at last to him who earnestly
wishes and waits.

Yours ever faithfully
Geo. B. Edwards