Letter

Glover

Sarah Martin

(Daughter of Ann Martin, later wife of Geo. W. Walker)

to

Frances Benson

explaining failure of farming at Edwardsdale.

[Here to be copied]

4/8/77
To my dear Aunt
Frances Benson,

Captain Longton having kindly offered to be the bearer of a letter or parcel for you, I determined, if possible, to avail myself of so favourable an opportunity of forwarding a few lines to inform you of some of the changes we have undergone since the death of my beloved mother.

We have, indeed, passed through some severe trials since that event. I have never regretted her death, although I have keenly felt the loss sustained by it, being left as it were, friendless in a strange land, for female friends I may say I had none, I mean none to whom I could open my mind and expect to receive advice and direction.

It had always appeared to me that our own gravy Father mercifully removed her from the evil that was to fall upon our house. I say evil, but I mean it only in a temporal light, as I am persuaded that these trials have been blessings in disguise. Some of us needed to be aroused from the lethargic state into which we had fallen, but such was not her case. She was ever on her watch-tower; it mattered not to her what watch the Bridegroom came for she was always ready.

Many weeks had not elapsed after my mother's removal before my father's affairs were found to be in a distressed state. Money was wasted, goods absolutely insufficient either to sell the stock or to purchase
As the farmer, you let them possess the
farm and all belonging everything with
the stock and all other property and
a house and barn and all. And this amounted
to very little. After the first night, I got on
the saddle and they took me back. I was
after some time. They tried to be the only
placing it with me. My mother begged
my brother bought a young lad to guarantee
the debts of the firm. I was going to give
over, occasionally I would not have
my brother send me to see what business
was going on. He spent all of his money
in his business. In his will, I could not
find it. The partner who sold
the stock, died and his account having been kept
in a very disgraceful manner my father could
never get a settlement and do lost very consider-
able. The affairs remained in this unsettled
state until about two years ago when every thing
was settled with the exception of our debts was
sold by the Sheriff. Most of our furniture was
bought out for us by a friend who attended the sale
for the purpose. We were then obliged to leave
the farm and what to do we did not know
however, after some little time some friends
came forward and enabled my father to com-
mine business again, and he is now doing
very well. It will however be elementary
this before he left clear off all debts. The property
sold which was all he possessed not covering the debt
by
hundred pounds. Had the farm
been sold at a good time it would have
more than paid all, but it was sold when every
thing was very dear and land was fetching next
to nothing. I was indeed truly glad when every
thing was sold off for a little less than cost.
we had been unsettled
solving that the worst
not be much worse
than what we had long experi-
ced. Being unable to keep
to money men one after another.
I had been parted with until
one was all we had left, and
it was with difficulty that
we could keep ourselves and
have—earning after
earning have. But patching
of shirts and sewing one patch
over another in order to
make them wearable. Not
knowing how to provide
things and many a time
you may be sure I shall
ted over these old rags
yet, I never entirely dispaired
by persuading that the Lord
in more ways than one.
would deliver us in good time — but to have we been fed as it is by the taxes, that should not but trust him for the future — There may suppose that amidst all this that little line or indication for letters Writing — that nothing to communicate that we be pleading that she was of no like troubling my friends with a letter of trials as it was not in their power to remove. The house, I think notice of the last letter we receive from any of our relations in England was from your dear uncle my dearest. It was favored by J. Taylor He did not have been deliver
they are introduced
by the House and are the
all invited there after
And in order to keep accoun with the first officers of the
which those who in England
they would gladly depend
on and be intimate
with — William Gerard
is in my opinion and opinion
in that of most persons
the most Public unassuming
Minister of the First Class
in the colony — His wife
also who has been
heard about 6 years was
a very agreeable person between
and by a Thriving
Colony — LL Trevor to a
Fellow of a pleasant and
excellent public
under an excellent police
among filled with wise
are as quiet at night as those of any inland Town in England. Several
settlers have arrived during the last five years, and some of them are
rising into importance. Swan River, the oldest of these, has not
answered the sanguine expectations of those who emigrated to it. The
dirt is very sandy near the coast. There is no good
land, save the mere margins of the Swan, of the capital within 40 miles of the capital.
to be about two thousand.

Nisour River is between 2 &

4 miles from here. The

shrubbery is but a poor place. The

chief advantages are its splendid

harbours and alternate influx

perhaps to none. But there

is no available land within 50 or

30 miles of the settlement.

With the exception of perhaps 500

planted according to the inhabitants

themselves, in as many detached

spots, to which might constitute

one or two tolerable farms.

The reality is at a very low rate

at both these places. Woolen

and strong drink the chief of

the upper and lower classes in

most of our colonies were very

prevalent in these.

A settlement as lately been formed

at St. Vincent's Gulf, St. Vincent's

which promised to be a thriving

place of some importance.

The climate looks good, and the press

can upon
Whaplode was to be divided, of different from every other territory should have to in it may principally, at the time of its in, it to be proved, and if that must be some to be somewhat problematical to be.

By the act constituting the new a province by the B.C. on the fulfillment of certain preliminary conditions, it have been even pledged to the regard to the rights of the aborigines, rendered imperative, and if practicable the purchase of the lands from the people was unwise. From the want, however, of a body of some principal persons among themselves to represent their interests and with them to represent their interests in a permanent way and in a more full realization of their rights, it has been found impracticable to abolish to make a formal treaty with them. This is, however, a better feeling generally prevalent and a more full realization of the claim that have an European occupancy of the soil. Now there is any other Territory of Australia, and it is exhibited not only in a general feeling of good will, and desire to promote that amelioration of that people which more or less prevalent among the inhabitants of Adelaide, but also in the appointment by the Government of a Governor of the colony, with a salary of $2,500 a year, whose duty it is not only to act as mediator between the tribes when differences or misunderstandings arise, but also to
to write disinterested over the rights of the form
I in every respect to shield their family against
already the good effects of such an approach was
obvious, in the invincible confidence that the
mutually suppose between the parties, and the
amicable intercourse that had uniformly pre
vailed — I am indebted to two friends of our
who have been travelling in these islands

John 2 for

Hared - Lady Patience 10 6

William Mary Brock Henry James 8 8
James 4th Franklin Lady James Hodgson
James 4th Friend Friendship Oyster Bay
David Buck Friend Friendship George
St. Sclerton. Tabor 4 Tabor Kelbeddon

Sterton Kelbeddon Swan Post Post
Bankside Udalldale Lovely Burreddale
Dreaddale Father John Swan James therm
James Kelbeddon John Benten A M
John Brinton
Borton under Hamilton
at Yeovil
Somersetshire

Wont