
GRAHAM, J. B., PAPERS

PRG 100
Contents List

Four reels of microfilm of the papers of J. B. Graham, 1813-1876, pioneer in Adelaide 1839-1848.

Published references to these papers should acknowledge that the reels¹ are in the possession of Miss M. L. Graham, 25 Park Close, Ilchester Place, London, W.14. Application for permission to publish letters and other papers should be made to Miss Graham.

¹ For "reels", one should read "originals".

In 1961 Miss M.L. Graham of 25, Park Close, Ilchester Place, London, W.14, generously lent these papers for microfilming so that the information they contain on the history of South Australia can be available in Australian libraries.

John Benjamin Graham, 1813-1876, (information from Miss Graham) went to Adelaide in 1639 and built up a prosperous store. He was one of the first investors in the Burra Creek Copper Mines and a Director of the South Australian Mining Association (Douglas Pike, *Paradise of Dissent*. Lond. 1957, pp.331-3, 338. Also Francis Dutton, *South Australia and its mines*. Land. 1946, pp.290-291). His mother followed him to Adelaide and her second husband was John Adams. J.B. Graham returned to England in 1848 and married Louisa Rymill in March 1849. From 1648-1867 his agent in South Australia was Henry Ayers, the distinguished politician (knighted in 1872) and, among his many activities, secretary and later managing director of the Burra Burra Copper Mines. In the first six months of 1858 J.B. Graham paid a visit to Australia. From 1867 his agents and those of his heirs were his brothers-in-law Henry and Frank Rymill and their successors. J.B. Graham had three children Henry Robert (b.1850, d. unmarried 1933), Louisa Maude (b.1851 m.1878 Edward Hamersley of Pyrton Manor, Watlington, d.1924), and Frederick Malcolm (b.1856 m.1, Anne Butterworth and 2, Marion Mayfield, d.1911.) Louisa Maude Hammersley had no children. Frederick Malcolm had by his first wife a son, John Benjamin and, by his second a son Harry Robert and four daughters. (Information from Miss M.L. Graham.)

The papers listed below contain valuable information for the study of the economic development of South Australia as well as references to political affairs and biographical material on J.B. Graham. The continuity of the papers over approximately sixty years makes them a particularly important collection of source material for South Australian history. The diaries of J.B. Graham 1841 and 1842 give a vivid picture of life in Adelaide and of the foundations on which Graham's business as a storekeeper was built. The letters, covering 1848-1910, give the history of the Burra Burra Copper Mine, of Graham's other interests and, from 1869, of Canowie and Curnamona Stations. There are also papers relating to these stations until their sale in 1926. Among these papers the longest series is the Accounts, with Henry Ayers and later with H. and F. Rymill, of J.B. Graham and his heirs, which are fairly complete from 1854 to 1906 and the Canowie Accounts, Returns, etc. 1869-1894.

The negative microfilm of the papers is filed with other special films made under the Australian Joint Copying Project and positives have been placed in the National Library, Canberra, the Mitchell Library, Sydney and in the Public Library of South Australia.

Reel 1

1. Photograph of J.B. Graham in later life. (Carte de visite.)
2. Diaries of J.B. Graham and one July 28, 1848 - March 19, 1849 of Mr. Adams, his stepfather.
 - a. 1841-1842
March 8 - 1842 January 4 - 4to exercise book, 44 pp.
Diary kept in Adelaide by J.B.G. Many pages crossed as if to indicate that they have been noted elsewhere, perhaps in letters. Entries describe progress of his general store, business difficulties in the young settlement etc. J.B.G. speaks of "old Featherstone" sharing business with him. On July 31st 1841, he writes of Mr. Gummer "our traveller" going to New Zealand and of good business with New Zealand.
 - b. 1842.
January 1 - July 24. 4to exercise book, 44 pp. 7 blank.
Diary kept in Adelaide by J.B.G. Similar entries to Diary March 8, 1841 - January 4, 1842.
 - c. 1848-1849
January 12, 1848 - March 2, 1849. 4to exercise book
164 pp. Diary entitled: "J.B. Grahams Journal to England &c &c . . . and back again to Australia 1847 -1848 & 1849." No entries written up for 1847. Arrived at Southampton May 28th, 1848. Entries Jan. 12, 1848 - May 27, 1848 on voyage to England. May 28, 1848 -March 2, 1849 in England. J.B. must have intended to return but did not do so at this time. Suggestions for purchases to take back are written at end of the volume. The volume appears to have been given to J.B. Graham with title, dates and notes for suggested purchases etc. written in by his mother and stepfather?
 - d. 1848-1849
July 28, 1848 - March 19, 1849. Sm. 4to exercise book,
152 pp. Diary kept in Adelaide by John Adams, step-father of J.B. Graham. Entries show the prosperous state of the family affairs. Mr. Adams has written a note inside front cover: "continued. from Last Journal, sent you per the Queen the Last page was 51."
 - e-h. 1849-1851, 1858
4 Letters Diaries kept by J.D. Graham. 8vo. c.332 pp. 1851, 1849 includes an account of his marriage to Louisa Rymill on 20th March 1849. All entries are not written up and neither printed nor blank pages have been microfilmed.
1858 is a diary of a voyage to Australia and back January 17 to July 13.

