

Russells Creek
July 11th/65

My Dear John,

I received your letter of April, last week and today have a spell to because the river is rushing down at the rate of knots rising 1ft [one foot] per hour in consequence of a few hours rain, it burst into our shaft and drive and smothered it but I went down and fished out a few tools this morning. Mount Baw Baw the highest mount in Gipps land is only 20 miles from here it is 5,500 feet and the source of the Tangil is/

in it so when there is a little fresh it comes down rather fast. The Tangil is scarcely as large as the Avon at home but it has a very fast current of course like all of these mountain streams they rise very rapidly and go down as fast. We shall make a little rise out of this claim in the river when we can work it, it will take us about 6 weeks to turn the bed of the river for 100 yards and then about 6 weeks to take all the gold out of it, this river is very patchy it is only at the base there is much gold but I suppose we shall make about 2 pounds weight of gold per man ^{clear} (3 of us) for 3 months work, then we shall take on a few wages men. I and my mate found a blow of a quartz reef last week we could get a good show in a tin dish rough crushing with a pick but the reef is I have no doubt about 200 or 300 feet/

below and it would want a hundred or two to find it perhaps. There is no news here to talk about. I take in a Melbourne weekly paper and I see by the mail news that Miss Kent has confessed to the Road murder, and also that the Confederates are smashed and Lincoln assassinated. I have been quite well except a day now and then since I have been in the colony. I shall drop on something heavy some of these days, and then shall get on like a house on fire, when I make my rise out of this river this summer. I can turn my hand to anything now I am not at all afraid of my pile. I have not heard from Martha since she has been married, remember me to her and Edward when you write. I had a letter from Henry with yours, he directed "Russells Creek nr Melbourne". I don't know if he calls 100 miles/

near or not. You had better direct to Melbourne after you receive this because I might not be here. I have not written to Martha or Howard or Rogers this mail because I have not received any letters from them yet. But I shall send to Melbourne Post Office next week when I send this for all my letters of two last mails, and then perhaps I shall hear from some of them. I am glad to hear you are all right you must mind and keep so. Henry told me you had the cup presented to you at the dinner but you did not send me an account of it. I suppose Molly's mind will be easy about London now she has been there again, remember me to her and Emma and Mr. and Mrs. Foley, and Mr. and Mrs. Martin and all that, ask.

I remain
Your affectionate brother
William
[Graham]