

Re f	Date	Author	Address
1	14 December 1861	Thomas Osborne Snr	Albury
16	18 May 1863	Thomas Osborne Snr	Forbes
2	20 February 1864	Thomas Hosken	Woods Point, Upper Goulbourne, Victoria,
3	19 June 1864	Thomas Osborne Snr	Albury
4	26 October 1864	William & Thomas Osborne	Barbica, Plymouth
5	30 November 1864	William & Thomas Osborne	On board the Steam Ship London
6	18 January 1865	William Osborne	Connwarre Gulong
7	7 February 1865	William Osborne	
8	1 March 1865	William Osborn	Connewarre
10	16 April 1865	Thomas Osborne	Albury
11	24 May 1865	T Jackson	Connewarra
12	14 August 1865	Thomas Osborne	Albury
17	16 August 1866	William Osborne	Albury
20	16 December 1866	William Osborne	Black Range Diggings, Albury
13	16 January 1866	William Osborne	Black Range Diggings, Albury
14	23 March 1866	Thomas Osborne	Connewarra
9	24 March 1866	William Osborne	Soldiers Hill, Ballarat
15	12 May 1866	William & Ann Osborne	Ballarat
18	24 October 1866	Thomas Osborne	Soldiers Hill, Ballarat
19	19 November 1866	Joseph Hosken	Renfrew Gold Diggings, Hants County Nova Scotia
21	20 January 1867	Thomas Osborne	Ballarat

Letter 1

Thomas Osborne Snr

Albury December 14th 1861

dear Father and Mother, children and friends

I again take my pen to

remind you of the still
existing feeling of friendship
entertained in our bosom and
and to let you know you are not
forgotten by us although we
have not received any letter
except them sent
by Uncle Tommy in Sept last
where it stated you have sent
several which never came to our
hand I cant fathom the reason
I must confess I cannot take my
pen to address you but it is attended
with a severe mixture of sorrow
and pleasure in consequence in having
to admit one representing the name of one
which was more to me than all the
the world my dear departed wife. I am

a lost man in the world I enjoy
no happenings nor comfort since my
dear wife is gone I have no one to comfort
or consol me my children is very good
and getting very useful Uncle James
is very kind but alas I have lost
any bosom companion all the world
can give me no pleasure I fear I shall
I shall never shake of this despondency my
heart and my spirits seem to fail
me Thank God my health is still
good and am able to go through with
my work but I am nothing so stout as
I was, I fret very much although I
know I must yield to the designs of an
almighty providence knowing these
afflictions which for but a season
will work out for us a far more exceed-
ding and eternal weight of glory I find
it is a hard task having to attend to the
household affairs a thing I used never to have
occasion to think about.
Thank God we are all in good health
as we trust you are all enjoying the
same Hoping the english mail arriv-
ed in melborne yesterday I should
have deffered writing till I see if there

was a letter from you but fearing

it would not be up in time
and should be too late as I was the
last two mails would not risk it
Dear Grandfather and Mother the course
of nature by this time must be greatly
enfeebled you I would sacrifice all
this world could bestow on me if I
could once more come to your embrac-
es hundreds of hours in my solitary walks
and when in my waking in the bed while
all around me has been enjoying there
peaceful slumbers my thoughts have
been led back those blissful hours
of bygone days when we enjoyed each
each others company in kindness and harmony
I have pictured ourselves in the fields in
the orchards in the groves in the house and
in the chapple and allmost think this
service a reality with all the unmista-
kanable kindness you have exercised
toward me for all the benifits
bestowed may the Lord bless you seven-
fold

My dear children I can daily se you in
the person of your dear brothers with me
they are all very much alike when I see
them asleep in bed Till looking at the rise
I don't know them one from the other
your dear little sister is growing tall but
she is very thin I have taken her home

from Mr Hughes school they where
much too dear I paid them one
pound per week for 45 weeks I found
I could not afford the money it have
cost me a great deal of money this last
two years and money is getting very
scarce here produce is selling very low
wheat 4/6 per bushel other things in propo-
rtion we can always live well but
money is very hard to get we shall
have to do away with all my hired men
and do what we can ourselves it
wont do to pay so much wages

we should have sent home some
money but having been under such
heavy expences lately we cannot make
it convenient
If possible we will send money next
mail for William and Thomas to come
I hope poor John Charles and his better
half are getting on comfortable & happy
the last letter announced me a Grandfather
God bless the dear bay and its parents
I wish I could help them
Dear Aunt Betsy I hope she and her husband
are well poor soul I know
she sympathetic with me I thank her for
her advice in recommending Jane Eddy as
a wife I have no doubt she is a good woman

Letter 2

Thomas Hosken
Woods Point
February 20th 1864
Dear Brother and friends
I now
avail myself of the present
xxxx xxxx writing you a
few lines, hoping that they will
reach you, and all the members
of your family in good health, as
it leaves each of my brothers
at present. Dear Friends I am
glad to tell you that we had
a very comfortable passage
being 71 days, Dear friends I am
now at Wools Point, with the rest
of my Brothers for
£sd 3.10.0 per week

page 2

Dear Brother I might
just state that in coming to
Wood Point, from Melbourne
I had two days ride there &
two days walk and in riding in the
coach, it was caution,
Especially when going along the
sidelands of some of the Hills

and after leaving the coach, I had walk 40 miles to Woods Point, which distance took me two days, this part of the country is very mountainous I might say that one of the hills which I walked over was 6 miles up & 5 miles down & sometimes as steep as the roof of any house

page3

Dear Friends, I have made inquiries about your friends which are out here, But I have had no information concerning them. I have not much news to write by reason of not being in the country long, when you write, send all the particulars concerning farming affairs. Please to let me know how Mr Penrose is, and moreover, I hope you will not fail in leaving me know who you have got for a colleague and all particulars, how things stand affected.

page4

Dear Brother, Please to Remember me to all the Teachers, the manager of the school, and also to all inquiring friends. Therefore I shall now conclude (leaving) give my kind love to Mr & Mrs Chapple, Wm Edward & Thos Osborne of Tregarthan? and also to Mr & Mrs Penrose, and to your Brother Wm Osborne. Whilst I would be remembered to these, I hope you will receive the same from your ever loving and affectionate brother Brother asking I hope you & all those mention will receive the

xxx from my
brother T Hosken

Address
Woods Point
Upper Goulbourne
Victoria
Australia

Letter 3

Albury June 19th /64

John Charles

My dear son

After a long silence with us
both I suppose I must be
the first to break it

My dear son you are the first
born of many brethren my bowels
of compassion still yearn over you
although near fifteen years has elapsed
since your presence hear & my heart
still my affection is still toward
you I trust you and your dear wife are
living happy and comfortable and my
dear little Grand child is improving
I very much thought about it seeing
your poor brother wrote me of the death
of your poor Grandfather and you never
sent me a single word about it I think
it was very heartless and cool on your part
I have had a great deal of troubles and
trials these past few years losses & crosses

