

June 9th 1985

Dear Mr. Aulden,

Your name was given to me by the Glam/Gwent Archaeological Trust as I understand you are the local historian for Cowbridge.

I am making enquiries on behalf of a friend in Australia who is researching our 'mutual' paternal name of SANDLAND, and as her ancestors lived in Cowbridge and earlier St. Nicholas, I was hoping to obtain some local knowledge and perhaps some guide books/postcards/photographs etc. to forward to her. Has your Society produced any booklets or anything that you think would be of interest? I have already obtained the book on Cowbridge by David M. Robinson produced by the Glam/Gwent Arch. Trust Ltd., and I would be very interested to have pictures of the church at St. Nicholas and also the Broadway, Cowbridge (if it still exists). Needless to say, I would be happy to cover all costs.

With regard to local knowledge, I would be very interested to learn details of the larger estates in your area, as the ancestor in question, GEORGE SANDLAND was listed as a Game-keeper on the 1851 census (living at Broadway). He married ANN DEAKIN in Lichfield in 1821 and he was recorded as 'of the par. of St. Nicholas, Glam'. They returned to St. Nicholas and had 2 daughters, (both died young), and a son CHARLES DEAKIN SANDLAND, all baptised at St. Nicholas. On the 1841 census they were living at Daff(?) Lodge. George was 50yrs old and listed as Gamekeeper. Incidentally, do you know of 'Daff Lodge' - does it still exist? Charles, who studied at Eagle Academy and his school books are in the possession of my friend in Australia, later became a book seller and is believed to have had a shop in Cowbridge. Charles emigrated to Australia sometime between 1851 and 1856.

There could be some connection with a place called Cottrel which I know can be found just outside St. Nicholas. I mention this place as is the first piece of news that Ann mentioned

in her letter to her son in Australia dated Llanblethian, September 29 1856. The letter is 4 pages long and full of local news and gossip, mentioning many names and places. I have a copy of this letter and would be happy to send you a copy for your records if you are interested.

Finally, do you know where I could contact a Mr. Philip Riden who I understand has done some extensive work on Llanblethian and the Great House (which is also mentioned in Ann's letter).

I would be most grateful if you could assist me with these enquiries. I enclose a s.a.e. and look forward to hearing from you at your convenience.

Thanking you in anticipation,

Yours sincerely,

Norma Holl

P.S. Please forgive the one-fingered typing!

6-7-85.

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Dear Mr Aulden

Thank you for your letter - my apologies firstly for the delay in replying (we have been away on holiday) and secondly for the confusion regarding your address - I'm relieved you were able to sort it out.

As you can see, I've enclosed a copy of Ann Sandland's letter to her son Charles in Australia. As it isn't very easy to read first ~~time~~ time round I have enclosed a copy of my 'translation! Lack of punctuation and Ann's habit of putting 'h' in front of is and as, makes it difficult to read but I'm sure you will get the gist of it. Some of the sentences make no sense at all - I wonder if any of it appears clearer to you being a "local". I know Pearl Collins in Australia would be interested in your comments on the letter.

I have also enclosed a rather bad copy of an ordnance survey map of Llanblethian. Would it be possible for you to indicate on the map the position of Broadway and return it in the enclosed envelope, along with a copy of the Cowbridge Trail. I have enclosed 26p in stamps to cover the cost. Although I'm sure the guide to Cowbridge Church is interesting, I think the church has been suitably covered in the book 'Cowbridge' that I have already purchased - a guide to the church at St. Nicholas would be welcome though should one exist. Charles was baptised there and presumably his sisters were buried there (Elizabeth and Jane Sandland ~~x~~ both died sometime between Jan and March 1844).

Your offer to photograph the church and Broadway is gratefully received. Even if the older properties at Broadway are not the actual one that George and Ann lived in, perhaps you could photograph them anyway - it would give Pearl some idea of what they were like. Please let me know the cost and I will send it by return of post.

Do you have any idea on the location of Daff Lodge, St. Nicholas?

