

Mount Hedden  
July 30<sup>th</sup> 1886

My Dear Lucy

I received your  
~~welcome letter some weeks~~  
ago but there seems to be  
such a want of news or such  
want of courage on my part  
to sit down & ~~write~~ write what  
news there is that I owe a  
letter to every one of my  
correspondents & have no  
chance of getting another letter  
until I ~~write~~ write some &  
I delight in getting letters  
well now for the news I  
have not had it all before  
- but will we have had so

week or two time I have only  
seen her twice for a few minu-  
-utes each time since she came  
back Willie Appleton is still  
at the Park but I believe he  
is going to Ipsford in a bit  
~~every body~~ has got the witch  
fever about here & everybody  
going about with their  
pockets full of stones & each  
one declaring that they are  
just like Mount Morgan  
stone & still people will  
have black stone some  
white & some brown & some  
breasted with all the  
colours & each one has <sup>some</sup> the one  
about a month ago Barney  
Mountain was all the rage  
the latest is the surge behind





Much rain not heavy but  
steady persevering sort of  
rain that they have not been  
able to work the Saw Mill  
since Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> until yester-  
day in thick dull weather they  
cannot get steam up & when  
the rain was over they cou-  
-ld not draw logs

The Appletons has gone to live  
at Ipsford they have joined  
in with your Uncle Alfred  
in some form but I don't  
know how

when Emy went to Sydney  
she was only three week out  
of Rockhampton but having  
Mr Appleton with her <sup>she</sup> would  
be able to show her all the  
sights worth seeing in a



The Road & Stables is the spot  
for my own part I feel more  
interested in fat bullocks &  
the cattle market generally  
just at present than any  
thing else I suppose it shows  
my depraved taste

I feel now that my paper is  
near filled with all I have to  
say that it amounts to noth-  
ing so I will conclude  
with love to all hoping  
you are all quite well  
your affectionate Aunt  
Rebecca

P.S. I got a letter from your  
Father last week I will answer  
it shortly

