Sydney. 7th January 1847.

My dear Sally

I received yesterday your letter of the 2d which upon the whole may be considered, I trust as giving a favorable report of you all; though your eyes and little William's mouth appear still to be out of order. We also have had very hot weather. Last Saturday, in particular, the day on which you wrote, was oppressively so: and Tuesday again, the day of Agnes Baldock's wedding, was almost as bad. It took place at eleven. Sir Maurice O'Connell & family, Mr. and Mrs H. Macarthur, and six of their children, myself and one of the young Kings formed the chief of the party at breakfast

just: and we made out altogether, rather a large party. I wrote to you since the receipt of your letter by Mr Crawley: and hope that the letter has reached you as I enclosed in it a Cheque in favour of W. B. for £12-10. Most likely you will have seen in the newspapers the advertisement I put in respecting the horse: and it was sent also to the Maitland Mercury. We have heard nothing about him here: and shall be glad to hear that you have. It is very vexatious, not only for the value of the animal, which is too much to lose: but also for the disappointment to dear Emily, which I do not know how to remedy. Moreover my apprehension is that there must be some dishonest people in the neighbourhood; for a stranger would hardly come to steal a horse we [illegible] knowing something about him. Yesterday we had our Diocesan Meeting. Mr Walsh preached: a very excellent Sermon indeed. I regret to say that there was a very small congregation: and the Meeting in the evening was also very thinly attended compared with other occasions.

If you have kept those letters of your brother from which I sent, pray let me have that one of them in which he speaks of the way in which the money sent out for Mr Davis was to be disposed of. According to the best of my recollection, I thought it was for Henry Davis: but Mr D. from whom I have heard to day says it is part of a legacy from Captain Rodger to his godson Sydney. You will see by the papers that the Barneys are all gone to North Australia.

Captain

Captain and Mrs Day and their six poor children are also gone. They must have much to encounter at a place where there is not so much as a shelter for their heads: the last I should suppose very intense, and the nature of the country and climate quite unknown. I wrote to Captain Day to say that if there were any service you could render to Mrs Day I hoped they would let you know when they had been there long enough to find out what they really stood in need of. The undertaking altogether is mad, Jane, for she is incapable of going through it will have a trial I think from George Macarthur, who is now at Port Stephens. He returns to Sydney on the 20th: and would take charge of you and Emily. If William B. have an opportunity to bring him down, of course you will want no one else: but if he be only coming on your account, he can spare himself the trouble if he wish it. With my best love to you and all Ian. Hayden, Sally Your very affect: Husband W. G: M