If you do get the opportunity to obtain a copy of the 1851 census, perhaps you would be good enough to watch out for the listing of Charles Sandland's book shop (somewhere in New Cowbridge). In one of the books that Pearl has is written against Charles' name, Bookseller of New Cowbridge. A hasty search on my part through the census failed to find him.

Please be assured that any help you are able to give would be gratefully received.

Thank you for the copy of John Sterling's account of Llanblethian. It would seem that he was at Eagle Academy at about the same time as Charles. It certainly does give a lovely impression of the place and will certainly bring the name 'Llanblethian' alive to Pearl so many thousands of miles away.

Once again, my thanks for your help - I hope you find the letter interesting.

Kind regards

Norma How

Dear Mr Alden,

Thank-you for your letter and the Newsletter you sent a while ago. I am indebted to you for all your help - it's very much appreciated.

I had hoped to have heard from my friend in Australia by now and was waiting to ~~hear~~ ^{pass on} the response. However, I've not heard from her yet, but I'm sure she would want me to pass on her thanks.

In answer to one of your earlier questions - unfortunately it would seem that Ann's letter was the only one that has survived the passage of time and that's a small miracle in itself in my estimation. However, Pearl does have some

books that belonged to Charles. When I first saw Ann's letter and realized its "worth", ~~the~~ I asked Pearl the same question - are there any more? The list of books in her possession are:-
 (Are you ready for this: - !!)

'A Selection of Hymns' - inside is written
 "Job Jones Book, June 8 1830 Bradford/^(?)Briddford
 is my dwelling place. Mr Cuningun was taken
 to Coedfear (?) to steal this book. It is
 a shame for years you see the owners name."

A Grammar of Geography

"Charles Sandland His Book Jan 27 1845
 St Nicholas school."

Pearl was intrigued by the map of Australia in this book. The western side was called New Holland and the eastern side was New South Wales running north to south the entire length.

Johnson's Dictionary

"Ann Deakin 1810" (Deakin was Ann's maiden
then underneath name).

"Charles Sandland's Dictionary 1845"
then in the back

"Ann Deakin her book December 1817"

The London Minstrel

"Geo Price 1835"

A System of Geography

"L. Bruce (or Druce)

The Young Ladies Practical Guide to Figures + Accounts

"The Miss Hysanghts." In the back "Thomas
Hysaght"

The New Testament

"Charles Sandland from Mrs Bruce (? Pryse)
Jan (or Jun) 7 1842"

Modern Geography

"C. Sandland Eagle Academy, Cowbridge

Don Juan

Melbourne N.S.W. Jan 13 1849.

Then come the exercise books!

" Charles Sandland's copy May 16 1843
 Proof Charles Sandland from Sake (? Lake)
 Remg (Bemg) Thomas Charles, Charles George
 (then list of names too difficult to read)

Charles Deakin Sandland Nov 29 1850
 Eagle Academy Cowbridge

Charles Sandland, Saint Nicholas near Cardiff
 Glamorganshire, South Wales now residing
 at Broadway, New Cowbridge in the Parish
 of Hanbletham. Bookseller.

Charles Sandland of Daffryn Aged 13 $\frac{1}{2}$ 1844

In his copy book Charles made a note:-
 "Sept 8th 1846 horse and cart for conveying
 Matthew to Cardiff to be examined by the
 magistrates 3, 6."

Also - written in one of the books is a
 little ditty -

"Steal not this book my dearest friend
 For fear the gallows will be thy end
 For when you die the word will say
 Where is that book you stole away."

A small bible has also survived and
 inside

"Jane Sandland Dec 19 1842 St. Nicholas School
 from Miss Bruce".

Obviously a school prize! She would have been 8 yrs.

Incidentally, Charles Sandland died in
 1909 in Victoria, Australia aged 78 yrs.

Although he lived in the area of the
 goldfields, he was by occupation a Farmer.

When he was 27, he married Maria Day, Jun 18⁵⁵
 (a native of Thornbury, Glos) in Victoria and
 they had 8 children, and Pearl is one of
 the 30 gt-grandchildren of Charles & Maria.

I was intrigued to see the results
 of Ann's letter in the Newsletter. 15
 fascinating to see so much interesting
 information revealed.

