

Letter from Robert Byers sen. to William Byers in Australia

Transcript

April the 23, 1891

Dear William, I received your letter. I was glad to hear from you and [that] all the family [are] in good health, as I am in good health at present. Thanks be to God for his goodness to us all.

Sam Wilson was here yesterday. He looks well. He gave me a bit of money. He was nearly lost with a fog coming home. He is very lonesome after you. He brags well of you all. He grew fat and strong.

Bohanan [Buchanan] is lead over to the judge again [in] July. He will hang. He committed a horrid crime to murder the two old creatures for a trifle of money. That the second murder he will be tried for and he stole all he could get his hands on (fowl and cattle).

I got no letter from Robert this two years. I heard he wrote to Lisany more but I don't know did he send any money. My advice to him, if he intends to look after his boy, he ought. He is getting too great a head. He does not come here for I would be scolding him.

I got an order for forty pounds of poor Jack's money he left. This money is in the bank of Virginia. I did not go up yet to see of it. He had two medals and a watch. I did not get them. I wrote again about them to see what was done with them. Maggie and Anne Jane done their best to get it. They could not fill [in] the papers they sent. I filled them from forty-seven up to the day he died.

This is [a] hard time here. The farmers is as bad off as the poor man.

You may tell Robert that Charly Hog[g] sold off and away.

We got no minister yet. The[y] can't take (*sell*) the land. Labour is high and no men servants [for] high (*hire*)[:] seven pounds for a boy; a girl five to four pounds; two shillings a day for a man to work.

Thanks.

No more at this time.

I remain your affectionate father,

Robert Byers
Drumagoland

Love to all, Isabella and all.
Write soon.
Tell Robert!