

90 Emerson Rd

Harlow Md 20 96

1/6/85

Dear Phyll,

Thanks for the note & paper of things
I have had very bad trouble with my eyes
I saw specialist about 3 weeks ago. He gave me
different glasses, but I got worse, & Laura took me
back twice to O.P.S.M. D.V. for adj. adjustments but then
I could see 3 things instead of 1, as well as blurred
then my right eye lid drooped. Can't open right up,
so found my old glasses a bit better. I rang Dr. Brown
& the girl said come out yesterday for Dr. Powell to
see. He said "it would be best to wear the new
ones if writing or reading." The Bi focal is stronger,
but not to walk about with them as I could have
a fall, & use the old ones for general. Even with
these ^{ones} I have the right eye shut or I could not
write a note. I feel awful, with them playing up
He said "he can't do anything to help me that way as it
is a nerve"

As with one eye I'll try and answer your questions
Well the shock of Ned's death was ^{Grandfather's trouble} terrible
I think appendicitis, & they sent for Grandfather, who
galloped his horse to Quirindi or Wallabadah & back with
medicine, but getting off the exhausted horse he dropped
the medicine & smashed the bottle. Later Ned died
I reckon he would have died even if he got the
medicine, as his appendix must have burst.
Grandfather blamed himself for his death which
in turn affected his brain. He was mentally ill

(2) for many years I dont know the number of years
But as a child I know he was mentally ill. so I know
he died in the bush down the creek towards Dads
place & Police were called & later found him

He would not change his cloths or have a bath, any time
so they had to get Old Uncle Harry (his brother at
Gowrie to come in & bath him in old round tub
& put clean clothes on him.

He could have also had heart & gastritis but I dont remember
at the last. He ate very little & was out all day
in the bush. & come home to such as rice. His teeth
were decayed & he could not eat meat, (He said I know that child ME)

yes the Backgate ran a tin shop at Wallabadah
as a shop. which I can't remember but Russ Bell
found out, he managed the store for J. L. Debbutt - Co.
who had shops in Idia & Jamestown & Murrumbidgee but I
dont know any further details of Auntie Jennie

schooling but she may have been there for school days
yes I know Max's Grandfather, & Gran was Henry's Eliza
& his mother Emily Henry was B. C. I met her at Hillcharnas
place when she visited Eliza ^{Gran} while I was on holiday.

I know all the other things such as Grandma riding
to Gowrie to church, side saddle on old Brownie.

I was 9 years old when Alfred & Albert went to America
Maurice was glad to see me, who seems to be the only living
cousin who remembers his father. They are a lovely pair
& I enjoyed their company.

Max has a brother Douglas who went to Rex & John's
place while I was there. He made himself known
at Rex when he saw the name ^{at school} & called to see if
related. He is tall & nice but not so tall as Long Jack

His father, ^{about 1800} he has 2 sons. One resembles the mother (Douglas wife) who is about the ugliest woman I have ever met. But still very nice. The young boy is more like him.

The school teacher Jack Ward was terribly cruel to the children. He was married to my Grandma Cleora Madeline Newcombe's sister. -- Emblem

I read the piece over the phone to Res. a descendant an expert on chronometers.

I had a letter from Betty Aberdeen of New Brighton north coast. She is a descendant of Uncle Ned ^{daughter of Lucas & Allist} & wanted a photo of our Grandma & Grandfather which I had copied, & sent. She said she owns a Bible which our Grandma gave to her mother for a wedding present. So when I can see a bit better I'll copy out about the old school days within your list for her. Left eye aching so better close home you are all well. I feel about 99 & 11 months with the bad head & eyes.

So Good bye for now
Love. Glad.

Kira Jane is doing well.

more on pages on back of others (over)

2nd Sunday

Thought I would write a bit more to tell you

Eyes no better other one weakening

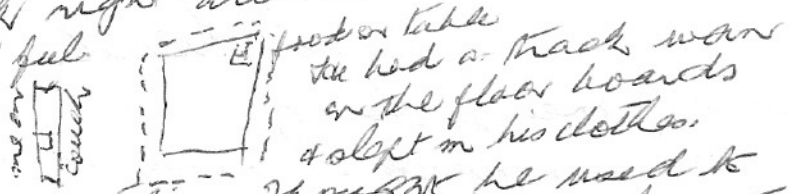
Awful if I go blind

Grandfather would not talk to anyone only Uncle Tony. But he hated my father. He had put cattle or sheep through the mountain gate & eating his grass so he used to watch that way. When I was tiny Dad used to ride over the mountain at night to see me. Had a creek ahead in his heavy boots (over)

Q They would get me & take me to the old kitchen to see him
 If anything annoyed ^{Grandfather} he would smash all the crockery
 out of cupboard, or off shelf. One after another, that one day I can
 remember they (Auntie Beat & Grandma) sent me in to talk
 to him while Uncle Tony brought sheep in the interview gets. I
 & touched him on the shoulder & pointed to the window
 & said "I believe that's him" & Oh Roy. I copped it Auntie Beat
 said "what did you show him for when we told you not to
 let him know" I said "Oh the poor old fellow would want
 to know things, now crockery went to pieces, that taught
 me not to tell him things.

He would not have a beer anyone. I can't remember
 if he was dead or nearly dead when he was found.
 He said very little to Grandma or anyone. She ruled the
 place & her men obeyed her till she died.
 She had Charles Barnett working for her & he would not
 take an order from any of the mules. Only always went to
 her.

I don't remember Grandfather taking any lunch down the
 creek. but he may have had porridge before he went
 I don't recall that part. They had a lot to put up with,
 with him. He would have soup with lots of vegetables in
 they would put on a tray or end of table - after each
 spoon full would wash right around the table
 & then get another spoonful



Some members of the late families. Thought he used to
 drink, but that was not so, no drink was ever at lower left.
 They never shunned Uncle Joe, who used to sell liquor at the
 half way house out from Singleton at Chain of Ponds.
 Like they shunned Long John Whittons wife Emily because
 she was R.C. They would not deal from a shop
 owned by an R.C. So the friends were all protestants
 unless a few Kelly shearers. In days of blade & I was
 tar girl to the whole 3 shearers. The old Uncle of Charlie
 took the wool away with light teams. They were Rattler & Red Barnett
 each of page 2

5/ He is buried beside Grandma at Wallakadah

my step brother Jules aged 6 1/2	Grandma Spencer
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I don't think I have to answer any more questions
unless you ask me any.

Love

Good