Lanblethian September 29 1856

My Dear Son,

I embrace the opportunity of sending a letter direct to you which I hope will find you in perfect good health. We are both well in bodily health. Your father's lameness is better. Our peas were blighted this summer but there was good crops of everything else. The potatoes are very fine both early and late, large in size and so mealey. August 23 at Cottrell died Charles Frederick Tyler esq aged 30, second son of Sir George. Miss Sullivan, Lewis Bruce ~~wife~~ wife had had another baby born. The late Dean's wife is dead so the property all comes to Lew now: he is going to live at the Great House, so John Evans is going to build a house where old Thomas Griffiths, Ann Reece and Eules live. They're all to come down, ~~where~~ Simpleton Evans to spend all his money to build on other people's land. Herwain Monster blast of Penderyn Limestone quarries 147 feet high was cleared out to a length of ten yards and the small quantity 10 cwt of powder exploded. The match was fired and in eleven minutes from the time, the bottom of the quarry a mass ten feet thick for 20 yards square was literally ejected and the superincumbent mass of 120 feet high came rolling down like a flood and filling the quarry with its torrent of stone to the amount of 12000 tons certain. Many compute it at 15000 tons. There were stones from 150 to 250 tons each thrown quite distinct separate. T. Crawshay (signature?) Barnes has left the post office and he's gone to live in the ^{Bush (low)} bush. The person he has married is a native of Berkshire. Her father has been over here this summer. James came down to Cowbridge a few weeks back to go a sea bathing and they thought he would have died whilst he was here. He went to London on Saturday, the Doctor told him he was fit to go, now Jane is very poorly. Charlotte Whap^(Penderyn low)ham at Penderhighland (is) keeping a boarding school. There cannot be many children there. John Jones wants me to write to you every month as they do to Thomas. "You know where to direct to Thomas and I do not" I said, then John begins to point out where you must look in the Melbourne paper to find out Charles Sandland, "But I hope to see him soon, John", "Yes" says John, "But I know he would like to have letters". Their brother is six miles now from Ballarat, a Master Shoemaker.

I suppose you have heard from Mrs Owen of Cymmer Collery accident, 140 killed. William Thomas, ad did live at Duffryn, Waggoner, and his brother ^{Jabez} ~~Jacobs~~ Thomas, two of the name of Rowlands, five men in all, are committed for trial but it appears ^{Jabez} ~~Jacobs~~ Thomas is the chief in fault. Old Jacobs of the Red Lion by the toll gate is paying off his debts in Cardiff Gaol. Jenkin Morgan has left the Greyhound and

gone to live in Cardiff. He has been beating his wife so much, near killed her several times, so the people of Cowbridge will not support him.

We keep the other cheque until I hear from you what we are to do with it, but I hope my dear son I shall see you soon. Numbers of people have left Wales this summer for Australia; sixty three went out of the Vale of Glamorgan. Last week young Jane Edwards had liked to be confined of a baby in the Parsons house. S. Harbottle says Mrs Bruce found it out on a Saturday and the parson questioned Jane and it was ^{by} a poor boy at What's the Butchers, so then Mrs Bruce went to him and told him he must marry her on the next day, so he married on the Sunday and she went to old Betty's and was ~~xxxx~~ confined in an hour. The late Road Surveyor Allixander's wife has been in prison in Cardiff this last fifteen weeks for stealing a sheet of ^{Tom} ~~Tom~~ (or) Lidmer the Butchers, ^{hedge or line} ~~edge or line~~ to sell to buy drink. She is waiting for her trial but I think she had had enough. What will them fine people at the public house at Dowlais think? Young Jenkins has deceived poor Mary. Harbottle is going fast. The doctor has told him he will not attend him if he drinks so but he says he will drink. The shopman at Parsons is relat(ed) to him. He says he cannot live long. I told you he would not prosper. Margaret George has now two children and she is not eighteen. I am very lonely here Charles. Sometime I see no-one nor speak to anyone for months together. All my wish(es) and hope(s) is to see you. I hope to have a letter from you soon. Please to give my love to Mrs Owen. Neither you nor Miss E. Frood sends me word whether Mrs Owen has a little child. Your father often brings me tales of people praising you but I cannot always relate what some people(s) tongues say. I have had enough of lies long since. He says Davey Jones wants to write to you. I must conclude with both our dear love to you. I remain your ever affectionate

Mother Ann Sandland

Any comments or information would be welcome!

