

MARSHALL AND FERRY FAMILY PAPERS

This collection consists of papers of George Marshall (1791-1881), originally of Ruthven, near Dundee, Scotland, who arrived in Van Diemen's Land in 1821, with his family and settled near Sorell. His farm accounts, 1872 - 1883, have been preserved, together with the will of his son, David Marshall (1919), and miscellaneous notes on family history made by his grandson. One of his grandsons, George Douglas Marshall, married Beatrice Terry, granddaughter of Ralph Terry (1815-1892) of Lachlan Mills, New Norfolk, so some papers of the Terry family are included.

Ralph Terry came to Australia as a child early in 1819, with his father, John Terry (1771-1844) who had been a miller in Yorkshire, England. Terry purchased a windmill in Sydney but gave it up when he found he could only have a 21 year lease. The family moved to V.D.L. where, as John Terry said, there were plenty of waterfalls and a need for mills, and were granted land at New Norfolk. John Terry described his new home with enthusiasm in a letter (probably to his brother) drafted on the blank leaf of an account.

. . . You may think it odd that we left Port Jackson and came to V. D. Land, but the wind mill we purchased at Sydney for a grant for ever only proved a 21 yeares lease so we gave it up and came to this place where there was plenty of waterfalles and Mills much wanted and i choose a situation in the bush and builded a good house and a blacks forge, at work, a good garden, fowle house and a spur geared Mill which we expect to begin to grind in the latter end of January or fore end February, the Mill is 19 feet high, 22 feet long, 17 feet wide and a water like West Burton Mill water and plenty fall for 2 mills, with a stock yard to yard oure coves that we milk every night. The Mill an situation is stands close by the naveygable and great River Derwent and 21 miles from Hobert Town and government house. Hobert town is the Matrplaz [sic metropolis]. We have a boat between 4 & 5 tonns burden so as we can Gom within 30 yards of the Mill doore or from up the river 3 miles as well down to Hobert, besides a good road by land to Hobart. oure grant is described this where we have situated oure selves, and fourteen hundred acres 10 mills [sic ie. miles] up the same River upwards of

three quarters of a mile frontage by the great River Derwent, half of that farm cleare of wood and as fare pasture as ever i saw in England, altogether good graising ground. The cattle that we do not milk is up at the farme with a flock of sheep. In the River there is a waterfall bie nature of a rock up at the farm that would turn 30 or 40 paire of Millstones in the greatest drouth. This is a note of romance, the governer and other gentlemen visits every settlement once every year to muster all people boath Free and bond and takes an account of every persons crop and stock and gives every Free person a proporshonable turn in the stores, boath wheat and meat, wheat 10⁰, beef or mutton 5 pound. Winter we hardley can say we have any, we have seen ice as thick as a penny piece but allways goes in the forenoon, oure winter is like in the spring in England when a light frost in the night and the sun shining [sic] in the day. July or August we have oure winter, the middle of your winter is the middle of oure summer. All All kinds of English Frute trees grown becar frute abundantly or garden produce more and with les labour not ne [sic need] of such shelter.

Other papers consist of a few bills, three concerning the settlement of his affairs in England, two accounts for business dealings and goods bought in N.S.W. through Samuel Perry (who in spite of the similarity of name does not appear to have been related, but was a wealthy trader, originally transported in 1801 for Salford, Lancashire, England), receipts for delivery of flour and purchase of household goods, 1833, and farm sowing record 1869 - 1882.