

Transcription of 13 January 1890 (postmarked) letter from John Faulk (Rosalie, Brisbane, Queensland, Australia) to his son, John Arthur Faulk (Cleveland, Ohio, USA)

Transcription by David Use

August 2017

Rosalie  
Brisbane  
Queensland  
1890 [penciled]

Dear Arthur,

We are disappointed in not receiving an answer to our letter with your portrait enclosed

We are thankful to say that We are in the enjoyment of comparative good health also Franky and our Baby Boy Freedy W(h)o is now living with Brother Robinson for this past ten Weeks; I miss him very much the only compensation for me is he has the care of Sister-Robinson something of a mother's care there is one trouble he dont let the

Children have all their own way and parent like they are his faults and not the faults of their own it is possible we shall take him away soon he is now going to school getting quite a little man he often talks about his Arthur wanting to know when you will come.

I make it a practice to go down to see him every four Weeks it being a rather expensive trip being a little over 20 miles they charge 60¢ second class the railway does not come near the Yanks for speed and comfort or cheapness the carriages are too small & Stuffy

for a hot climate like this  
but it must be  
remembered that it is much  
like the old Country  
hanging on to the way of  
the generations before them  
not so willing as the  
Americans to try new  
Ideas We have the street  
cars running through the  
centre of the town across  
the bridge to the South  
side all other travel is  
done in a two horse  
rigg called a Bus  
something like the Coaches  
out far west adapted  
for going up steep grades  
and topling over  
And we had some hills  
round Brisbane  
but these Buse's Comfort

is of the most questionable  
kind I ride down to work  
and return by the same  
costing 12¢ a day the walk  
being too much for the  
old man having to stand  
at my work all day being  
thoroughly played out  
the weather here is intensely  
hot and am seriously  
considering the wisdom  
of our staying another  
summer here  
but go farther South New  
Zealand is the best  
if trade will warrant  
our going there  
for a long time past  
things have being very bad  
there but is now  
on the upward move  
the other day We had  
to go out to a Boat Job  
I was working on a..ek

repairing a steam winch  
the Sun blistered both  
my arms that the skin  
came off We thought that  
rather warm talk about  
cooking a man brown it  
something to read about but  
not to be desired  
I give this an instance  
of the heat of the Sun and  
makes the head throb  
and almost blind you  
with its Continuous glare  
while we are bound to  
work out in it if the  
circumstances Call for it  
though We have every reason  
to be thankful for what  
I have having a fair share  
of the good work in the  
shop while some of the  
older hands have to go out  
to Work and should We  
be compeled to do much  
outdoor work it would be

case of throwing up the  
Job We spoke of new  
Zealand if We make up  
our mind to go there it  
will take us some time  
to get the money  
So we must go along quietly  
letting things go along in  
their natural sourse and  
soe how We get along

Well I suppose you are  
Thinking how cold it is  
My Boy I know We have  
the advantage in climate  
here though in the  
Summer the heat is  
Almost intolerable for about  
4 months but the rest  
of the Year is very pleasant  
and cool to do Sunday  
I and franky had  
Water Mellon & Pine apple

Eggs & Bread Butter for  
dinner a funny Collection  
you may think  
We thought and talked  
about you on your Birthday  
and thought of Darling  
Mama buying your Bible  
for you Birthday my heart  
is full of sorrow and  
grief for our great loss  
in her Ah my Lad I hope  
you will think of the  
Book which will make  
you wise unto Salvation  
and her whom you  
will meet; if you take  
heed unto it's teachings  
I often picture you in  
the old home and expect  
like myself you feel very  
lonely at times  
Well We must cheer up

there is an end to this  
sort of thing Sorrow and  
sadness well soon pass  
away. Joy and gladness  
will take its place with  
Life for evermore to those  
Who render obedience  
In the Commands of the  
Lord  
We suppose you are still  
living in the same place  
and keeping to your old  
home hold on to it  
it is easy to get rid of  
things but hard to obtain  
perhaps you will think  
that sounds like a desire  
on my part for you to stay  
in Cleveland for a little  
while get, "that is so  
My Boy"; I don't think  
it will be wise for you  
to come out to Queensland  
the rough and tumble

of out door life would  
no suit your strength  
and eyesight and however  
much I should like you  
here the advantages are  
so small over and above  
where you are, that I  
will not say come yet  
but wait for a time  
and do in one move  
what we be most benefi-  
cial for you

trade is very dull here  
I am in the only shop  
that is doing any work  
that make them hard  
and exacting Keeping the  
mens nose on the  
grindstone have all the

time  
now doubt you remember  
my speaking about a Lorin(?)  
in Ipswich having a  
Contract to build some  
Locomotives for the Government  
the finished one now  
they have closed down not  
having mover to carry on  
it is a question if it  
will start up again

I am not saying these  
things to discourage you  
far from it Arthur  
this part of the World  
will be best for you every  
way but I believe New  
Zealand will be the  
best place and their  
stay with the blessing of  
God. I am anxious to  
hear from you to know

how you are going along  
send me a good long letter

Please give my kind  
love to Brother Shaw also  
to sister Shaw when he  
writes to her  
also to Mr John Dock  
tell him I am almost  
ashamed in not writing  
to him but hopes to make  
amends soon  
I hope you do not neglect  
to call and see them  
it will be to your interest  
to do so  
please remember me  
kindly to Mr & Mrs Ambrige  
also to Grandmother hoping  
they are all well and  
plenty of Work which comfers  
in this life that is when  
you get the pay for it

too expensive to send at  
present \*

~~I have enclosed a  
Photo of Brisbane it  
will give a fair Idea  
of the place \*~~

Don't forget to send your  
Photo if you did not  
send it in your last  
with kind love  
from Franky & Freddy  
and from Self(?)

Your loving Father  
John Faulk

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Please direct  
to  
Post Office  
Brisbane  
Queensland

