

[Illegible] 12th July

My dear Friend,

As "my better half" has just written to Mr Leake, I thought I could acknowledge the receipt of your kind [illegible] and consider two questions you ask therein.

Matters I have heard from Jericho and how we like the Emigrants it refers to the first I have not and as to the rumours though it has spread far and wide, I do not think there is any truth in it, I regret exceedingly they still retain so inconsiderable a notoriety in their "[illegible]"! as to the latter, I reply there is no particular fault to find with the Emigrants, but they are neither of them as useful as some of our prisoner servants and Capt. H – would be very happy to part with them if they liked to go. – He does not intend to receive any more if they come, [illegible] obliged.

I am glad to hear you are all [fairly] 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 erecting 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 this fruit both in Quality and Quantity. Capt. H – has been making an experiment in the Mill opposite to grow grapes, if it answers he will cultivate a Vineyard, so you see he is always busy, and I suppose it will be so to the end of the Chapter. He must take heed "that we not set our hearts on these things", as they will not of themselves, make us happy.

Elizabeth Horton

12 July 1842

Mrs Leake

Rosedale

Remember me very kindly to Miss Leake and believe me very sincerely Jones

Elizabeth Pridden Horton

<http://eprints.utas.edu.au/17933/> (From the Leake Family Papers L1/B434) Transcribed by Daniela Fantini, University of Tasmania, 7th August 2014.