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Mr. Robert R. Corbould
42 Sturt Street.
BALLARAT.
Australia



Edward Deutz Corbould January 3rd 1890

Trust that none of you will be so silly as to get ill. & especially - that you will none of you go and get destroyed by fire - as you will read in the Daily Telegraph Jan 2nd 1890 - the Palace of the King of the Belgians was including a priceless collection of choice works of Art & valuable library of ancient M.S. &c. and as a lot of children were done to death - at Forest Gate - near Epping Forest. In one of the papers by this same mail - you will see the number of fires that have taken place in London week by week through the year. You have - as I see in your paper, been flying through the air in a Bicycle race.

I don't know whether your brother William Henry is in Ballarat or in South Africa. or he may be in New York! When last he wrote - you can tell him that the newspapers have not as yet struck us. I trust your Father's health is improved. you did not say anything about him. & as NO NEWS, IS GOOD NEWS? I conclude that his state is favourable.

Remember me kindly to all. & believe me to be

Your very truly
Edward Henry Corbould
Mr Robert R. Corbould

Trotton Road. S.W. 3rd January 1890.
Dear Mr Corbould. I am going to leave London for a time on a visit to the Clergyman at Fife in Tuscany. from which circumstance it may be that you will not get any news from me for a short period. Fife is an excellent place. i.e. it is a sort of place where you may get things that are sent from London, but not the kind of place where one could get any thing to send to London. There are some localities within a stone's throw of London or there large cities - where nothing is to be had, but that is, you can make where you know nothing of what is going on in other quarters. & where you may strive for want of means of getting provisions. I have got awfully confused in many ways. I know which way my head hangs, - that I have done, & what I have left undone that ought to be done.

I ought to have sent you a photo of myself in ec-cordance with your desire - & found one and as I thought - had put it up in some fashion to Post - but have no recollection as to what became of it. I may have sent it, or even taken it to the Post. but my mind is a blank on the subject. so I shall cease to trouble about it. As well as I can inform you about the monument in St. Kilda Cemetery. South Yvette. It is beneath a the oak. at least that was what the late Mrs. Birkmyre wrote & told me at the time. I will give you just a rough idea in a sketch. & etc. I shall enclose. Since the burial of my son

Ridley Edward Arthur Lamoth the Cobbold
there have been interments on either side of
him. (As only by what I have heard) one was
a Judge. & the other - a General, but I know no
more. I don't think I ever heard their names.
As it was not at all probable that the spaces
on the monument (4 faces) wd. ever be required
by one or any of my family - I at once gave the
whole thing up to the Birkmoyres - and I fear
they have had too much occasion to employ the
letter of inscriptions upon the marble. From the sketch
you may possibly find the Monument, I don't know
what a 'She Oak' is! it can be like unto the similitude
of a She bear! but you will doubtless know.
I rather imagine that Mrs Birkmoyre died a little
time after her husband. The family were very kind indeed
to my son. It was he that the Queen alluded to in writing
"The Queen feels so much for dear little Arthur."
The Royal Family always spoke of him as "Arthur."
The Princess Royal The Empress Victoria of Germany arranged
his name - as she said to me, before he was christened
"Give him a good round Royal name!" and the initials
as she arranged them R. E. A. L. mean Royal in Spain &c.

A Gentleman, a Stranger to me, one called, who
had been at St. Wille Cemetery - and he told me that
the monument had fallen into neglect, or had become
overgrown with rank weeds, or something of the sort,
he had given orders to somebody to have it properly attended to
and paid for it. That state of things would almost warrant
the belief that the Birkmoyre family must be either dead
or otherwise more from of the face of the earth in the neigh-
borhood of South Yarra. Things in the present day do go
off with wonderful rapidity. I will give you one instance.
A week ago I thought to myself - I will send the Christmas
Illustrated to London News - & the Christmas Graphic, to
Ballarat - and went to two Stationers' shops. & was told
that those Numbers had all been sold out, more than a week
might ago: the same thing was told me at both places.
I then applied at two Railway Bookstalls - but they
had told them all fully two weeks before, & assured me
that if there were to be a fresh issue (with them or not for)
they could sell as many again. I thought I was in good
time - but it only shows how very little in truth I do know.
I have heard of 35 having been offered for a copy of one of
the Illustrated Numbers - it was offered by an American.
I had known success in getting 2 numbers of Papers at
Christmas time - but they were not the "Christmas numbers"
so called. Now, I wish you all - all joy & gladness, and