

(Copy)

"11 Nephin St Melbourne"
"Sept 4th 1856"

"My Dear Hannah"

I wrote a few days ago by the "Croesus" steamer round the Horn, telling of my arrival here of the sad news that awaited me in poor Harry's death. Since then we have heard the result of the inquest which as I had supposed it would be - a Mr Le Mesurier (who was a fellow passenger of Harry's in the "Marco Polo") has since come to town & I have conversed with him several times. He was a very intimate with Harry, & with Alfred Webb, saw him almost immediately after his death was discovered. He says that he was quite cold. They had not been together for the last time on the evening before when he was as well as usual & in very good spirits, remarkably pleasant. They parted late in the evening & the death occurred the following Tuesday night. There was no sign of pain or struggle. The appearance was as if he had passed away in a quiet sleep. The expression of the face was described as being beautiful, not like one dead, & continued for the two days that elapsed before interment. He has been buried at Port Fairy, where I hope to go in a few days. I have taken passage in a little vessel which was to have sailed to day, but whose sailing is put off & I do not expect to get there before next week. I am going to a Mr Howes there, who was very kind & attentive to Harry & who has invited me to his house. We were about ordering a tombstone here but on enquiring for the cheapest the very simplest stone with merely his name, place of residence & date of birth would be \$10 here - which I think being right after consulting with Mr Robinson & judge it better to procure a slab ready cut from some, as I shall not be finally leaving the neighborhood of Melbourne & branches of the various places & suburbs to find quarters here for 6 months or perhaps longer. I think that perhaps Lydia might like to have something more than mere name & date cut on the stone, & also that she might wish it to be somewhat more elaborate. The work at home is somewhat cheaper than here, but even with a high freight it will not be much expensive, & will be in my

way more satisfactory - Then may tell Lydia that I have
proposed this, that I authorize Thomas to have the stone cut
at my expense according to whatever pattern she may desire - It
should be very securely packed & dropped to care of Wm. Benson
Doubtless, as the I shall see it taken charge of, or Mr. Howes
or Le Mesurier. Both of whom live at Port Henry & who feel
very sincerely for poor Harry's memory, will see that everything
is properly done - + + + + +

I have made great friends here with Dr. Muller
the Gov't. Botanist, an excellent fellow & good observer. He
has placed all his St. George at my disposal & gives me much
information besides, of a local character, & also gives me
duplicate of his last plants collected among the mountains of
the interior, where I cannot afford to travel - He spends
4 or 5 months, every year on duty collecting in the interior
of the Colony, & I am to share in all his future duplicates.

I dined last Sunday with Robert Newell Thorne, who
have a very pretty place & beautiful garden (in which I picked
well flowered violets, & various perennials, & rare a plant to touch)
They live about two miles from town, by the bank of the Garra
which flows round $\frac{3}{4}$ of their land - The cost of the house
& land was £1350 full purchase money, & now they can readily
sell it for £1800 per annum - They turn over £2000 a year out
of the sale of fruit & the milk of 11 cows, for which they readily
get $\frac{1}{8}$ of a quart - They had 2 $\frac{1}{4}$ tons of Cherries last year, just
now the W. pines are very beautiful, & have been sent from
Belfast I am promised gooseberries, &c. &c. - M^{rs} F. is a very
pleasant outspoken hospitable woman, & has a bed for me,
I choose to occupy it, but the room backwards, & forward and
be too troublesome & expensive - Gabl. Wuthanks lives at
Feeling (keeper & lodging-house) & I may probably visit him
on my return - John Phelps is gone to Adelaide on route to
Europe - he dined with me at Dr. F.'s - + + + + +

Wistons, the first railway was opened here from the city to
the beach - The distance is about 2 miles, & the fare is $\frac{1}{6}$ -
The locomotive was made here, but the passengers & luggage
were sent from England - &c. "W. H. A."

"18" - "As my little vessel has again put off
sailing till Saturday next 23rd - I intend going tomorrow
to Feeling & returning on Friday afternoon - Gabl. Wuthanks
& R. F. Alexander keep a boarding-house there, & I mean to
put up ~~with~~ them for 3 nights - I shall then see whether
that neighborhood be worth my visiting on my return
from Belfast - Meantime I shall post this letter
on the mail day is uncertain - All well"

"W. H. A."



Harvey, William H. 1854. "Harvey, William Henry Sep. 14, 1854 [copy] [to Hannah Harvey Todhunter]." *William Henry Harvey letters* –.

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