Page 2

The property we have In Albury
we had to mortgage in consequences
of losses in trade and your dear
mothers protracted sickness & death
the season of adversity seemed to set
against me threatening my ruin
We were near having our Property
sold but thanks be to Providence
it was not we let the whole of the
Premises the rent at this time all
though times is very low is £2-15s-6d

per week we being on the diggings
let that stand till it redeem its
self I am now down arranging
with the agent and shall all well
return to Forbes on the Lachlan in
about a week all my family is at
present at forbes except George which
is with me I must tell you I have
had enough to do every thing devolving
on my own management it is true
your uncle is with me but he is a most
dissagreeable man I cant leave any
buiseness in his hands

Page3

he will work if I get it prepared
for him but he will never get any
himself and I am sorry to say is very much
given to drink Still he is a help to me
your little sister is growing very well
but rather thin she grows after your
mother the same temper. We are
doing pretty well on the Lachlan that
is making a good living money in
this country some times is very easy
got but it will take a tight hand
to keep it

In Thomas'es last letter he stated that
Himself and William had made arraing
ments to come out here and according
to his statement about the time they
expected to sail Per Ship Express of
the seas they should have been out about
this time I have been looking at the
Melbourne Papers at the arrivals from
England almost every day since I have
been here I have not seen the arrival
of that Ship I was hoping they would
come while I was here so I should be
250 miles nearer than when on the Lachlan

Page 4

I hope I shall be in a position to send
my dear little Granddaughter a present
I trust you do not think am heartless
because I have not remitted you assistance

I have started the forgiving to exonerate
my self in a measure. Send me by the
next mail how things are settled
amongst you and how you are getting
on and how all my old acquaintances
are who are dead and who are living
the crops of wheat here is almost
a total failure all along till the head
had shoot it promised an abundant
crop till when about half filled the
rust was discovered in some farms
they had to burn it clean of the ground it
not worth reaping nor fit for hay
this has caused a great dullness in this
part of the country seed wheat is now that
is real good is £1-5-0 per bushel that is
the 8 gallons I must conclude this epistel
to you my son & Daughter You my dear I should
like to see if please God wishing you happiness
and remain Yours affectionate Father Thomas Osborn

Letter 4

Thomas and William Osborne
Barbica, Plymouth
Oct 26th 1864
Dear Brother and Sister

Dear Brother and Sister
Perhaps about this time
your are very desirous to know
how we are getting on
Thank God we are safely
arrived at Plymouth
We reached about half
past ten o clock and so put our luggage to a
place of safety and
then we took a ferry
of Plymouth I should
like for you to have to

Page 2
have seen it it is a
fine place I can assure you
the best I ever saw
I am rather in a haste
and I must be brief in

my sketch The ship (Lond cross out)
arrived at Plymouth yesterday
Morning with somewhere
About two hundred passengers
on board She is a splendid
Ship We have seen her a distance
Off she is not a small distance of the pier and to
Day we and all other passengers
that is going to embark

Page3

At Plymouth is to be examined by the Dockter
at three o clock at xxx
We and Uncle is thinking
about going out in a boat
to see her and choose our
Berth and Uncle to see
the ship and then he
will be able to tell the
particulars
Dear Brother we felt a
not a little thing to leave
You although I hope we
shall see each other again
in a year or two
if God spares our
lives

Page 4

May God Guide and
Direct our path while
in the pathless deep
Dear Brother I trust
God will help you in
your casket and your xxx
and give you both a meet?
for an inheritance
that is incorruptible
Indefinite and Sabbath
not always so we must conclude
with remembering me to
James Hosken, John & Joseph
Hosken, Richards and Richrd
F Clemens, Soloman & Samuel xxxx
and all who inquires after us
And except the same yourselves

From your ever loving and affectionate
Brothers Thomas and William Osborn

Written crossways
Please to excuse all my
Mistakes for I am in a great
haste and a strange place

Letter 5

William Osborne

On Board the Steam Ship London Bound for Melborne
c. 7th Dec 1864

Dear Brother and Sister

Dear Brother & Sister

It is with feelings of gratitude
God that I now address you
desirous that they should come
under your notice and at the same
time finding you in the perfect health
and comfortable in the state in
which God hath placed you.

Dearest Brother I must be brief
in my address feeling very thankful
in almighty God for preserving
us until the present now and giving
us a privilege of sending a few
lines to you just to let you know
a little of the proceedings to Melborn
how we went into the Cape
I cant tell you

Page2

wether it is for provision I cant tell
howe but the Captain knows
I believe that most of the passengers
would rather go of my part I
would rather go just to see the
place how long we shall tarry
there we dont know they say that we
shall stop a day or two and perhaps
not more than four hours. Dear Brother
we found Uncle John very useful
with us at Plymouth we sailed the
Wednesday night about twelve o'clock
there was a young man that very night

who was going out with us in the Steerage but accidently he was picked up the detective came on Board some ware about eight or nine o'clock he had committed a robbery robed some Gentleman of eighty or ninety pounds

Page 3

from was not aware that they man surrounded by thefts we cannot tell who we are surrounded with so it was well that he was taken up for he had paid his passage to go Melborn but going into Plymouth he was taken. We have had a very Comfortable passage so far we have not had very much rough weather we have overtaken several Ships from being out 2 days 6 days we overtook the True Briton left a week or more before us it seems very pleasant to see a ship to we who have nothing but the blue Ocean besides and it is a great Consolation that we goes ahead of all. Dear Brother I can say that we get on very well we have nothing to do it's a very lasy life we can lye in bed as long as we like one gets on very well with the provision

Page4

Now Dear Friends this morning after six weeks at sea we feel very much amused and our heart seem to be gladdened when we caught sight of Africa with its towering Mountains which is a grand I cant stay to give you much about Africa I have not seen much of Africa we saw the Table Mountains which are 4300 feet high So I must Conclude

by giving my (our) kind love
to all who enquire after us
and except the same
yourself from your ever affectionate
Brothers William Osborn

You must excuse Mistakes
As the time is short

Letter 6

William Osborne
Connewarre Gulong
Jan 18th 1865
Dear Brother Sister and family

January 18th /65
Connewarre Gulong

Dear Brother& Sister & Family
I am Gld to Communicate
to you& to let you know that we
are arrived safe after 64 Days we
landed in Melburne all well. I hope
this will reach you the same. We had a
very fine voyage I liked it very much
We got on very well with ship provisions
We found the provisions that We brought
with us very acceptable We where
three Cornish Chaps that to (my) gather the
Young Man was from the East of Cornwall
and We got on very well. We have all

Page 2

Sorts of plays carried on with the
Passengers these we had music &
dancing & concerts must every night
with the sailors & passengers such life
I never saw before when We crossed
the line We had shaving with the
sailors but they was not allowed to
touch the passengers there was a great
many of the crew that never cross
the line before they was to pay the
(??ing) or to be shaved such a sight
I never saw before there was one
of the passengers walking on the side

of the water one give him a press&
a nother give him a press& he went right
into the water& that was the most fun of this
all We beat every ship that we fell
in contest with Oct 29th I passed the
Watch of the (fees) 29 days out Bound for

