

Sydney. Christmas Day 1847.

My dear Father

I wrote to you last Tuesday
to inform you of my safe
arrival at home on the day
before: and here I still remain
alone but quite well. My
chief anxiety now is about
your coming back: as there
is much uncertainty and
difficulty as to the time at
which I could come to fetch
you. The conscription at
Hawarra is to be on the
13th

13th of January: and I shall
not be back until the 19th or
20th: and on the 25th I must
begin to lay the foundation
stone of Crispendale Church.
It would not be possible for
me therefore to leave Sydney
for Launceston before the 26th.
If you could bring Phoebe
and her husband and chil-
dren back with you, I am
almost of opinion that it
would be better for you all
to
than ever. He has brought a
full length sketch of the
Bishop, who appears to be
altered also: bald and
care-worn, and a dozen
years older in appearance.
Stewart our coachman has
left me. Last Sunday at
Campbell town he was
quite tipsy and unfit to
drive: so I thought it
better not to keep him any
longer: as there were other
things

things I did not quite like in
him. Heer is at present
officiating: and really drives
very well. George is going to
England as soon as he can
get a ship: so we shall want
a new set out. I have dined
once with the Piddelli and
once with the O'Connells,
and am to dine again with
the latter today. The late
awful catastrophe has much
affected them all. Captain
and Mrs O'Connell had
been staying at Paramatta
only the week before: and
they both appear to have felt
for Mr. Master as they would
for their own brother. I saw
the Governor last Tuesday:
and poor Mr. Fitz Roy. The
former is firm and collected
beyond what could have
been expected: but at times
his feelings quite get the
better of him. Mr. F. R. evi-
dently feels his loss most
bitterly. Mr. & Mrs. Carle
& C. seem pretty well: but they
and

and indeed all persons seem
much cast down. The event has
led I trust to a reconciliation
between the Governor and the
Judge. Mr. Thompson has
returned from Port Phillip
without having enjoyed the
holiday he had so long been
looking forward to. I saw
Mr. Raymond yesterday. He
is now able to sit up in a chair
and to be wheeled about the house.
He can hear & understand, but
cannot utter a word. All our
other friends are well. With
sincere love to all I am my dear
Sally, Your most affectionate husband
W. B. Australia

to come without waiting so
long for me: as charge of air
would be good for you all.
The hot weather not appearing
to suit any of you very well.
Only observe, I shall be absent
from the 7th of January to
the 19th: so do not contrive
to come during that time.
And be sure not to set out
when the weather looks
threatening and stormy as it
does at this time. Mr. Cotton
is

is arrived from New Zealand
on his way to England, and is
going to Hunter's River next
Tuesday night. He says he
must go on to see you and your
or Mr Beate would never
forgive him. You may then
you probably have a visit
from him: but I have told
him you cannot give him
a bed. I think he is very
much altered; and Mr
Sever says is more strange
than