Paradise Row Stoke Newington 27th 8 month 1835

Esteemed Friend

Thomas Cotton jun.

I enclosed is the extract from a letter of my relation Francis Cotton, on the subject of the death of the cows in Australia. The symptoms described are exactly those exhibited by my own cows, many of whom died in the same way two or three years ago. My opinion decided 10 that they died of freidoa, from some nutritious plant among the grass, which grows in damp marshy places. I strongly suspect it to be a small fungus, in one instance a fine healthy cow was fed with grass cut from a low damp place she was taken in the course of a few hours with all the symptoms described in the enclosed paper. The mucous membranes of the stomach peeled off. I lost more than a hundred pounds worth of cows in this way, but none that were fed upon the toiling system. Upon Lucern Clover green. Rye & Co. I therefore send a copy of my Colonies at Home, which I hope they will send over also. Poor Hare. Macready & Martin Doyle. I wish they would cultivate some land upon my plan, and send me an account of the results. Means should be used in the cow house for saving all the urine - it is more excellent for fluid manure - will Indian corn ripen in Australia.

I whole wonder at the Pigs dying who were fed on the poisoned cow - a man who skinned one of my cows that died in this way had a wound on his thumb, and died in 3 or 4 days.

I remain this since I write, your friend,

William Allen.