Page 3

Mortans Bay Nov 12th passed the Prince
of Wales bound for the Cape of Good Hope
Nov 13th passed the Malahae
Bound from Liverpool to St Johns
New Brunswick, Nov 19th first copy
of the London Weekly News Issued
Nov 22 passed the Daffney from
London to Bombay 57 Days out
Nov 28th passed the Ship Ladtanwert
from Bermen to Bangour 53 days out
The London and her Boats crew
My Dear Brother Nov 21st a great
Calamity happened one of our sailors
was engaged in work on the
Jibboom a sea come and washed him
over board their was a cry Man over
Board Mr Harris the sailing Master
at once called volunteers that Mr
Harris and five of the men jumbled

Page 4

into a quarter boat which was
lowered I will send you two newspapers
to tell you the account of it all
Dear it was a fearfull Day to us all
it set a damb on all the rest of our
voyage. When We landed at Melborne
We whent to Mr Peter Ellis & they
received us very Kindly We stayed
with them two Days Mr Ellis took us
to see Mr John Eddy they kindly
invited us to stay with them a day
or two They give us Adress to find
the late Mrs Mathew Eddy the next
day We took the train & Went to Gulong
& there we found Mrs Mathew Eddy
We found Her & Her family quite well
But they did not know me But I

Knew them quite well But Mrs Eddy
is looking rather thin Mary Jane is
fine looking Woman. But William

The following text is written vertically from bottom to top on the
righthand side of the above page.

is almost a man He is learning to be a (Draber)

Letter 7

William Osborne
ca. 7th Feb 1865
No address

Page 1

They have three other children
They Kindly asked for you &
Grandmother & all at home We
stayed there over night Mary Jane
is a Dress Maker The next day We
parted to find out Uncle & Aunt
Mrs Eddy sent a man with us he where
Living about 7 miles from Gulong
We found him & they four Children
all quite (?????) I knew Uncle but
did not know Aunt Because She
is gone so Big & fat she did not (???)
And to our Surprise Our Aunt Jacka
was living near them About five minutes
walk to Uncle Thomas just us over to
see them that Evening & when we went into
the Garden we saw Mr Giles Shaw
playing & then We interduced to
Uncle & Aunt & Cousins & then We was

Page2

all right we stayed there until
they middle of the night there was
two Daughters to Mr Dinis there We
oh was Cousin Sarah birth Days
They have six Children three boys
& three Girls & these are all quite well
Aunt give her Kind love to you
& to all at home. Uncle have 250
acres of land He have a very nice

place. They have all sorts of fruits
We have had they plasuere of helping
to pick some fruites Uncle Jacka
took us over to see Uncle William
Henry Osborn About 7 Miles
From this place He have a bad
leg Aunt is very well & they
have two Children a boy & a girl

Page 3

They have about 80 Acres of land
He is milking 10 Cows But he
whish he never had it there is no
use for a man go on with 80 acres
hear if a man going on farming hear
he ought have a 1000 acres of land
Uncle Thomas haven till no corn this
year on the account of the rust
He have 10 cows & two pigs & one horse
We are waiting for a letter Father
If we don't get a letter from him
shortly I think we shall goe to
Ballarat that seem to be a great
place for Busness Gulong is
looking very dull at present the
Farmers have had three very
Bad seasons they tell us there
Crops put in on the account of the
Rust this year Dairying seems to be

Page 4

very bad at present Brother seems
to be worth very little this time
I used to be worth 2:9 per hr and
now is only 1:7 hr so that is
a considerable difference I think
Uncle Penrose will be coming
home & thakhly He have is sold his
place and got a Deposit on it
so if the parties attend to there
agreement I think he will be
Leaving I think he is tired with
country times is alb??? there is
no Sale for any thing at present
We have seen Uncle John Osborn
and his wife they quite well

He have two Children a Boy & girl
He is carreing on his business.

Page1 across

Dear Brother I have often thought about you &
your family how are you getting on with the work. Dear
Sister I have often thought of that Morning When I bid
good will you all When I bid good by with you
that Morning I felt it hard I have Dear Brother
We have been in this Country Three Weeks I like the
Country very well it is very warme here Dear Brother
I should not advice a man & his family to come hear
it may do for a stedy young Man Dear Brother times
is not so good as they were it is good (mining) wood go home

Page 4 across

If they could it is worth while to come out
hear to see the Country I have been to John Nickoles
Brother to Richard Nickoles of B???? he family is quite
well Dear Brother I must conclude you must look
over my mistakes Give my kind love Uncle William & family &
Grandmother & to Uncle Chappel & Aunt & William Edward
William Penrose & to Mr Glasson & family & to Uncle Grinfell &
family
& to Thomas Penrose & family & to John Madern & to Thomas
Richards & to all enquireing friends that is numers to
Mentioned & to our Sunday school I remaine yourselves
Dear Brother & Sister from your affectionate Brother
William Osborne good by

Letter 8

William Osborne
Connewarre
1st March 1865
Dear Brother and Sister

I thought has
I had a nice
opportunity I would
write you a few lines
for Uncle Thomas to take home
with them We are about to leave
for Albury We have been here seven
Weeks with our Uncles and Aunts
Cousin Sarah worked a little

Page 2

Needlework for Her & Cousin Mary Jane have worked
a bookmark for her Dear Brother the would be very glad
to see You are to have Your Lickness I & Cousin Linah
& Cousin Mary Jane was out for a ride on horse Back.
We have been out a great many times We & Uncle & Aunts
& Cousins were out on a picknick they other day on the
sea shore & We enjoyed our selves first rate I have
been to Uncle William H & Aunt Osborne I spent

Page 3

a Week with them The are
quite well We have had two
letters from Father & the are
all well We are about to leave
for Albury to morrow Dear Brother
times is not so lively a the where
Uncle had a sale upon His Cattle
He had 9 cows the brought Him
£35 there is a great readuce
On Cattle in this Country Farming
Is very dull at present I would
not advice no one come out hear
if the can live at home Uncle
Penrose is some tired of this
Country there is better times

Page 4

up the County Father is a
great distance from this place
it is about 200 Miles from
Melborn it will take us about
7 days to go up there Dear Brother
write us how you are getting on
with the work and how have
past the Winter I must bit you
good adue with remembering me to
inquiring Friends
I remain yours truly
Brother William
Osborne Good Buy
Dear Brother
You must excuse my bad writing
Scribble

(Letter 9 out of sequence)

