

AUSTRALIAN JOINT COPYING PROJECT

EVELYN PITFIELD STURT

Documents, 1852-78

Reel M404

**The Hon. Mrs Mary Anna Marten
Crichel House
Near Wimborne, Dorset**

**National Library of Australia
State Library of New South Wales**

Filmed: 1961

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE

Evelyn Pitfield Shirley Sturt (1816-1885), the brother of the explorer Charles Sturt, was born in Dorset, England. He was educated at Sandhurst Military College, but did not join the Army. In 1836 he emigrated to New South Wales on the *Hoogly*. In 1837 he was appointed commissioner of Crown lands at Yass. He resigned in 1839 and overlanded sheep and cattle from Bathurst to Adelaide. He first occupied land near Willunga, then took up a station in the Mount Gambier district. In 1849 he was appointed a police magistrate in Melbourne and in 1850 he became superintendent of the Melbourne Police. In 1853 he was re-appointed magistrate for Melbourne, a position that he held for twenty five years. He took part in the inquiry into the Bentley Hotel affair in Ballarat (1854) and was a member of the royal commission into the Burke and Wills expedition (1861).

Sturt was dismissed as part of the Black Wednesday retrenchments in 1878. He and his wife visited England in 1878-81 and then settled in Brighton, Victoria. He died while returning from another trip to England.

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Note: The images appear from right to left on the film.

1. Address presented to Sturt on his retirement as a magistrate by the Mayor of Melbourne (John Pigdon) and the Justices for the Peace for the central bailiwick of the colony of Victoria, n.d. [1878]
2. Commission signed by Governor Sir John Manners-Sutton appointing Sturt as a major in the Victorian Voluntary Force, Melbourne, 14 October 1863.
3. Address presented to Sturt by his brother magistrates, the gentlemen of the legal profession, and his friends, Melbourne, 8 February 1858.
4. Commission signed by Governor Sir Charles Hotham appointing Sturt as resident magistrate at Melbourne, 4 September 1855.
5. Certificate of marriage between Evelyn Sturt and Mary Frances Grylls, signed by Rev. H.H. Macartney, St James's Church, Melbourne, 14 February 1852.
6. Basic family tree showing the relationship of Charles and Evelyn Sturt. (typescript)