Jeff Alden.

Inventory of Books that Charles Deakin Sandland brought with him to Australia c 1854

1. Ledger A Sold by David Davis, Stationer etc Cowbridge (on the cover) foolscap sized book with Month & day columns on left of page & 4 columns on right side of page. I wonder if the names in this ledger are fictitious or real people.. eg Mr Alderman Ableman, Mr Charles Anderson, Mr Conrade Compound, Mr James Elford of Bath, Mr Samuel Edwards, Mr John Baker, Mrs R. Barber Bristol, Captain James Dixon, Miss Fanny Dawson, Sir Jonas Moore, Mr Matthew Milton of Norwich David Johnson Esqr.

Lady Strawberry, Sir Jeffery Slingstone, Samuel Simpson Esqr.

2. Day Book A. Sold by David Davis, Stationer etc Cowbridge. Foolscap sized book with one column on left side of page & 3 columns on the right.. Surnames as above in this book.

3. size smaller than A4 Owner: Charles Sandland ditty: Steal not this book my dearest friend, for fear the gallows will be thy end. But when you die the Lord will say, where is that book you stole away. Maths book. Application for Multiplication. Not dated.

4. Size as above Owner Charles Sandland Maths book Simple Interest Continued. Not dated.

5. Owner Charles Sandland St Nicholas near Cowbridge, near Cardiff, Glamorganshire South Wales. Scribbled through this is the name of William Thom..??as

Size as above another Maths book Practice continued. On the back page Charles Sandland St Nicholas School.

6. Similar sized book. Astronomy Charles Sandland 1850 covers the solar system, The Sidereal System, Geographical Definitions, Of the whole earth, Europe, Sweden... all in magnificent copy plate writing. On the last page Charles Deakin Sandland Nov 29th Eagle Academy Cowbridge 1850.

7. Similar sized book Charles Sandland Daffryn aged 13½ Names of Edward Muster, William George, Chas John. A writing exercise book but not the copy plate as the one above. Charles dates a letter from Daffryn July 10th 1845. Pithy statements eg. Be constant in some commendable employment. Clamour occasions disgust. Fear accompanies deceit. Example commonly has more influence than precept. Govern with impartiality. Favours indiscriminately bestowed prevent emulation. Delight in improvement.

"Sept 8th 1845 A horse & cart for conveying Matthew to Cardiff to be examined by magistrates"- written throughout page with has Staffordshire in copy plate writing. Name of William Edwards, David Duncan.

8, Slightly smaller book. Charles Sandland's copy May 16th 1843 Names of Thomas Charles & Charles George. Maths book on Vulgar fractions. No other details.

9. Same sized book. Maths again. Miscellaneous Questions in all the foregoing Rules. The book itself is pink coloured with boy & pony No 17 pictured on what I would

call the back. Several other motifs of ponies form a border of the cover. On the front cover is the multiplication table 20 x 20!

10. Charles Sandland of Saint Nicholas now residing at Broadway near Cowbridge in the Parish of Llanblethian Glamorganshire, Book seller. Maths / Business lessons. Narrative of Transactions. I'm wondering if some of these books are his father's business books. On One page he has written George Thomas of Landaff Court. Charles father's George Sandland of Lanblethian, Cowbridge, Glamorganshire is now mentioned. Sold at Saint Nicholas to the Reverend William Bruce in disguise various other sundry articles for taking into consideration that the said bales of cloth were delivered into his hands for the same amounts of eatable as for every time the offer was ordained John Thomas Thomas (sic). More names John Bruce Fazce?? Esqr. Miss Margaret Frood / Trood of Treforu??. James Williams, John Thomas, Rhondda ? .