Letter 10

Thomas Osborne
Albury
April 16th 1865

I feel happy to take
my pen to address you I have with
you shared letters (*but*) *some left from*
of xxx first *readings* I feel happy
to inform you of our residing in our
Fathers house there some little
joy realized on both sides on our
first meeting. Father looks more
about the age of Uncle John Chapple
he is not as tall as either of us
The four Brothers are not very big
the youngest being about seven old
but they a very whitty lads
Little sister being very short the size
of Ellen Laura tall and thin
but they lost a great deal

page 2

in losing dear Mother they have
all felt severely from her loss but I know they
xxxx xxxx to her eternal gain.
Father has a puddling machine in the
diggings which cost him 100
and we all belong working of it
at present Father carry on the
Smithy in Albury
Father has also several houses
and on Good Friday we took a ride
up the river & fishing but never caught
any the buildings that Father has in
Albury are three shops but there is
some money on them the time currently
are rather dull at present and
by that reason property is not worth
so much Father has had severe
hinderences and especially the loss
of Dear Mother and since then has
been so bad on every side
but now Father has suited living
with another wife which is but necessary
she I believe is a clever
respectable woman

page 3

she has been married previous to Father
but her family is all grown to good men
Uncle James I believe is xxxxx xxx

still his face is covered with hair
I ask him why he dont send a letter
home xxxx and then he say Father
send enough for himself & him to
xxx is xxx xxxxx you queer old boy
but he is very kind to us
I suppose before this reaches you
that you will have the pleasure of seeing
Uncle Thomas for he left Melbourne
I believe on the 21st March
I hope poor fellow will have
prosperous voyage and reach his
native land in safety
And he will tell you of many thing
of which I have xxx xx to mention
I was very glad to see him and
was also sorry to bid him goodbye
at Gulong wharf.

page 4

He was also treated very kind
with all our relatives during our
visits to them
Dear Brother since I have been here
I have said a fairwell Dear Mothers grave
and as there is no headstone on it as yet
but I hope the time won't be long before
it will be there While looking at Dear
Mothers grave realised a feeling that
I cannot describe this loss but her
eternal gain may you Dear Brother
may I may us xxxxxx to meet
her in heaven. Amen
I trust Dear Brother xxxxx
will find you in good health as it
leaves us at present
So in Conclusion remember
me to Mrs xxx Glasson George John
Ester Rebecca Penrose Uncle William &
Wilmot? Penrose And all my Sunday School
Teachers to xxxxx Hosken, H Clemen
Richard T Richard and all who
enquire after me so I remain
Dear Brother and Sister your true brother
Thos Osborne

Crossways p4

Dear B remember me to Mr & Mrs Maddern
and Johnny
write to me as soon as possible and
and all the new you can think of
Good Bye

Letter 11 v2

Aunt T Jacka writing to John Charles Ellis Osborne (brother to Thomas and William)

Connewarra

May 24th 1865

My dear nephew

I now take

the advantage of writing to you according to Promises for which I made to your brother when they were here they used often talk of you and the little knowledge they had of their friends in Australia of course they were very young when I left. I often fancy you and think if I am to know you but I suppose I should be so much at a loss as knowing you has I was in knowing

then. 16 years in a boy growing from boyhood to manhood makes a great deal of difference I had first the slightest recall of likeness of Thomas and William I believe they were rather surprised when they knew they were so near their Aunt they did not expect to talk in with any one belonging to them but their Uncle Penrose but very dear John Charles I can assure you that I was very glad to see them and and was very sorry when they left and all miss their company very much which I think my family and them enjoyed each others company while they were here my family

were all very glad to see their cousins, of which I know Thomas told you of all particulars in his letter. Dear Nephew

I suppose you were rather surprised when you heard of your father's marriage which I no doubt but what he's found it was time has you know As is bad drinking to excess especially in this country. I had a letter a fortnight ago from your father and other from Thomas they said they were all well and getting on comfortably of which I was very happy to hear. but I have no doubt but what you have had letters from them to tell you of all particularly before you will have received this. I have

not much news to tell you with the exception of the escaped bushrangers we will send you local newspapers where you will read for yourself of the capture and death of four of there class you will hear more about it from your father or brother has they all seemed to be from New South Wales. I dare say before you will have received this, you will have seen your Uncle Thomas Penrose and family if they have had good effect on their voyage they went on board the 21st March, we missed them very much has they were our only neighbours please to give our friend our love to them when you see them Suffice this will find you and your dear wife and children in good health and prosperity. I should very much like you and your dear wifes likeness and children if you will be kind enough to send them I will then send you ours in return if you will accept of defect?. We are all quite

well and joins me in kind wishes given to you and
your families affectionate Aunt T Jacka

Side writings

P.S. Please give my kind love to your Grandmother and
Aunt Chapple and all inquiring friends. Good Bye
T Jacka

Letter n12

Thomas Osborne
Albury
August 14 65

Dearly Beloved Brother and Sister
With great pleasure to myself &
deep gratefulness to Almighty
God I avail myself of the present
opportunity of addressing you
and before further proceed-
ded forgive any mistakes
and imperfections that you may
see in your humble Brother
time I discover is rolling away
and bearly twelve months has past
since we bid farewell to our native
land and the friends that we love
dear I cannot forget that period
this separation i hope we shale
Xxxxx meet if not on earth
trust it will be our happy God
to meet in Heaven when forever &
adieu are never heard
I have written you all about our
passage xxx xxxx of our xxxxxx
our rest? Xxx relative
Xxxx we enjoyed ourselves xx

page2

Dear Thomas Penrose who I have no
doubt have landed in England they
can tell you somewhat about our
friends that time here would fail to describe
to go into the more xxxxxxxxxx they
behaved to us very kindly and they
be obliged if you could present them with
a letter I write you all about the
Xxxx particular after trip to Albury
and also of our meeting with Father and Brothers
& Sister you must have fancied that
there had curious feelings exist

we are all very glad to have the privilege
of meeting I need not tell you if that
transpired in our meeting I have before
Related in my previous letters
Some few weeks before we were
Albury Father got married
Very nice sabbath? woman xxx
bee married hence xxxxxx Father
She has two daughters unmarried
And one son who is a saddler by
Profession a steady xx girl does
Xxxx a this country xxxxxx xxx
Xxxxxx averages xx but
Xxx xx

page3

Father at present is not but
in low circumstance I think that
in losing dear Mother took him
in a great measure and the whole
family it would had been far better
had he been married years before
The little that I can understand
They have very good day & both Uncle
and him the houses that they have
at in Albury at one time used to
bring in a little money but at present
It is rather xxxxxx there are less
Of them let at present from xxxxx
to ten shillings a week
Uncle James I believe like his
drink to well he will never do
anything for himself they all
like their drink to well to plan
My fancy at present the times
the times are looking rather dull but they
seem to be better days approaching
the diggings is rather a poor diggings
but there is a quartz reef
that is employing a good few men

page 4

Dear Brother and Sister perhaps you
would like me to tell you something about Father & Brother
Father is not as tall as either of us
he look about the age of Uncle John Charles
George as such? goes by the name xxxxxx
and about the size of William Penrose
but not as stout Cyrus and Ephrain
and James come xxxxx xxxx of
their is but xxxx all to xxxxx little
sister is growing very tall of her age
Uncle James Matthews is just the same

fellow as when at home his face
covered in hair and a xxx xxx
xxx xx xx xx xx I hope by
xxx xxx be axxxx letter be xx xx xx
you xx xxx particulars we have not had
any steady work as yet no more then
working with Father I belong at xxxx
a few men about to work a little
I have seen a letter from the xxxx
& Ballarat and they were both well and
xxx xxx getting on very well
Remember me to Mrs Hocking and Jane?
to Mr & Mrs Glasson & family
Thomas Penrose xx xx William Thomas Jury?
& family and Mrs xxxxx & Charles Street? &
all the Sunday School Teachers and to all
enquiring friends which are to numerous to
mention So I have to conclude Dear Brother
& Sister by remaining your ever loving
brother x Thomas & William Osborne
Our best wishes Good Bye God Bless you

