

W9/12/7 (13) 10f2

Hobart: 14th May 1892
Sat. aftⁿ.

Dear Doo,

I have been leading a dislocated life this week, for the interpolation of Kangaroo Point every day at dinner gives a sort of impression as if one had been into the country.

The Mother went over on Tuesday. You can imagine what a work it was getting her started. Smith's cab was loaded with various baggage, as well as humans, viz. Mother, Liz & Ida. I met them at the Twins' Steamer. Of course the Mother stayed in the Cab all the time & was safely landed at Mrs Tom O'May's, leaving Smith just time to get back with his cab to the steamer for the last trip. The poor little Mother seemed very knocked up and had to lie down and rest, though as she had only had an ordinary cab drive, I think a good deal of her fatigue was the result of her idea that she had accomplished rather a big expedition. I stayed

to tea & got back by the 7 boat.

Since then I have been going over to dinner every day by the half past 12 steamer getting back to office before 2. The place is exactly the same as when you were over there with Mother, the same furniture & crockery, the same pictures on the walls. Miss You May as good natured & kindly as ever. The 'Point' is however improving & lots of new houses have sprung up. It is to have a Town Board & be declared a town. I have been over there very little indeed since the Mother was last over 3 years ago, and it is odd to find nearly the same people going over in the steamer just the same as then. I forgot to say that on Tuesday, viz I went over to Kate Walch's to call on Bernard. He is a little mite, & looks pale & not very robust, but seems to be thriving fairly. The stay at Kangaroo Point seems to be doing the Mother good, but she still suffers a great deal from pain of indigestion or flatulence which got very bad before she went over to the

Point. She goes up and down in an extraordinary way; looking wretched during one of her attacks of dull pain and then in a few minutes, when it goes off, quite cheerful & smiling. I hope the change will do her good, but it is difficult for her to digest anything. She has at last taken to wine, the doctor having ordered her 'Foutignac', which she sips quite with relish & which agrees with her.

Isa is now over at the Point & Sah has just started for the 4:30 boat. I went to the Bank today as usual. Willie & his wife have come back from Sydney. We are all going over to the Point tomorrow to dinner. I shall probably go over & stay the afternoon. My class has fallen off so much that I am seriously thinking of giving it up. The various attractions on Sundays, beads &c are too much for the boys as they grow up, & probably I am getting older & out of touch with the youngsters. I want Arthur Hatchorn to take the class. He has the 1st class & is

very much liked. He is one of the few fellows whom I know that improve with age, probably because he has such simplicity of character and honesty of intention. I know no one who has developed so much for the better.

Just before Sah left just now, there was a ring at the bell. Sah interviewed the ringier, & came in to tell me that M^{rs} Henry Reed had called. She had heard that Miss Mary Walker had was to return in June, & had called now so as to be the first to speak, as she wanted to secure an Art Teacher for her school. I hope this is a sign that the Paris Art Professor will not want the offer of pupils galore.

I am anxious about your sketches, as you say in the letter received today that you sent them to Bayley before you went to Paris. I will interview James Welch on Monday. Did you ever write to him? If not, it is a shame. Write a few lines

2 W9/L2/7 (13) 20f2
by first mail. It will please him
very much if it is only a scrap,
and he is too good to be slighted
even in appearance.

The days are drawing in - it is
now nearly five & already getting
dark - and winter is coming on,
& the trees getting bare. We have not
had much cold weather yet &
only one or two sprinklings of
snow on the mountain. There
have been some heavy storms in
the last few months. Two iron
ships have put in here at
different times. One had been
nearly wrecked & they had to
cut away the mainmast. The
other nearly foundered & was
much disabled. They put in
here to repair.

There are a good many
business people in great straits
just now. I had a man in
yesterday looking pale & haggard,
saying he had not been able to
sleep for a number of nights

from anxiety about his business
& the difficulty of meeting his
engagements in the depression.
In an hour or two another
man came in with much the
same story. I am thankful
to say that our business is doing
well in spite of bad times.
I think we have done quite as
well, if not better than before
the dissolution, and we
certainly have as much to do
as we can manage. Poor
Mrs Polphagen is ill again
& has had to be sent up to
New Norfolk again. It is very
sad for them all. The doctor
is to be married soon & Waldman
is looking out for a house. He
asked me about Melmerby,
but I told him I thought it
would be too big & too expensive
for them. If I could afford
what would be equivalent to a

real of £150 or more, I would
not mind going to Melbourne.

I have been asked to lecture
at Launceston, but declined.
The only lecture I have is the
'Early Hobart' one, & I don't
think that would be popular
in Launceston. I haven't time
to work up another on early
Tasmania which would do
for them.

I am disappointed in what
you say about the Collins picture.
Of course, you would want to
paint from life out of doors, but
it is the details of costume &
ships & rigging of the time that
you want to make sketches of
from pictures, so as to be able
to reproduce them when you
get back. It would be easy to
dress models appropriately if
you know what the dress of
the period was.

Adieu, beloved! Yrs devoted

Henry Clarke has been very
sedy & looks miserable. I am
glad to say that he has turned
better for some weeks now.
He is gradually getting better, but
I fear there is something very
far from right in his state of health.

There is great talk of an
Exhibition here in 1896. It is
proposed to put it either in the
Domain near the Battery, or
in the Barrack Square. Of
course if they decided on the
Barracks, they would have to
pull down a lot of the old
buildings. Some people propose
putting up a large central
building for a new Parliament
House & grouping the annexes
(temporary buildings) round it.

Mrs Montgomery is going a trip
to England. She talks of going Second
Class. The Bishop is going to Norfolk
Island to take Bishop Selwyn's place
for a few months in the South Sea
Mission work. Selwyn is in England ill.
Kindest regards to Mrs Man & the rest.