

Other letters are from Edmund Barton, Alfred Deakin, J. Fuller, R. E. Groom, G. King Hall, F. W. Holder and W. A. Holman.

The papers of Sir Henry Parkes contain 8 letters to the poet Robert Browning, 3 to Professor Richard Owen and about 50 to Henry Halloran (1866-1880). The latter mainly concern routine administrative matters but several are memorable for the way they illuminate Parkes' attitudes towards his work and issues with which he was concerned. On a letter from H. McLean to Halloran asking whether Mr Parkes would have any objection to a sentence of flogging being passed on a prisoner who was being particularly difficult, Parkes's directive was 'I think in cases of obstructive resistance to the Authorities accompanied by abusive and unseemly language, flogging may with great caution be resorted to'.

Later in June 1879 he writes to Halloran:

If I could persuade myself that it would not be a wicked injury to you—I would say take my seat in the Assembly. I should be glad at heart never to set eyes upon that place again. The ties formed may be too strong for me to sunder it is not easy to break through the meshes woven round one by the toils and associations of 25 years, but service in Parliament is now an irksome bondage to me. That you yearn for such a life must be that you little know what it is.

In fact Parkes continued on in political life until the 1890s. His letters to Browning, however, show the reverence he felt towards the great poets and the part his own literary endeavours played in his life.

Agnes Bennett's extensive collection of diaries, correspondence, medical papers, reports, lectures, broadcasts and printed papers reflect her Australian origins. She received her early education and first degree in Sydney and returned there after medical training in Edinburgh to spend several years in private practice and as Medical Officer at Callan Park Hospital. During this time she lectured for the Ladies Sanitary Association, St John's Ambulance Association and other organisations. She then moved to New Zealand to a full and influential career, taking particular interest in maternal and neo-natal care and the establishment of St Helen's hospital. After she retired she joined the Australian Inland Mission's flying doctor service and in 1955 was again associated with Sydney University over the endowment of the William and Agnes Bennett Supersonics Laboratory. Throughout her life Dr Bennett kept in close contact with her family in Australia and although some family material was given to the Mitchell Library more is included here.

This survey concludes with the records of Australian institutions. There are specifications from the Department of Home Affairs, Works Branch, Sydney and a collection of documents preserved by J. A. Dowling (son of Judge J. S. Dowling) on the establishment of Sydney