

MEREDITH, George

Presented by Mrs. ^{F.R.} Archer Taylor, 27, April 1944 & May 1950*Fanny Kelling Mace - n. l. l.*

George Meredith's Diary ' Letter 1821

George Meredith (1777 - 1856) was born near Birmingham, U.K. & served as a Lieutenant in the Marines until 1806 when he retired on half pay. He arrived in Hobart in March 1821 with his second wife Mary (nee Evans, d. 1842) and five children, and settled at Oyster Bay on the East Coast. Meredith established grazing stock and crops and also a flour mill and tannery at the Meredith River. In 1827 they moved to Belmont, a mile inland and in 1836 Meredith built a new home, Cambria, near their original settlement. (see Austn. Dic. of Biography)

R.S.34/

1. 1821, April - October

Diary and memoranda book of George Meredith.

Notes of Meredith's exploration of the coast from Newtown to Oyster Bay. They reached Meredith's Creek about 10th October. Here the Surveyor measured grants and they dug foundations, planted fruit trees etc. Meredith records a description of the surrounding countryside and notes about future clearing and planting etc.

Diary also contains 'game record' 1818-19

(small pocket notebook (120mm X 95mm), written in pencil and difficult to read)

R.S. 34/

2. 1821 April 2

Letter from George Meredith to his brother , John, in Birmingham, U.K.

Meredith reports his safe arrival, but was at first occupied with the affairs of the ship and the security of his goods and temporary home, a cottage three miles from the town. He was well received by the Governor. Is thinking of settling on the East-Coast, having failed to find a desirable opening in the West-Coast. He found the banks of the Derwent river high and the sheep leggy, but the climate fine.

(2 papers torn and further damaged by the application of 'durex' tape before received by Archives)

3 Typed copies of diaries, with notes. One copy made by D. N. Hoagson, a grandson of George Meredith.

4 Brief extracts from "Memoir of George Meredith" 13 Feb. 1897
Written by his son Edwin Meredith, in the possession of Mrs F. Archer-Taylor (nee Mace daughter of Mary Rose (Meredith) and George Mace. (2pp. typescript by W.H. Hudspeth)