3. Correspondence.

The correspondence shows the history of the Burra Burra copper mine, the South Australian Mining Association c.1848-1910 and of Canowie and Curnamona Stations while J.B. Graham and, later, his children and partners, were proprietors of these two stations 1869-1926. The letters also include remarks on the economic and political situation in the colony from time to time.

- a. Henry Ayers to J.B. Graham 1848-1870. Letters No. 1-13, 15 17-18, 20-21, 42, 45, 47-60, 63-65, Feb. 7, 1848 - Oct. 6, 1857. Letters No. 1-87, 89-125, 127-131, 134-137, June 8, 1858 - Jan. 4, 1870. Various sizes, c. 360 pp. Henry Ayers acted as agent for J.B. Graham until 1867 after which date H. & P. Rymill became his agents although Henry Ayers continued to act in some business matters until Jan. 4, 1870. There is a rough note of "Property belonging to J.B. Graham Dec. 27, 1857" now numbered No. 65a and an unnumbered letter May 11, 1858 giving list of his property, written on the "eve of your departure from South Australia." This letter is now numbered No. 65b. J.B. Graham made a brief visit to Australia in the first half of 1858. There is also a draft of a letter from J.B. Graham to Henry Ayers? May 12, 1857 now placed after No. 60 and now numbered No. 60a.

From 8th June, 1858 the numbering of the letters begins a new series. In this series there is a "Statement of the Property of John Benjamin Graham ... 1859." This is now numbered No. 14b.

- b. Henry Rymill to J.B. Graham 1858-1866 4to and 8vo, c.174 pp. Unofficial letters written before Henry and Frank Rymill became agents for J.B. Graham.

Reel 2 begins

- c. Henry Rymill and Frank Rymill to J.B. Graham 1867-1876. 4to and 8vo. c.890 pp. Letters, No. 1, June 28, 1867, (addressed to My dear Louisa) -No. 127, Dec. 29, 1867.

Note: An unnumbered letter Nov. 10, 1869, re Mr. R.B. James with attachments of later date is filed at beginning of 1877-1910.

Reel 3 begins

- d. Henry Rymill and Frank Rymill to H.R. Graham 1877-1910. Various sizes c.680 pp.

Letters No. 1 - No. 28, Jan. 26, 1877 - Jan. 26, 1879. Unnumbered letters July 11, 1879 - Oct. 3, 1910. (Sheets numbered 1-246.)

Henry and Frank Rymill were uncles of H.R. Graham and sometimes write to him as 'Dear Cousin' and sometimes as "Dear Nephew".

Note: An unnumbered letter No. 10, 1869 re Mr. R.B. James with attachments of later date up to 1877 is filed before letters 1-28, 1877-1879.

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- e. Canowie and Curnamona. Sale Correspondence 1910 and correspondence and papers 1925-1926, including printed pamphlet (folio, 12 pp.) entitled: Memorandum and Articles of Association of Canowie Pastoral Company, Limited. Incorporated the 19th day of September, 1874.

4. Canowie Reports

- a. Manager's and Overseer's Reports etc. 1869-1877. c.50 pp. 4to.