11. Another maths book. Charles Sandland Copy book May 5th 1844 Double rule of three vulgar fractions. No comments or names in this book.

12. Same sized book as No 9 Pink coloured but picture of Tower of Babel No 13. Still with horse motifs around the edge of the cover. Another maths book. Extraction of the Cube Root continued. No comments or names in this book.

13. A sturdy cover to this book & the paper is the same as the paper Ann Sandland used to write to her son in 1854! Pale blue. There are several blank (unused) pages at the back of this exercise book. Book of Maths problems & answers. Copy plate writing & figures... beautiful. That's all the exercise books.. now onto text books.

14. Goldsmith's Grammar of Geography, Charles Sandland his book Jan 27th 1845 St Nicholas school. Printed by A Spottiswoode, New-Street-Square London. A grammar of general geography for the use of schools & young persons by the Revd. J. Goldsmith. Price 3/6 bound. Australia features as half New Holland & half New South Wales. In the year of 1831 Wales had a population of 805,236 inhabitants. The advertising at the back of the book is dated March 1840. A book of 212 pages size of book 9x14 1/2x 2 1/2 cms.

15. The young ladies practical guide to figures and accounts. By James Morrison Accountant London Printed for Samuel Maunder Newgate Street 1828 Price 3/6 It has the name of Miss Lysaughts ? No comments in it. Size 11 x 18 x 1 cms.

16. Orthographical exercises. Charles Sandland Printed 1849 a Series of moral letters by James Alderson carefully revised by the Rev Thomas Smith. 108 pages no comments in it. Size 9 x 15 x 1/2 cms.

17. Society for promoting Christian Knowledge embossed on the cover. But it is a New Testament to Charles Sandland from Mrs Bruce.... June 7 1842 Published J Bird, 52 Hatton Garden, London. 1841. In good order size 11 x 18 x 2 cms.

18. Reading made both easy & pleasing, by the real Sounds of each letter of The English Alphabet being affixed: and by Spelling and Reading exercises on a rational and interesting plan. (whew!) Printed for Mess Hobday & Ryder, Albion-House, Birmingham, by G. Nicholson, Printer, Stourport 1809. 70 pages size 9 x 14 x 1 cms. At the end of the book there are Rules for behaviour, of behaviour at school, or

behaviour at church or chapel, of behaviour at home. Behaviour at meals. Behaviour in company. A well used but extremely quaint book.

19. Whittaker's improved editions of Pinnock's catechisms.... Modern Geography improved edition, Whittaker and Co, Ave Maria, London, Price Ninepence. C. Sandland Eagle Academy, Cowbridge. 16 June 1840 (with 10 maps). The whole book is a Q & A style. Size 14 x 9 x 1 cms 82 pages

20. Ewing's Geography 18 x 11 x 2½ cms. Sold by William Whyte & Co. 13 George St Edinburgh. A system of Geography for the use of schools and private students, on a new and easy plan from the latest and best authorities. By Thomas Ewing. Teacher of Elocution, Grammar and composition, Geography, History and astronomy, No 59 South Bridge, opposite the college Edinburgh. Published by Oliver & Boyd, Tweeddale-Court (sic) and Simpkin & Marshall, London 1830. Price bound with nine maps 6s 6d or without maps 4s 6d. 312 pages, beautifully bound. It is a comprehensive text with some quaint but accurate comments about Australia & its settlement.

21. 7½ x 14½ x 2½ cms. A whole text book of Don Juan. Something was pasted onto the inside front cover but has been torn off except for Melbourne Jan 13th New South Wales The cover is quite embossed, no date evident in the book

22. A selection of hymns from the best authors including a great number of originals intended to be an appendix to Dr Watts's Psalms and Hymns (sic) by John Rippon D.D. The twentieth edition with the additional hymns and the names of the tunes adapted to the hymns. London Sold by the author, No 11 Grange Road and at his vestry, Carter Lane, Tooley Street. By Longman and Co; Button and Son; Gale and Co; Sherwood and Co. Paternoster Row; Williams, Stationers Court; and by most other Booksellers. Entered at Stationers' Hall.