Crossways page 4

T & I was very glad hear that Grandmother
has become so social I have been expecting a letter
but I have not received any send me when you
all particulars how things is going on
I was very sorry to hear that you have been so
unfortunate to loose Curnal horse
when you write
address
Thomas Osborne
Care of Nicholas Daniel
Albury
New South Wales
Australia
Good bye God bless you
Amen

Letter n17 (Now in sequence)

Thomas and William Osborne
Albury
August 16th 1865
Dear Brother and Sister

page 1

Dear Brother and Sister
With deep feelings of gratitude
to God and respect to you that
I again through an even waking
providence, avail myself of the
opportunity of addressing you before
I proceed any further.

Dear Brother although some months has elapsed since we have seen each other since then many a strange thing have I seen, that before I was unacquainted with We belong with Father at the puddling machine the diggins is looking rather dull at the present time, some is doing very well, and others doing nuthing, there his a good many claims sinking, the wage here £3-0-0 per week and a man can board himself for ten shillings a week this is not a very large diggins the number of people is from 3 hundred to 4 hundred people, Thomas is going into claim with three others we have new better

page 2

hut and its made out of the bark of trees and and we make ourselves very comfortable.

Dear Brother I thought the diggins a ansune place at first. I found it rather strange, but now it seems altogether deferant and by getting acquainted with the people I can make myself more comfortable the diggins is a gay place I belive that a person can not be to careful of himself in shuch a place.

Dear Brother we received two letters from home last mail, one from Aunt Chapple & one from Cousin Nicholas James Hale & Johanna. I was glad to hear that you where all well and enjoyment of good health. Aunt stated in her letter that Mr Jebbert of Boskenna is dead I was glad to hear that the he have done well for William, Thomas and James and that Mr Philip Marriet? is dead. I was very sorry to hear death the loss of the poor land ? & also the losses of Uncle John Cattle?

Dear Brother I was greatly disappointed in not receiving one from you.

page 3

Cousin Nicholas James stated that they times at home are slight with the miners and labouring men and there are hundreds leaving for Australia & America. There is a great many from this place for New Zealand there is good times there men is getting £2-0-0 per day but it is very cold there, so I have heard in

some places they have to go some four or five miles to get little wood for to boil their tea, you must not think all there all pleasure in which country. Where you have to lay in a gum tree all night and nothing over you but your blankets.

Dear Brother its winter time as well It is often cold in the morning There have been a great deal of frost this winter on some mornings there I seen men laying in the open bush on ground with a large fire.

This country is not like home where you have a nice feathery bed to lay on I have seen here that they would sell clothes of their back for drink, a person can not be to careful of himself in shuch

page 4

Dear Brother we found Father Our Step Mother & four Brothers & little Sister and Uncle James Mathew all well and none of them knew us but I knew Uncle James Mathew. Father was married about 7 or 8 weeks ^ He was very glad to see us she his a nice repectable whoman and she behave to the children exceedingly well little Sister is about ten years old & little James is eight years old they both belong school Dear Brother, I expected a letter from you last mail but I was greatly disappointed but when you write tell us how you are getting on with the farm and how many cattle you have got, I was very glad to here that Jane and Grandmother was come good friends with each other & that Grandmother have been visiting Jane in her confinement We received a letter from Thomas Hocking and he stated in his letter that John & James Bray have left for Australia, Thomas & Bang? where both well I hope this will reach you all well and in the enjoyment of perfect health as it leaves each us at present Brother and little sister gives these kind love to each of you.

Crossways writing

Dear Brother send you likeness out to us Brothers would be very glad to get them. I will send you little sisters likeness when we have had it taken. Dear Brother give my love to all enquiring friends that is too many to name We're all well and join in kind love

to you all
We remain your
loving Brothers
William and Thomas Osborne

Letter n20 (now in sequence)
Black Range Diggings
Albury Dec 16/65
William Osborne
Dear Brother, Sister & children

With deep feelings of gratitude to God & respect to you, that I, through an ever waking providence, avail myself of the opportunity of addressing you before I proceed any further. Dear Brother & Sister, we was very glad to receive your letter dated August the 6 and glad to find you all in good health. Dear Brother & Sister I insert you these few lines hoping it will reach you in good health the same as it leaves us at present. Dear Brother & Sister twelve months has pass away since we have seen each other(s) face but I trust that the time will come when we shall see each other in old England happy shores. Dear Brother I often think about and how you are getting on with the farm

but I was very sorrey that you have lost? yore old horse. There have been great changes home since we have left. you stated in your letter that there has(crossed out?) a great many have left for Australia Dear Brother & Sister, Thomas & myself belong together we have a little hut made of bark of trees we board ourselves. Thomas belong working into a claim on wages the wages hear on this diggings is from £2-10 to £3-0 per week. We have left Father we work with Father about 3 months and He agreed to pay us wages as other men and I work that time but I did not have no wages and I was out of pocket and then I saw things as the where, I whent and got work into a claim. I was working there about 3 months, the wages

given in that claim was £2-10 per week and then all the wages men w(h)ere all payed off on account of no water

We received a letter from Thomas Hocking about week ago there all well and stating that Henery is come back from New Zealand but He has do nothing Dear Brother I haven do much farming since been in this country. I was about three weeks plowing for a farmer near Albury but I do not like this way of farming and now I belong worcking (crossed out) driving a horse and dray, filling wash dish for a puddling machine Dear Brother, Father belong back on the diggings living the keeper of a boarding house which James has left Father and belong with a blacksmith. H(e) has a 1 pound a week and his board but I think He spends his money here fast as He gets it. He is worse off now than the very first day he come into country. Dear Brother & Sister I thought the digging a very place at first but I believe that a person can not be to(o) careful of himself in s(h)uch a place. Dear Brother we has preaching Hear ?? one Sunday