These papers have a slip attached:-

Canowie partnership etc.
Manager's Reports
Overseer's -
1869-1876

The first document is a report dated 2nd March, 1870 and giving a report "Since the Station has been in our bands ..." The last document is a copy of a letter from Thomas Goode to Messrs. H. & F. Rymill.

- b. Canowie Pastoral Company Limited Annual Reports. Printed, 4to and fol. 1895-1899, 1902, 1905, 1908.

Reel 4 begins

5. Accounts of J.B. Graham and his children

- a. J.B. Graham in account current with Henry Ayers 1854-1870 and with H. & F. Rymill 1867-1875. Quarterly accounts and biennial statements. Various sizes, c.134 sheets. (Account for February 20th 1854 is "signed" "George Green".)
- b. J.B. Graham, the late J.B. Graham's Estate, Miss Graham and H.R. Graham, Malcolm Graham in account with H. & F. Rymill 1876-1878 1893-1906. Quarterly accounts. Statement January 1879 and statement of M. Graham's Trust 1st July 1901. c.34 sheets.

6. Canowie Accounts

- a. Sanders James & Co. in account current with H. & F. Rymill. November 1869 - June 1881.
Various sizes, 0.184 sheets.
(Attached to the accounts are Valuations of Canowie Station, Particulars of yearly profit and expenditure, Summary of stock returns etc. 1870 - Dec. 1879. There is also a letter re purchase of Curnamona dated 7 Sept. 1875. 4 pp. 8vo with sketch map.)
- b. The Canowie Proprietors in account current with H. & P. Rymill. June 1880 - December 1894. Various sizes, c.180 sheets. (Attached to the accounts are Valuations of Canowie Station 1850-1897. Valuations and Returns for 1852-1893 are given for both Canowie and Curnamona Stations).

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- c. Canowie Returns 1870-1888. Rough summaries. 3 sheets, various sizes.

Miscellanea

South Australian Mining Association and Burra Burra Copper Mine.

- a(i) Copy? of a letter signed : Eureka concerning the South Australian Mining Association and the value of the Burra Burra Mines. A different hand has added the date : "27 Dec 1847" after the postscript. 8 pp. foolscap.
- a(ii) South Australian Mining Association Limited. Reports 1882, 1884, 1889-1890, 1893 and 1910 c.13 pp. Fol.and 4to.
- a(iii) John Darlington to the Chairman and Directors of the South Australian Mining Association September? 1868 and September? 1868. Two letters, the second a long report. Both letters are copies on thin paper and for the most part quite illegible. 13 pp. 4to (Not microfilmed)
- b(i) Plan of Glen Warwick and Baratta Stations ... 1889. Printed.
- b(ii) Estimated Receipts and Expenditure Glen Warwick and Baratta Runs. MS.
- c. B. Laughton & Co.'s Weekly Circular. September 21st, 1882 and September 24th, 1885. 2 sheets 4to.
- d. Report upon the value of ... No. 15, Warrior Square, St. Leonards on Sea. October 2nd 1878.

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- viii) Letters July-Dec. 1879 Henry Rymill.
 - ix) 1911-10. Henry Rymill to H. R. G.

 - x) Hayward Correspondence.

 - xi) Letter of R. B. James. 1883, 1877 etc. re: Canowie.
14. Louisa Graham. Settlement.
15. Photos etc.
Mrs. J. B. Graham c. 1853. Color Daguerrotype. J. B. Graham. 1849.
(Presentation at Court]).
- Margaret, mother of J. B. G. (Margaret Adams) n.d. Colour Daguerrotype.
- Photos (mounted in ovals) of Louisa Hammersley (1851-1924) & Mary Ann
Watson, 'Tabby.'
- Photos mounted of Louisa Hammersley.
- Photo album - postcards of Normanville, Bald Hills, etc. South Australia.
- Rouge Croix Jewel.
16. i) J. B. Graham's Inventory of 16 April 1839.
- ii) J. B. G.'s Certificate of Baptism.
- iii) Birthday Cards (written on gold paper) for Margaret Adams 28 Feb. 1856
and Jon Adams to 'my very dear grandson' -- i.e. H. R. G.
- iv) Family letters
Mrs. Margaret Adams to her grandson = H. R. G. 4 letters.
Louisa Graham to Tab.