A Paris, Printer 19 Great New Street, Fetter Lane, London.

The preface to the tenth edition is by John Rippon No 11 Grange Road, Southwark. Inside the front cover Job Jones June 8. 1830 Briddford is my dwelling place (sic). Ditty inside back cover. Job Jones book To steal this book It is a shame for year you see the owner name. A note also.. Mr Counyun was taken & ... ? 588 hymns included. No music.. just words.

Size 9 x 14½ x 4 cms. Beautifully bound.

23. Johnson's Dictionary of the English Language in miniature to which are added an alphabetical account of the Heathen Deities. A collection of quotations and phrases from the Latin, French etc. and a copious chronology. A new Edition, improved. London Printed and sold by Dean and Munday 35 Threadneedle Street 1816. Charles Sandland Dictionary 1845. In microscopic printing. Size 9 x 14 x 2½ On the inside of the back cover are the words.. Ann Deakin her book December 1817! (Prior to her marriage in 1821 at St. Chads alias Stowe, Lichfield, Staffordshire).

24. A plain and short History of England for children: In letters from a father to his son, with a set of questions at the end of each letter. By George Davys D.D. Lord Bishop of Peterborough, Sixth Edition London. Printed for J.G.F. & J. Rivington, St Paul's Church Yard, and Waterloo Place, Pall Mall 1843. A beautiful drawing faces the title pages of Edward VI. Size of book is 9 x 14½ x 2 cms. My husband said this the most helpful book he has read on the history of England and kings & queens! It is very readable.

25. The London Minstrel; a Collection of English, Irish and Scotch Songs set to music, for the voice, flute or violin. London. Printed for Dean and Munday, Threadneedle-Street; and A.K. Newman and Co Leadenhall-Street. Name of Geo Price 1835 in both the front and back of the book – 3 times actually.. Size of book 9½ x 15 x 1½ cms

Drink to me only with thine eyes, being one of the tunes. I don't know any of the other words.

26. A little New Testament (my brother has it) small probably (from memory) 8 x 4 x 2 with two little clasps on the side (to keep it shut) To Jane Sandland St Nicholas School Dec 19th 1842 from Mrs / Miss Bruce.

That completes the list. Like the contents of the letter Jeff, you would get more out of the details than I would. If I can be of further help do please ask.

Now can I ask a couple of questions... Have you found any details to verify that the Sandlands were booksellers like it said in the books? In the 1841 & 1851 census it declares that George in fact was a gamekeeper. In the 1841 census of St Nicholas Ref HO/107/1417 Folio 4. Page 2 it said that 5 persons comprised the household George, Ann, Charles, Jane & Elizabeth 50, 45, 9, 7, 5 yrs respectively. In the 1851 census Cowbridge Parish of Llanblethian Ref HO 107 / 2461 Folio 481 Page 18 the only persons are George 64yrs, Ann 55yrs & a huntsman Edwin USHER (Lodger) who was 22 yrs.

Is there a cemetery at St Nicholas? Would that be where I would find **Jane** (bapt 20.4.1834 St Nicholas & d March quarter 1844 in Wales & **Elizabeth** bapt 22.5.1836 & d. in the same quarter 1844. **George** the youngest bap 18.7.1839 & died as an infant. I found the grave of Ann & George in Llanblethian.. is there a cemetery for Cowbridge?

With that I must close off.

Yours sincerely & thankyou again,

Pearl Collins.

7.2.87

Dear Mr Alden,

I was very much taken with the letter from Ann Sandland which you published in the new Cowbridge newsletter (and I am very grateful to the Society for continuing to send the newsletter to me over the years). You ask for comments; I think I can offer a few.

It seems to me that St Nicholas rather than Cowbridge or Llanblethian is the focus of the news/gossip in the letter. The family must have lived for some years at Dyffryn (=Daff) Lodge and they continued to take a detailed interest in the affairs of the Bruce family of Dyffryn and the Tylers of Cottrell and the humbler residents of the parish. Lewis Bruce, who was going to live at the Great House, St Nicholas, following the death of his aunt, the widow of William Bruce Knight, Dean of Llandaff, in July 1856, was a younger son of the squire of Dyffryn. (Mrs Bruce Knight was, by the way, a sister of the Rev. John Montgomery Traherne of Coedriglan.) Lewis Bruce was the father of Sir Gerald Bruce of St Hilary, whom many in Cowbridge will remember as lord lieutenant before Sir Cennydd Traherne.

