

South Creek

Jan 30^{*} / 68.

my Dear Edwin,

I received yours last evening with the \$1 enclosed for which I am much obliged. I am afraid we are sadly putting you out of the way. We could have done very well for this week and I think for the most part of next or till Fred should arrive up but it growsome much to think he will bring you but little money with him. He left this place last Monday morning and he expects to get home about Tuesday or Wednesday next. He has the potatoes or nearly all of them. He intended to send a few other things but I was afraid of the weather and roads are very again. He said he had about 3 tons of sugar and must take up 14 or 15 cwt more of the weatherboard. So I thought it great risk to send anything more with him. I am glad I did not as ~~weekend~~ ^{have} had a great deal of rain since he left. I am afraid he will get on but very slowly. He was obliged to take out the sugar casks at Barney's and reload them. The casks got jammed so close as to push out the sides of the van, thereby

running the risk of breaking a great many of the casks. So all things considered I thought it almost impossible for us to go with him particularly as he had no money.

I am very sorry you should have so much trouble by means of Fred's careless doings. I hope & trust he will see the error of his ways before long. His conduct is very grievous to us let me tell him. You say Mrs Steward is going to Sydney next Monday & that you may drive her down. Take us up on your return but how can we manage about our things. Of course we could take little or nothing with us in the small carriage she will go down in and to leave them behind us will never do either as there are no locks and bars to the house to keep anything safe in. I am quite sure we should have a great many things stolen from us. I think we had better wait until you can make it convenient to come down with your light waggon - but this no doubt must be left till you have been a few days at Mrs Steward's.

This I suppose you will do before you finally remove to his premises. As you say you want to go to Sydney first. I have not found out yet where Mrs Whalley (?) is located. I shall enquire of Mr Yorke to-day when I post this.

I don't intend to pay her for the both (?)
times. We shall be here as I have been
putting in crops of turnips etc worth
and a good lot of pumpkins which
will to all appearance be worth more
than I shall owe her. The half year's rent
5£ will be all she will get from me
and we guess Guild's bill be about 1£
so I think about 6£ will clear us
from this place.

The barley we can sell as we
go through Penrith if you do not like to
take it up. I think from Fred's talking
he don't expect to be sent down with
the van next trip. He told us most likely
you would be down with the large
van yourself next time but we shall
know all particulars in your next letter.

Our love to you all.

your affectionate Father.

R Cochrane?)