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**D 7076 Letter by George Fossett 1848**  
**Transcribed by Jean Seifert, Volunteer at the State Library of South Australia, 2006**

The Oak Gully S. Australia  
Dec 31<sup>st</sup> 1848

Dear Sister

This comes with my kind love to you hoping it will find you in good health as it leaves me at present. I am afraid you will think I have almost forgotten you as I have not written for so long and especially as I received one from you some time back which informed me amongst other things of my brother Edward being on board of the .Nancy. East Indiaman. But I have been going to write every day for the last six months but by some means or other it has always been put off. But I hope this will find you quite well and comfortable. I have been away from Uncle James, this four months and am now living far out in the bush on a sheep station. Where I shall most likely remain for the next six or eight months But I hope if all goes well to leave here in February 1850 for ever. I hope all at home are quite well I wish you would tell them that both I and Frank both think it very strange that no one either sends letters or newspapers either of which would be in the highest degree acceptable especially to me situated as I am afar back in the bush. Although I am in a fine part of the country and not like some of you who

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cannot see a dozen yards for houses and shop windows even now as I sit writing this letter (2 o, clock in the afternoon, I have nothing to do but lift my head up and I can have a splendid view of a large plain nine or ten miles across studded with sheep and Cattle and birds of every description but there is one great fault the excessive heat, while you at this season of the year at home have no doubt frost and snow. We have above us the Glaring burning sun of S. Australia which now reigns in the height of its power. I have just been forced to leave off writing by 4 Natives with 3 or four wives a piece and a little thousand of piccaninies, coming to My hut door with the old story, White fellar. gib me tuck out. Black fellar, plenty hungry no gammon, piccanini hungry want coccamut meaning a sheeps head. One of them has come into the hut and wants to know what for I plenty mark um paper for. I told him it was going long way to white fellars country. His answer \was/ with a broad grin on his countenance, ah white fellar plenty, gammon, Two of them are making the devils own row at the back of the hut trying to conjure some rainy weather, but if he gets no water till it rains I think he will wait a d...d long time, it is indeed scorching weather But one good job I have not got to go out in it My work being just to have the shepherds supper ready when they return at night with the sheep. Uncle James is busy I believe reaping his corn if so he has lovely weather for it. His children are all very healthy and there is one fine little girl named Lizie of whom I am

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very fond. Dear Sister I hope you will send me answer as soon as you receive this and if you should be in want of any money I can send you home two or three £. If you know where John Johnson is living I wish you would send word to him and tell him I have sent a letter to him to be left at General Post Office, Stepny till called for. If you should not know where he his and you should at any time see his sister Elizabeth. I wish you would be kind enough to give my best respects to her. If you see or hear from Edward I wish you would tell him to write to me to let me know how he gets on, direct to me. George Fossett Clarimont Cottage, Dry Creek. If Uncle

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George or William have any spare newspapers I wish you would ask them to send them out as it would be a charity thus to enlighten our darkness. I believe I shall never finish this letter those dam<sup>d</sup> darkies do nothing but torment a fellow here is an old woman [*hole in paper*] fifty naked as Eve has taken hold of the ink stand and very [*hole unfavour*]ably offers to give it me back if I'll give her a Shirt. holy poker I have only three for myself and to give her one would be an act of charity and self denial of which I really am not capable. But for fear of further interruptions from my fashionable visitors I must conclude with hoping you will send me an answer as soon as possible.

I remain dear Sister  
Your Affectionate Brother  
George Fossett

[*on reverse side of paper*]

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