Dunbroon - Limestone Plains

12th February 1845.

My dearest wife

I wrote to you from Goulburn on Saturday
since which time very little has happened worth
communicating. But being on the point of
going to Manero for a week, where there is
no post to be depended on, it may be better
not to lose the opportunity of sending this from
Queanbeyan to say that we have gone so far
quite safely. Monday morning on good time
we left Captain Rose's; stopped a short time,
in passing, at Mt Edenborough, and then
went on to a neat little Inn at Lake George
where I left it is proposed to
build a small wooden Church, which I feel

some consultation about: and we are to determine
on when I pass that way going back. Yesterday
we crossed over the Lake, not upon the water
but upon dry ground: for it is at that end
no longer a Lake except in name. At Yandarao
stopped again to enquire about putting up
a Church: and am to be there again for the
same purpose on my return. After that came
on to Mr Campbells, where we remain to day
to rest the horses before they begin rather a long
and hard journey. This day week we hope
to be back again. Every thing here is very quiet
and comfortable. I have a letter from Mr Campbell
in which he expresses himself anxious to attend
the consecration of the Church on the 12th of next
Month: and I very much hope he may be able
to
to come. My principal attendant is Jane Coleman
that was; now Mrs Skinner. Her mother, sister,
and Bell are living at Mr Charles Campbell's
a few miles off; and she and they all appear to be
doing very well. I am sorry to hear that Kingston
and his party mean to go to Van Diemen's Land. It
is not likely they will succeed there, as work is
not to be had. Only last week I saw in the news-
paper an account of more than a hundred of
the emigrants being fetched away to Geelong:
because they were in such distress. There are so
many convicts there, that it seems no one
else can get employment. You do not say
anything in particular about our dear Phebe,
from which I conclude and hope that she
continues well: and most earnestly pray for
her safety and for a blessing upon her here and
hereafter. You know Mrs Lindeman I
suppose

suppose: and hope you are pleased and satisfied with him. I am not aware what it is the custom here to pay on such occasions. But shall beg Mr James, if he can meet with an opportunity, to send you five sovereigns. Should you should give him at the time. This is the English custom. I lamented very sincerely to hear from Mrs Walsh the bitter affliction of Mr & Mrs Jones in the loss of their child: and it turned back my thoughts to 21 years since when it pleased God to visit us in the same manner. I have never thought of it since, nor even how, without its opening a wound in my heart that never can be healed. I have written to the Jones's to say how sincerely I feel for them; and also to that if change of air and scene would do them good, they should be heartily welcome to make use of our house. I am not writing yet to Mrs Boydell: and am almost afraid to. Please to tell Mrs Wellington before my letter gets there. I do send the Cayenne, Kind love to Dr & and accept the same from Your faithful & affectionate husband W. G. Courtenay