

Up to the present moment neither Mr Hearn or the fruit  
have turned up. - I have not heard that the Austral with  
a small parcel of fruit had gone to the bottom of the Sea,  
so possibly it has not done so - and the fruit may simply  
have turned bad & Mr Hearn have turned sick at the loss -  
or have lost my address & the power of delivering the parcel.  
In order to protect the little picture from destruction which  
on the way to Mildura. I have had it packed in a rough  
and ready fashion, which you must excuse, and if you  
consider it worth hanging on your wall - probably you  
can get some very simple oak frame - to impart to it  
an importance which I fear it does not possess.

However! That is a thing for you to determine! and if  
it is not (in your estimation) "up to Concert pitch" you  
are at liberty to pitch it over to somebody who may  
not be blessed with taste & discrimination up to  
High Water mark. and may even consider it remarkably  
clever - and executed three or four centuries ago - by one  
of the Old Masters - who escaped drowning at the  
Flood - by clinging to a Mast as it floated past the Ark.  
If I hear nothing from you - I shall take it - that you  
have in some shape or other, satisfactorily disposed of it!  
The weather here is tolerably warm - though not up to what  
you are content with - viz - 115 in the shade?

With kind regards - I remain still alive -  
yours truly  
Edward Henry Corbould  
Robert R. Corbould Esq. Mildura.

J. Trebovir Road. Earl's Court. June 18<sup>th</sup> 1896.

Dear Mr Corbould. Nothing is too sure in this  
World - except death & taxes! - Some months ago,  
the little painting of your wonderful horse, was within  
half a day's work of being finished, when I had to  
go suddenly to the Isle of Man - and after several  
weeks - I returned to town - & found that there had  
been "a Spring cleaning" in my studio, & things just  
away, preparatory to the wedding of my daughter Rosina.  
This has caused me much trouble to find things which  
I daily require to use. All letters had been cleared  
away - letters I particularly wanted, & the one from  
you - (mentioning the name of your horse) is among the  
lot - so that I could not put the name on the picture.  
I feel it necessary to say a word - as an apology for  
such defects as may appear in the work. In the first  
place, as a man grows Old - such cunning as the hand  
once possessed - becomes weaker & weaker, till at last  
his work assumes only childish performance. -  
I happen to have turned 80. & my powers have taken  
to themselves wings - and flown away. Other things have  
done so before now - with other people! In your letter  
written from the Federal Palace Hotel, Collins Street West.  
Melbourne - you tell me that Mr. E. H. Hearn is sailing  
by the Austral on Saturday, March 28<sup>th</sup> with some fruit  
& that he will call upon me on or about the end of May.

P.S. In sending the little oil painting of your horse, - I was forced to study the Post Office to a certain extent, and to keep the packing-case as small as possible - & to avoid covering the work with glass - w<sup>ch</sup> probably would get smashed on the journey - and the painting cut to pieces and made worse than it is; A glass does prevent flies & dirt from soiling a work of Art. whether in Oil or in Water Colour. - so that if you cared to have a bit of glass - it wd be necessary to have a something to hold it in its place - such for instance - as what I have marked "Oak".



It is not difficult to perceive that a glass would have been sure to come to grief - if sent from London, and variously handled at different places between England & Australia before it reached Melbourne.

Edward H. Corbould. R.I.



to Robert R. Corbould Esq.  
June 18<sup>th</sup> 1890.