

AUSTRALIAN JOINT COPYING PROJECT

GEORGE EVERETT

Papers, 1838-55

Reel M841

**Col. G.N. Everett
c/- Barclays Bank
South Road
Haywards Heath, Sussex**

**National Library of Australia
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BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE

George Everett (1811-1893), the son of Joseph and Margaret Everett, was born at Biddesden House near Ludgershall, Wiltshire. Both his father and grandfather were members of the House of Commons. In 1838 he and his brother John (1816-1892) sailed to New South Wales on the Hope. Less than a month after arriving in Sydney they travelled up the Hunter River, crossed the Liverpool Plains and eventually reached a place near Guyra Station which their Aboriginal guide called 'Ollera' (sweet waters). After marking out the station, they returned to Sydney, bought 450 sheep and registered the property. In 1842 they were joined by another brother, Edwin Everett (1822-1909), and the property was registered in their joint names. They started with 451 sheep and by 1854 Ollera, which by then extended to 74,800 acres, carried 8000 sheep and 1200 cattle. The Everetts brought out migrant families, settled them as shepherds and encouraged them to provide farm produce and services for the station. Some of these families remained on the station for several generations.

George Everett returned to England in 1856 and John followed in 1858. John became the London agent for the firm. Edwin remained in Australia and in 1862 he bought the adjoining station of Tenterden. Arthur Everett, the son of John Everett, took over the management of Ollera in 1890.

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Letters of George Everett, 1838-55

George Everett (Dalwood, NSW) to his sister Ann Everett (Andover), 29 Dec. 1838: account of his first visit to New England; description of the country; danger of bushrangers. (crossed)

George Everett (Wandsworth, NSW) to Ann Everett, [6 July 1839]: an attack by bushrangers; life on their selection; 40 mile ride to collect post; new licensing fees. With an addition from his brother John Everett.

George Everett (Wandsworth) to his brother William Everett (Andover), 1 Aug. 1840: disappearance of a neighbour's sheep.

George Everett (Wandsworth) to Ann Everett, 17 Nov. 1840: recommends Cunningham's book on New South Wales; recent weather conditions.

George Everett (Black Creek, Hunter River) to William Everett, 12 Jan. 1841: news of George Wyndham, Mr Samuda and others whom he has visited.

George Everett (Wandsworth) to Ann Everett, 24 Feb. 1841: severe winter, drought predicted; fewer bushrangers in the district.

George Everett (Ollera) to his brother Tom Everett, 27 July 1853: faster mails with steam shipping; his property increased to 120 acres; gold diggings; domestic news. (incomplete)

George Everett (Ollera) to his brother Rev. Thomas Everett (Andover), 11 Oct. 1853: mismanagement of Royal Mail Company; John and Edwin to visit England; plans to return and stay; family finances.

George Everett (Ollera) to Rev. Thomas Everett, 9 Feb. 1854: marriage of Tom Everett; Edwin's asthma; financial crash expected in Melbourne; trouble with Chinese staff.

George Everett (Ollera) to Rev. Thomas Everett, 12 May 1854: domestic news; hopes John and Edwin have arrived at Biddesden; he will follow in due course.

George Everett (Ollera) to Rev. Thomas Everett, 13 March 1855: Edwin Everett and his health; another attack of dog distemper.

George Everett (Ollera) to Rev. Thomas Everett, 15 Dec. 1855: does not know when John will return; recent purchase of a small cattle station should give them total of nearly 2000 cattle; Codrington's failure to sell his stock.

Photographs

Charlotte, William Everett and Kathleen, Cottage, Tenterfield, New England.

W.F. Everett and C. and Helen Merewether.

Ian and Nancy Everett.

Thesis

A.V. Kane. *Ollera 1838 to 1900: a study of a sheep station*. MA thesis, University of Sydney, 1949.
(typescript, 170pp)