One Methodist minister and a Prenderies minister. We have a Sunday school in this place We are appointed as two teachers. I feel glad that I something to do in school. Dear Brother this place is looking very dul(l) at present it have been a very dry season & there where 19000 sheep on this place about a month back then were? treading through the country for feed and water So Dear Brother & Sister, I must draw to a close. I will send you another if all be well next month. Send me again a quick as possible and let me know all the news you can. I've received a letter from Auntie I hoped to see last may. Dear Brother give my kind love to Gra(n)dma then I will write her a letter next mail? if all be well So I must co(n)clude in sending you

my kind love and I shall remain to
be your affectionate Brother
William Osborne
Good Bye

Sideways text
Give my best respects to all passing friends that
All his h? is to memories ? to mention
God Bless you all
Good Bye

Send me a paper next mail
I see that you had very grand day when the Prince
And Princess of Wales there visit to Cornwall

Letter n13

William and Thomas Osborne
Black Range Diggings Albury January 16 1866

Page 1

Dear Brother, Sister and children,
I feel it behave me to praise God
that I spared to see the Close of another
year and else the commencement of a new
year and I trust that we shall end avail?
to improve it the best of our powers and
at the Close we shall be constrained
to say that this is the best year that ever
we experienced both temporal and spiritual.
Dear Brother & Sister, I thought as I had
not received any answer from our letters
that I would write you a few lines just
to let you know how we are passing away
the Christmas. As it is the first Christmas
In Australia, Dear Brother & Sister,
Thomas and myself we took dinner at
Fathers table on Christmas day and that
was the first Christmas dinner that I can
remember of sitting with Father and it

Page 2

may be our last, Dear Brother & Sister.
We was expecting a letter from you last
mail but we did not receive any from you.
I think that you are very remiss in not
sending us a letter. We haven receive but one letter from you
since we been hear. We should be very glad
to receive a letter a letter or newspaper
from you every mail to know how you are
getting on and how things are going on.
Dear Brother & Sister, we are both at

work. We board ourselves. We have had a nice fall of rain of having a long drought. But now the diggings will look much better. It will a great deal of work. Father he still living on the diggings but he is not doing much. You stated in your last letter to tell you what wages we w(h)ere getting when we was with Father. We work with about four months and he agreed to pay us £1-6(s)-6(d) per week but he did not pay us any thing so we went to work for strangers. And then Thomas very much displeased about it. Dear Brother, Tather, he is worse of(f) now than He was the first day He come into the country. He likes his glass to(o) well. I don't think he has wrote a letter since we have been up hear.

Page 3

Dear Brother & Sister. I insert you these few lines hoping it will reach you in good health, the same as it leaves us at present. you stated in your letter that there is great many have left for Adaleide since we are gon and also Margret? Beryman is got married and have left for Australia, but she will regret the day that she left this country. Better for a single man. Dear Brother & Sister. I have not much news to tell you. When you write tell us when William Penrose is going to get married. Give my kind love to Grandmother and when you write tell us all the news that you can, and send us your lickness and children lickness. Give my kind love to Uncle Thomas & Aunts family & Uncle William? & family and to all enquiring friends that which is too numerous to name

Dear, you must excuse the scribble for I am in hurry for the mail
Is about to start

Page 4

Dear Brother, I must conclude in sending you our kind love and expecting the same from you. We remain your affectionate
Brother William and Thomas Osborne

Address William Osborne
Care of Mr John Jacka
Godolphan Farm
Connemarra
Geelong?

Dear Brother & Sister.
Accept of my kind regards
as time would not permit me
to write rememberencies? happily
Please give this note (to) uncle and aunt
And all enquiring friends
?? ?? ?? ?? I remain your affectionate
Brother W. Osborne
Good Bye
God bless you

Letter n14

Thomas Osborne
March 23 1866
Connewarra
Dear Beloved Brother and Sister

Dear Beloved Brother & Sister
It affords me great pleasure
at this time to know that
I have another privilege of
addressing you
I often remember how you have
left us so quiet it seems
to accord with that old saying
out of sight out of mind
such now I believe to be very true
from the time that we left
which is about one year only
one bit of a letter is all we
have received from you
We are both very glad
to receive that.

page 2

Ever to know that you are were all well and
comfortable I truly do think that you must be
very laisy when you cannot spare as much
time as ten minutes you must fancy that a
letter from home still creates a pleasant
feeling to know a little respecting it
Dear Brother and Sister I have to inform you
that both we have left Albury about two
or three weeks the cause is that the diggings
where we worked is done William has got
a situation under Cousin Thomas Osborne of

Melborne but William belong at
Ballarat where the store? extends William
is to drive a wagon like those that you see
in to Penzance such as Pickfords & Co.
I have been trying to get into a store or any
thing of the sort but have not as yet
succeeded there is a vacancy at Mr Lawry
Martin? Formally in charge of Bosdene
I am 2 know very shortly whether or not
We did not like Albury neither of us
it was a tough life of it there was no
Society there. Drink and the effects thereof
seem to prevail Bales Theatre and all sort

Page 3

As for Father and Brother I should?
they are all well on our leaving
We was working for Father about
three months after that we left
Father and was working with
strangers until our leaving
father I shall have been xxx there
from xxxx xxxx Dear xx
from him xxx xxx xx
he has also left Leaseley?
I think they have enough to make
a living Uncle is also inclined
to drink to get to drunk
Father likes his hobbler?
Remember me to all enquiring
friends to Mr John Glasson and xx
to Uncle xxxThomas xxxxx -----
to Uncle and Aunt Thomas Penrose
to Mr & Mrs John Maddern and
to John Maddel and all remain your
affectionate brother Thom Osborne

crossways page 3

Aunt Jacka has sent you
a letter and has not received
an answer xxxx Aunt Jacka
Glasson send her kind love
to you all
Write me as you can make
convenient

I have heard of the loss of the London
I was very sorry to hear of her

Good bye and God bless

Letter 9 (Out of sequence)

William Osborne
Soldiers Hill, Ballarat
24th March 1866

Dear Brother and Sister and Children

I once more avail myself of the privilege of writing to you hoping it will reach you all well and in good health the same as it leaves me at present Dear Brother and Sister I should think that you have forgotten us all together We have receive but letter and a few line you have written in that letter I have written you a great many letters and I cannot tell the reason why you don't write I often you and how you are getting on Dear Brother and Sister you wonder the reason when you look at the commencement of my letter that I am down in the part of the Colony I belong in Ballarat I have a position under Bruce and Osborne the are Forwarding Agents the have a

page 2

one office in Melbourne and one in Gulong and in Ballarat. I left Albury because the time was looking very bad and when I reach Melbourne I went to Cousin Thomas Osborne He has one of company the day that I come Cousin Thomas receive a letter from Ballarat that two of the men was taken sick and he got me into this situation He has a xxx little xxxxx He behave to us remarkably well and while we was up to Albury he sent to us there likeness the have two children and now I am in Ballarat now I like this place very well it is a very large place it is about as large as Penzance I would rather be here that in Albury I am stopping with Thomas and Grace Hoskin I board with them I give them 1 pound per week for my board Thomas Hosking he very bad the last six weeks with the influenza? I have been to Ballarat four weeks I have got a good situation. I do like it better than digging.

