

AUSTRALIAN JOINT COPYING PROJECT

SIR ARTHUR HODGSON

Papers, 1837-90

Reels M675, M789-M790

**Mrs F.E. Spurway
Halse
Taunton Somerset**

**National Library of Australia
State library of New South Wales**

Filmed: 1956-57, 1971

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE

Sir Arthur Hodgson (1818-1902) was born at Rickmansworth, Hertfordshire, and educated at Eton. After serving in the Royal Navy, he emigrated to New South Wales in 1839. He leased a station in the New England district and in 1840, with his partner Gilbert Elliott, took up Eton Vale, the second run in the Darling Downs. He married Eliza Dowling, the daughter of Sir James Dowling in 1842. He struggled to make a living in the early years, but by the 1850s the property was on a secure footing and was the centre of Darling Downs society. He was the general superintendent of the Australian Agricultural Society in 1856-61.

Hodgson fought hard for the separation of Moreton Bay and the Northern District from New South Wales. He was a member of the Queensland Legislative Assembly in 1868-69 and served in the ministries led by Robert Mackenzie and Charles Lilley. In 1870 he and his wife settled in England and in 1873 he acquired an estate near Stratford-upon-Avon. His income from Eton Vale rose steadily and he became a leading figure in Warwickshire society. He became deputy-lieutenant and high sheriff of Warwickshire in 1881. Hodgson visited Queensland several times and he represented Queensland at international exhibitions in London, Paris and Vienna. For these services he was knighted in 1886.

In Hodgson's later years Eton Vale was managed by his son Edward D. Hodgson (1857-1896). Another son, Francis H. Hodgson (1848-1930) was an Anglican priest in England. Selections from his papers were filmed by the Australian Joint Copying Project (reel M729).

SIR ARTHUR HODGSON

Reel M675

1. Journal kept by Hodgson on the *Royal George* on a voyage from Portsmouth to Sydney, 31 October 1838 – 9 March 1839.

The journal refers to his farewell by his family, fellow-passengers (including James Macarthur), sightings of other ships, the Canary Islands and Madeira, winds, crossing the Equator, church services, reading, sightings of sharks, porpoises, whales and albatrosses, landing at Cape Town, impressions of the town and surrounding areas, a visit to Simon's Town where Hodgson stayed with the Elliot family (Admiral George Elliot was Commander-in-Chief, Cape of Good Hope), the journey across the Indian Ocean, and sightings of Cape Otway and the New South Wales coast.

2. Table of shearing, 1843-46 (39pp)
3. Table of wethers killed at Head station, July-August (2pp)
4. Victualling tallies, 1841 (31pp)
5. 'Charles I', a play written by or acted by Hodgson. (22pp)
6. Bale tallies, 1842 (6pp)
7. Financial transactions of Hodgson and Warne and Hodgson and Elliot, 1839-47, including payments made, account of money received, advances on wool, stores etc. sold, wages, bills paid.
8. Diary of a voyage from Sydney to London on the *Walmer Castle*, 18 March – 30 June 1848.

The diary records the voyage across the Pacific Ocean to Cape Horn and northward across the Atlantic Ocean. The entries refer to the weather, winds, storms, damage to the ship with all hands and passengers working the pumps, rounding Cape Horn, a debate about Napoleon, theatrical productions, dances, a sighting of Trinidad, and Hodgson's relations with the captain. At the end of the volume is a prologue and epilogue of a play.

Reel M789

Account books

1. December 1853 – October 1859: Bank of Australasia, Ipswich
2. June 1860 – December 1862: Bank of New South Wales

3. October 1861 – November 1867: Bank of New South Wales
4. November 1867 – November 1869, with notes on December 1866
5. April 1868 – October 1869: Bank of Australasia, Brisbane
6. May 1871 – October 1870, with notes on 1870
7. August 1853 – January 1855: Australian Joint Stock Bank, Sydney, account book of *The Englishman* newspaper (1853), Henry S. Russell (October 1853-January 1855), Leslie, Hodgson & Hood (November 1854-January 1855)

Reel M790

Addresses and articles by Hodgson

1. 'A voyage round the world' [in 1866], a lecture (manuscript, 39pp)
2. A voyage round the world (later version), a lecture (manuscript, 11pp)
3. 'By land or sea: or the new route round the world 1873-74' (manuscript) and 'The coral reef', an account of a reef in the central Pacific Ocean (manuscript, 3pp)
4. 'Australia revisited 1874-1889' (printed with manuscript amendments, 25pp)
5. *Australia revisited 1874-1889* (28pp)
6. 'The Mutiny of the Bounty', a lecture (manuscript, 24pp)
7. 'The Mutiny of the Bounty' (manuscript 29pp) and 'The Gunpowder Plot' (manuscript 29pp)
8. 'The 1879 Paris Exhibition', a lecture (manuscript) and 'The forests and historic trees of Great Britain, with associated notes' (manuscript)

Miscellaneous papers

1. Private journal of a voyage from England to Australia on the *Thomas Arbuthnot*, 23 October 1849 – 3 February 1850.

The journal contains brief entries giving the ship's position, weather, distances travelled and sails. It has been filmed twice.

2. Newspaper cutting from *The Field* reporting a lecture by Hodgson on sheep farming in Australia, n.d.
3. Newspaper cutting from the *Sydney Morning Herald*, 21 July 1875, concerning the Chief Justice (Sir James Martin) and the Gardiner case.
4. Newspaper cutting concerning an address by Dickinson on the shearer.
5. Extract (4pp) from a journal of Rev. Edward Hodgson concerning a meeting with Major Edward Macarthur, 28-29 August 1840.
6. Biographical notes on Sir Arthur Hodgson by Spurway (2pp)
7. Map of land holdings in the Cambooya district, Darling Downs.