

S P April th 9 1828-

My Dearest Love,

My Dear children are gone to bed, but, my mind is perplexed with a variety of anxious cares respecting you, and all my family; my future prospects, at the present time seem to me to wear a very gloomy aspect.

On Monday night I was exceedingly overfatigued, in consequence my feet are very much worse, and trouble me much. This is to me another proof of the instability of my health, so that I dare not encourage the hope of any continued amendment in my constitution - and the want of resignation to the divine will which, for the most part, I feel, is one constant source of disquietude, especially, when I consider that this is a very great proof of my ingratitude to the Almighty, for his innumerable mercies. Surely, my dear love, tis not true, that you said it need not to ~~go~~ on Saturday next; your sound judgment, wisdom, and pridential care for your family never dictated this

This letter reveals the thoughtful care and concern of Ann Mather for her children, while she lived at Lauderdale supervising the workmen, and the children resided in Hobart Town.

The writing of a sincere fond and loving mother.

Ann Mather to Robert Mather

9 April 1828.

-mark, but, in the multiplicity of business, and worldly cares, without one moment's consideration this must have escaped your lips - indeed, I felt truly sorry the moment that I heard Sarah tell Mr. St. because, it was instantly aware of the observation that would follow, to wit, that, only on her account we wished Mr. St. to go to Town - now, my dear, your good sense will convince you in a moment of this impropriety - be not grieved with me, I love you, I love the children, and feel particularly anxious to see them at all times evidence a reverential and respectful loving obedience to all your commands - but, in order to this, you, and I, have very many necessary duties to perform to them - they are now advanced to that age, in which, our conduct is most narrowly watched by them, and example, is always preferred to precept, and affectionate treatment, is by far more winning, than threatenings. - To train immortal souls is an arduous task, but, my dearest love, let us constantly, and most fervently invoke the divine aid, lest their souls be required at our hand -

my love to Joseph and Robert - be
your most affec^t Wife
Ann Mather

Blank

June the 19 1828 -

My very Dear Love,

I am so truly Dissatisfied in not seeing

your handwriting, that my spirits are quite sunk - whenever

any one comes from Town I always look for a letter from you

and I certainly think that I have a right to do so; pray remem-

ber for the future, that I think on you every hour of the day

I have ^{been} somewhat troubled with my feet the last two days

My mind is much perplexed with a variety of things - but

is well and in great spirits to day, I hope she will yet be

inclined to view her Father and Mother as her best friends -

we must still commend her to our most gracious and

merciful Redeemer, if we are sincere, we cannot pray in

vain; continue to look unto the Strong for Strength - and by

Prayer and supplication to make known all your requests

unto God, who is faithful and true to those who continue

to trust in him; unless we forsake Him He will never

forsake us - nor suffer us to be tried above that we are

will
be
that
is
inclined
we
merci-
vain;
Prayer
unto
to
forsa-

able to bear, but will make some way of escape -
I have been, to day, thinking that you really had better
try to let this favour, for I see no prospect of any thing
but your sinking deeper into the mine - this seems the
only way for you to get out - Mr has evidently determin-
ed to remain here under any circumstances, and although
he says he will attend to your orders, as far as possible,
yet there are so many insurmountable difficulties, that I
am quite persuaded your expenses will increase. There is
only room to put up one More and Mr it says that if
it was his More she should remain out, for that is far
better for her - I am sorry, you said, what you did about
his going to Guernsey, that was not spoken wisely in the
hearing of the Men, for they are only amused by it -
You must not hint to Duncan one word respecting Mr
A for they are sworn friends. - be particularly cautious
what you say to every one - tis far easier to be silent -
I wished to burn Sarah note but she will have it sent -
You are always too hasty -
Your affectionate Wife
Starr Mather

Blank

July the 15th 1828

My very Dear Love,

Every Day I am still more convinced that we have erred much in our judgment with respect to the management of this place, all the money expended will yield little or no profit.

Duncan is very assiduous - but, it is like the garden, spoils in the onset, so that his patience is exceedingly tried, and the others having been accustomed much to do their own way, are very perplexing and seem to try to annoy him in every possible way - but, remember, that what I tell you, is only for yourself; Duncan is certainly worthy of every encouragement, yet, you must deal very cautiously with him; so much work is absolutely necessary to be done just

at the present time, or we shall lose all the next year
that if possible we must have two more good farming
men, the crew is scarcely worth his victuals; indeed, I think
since the 1st left us, they have all resolved together to
row in one boat; Jubel is a good farming man, yet
his ways I do not like at all I think your interest
will not stand in his way - with respect to George
and his Wife, that cannot be, at the present, for many
reasons, he is not worth his meat, and, if she is even
so industrious, she can only fulfil her own duty -
Dip says, the 1st is coming down to see us; do you
think, we shall be at all benefitted there by? this,
I leave to your own discretion. I feel much disap-
pointed that we shall be obliged to buy wheat -
will you not repay the 1st when this week?

Give my love to the dears boys,
do they behave well?

Yours truly affec
wife
John Mather

ad, who is faithful and was a