

AUSTRALIAN JOINT COPYING PROJECT

DAVID ATKINSON AND OTHER NEW SOUTH WALES SETTLERS

Letters, 1810-62

Reel M436

**Mr Harry Shepherd
11 Victoria Avenue
Withernsea Yorkshire**

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

Filmed: 1961

DAVID ATKINSON AND OTHER NEW SOUTH WALES SETTLERS

Reel M436

The reel contains ten letters written in New South Wales between 1810 and 1862. Six of the letters were written by David Atkinson and were lent for copying by Mr Harry Shepherd. The owners of the other four letters are not known.

The letters are listed in the order that they appear on the film.

C. French (Sydney) to Capt. Charles Bethune (HMS *Conway*), July 1838: an invitation to Capt. Harding of HMS *Pelorus* for Friday next.

Capt. Charles McIntosh (Sydney) to Wilson & Son (Bannockburn, Scotland), 27 July 1810: payment of a bill; discrepancies between bill and amounts stated in a letter to Governor Lachlan Macquarie; hose cloth and plaid despatched to 73rd Regiment.

Benjamin Clayton (Windsor) to Fanny Broughton (Appin), 5 Dec. 1834: his return from Sydney; licence sent to Parramatta for the Governor's signature; Clayton's confident hope that Fanny will soon be his wife; his breakfast at Hobartville with members of the family of William Cox; meetings with Mrs Bernie in Sydney.

Note: Frances Broughton (1814-1893), the daughter of deputy commissary William Broughton, married a doctor, Benjamin Clayton (1805-1854) on 18 January 1835.

Rev. Irving Hetherington (Patrick Plains) to Rev. James Allan (Sydney), 21 May 1839: regrets his inability to attend meeting of Presbytery; financial estimates; appointment of a minister at Portland Head; growth in the number of adherents in Hetherington's district, including 23 Highlanders on one farm; current total of 150 adherents entitles Hetherington to the second rate of stipend.

David Atkinson (ship *Emperor*) to his father and mother, 4 March 1851: thanks for letter received at Plymouth; he spends most of the day on the deck which is beneficial for his health; meals; good weather; expects to see Madeira tomorrow; sightings of fish and other vessels; church services; death of a child; appointment of constables on the ship.

David Atkinson (ship *Emperor*) to his brother, 4 March 1851: 300 emigrants, mostly Irish, on board ship; good meals as they are government stores, but short allowances of flour, rice, potatoes and biscuits; well treated by emigrant depots at Deptford and Plymouth; church services; death of a child; passengers divided into messes.

David Atkinson (Boorawa) to his brother, 14 Sept. 1862: thanks for his letter; hopes to see family again; advice on emigrating to Australia; wages for farm work; losses due to his employer's bankruptcy; he has not drunk liquor for four or five years; nearly all Aborigines have 'tumbled down'.

David Atkinson (Sydney) to Mr Carroll, 23 Aug. 1857: has not heard from Carroll since his arrival in the colony; his voyage to New Zealand with 40 horses; if Atkinson's brother wishes to emigrate he will pay for his expenses.

David Atkinson (Collingwood, Gunning) to his brother, 18 April 1862: dearth of letters from his mother and brothers; Atkinson's baby son James.

Note: Collingwood was a station on the Fish River, near Gunning, which had originally been owned by John Hume, the brother of the explorer Hamilton Hume.

David Atkinson (Boorawa) to his mother, 18 June 1862: lack of letters; news of death of Mr Carroll; requests a gun or a watch as a keepsake and also a newspaper from home; insolvency of his employer Chambers.