

Wesleyan

Dear Sir / Ma'am,

Thank you for allowing me to enrol in your school. My name is Cadoc Trevithik and my family and I have just arrived from Penzance in Cornwall. My Papa was a tin miner back home and we have journeyed out to the Ballarat Goldfields so he can use his talents searching for gold. Mama looks after all eight of us children. We left from Falmouth aboard the Clipper ship Red Jacket. The voyage was long and arduous, even though the Red Jacket is one of the fastest ships afloat it still took just over 2 months for us to arrive in Geelong. We hardly had a chance to see the sun or smell fresh air in all that time, most of the trip we were kept down in the bowels of the ship, existing on ships biscuit and salt beef. The only time we were allowed on deck was to empty our night soil, for Church services and to gather more clothes from our trunks when they were brought up from the hold.

After arriving in Geelong, Papa was unable to obtain any form of transport except a wheelbarrow. So we loaded up everything we could and made our way to Ballarat on foot. The walk took us five days, our feet were so sore. When we finally made it to Ballarat, Mama was shocked to see how primitive the tents and huts were near the diggings. Both my parents were also shocked at the large amount of gambling houses, taverns and other places of evil temptation surrounding us. Then they were told about the new settlement over the rise at Pleasant Mount, founded by good Methodist people like ourselves, away from the drinking, gambling and other sinful activities nearer the main diggings.

Papa has joined with some men he met at Church and they have started a Deep Lead Mine near the Gravel Pits at Bakery Hill. Mama has set up our tent as neatly as she can and Papa promises to build us better accommodation as soon as he can afford it. I am looking forward to attending the Wesleyan Day School so that I can be taught all the important skills a young Man will need to obtain useful employment in our new homeland.

*Yours Sincerely,
Cadoc Trevithik.*