Page 3

Dear Brother and Sister I often think about you and have you passing through life. Dear Brother we have very lucky since we have been in Australia When over we go we always some one to go to though we never do make anything from anyone I have been expecting a letter greatly from you and also you backnews? for there have been a great many changes since we have left I was very sorry to see that account in the paper concerning the London the losses of so many dear souls that have a watery grave There is a good many from Ballarat We ought to be very thankful to God for preserving us over the good ocean. Dear Brother I have seen a great many from St Just and Buryan I have the pleasure of seeing John Casging?? I have been to his house the were very glad to see me John Caquy? & another man carrying on chaff cutting machine he is getting on very well Mrs Carquy? was delivered of young daughter

page 4

the is very well thea have a but one child
Dear Brother and Sister Thomas is in Gulong with Uncle John Jacka fxxxx a letter from Tomas today they are very well I am thinking about going there for Easter to see them We have a nice Sunday School hear. We have upward of 1 hundred and fifty scholars I hope that you belong to Sancreed School When you write tell whether was any from Sancreed that meet with xxxx affair on board the London Write us all the names that lost people and write every name do not let us so long without a letter and do not forget to send your likeness and also ask for Mrs Kate Gibson & John and George & Mrs Pearce and Thomas Richard for they all promise that the send to me Remember me to all xxxx
Dear Grandmother and I hope that she is preparing for a better world. Remember to all inquiring Friends that which is to numerous to name So no more for the present from your ever affectionate Brother W Osborn Good Bye God bless you all Amen

Page 4 Crossways

Address William Osborne
Care of Mr Thomas Hoskin

Soldiers Hill Ballarat

To Dear Brother you must excuse I for scribble
for I am in a hurry so good bye God Bless
you all Amen
I will send you a xxx xxx xxxx if all is well

Letter n15

William Osborne

Our That? Ballarrat 12th May 64?

To Dear Beloved Grandmother

It is with deep feelings of gratitude
to my God that I have the privilege
to take my pen in hand and write you
these few lines hoping it will reach
You all well and in the enjoyment
of perfect health the same as it
has us both at present
My dear Grandmother how I do often
think about you and think of your
kindness to me I trust that the
Lord will pay you for all for all your trouble
My dear Grandmother I have the
privilege to send you a small token of
remembrance to you. I trust that you
will be in good spirits to receive it.
The gem of men that have been my

Company Keeper this last two years
since I have been in Ballarat but
He is about to bear for England I thought
Would send you something a small token
Xxxx xxxx I trust that you will receive
with joy knowing from hands that sent
it I send a ring to dear Grandmother
and the observation in the ring is a xxxxx
has got one xxx I should like to have
had the pleasure in presenting it to
you myself if I should not have
the privilege in seeing you again
in this world? I trust that you will give
give this to some one for one to keep
in remembrance of you I should like for
to send one me your likeness to me I do
not know the reason the do not send
us of news I have sent the two letters
this past month. I trust that will reach you in
in perfect health and in this enjoyment affection
blessing of God. I hope you will excuse
this scribble and write some by return of post

I trust this reach you in safety with Our Dear Young

friends William Chegwin We are both well and I am in Mine(?)
town I am beloved and xxxxx
xxxxx xxxx God Bless Dear Grandmother.
I reissue you affection
Grandchild W Osborne
Ann Osborne
Good by

Letter n18

Ballarat Soldiers Hill
October 24th/66
William Osborne
Dear Brother Sister& Children

Page 1

Dear Brother Sister& Children
I feel sincere thanks to my Beloved maker
that I am spared to take my pen to mark
a few lines on this paper to you
My Dear Brother and Sister hoping is will
reach you all in good health the same as it
leave us both at present. Dear Brother I have
being very negligent in my answering your
letter. I was very glad to receive your letter from you
I thought that you had forgotten an acknowledgement
I was very glad to know that you were getting
xx as well as to worthy affairs I see by you
letter that there is a great many leaving for this
Country I have seen a good many from home
Since have been in Ballarat I have seen
Peter Eddy, Dxxx Wxxxx & young Butcher
Hocking & William xxxxx xxxx xxxxx

page 2

of St Just. I saw Peter Eddy last
Saturday and he was telling me that
Receive a letter from Israel Hocking from
Adelaide concerning the death of his brother
John & Charles Boase it appears that they
and another young man were down bathing
in the beach and they three were drowned
I was very sorry to hear of it Peter Eddy
is thinking about going to New Zealand
and I have seen James Thos. Richards I was very
glad to see him. He was not know I
had left home He is quick and the sort of man
that he was at home He told me that. He done
think that Ballarat is a great place for Cornish
people. Butcher Hocking will not do anything for himself
out hear it was better thus he stood at home
He is a very drinking young man
Dear Brother and Sister I often think about you

and wish you were over here with us
and then we should have a home You would like it
over here far better than home.

page 3

A great many people from St Just have come to Ballarat
since I have been here, Ballarat is a very large
place and the time is looking very lively
I would rather live in Ballarat than up in Albury
how Father put away is time in Albury part
of the County I can't tell. I belong wish? Known
Osborn and Thomas has left John Carquy?
and belong with us driving one of the wagons
it is firm work. We go to work half past
seven and knock off one o'clock It is constant
Work We have four wagons.

Dear Brother and Sister I think we left
home in very good time. Thomas receive a letter
from Aunt Chapple and a few lines from Cousin
William Edward. He wanted to know whether it was best
come out hear if xxx his arriving out hear I would
Advise him to get married before He leave home
I was very glad to hear from them and to know
a little about home I should not like to be home now
Not xxx I should like to xxx for a week or two
I think Uncle Thomas have done a very

Page 4

xxx step by going home the people that
bought Uncle Thomas farm have sold on again and
and have made almost double the money of it. The
Xxxx of us the English xxx The Farms have
done well this past season butter have 5s a pound
and eggs 2-10? per dozen Dear Brother and Sister
if you could not get on with your farm I would
advise come out here I would advise Uncle Thomas
Xxxx to America I xxxx is xxxx xxx from
Them and they young men. I has write this letter
Was one from St Just and. i hasten above having
Xxxx coming out hear. Dear ?Brother and Sister
I expect see your letter before
now the last letter that we receive
from you hear dated 16th? May 1866
I trust this We xxxx? You will now be so
long xxxxxx feel in writing
Dear Brother and Sister I have not much
to say But I was very glad to hear
that xxx have had xxxxx g quick work
going Sancreed & I was very glad

Page 1 cross text

Dear Brother and Sister do not let xxx xxxx without
a letter and remit as a newspaper and send us your likeness

And get Dear Grandmother xxxxxxing again. Remember me to Dear Old Grandmother I should have written her letter before now. But I hope that Dear Grandmother will forgive my very neglectfulness the time do pass away so fast I so trust this shall write you often Johale?? send you my likeness when i do have it later Do not forget to send us because of this bad writing and hurry
Dear Brother & Sister Remember me to all Uncle Kelans Hocking? friends So I must conclude in sending you my kind love I? I remain your affectionate Brother in Christ
Good bye. God Bless you all. Amen