Further down the letter there is a reference to Mrs Bruce who forced Jane Edwards to marry in the nick of time. This Mrs Bruce was the wife of Lewis's brother, William Bruce, who was rector of St Nicholas from 1840 to 1872. "Whats the butcher" was William Watts of St Nicholas! The Harbottles were farmers at Tinkinswood.

The famous Cymer Colliery explosion occurred on 15 July 1856; 114 were killed, not 140. Jabez Thomas, the manager, Rowland Rowlands, the overman, Morgan Rowlands, the fireman, and others were indicted on the findings of the coroner's inquest and were tried for manslaughter at the Assizes at Swansea in March 1857. They were found not guilty. The full story is told by E.D.Lewis in the Transactions of the Hon. Society of Cymmrodorion, 1976, pp.119-161.

There are references to several public houses - Bush, Red Lion and Greyhound - which were all in Cowbridge.

The comment about the number of people who had recently left the Vale for Australia is very interesting. It reminded me of a letter I came across printed in the Bridgend Chronicle for 19 December 1857. It is from John Harry who had emigrated to Melbourne. He writes to his father in Llantwit Major: "My dear Father, I wish you to tell Dr Carne that all young men and females that come to him to get information to emigrate to Victoria, I hope that gentleman will give them his good advice, and tell them to stop in the old country." (Dr Carne was J.W.Nicholl-Carne of Dimlands.)

I wonder if the "Davey Jones" mentioned at the end of the letter could possibly be David Jones of Wallington, then a young man living at Great House, Llanblethian?

There are many other points in the letter that I cannot explain. The detail about the quarries at Penderyn is particularly puzzling; why should an old lady in Llanblethian give her son this information? I hope other people will come up with further explanations.

Yours sincerely,

Ruan James

Dear Mr Alden,

Australia
24-11-87

Mrs Neima Holt sent onto me the copy of the Bowbridge, District L.I.S. Newsletter No 25. Feb. 87 - In it is my 9.9. grandmothers letter to her son from Llanblethian, Wales to Australia. - you so kindly included - In your covering letter to her you mentioned that George & Ann Sandland's tombstone is in the Llanblethian churchyard & that the register only says they were of Llanblethian & does not specify where they lived. -

I'm wondering what the tombstone actually says - dates - relationships & who signed the register - or provided the details - as that covered Charles Deakin SANDLAND, their son came to Australia probably 1854 the year when least of the shipping lists was survived - married in July 1858 & had 8 chn. of whom my grandfather Charles Alfred was No 6.

As Mrs Holt told you, I have all his school books both text & work books of his 11-14 yrs age bracket & that one letter was with the box of books.

I shall enclose 2 I.R.C for your use & an addressed envelope.

My Sandland history research has suffered of late I was sick a couple of years ago & more recently have prepared for the printer 100 pages A4 with 2,200 family members ^{the story} of the Marsh family - John Marsh came from Walsure (Devizes). One day I hope

to travel & see these places for myself. but with
three teenagers (18, 21, 27) there in tertiary schooling)
travel will have to wait - however I can get all
my research done or most of it - except for
items eg. what on Tombston in the U.K. - whilst
I'm waiting & saving !!

I would be most grateful if you could
help. - Anything you deem helpful would
be appreciated.

Yours sincerely & Christmas
greetings to you & yours.

Leare Collins

MOAMA is a small country town on the Murray
River at its closest point to Melbourne ^{Victoria} - over
the river from the Victorian town of Lichee.
Moama's pop. about 2000. Lichee 8,500. - no major
industry - because NSW permits poker machines
& Vic doesn't & there is a continual influx to
"over the border" from Victoria to play the machines
hoping for instant wealth!