

Presented to the Royal Society of Tasmania
by C.E.Boyes 1941-6. ✓

DIARIES & LETTERS OF G.T.W.B. BOYES

1820-1853.

See - The Diaries & Letters of G.T.W.B. Boyes vol. 1 1820-1832, ed. P. Chapman Melbourne (OUP) 1985

George Thomas William Blamey Boyes (1787-1853) public servant and diarist arrived in Sydney in January 1824, by the 'Sir Godfrey Webster' as deputy-assistant-commissary-general in New South Wales. In November 1826 he transferred to Hobart and was soon after appointed auditor of civil accounts. He also served on the Legislative Council, was acting colonial secretary (1842-3) and held a number of minor government offices. He went to England in 1832, returning in 1834 with his wife, Mary (Ediss) whom he had married in 1818. They had seven children. Boyes diaries are detailed and include waspish comment on his contemporaries. His letters to his wife are also informative. Other letters are in RS.26 and Uni.Archives B.18 (See A.D.B. vol. 1 and W.H.Hudspeth, An Introduction to the diaries of Rev. Robert Knopwood and G.T.W.B.Boyes, (Hobart, 1954); P. Chapman, 'G.T.W.B. Boyes & Australia', THRA, Sept. 1976.)

1. Letters to G.T.W.B.Boyes from Sir John Franklin 1842-1843 (6 letters [1 incomplete], also 2 photocopies of letters in Mitchell Library).

RS.25/1

2. Diaries of G.T.W.B.Boyes 1823 - 1853

- (1) 17 Apr. 1823 - 14 Jan. 1824
- (2) 4 Dec. 1829 - 12 May 1831
- (3) 13 May 1831 - 23 Feb. 1833
- (4) 28 Feb. 1833 - 1 June 1835
- (5) 3 June 1835 - 11 June 1838
- (6) 11 June 1838 - 21 Dec 1841
- (7) 21 Dec. 1841 - 4 Apr. 1844
- (8) 15 Apr. 1844 - 27 Sep. 1846
- (9) 27 Sep. 1846 - 29 Aug. 1847
- (10) 30 Aug. 1847 - 29 Sep. 1848
- (11) 30 Sep. 1848 - 25 Nov. 1849
- (12) 26 Nov. 1849 - 28 Apr. 1851
- (13) 10 Nov. 1852 - 30 Jul. 1853

*[Index by W.V. Hurst
@ RS 23/6]*

(1 small notebook, 12 quarto vols., also microfilm copies)

RS.25/2 (1-13)

3. Appointment of G.T.W.B.Boyes as Colonial Secretary and Keeper of Records 2 Feb. 1842

(1 parchment doc.)

RS.25/3

4. Letters to Mary Boyes 1820 - 1832

Letters from G.T.W.B. Boyes to his wife Mary (nee Ediss) at Portsea, England:-

(Note xerox copies of letters for 1824 (orig. numbers 4-6, 8-10, and No. 21 Nov. 1826) are in Uni. Archives B.18 - copies made from original still owned by descendants).

(1-12) Letters from London about family, the baby etc.

1 - 3 April 1820
4 - 7 Nov. 1820
8-12 June 1822

(13-16) Letters from France describing the country, Boyes' daily routine, etc.

(Note one endorsed as exhibit, on affidavit of Henry Boyes in action Hellyer v Garner in High Court, 1897) Nov. 1822 - March 1823).

(17-20) Letters from London prior to voyage
June 1823 - 8 Aug. 1823

(21-24) Letters from ship on voyage to Australia
14 Aug. 1823 - Oct. 1823

(25-55) Letters home from Sydney and Hobart 1824-26, 1828-1832.

These were numbered in sequence by Boyes, before posting, but the series is not now complete (see note above)- The letters are affectionate family letters, containing news of Boyes' life, advice, instructions about Mary coming to V.D.L. as soon as possible, love to the 'dear little boys' etc.

(25 - 36) Letters from Sydney

25 (orig. 3) Jan. 1824
26-29 (11-15, inc. two numbered 14) 1825
30-36 (16-20) 1826 Jan. - Oct.
(letter of 17-Oct. includes a copy of his official notice of posting)
37-55 Letters from Hobart
37,38 (28) 1828
39-44 (39-42, 44, 46) 1830
45-55 (47-57 but RS.25/55 marked by Boyes '54 or 55') 1831-1832

(55 letters)

RS.25/4 (1-55)