Page 2 cross text

xxx xxx address
W Osborne in the care of xxxxx
xxxx Osborne Ballarat

Page 4 cross text

I hear that you have joined the Church again but I am very sorry to say that I have heard that Dear Grandmother have joined the happy number I should be very happy to xxx (of her) Dear Grandmother xxxxxx xx in with the people perhaps I shall never see her in my motherland but if not by Gods help I hope to meet Dear Grandmother in heaven where We shall pass xx
xxxx Dear Brother I think I am happy to tell you
I am xxxx in with the over xxxx of xxxx Thomas thysself we meet with Thomas Hosking Class. So Dear Brother & Sister you must excuse me in being so brief in writing
I have much news to say but the times is so short and the mail is about leaving for England

Letter n19

Joseph Hosken
November 16 1866
Renfrew Gold Diggings
Nova Scotia
Dear Friends

(written in margin at a slant) Mr H E Osborn
Dear Friend I now attempt to address myself to you hoping that it will reach you in perfect good health as it leaves all of us at present
Dear Friend I was very glad for hear that you was all very well and that you asked for us some times I do often think a bout you and the conversations we have has together about

the girls and many more
I do never send home but what
I do be desired to be remembered
to you

Page 2

I do send Home a letter every
fortnight and I do Have one
from Home the same We are
all Working in the Gold Diggens
John John Snell and myself
He left me when we came here
first He went about fifte miles
further in the county Joseph Chapple
and Wm. Cargeeg John & John Snell
and al.? and Poss He went to work first on
the railway He did not like it
He worked there about 6 Weeks and then
John and John Snell Came down
to me and the other four went to the
States of America I have had one letter
since they are gone and got into
work John & John Snell came into Me
in my Boarding House and then I went
out and got work for the both of them
that afternoon and they do like their
work very well We are all gone fat as
pigs since we are come out here I can
weigh near 8 score and 10 now like a top

Page 3

There is no Girls out Here to hunt?
Us whe do not speak to the girls out here
we was quite lonely for a while but now
we are got pretty well used so now we
have bought a House
ourselves and we do live in it and
Board ourselves we can live a
great Deal Better and 5 shillings
a week cheaper we are I ten of us
living together all Sancreed
and St Just men and are getting
on very comfortable the times here
is not so well as expected but a
5 times as well as home We can
get 6? Shillings a day I am Working
underground I do see some gold every
Day it do look pretty in the ground
I do Break some gold every Day I was very
lucky for to get in to work in a Shaft
The first job when I came in the
Province and there |I have been
working ever since and I am considered

to be a good miner Dear Friend the winter is setting in here we have had some very heavy falls of snow and some very sharp frosts we can stand it very well its hotter here in summer and colder in winter

Page 4

Dear Friend we have often said together that any place is Better Home I believe it to be so I never wished myself Back yet nor shall I yet for a bit The only Thing that is absent from us is the Girls we cannot even speak to a girl we are very lonely for that we are getting on very well without it Dear John I have heard of Wm. E Chapple engaged Miss Jessie Hawke and give them My very best respects I do expect De? P e Grice is a study Chap grow? E Bolitho Humphry Pascoe and the Mayor is Cutting up a good flash Home I have had a Likeness From Dick Richard and have had a letter or two from John Rowe Soloman and Samuel I do here is study Chap still and I am very glad to Hear it I do hope more of them will be study again I do come Home Dear John I do often think of the conversations we have had together I have not much more to tell you at present (here word crossed out) Must now Conclude by giving my very best respects Wm E Chapple to your wife and family and to all the enquiry earnestly after my Welfare Dear John I do hope that you will have better speed on your Farm and be now prosperous and Multiply speedily in the House John and John Snell give their best respects to you and recieve the same from me Good By , From your Truly Joseph Hosken Renfrew Diggins Hants County Nova Scotia North America

Letter n20 out of sequence see 13

Letter 21

Ballarrat

January 20th 65?67

Thomas Osborne

Dear Brother & Sister

With deep feelings of gratitude to God & respect to you, that I, through an ever waking providence, avail myself of the opportunity of addressing you before I proceed any further. Dear Brother & Sister, we

was very glad to receive your letter dated August the 6 and glad to find you all in good health. Dear Brother & Sister I insert you these few lines hoping it will reach you in good health the same as it leaves us at present. Dear Brother & Sister twelve months has pass away since we have seen each other(s) face but I trust that the time will come when we shall see each other in old England happy shores. Dear Brother I often think about and how you are getting on with the farm

but I was very sorrey that you have lost? yore old horse. There have been great changes home since we have left. you stated in your letter that there has(crossed out?) a great many have left for Australia Dear Brother & Sister, Thomas & myself belong together we have a little hut made of bark of trees we board ourselves. Thomas belong working into a claim on wages the wages hear on this diggings is from £2-10 to £3-0 per week. We have left Father we work with Father about 3 months and He agreed to pay us wages as other men and I work that time but I did not have no wages and I was out of pocket and then I saw things as the where, I whent and got work into a claim. I was working there about 3 months, the wages given in that claim was £2-10 per week and then all the wages men w(h)ere all payed off on account of no water

We received a letter from Thomas Hocking about week ago there all well and stating that Henery is come back from New Zealand but He has do nothing Dear Brother I haven do much farming since been in this country. I was about three weeks plowing for a farmer near Albury but I do not like this way of farming and now I belong worcking (crossed out) driving a horse and dray, filling wash dish for a puddling machine Dear Brother, Father belong back on the diggings living the keeper of a boarding

house which James has left Father
and belong with a blacksmith. H(e) has
a 1 pound a week and his board but
I think He spends his money here fast
as He gets it. He is worse off now than
the very first day he come into
country. Dear Brother & Sister I thought
the digging a very place at first
but I believe that a person can not
be to(o) careful of himself in s(h)uch a place.
Dear Brother we has preaching
Hear ?? one Sunday

One Methodist minister and a
Prependeries minister. We have a
Sunday school in this place We
are appointed as two teachers. I feel
glad that I something to do in school.
Dear Brother this place is
looking very dul(l) at present it have
been a very dry season & there where
19000 sheep on this place about
a month back then were? treading through
the country for feed and water
So Dear Brother & Sister, I must draw
to a close. I will send you another
if all be well next month. Send me
again a quick as possible and let
me know all the news you can. I've
received a letter from Auntie I hoped to see
last may. Dear Brother give my
kind love to Gra(n)dma then I will write
her a letter next mail? if all be well
So I must co(n)clude in sending you
my kind love and I shall remain to
be your affectionate Brother
William Osborne
Good Bye

Sideways text

Give my best respects to all passing friends that
All his h? is to memories ? to mention
God Bless you all
Good Bye

Send me a paper next mail
I see that you had very grand day when the Prince
And Princess of Wales there visit to Cornwall