Somerset 12th July

My dear Friend,

As "my better half" has just written to Mr. Smith, I thought I could acknowledge the receipt of your kind note and answer two questions you ask therein. Whether I have been at home since and how we like the Convicts, in reply to the first, I have not, and as to the second, though it has spread far and wide, I do not think there is any truth in it, except accordingly they still retain their "Vennours".
as to the letter, I reply, there is no particular fault to find with the Conventi, but they are nothing of them as we are of some of our prisoners, besides and Captain A would be very happy to part with them if they liked to go. He does not intend to receive any more if they come, unless obliged.

I am glad to hear you are all pretty well, we have had delightful rains this winter! expect to see everything looking beautiful in the Spring, we are having the garden laid out, and planted and hope to get the water all over it, in the dry weather.
by means of a mill now standing at one corner of it in a mill, and which is to pump the water up with two pumps by wind, and then it is to be led over the garden by little drains. If it succeeds, it will be a great comfort and improve the fruit both in quality and quantity. Latterly has been making an experiment on the hill opposite to grow grapes. If it answers he will cultivate a vineyard. Do you see he is always busy, and I suppose it will be so to the end of the chapter. The most I take heed that we act not our events on these things, as they will set of themselves make us happy.
Elisha Horton
9 July 1842.

Mrs Lake
Mon dale

Sister Frances Brown
Osmond Gilles 1829, 1831-1833

To Mrs Leake: musical soiree with her brother William, met Arthur, Hamburg news: she has two charming nieces, Mrs Birch (May 1829); lengthy letters to Leake on Gilles' affairs in Hamburg and Altona, wool, butter. "Osmond" schooner's trade - made almost £300 on trip from Kiel to Thames - Milliken's land, Oakden, Birch family, Hector, Thomas Henry, Henry Reed, James Leake, Mary Leake married a Mr Marsh, E.J. Bell lost two fine boys (June 1829, Oct. Nov. 1831); Henry Reed, Hentys, cholera in Hamburg and Kiel, Leake's friends and relatives in Hamburg well, John Jackson, trade, trip to Brighton by Red Rover, transport in Britain, Isle of Wight will be "a cockney's Richmond and Windsor excursion", his sisters to live at Southampton, he will probably live in London and abandon Hamburg unless Leake encourages him "to become a Land Proprietor and Banker in your island". Oakden had dissolved partnership between O. Gilles of Hamburg and Edward Birch of Kiel - enclosed statement of accounts (1833). See also L.1/E.258 (6 docs mould damaged, partly illegible. Also fragment of letter B.1027)

John Hector 1851 - 1855

From Adelaide: investment possibilities in South Australia, mine shares and land, visits to V.D.L. by George Tinline, George Morphett, S.A. and E.A. Wright, opinion of Sir Henry P. Young - too honest to be popular, opened navigation of Murray against opposition - Robert Leake in Adelaide (1855), son Ned planting vineyard near Lake Alexandrina.

(5 docs.)

Francis Hartwell Henslowe 1851 - 1855

From Hobart: family and house; tariff evidence (1851); Hobart street improvements, epidemic (1853); Legislative Council: law reform bill, accommodation for Leake at Flegg's "Bowling Green", glad Miss L. to accompany him (Feb., Apr. 1854); Council meetings, members, Sir H. and Lady Young; family's health, Patriotic Fund at Campbell Town, view of Rosedale on Leake's letter head (12 Apr. 1855 on paper with view of Battery Point including St. George's Church and Windmill). Also letter from son Boyle describing High School, his mother's "chair on wheels" (Nov. 1851). Also poem by Leake on guessing the word in Henslowe's "riddle" ND - see Denison's reference to charades at Rosedale 1850 L.1/F.495. See also L.1/F.72, 324-8.

(12 docs.)

Benjamin Horne 1831, 1841-1852

From Chiswick: death of wife (3 Apr. 1841), neighbours, helping Mrs Graham's family; seeking office for nephew Capt. Robert Horne, distress of Mr Johnson, no bullocks (1842); visiting J.L. and Mrs L. with wife (1852). Also letter from Frances Horne returning letters left by Leake (N.D.). See also L.1/C.141, 271, 276-7, L.1/D.152-163, 231-5

(14 docs. some mould damaged and illegible)

Francis Sharpe Horne 1844 - 1847

Offerty for new cathedral, Robert Leake, sending some trees. Written from Hobart.

(3 docs.)

Thomas Horne 1850, 1851

Sending strawberry plants, asks L. to recommend his cousin Frank as manager to M. Talbot of Malahide.

(2 docs.)

Elizabeth Pridden Horton 12 July 1842

Wife of Capt. Horton: emigrants at Jericho, servants, good rains that winter, windmill water pump to irrigate their garden, possibility of a vineyard, addressed to Mrs Leake. See also L.1/E.482-4

Hugh Munro Hull [Jan. 1854]

To marry his cousin Miss Tremlett, Leake and Sarah L. invited.

John Jackson 1833, 1836

Hamburg and London: Oakden, investment, Oakden involved with new bank for India and director of new railways, Oakden's mortgage in Tasmania, thanks for looking after August [Augustus Oakden] and copy of trust account.

(2 docs.)