



A Letter from Australia

The following are extracts from a letter recently received from Australia, written to her relatives at Codford, Wilts, by an emigrant, who, together with her husband and family, emigrated to that colony about six years since. It is dated Adelaide, January 26, 1847, and proceeds as follows:-

"We are renting a piece of land, ten acres, at a place called Oakaparingo, twenty miles from Adelaide. We have had a good harvest, and have a nice stack of wheat. We have six cows, twenty working bullocks, besides a good many heifers and calves; we have also a horse, and are having a spring cart made, which we shall find very useful for going into Adelaide.

There *has* been several copper mines discovered, which *has* done the colony a great deal of good. My husband has three days on the road carting ore from one of the mines to the port. The one he carts from is a hundred miles from Adelaide, and is called the Burra Burra; it takes a fortnight each trip. They bring two tons and a half on each dray, with six bullocks, and get £2 15s. per ton, which makes £7 2s. 6d. for each dray, and the expenses are not much, so you see we can want for nothing. This is a very healthy colony. There are a great many emigrants coming at present, - I wish you would all make up your minds and come. You can get a free passage by applying for it, the same as we did. A labouring man can get twelve shillings a week, besides his living; and twelve shillings and his board for cutting an acre of wheat.

Servant girls are very scarce, and can get from twelve to twenty pounds a year wages; boys also are much wanted for looking after cattle, and also get good wages. Provisions of all kinds are very cheap, so that it costs but little to keep a family. Tea 1s. 6d. per lb.; sugar 3d. per pound; meat 2½d. to 3d. per pound; wheat 4s. a bushel and sometimes it has been as low as 2s. 6d., and every thing else proportionally cheap."

Devizes and Wiltshire Gazette, 21 October, 1847