

Chute Lodge 1838: A Documentary Note on Farming in East Wiltshire

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Introduction. Chute Lodge 1838: A Documentary Note on Farming in East Wiltshire.

On 3 June 1838 George and John Everett, aged respectively 27 and 22 years, the fourth and seventh sons of Joseph Hague Everett of Biddesden House, left the family estate east of Ludgershall and close to the boundary with Hampshire, for New South Wales. There, by early 1839 they had established themselves at 'Ollera', a vast squatting run on the pastoral frontier of the New England district of the northern tablelands.¹ A modestly sized estate of around 800 acres, Biddesden had been purchased in 1786 by Joseph's father, Thomas, and was later enlarged by the acquisition of other properties. Although Joseph inherited and occupied the estate in 1810, it was never the sole source of the family's wealth which seems to have been derived also from banking and textiles.² While older brothers entered the Church and the legal profession, the estate could not provide them all with either a living or a home; at some point the decision was taken to send George and John to New South Wales, followed later by Edwin, the last of eleven children and the eighth son, in the hope that they might carve out a colonial fortune to buttress the family's wealth in England. In reaching this decision the family was undoubtedly following the example of another gentry family with whom they had a close relationship, the Wyndhams of Dinton, who already possessed a colonial estate in the lower Hunter Valley.³

The well-educated, well-connected sons of a wealthy squire and former MP, George and John arrived in the colony with £1,000 each and many gentlemanly attitudes and accomplishments in their cultural baggage. Although they were heading for a wild and dangerous frontier their intention to maintain the standards of gentility and civilised society was revealed by the goods they had shipped by the *Hope* and the *Francis Spaight* which were insured for over £400.⁴ Apart from the

mountain of linen, glassware, ivory-handled knives and forks, furniture, curtains, carpets, books, clothes, ironmongery, tools, guns, powder and shot, medicines and garden seeds, they also shipped the prefabricated parts of a small wooden house.⁵ They set out, like so many other gentlemanly squatters, to make life on the frontier an approximation of what they had left behind and to which they hoped to return.⁶ The list of books they sent out is particularly revealing: alongside four volumes of Pindar's Works, nine volumes of Shakespeare, poetry by Milton and Byron, further works by Dr Johnson and Sir Walter Scott, together with volumes of history, geography, law and mathematics. Books on Australia included James Macarthur's recently published *New South Wales: Its Present State and Future Prospects*, and others on farming and horticulture. This shows that they endeavoured to find out what they could about New South Wales, though they hedged their bets with books on Van Diemen's Land and South Australia, which extended whatever knowledge they possessed of agriculture. Works by Loudon, Cobbett, Guley, Newcastle and others, covered most aspects of gardening, horticulture, and the management of livestock and horses.

As members of the gentry, George and John clearly possessed a vested interest in the profitability of the Bissenden estate and were not entirely ignorant of agricultural matters. Another brother, William, kept a journal during the second half of 1838 which he sent to them late in the year not only to keep them informed about social gossip and family affairs, but also the state of the hay crop and wheat harvest, the price of sheep at various sales, and the difficulty of finding tenants for two farms.⁷ George and John also gratefully accepted advice from colonial visitors like James and Edward Macarthur and Joseph Montefiore who furnished them with letters of introduction to successful squatters and men of influence, and offered suggestions on the way to select a squatting run and how to choose the best sheep.⁸ What the brothers probably lacked was practical experience in farming matters, but the evidence suggests they prepared themselves as best they could; it constituted an exercise in self-preparation that gave rise to the remarkably detailed document produced below.

On 1 May 1838, as the time for departure approached, John systematically recorded in a small notebook a host of details regarding the operational costs and management practices of Chute Lodge, a farm close to Biddesden House. In this little (18 x 11 cm) leather-bound book of 33 leaves (66 pages), John wrote in ink on the left-hand pages the information and advice he acquired, leaving the right hand page blank, perhaps to record comparable information about wages, prices and practices in the colony. In the event he made only one entry comparing

the price of spades at home and in New South Wales; significantly, the cost in the latter was more than twice that current in Hampshire. The blank pages in the latter half of the notebook were used to record, in pencil, an account of the brothers' journey northwards from Sydney, beginning on 11 November and concluding after they had progressed over 300 kilometres up the Hunter Valley towards New England. This notebook, which is catalogued in the extensive Everett papers held in the University of New England archives as 'The Journal of John Everett', has only ever been examined for the information it sheds on the first stage of their journey towards the frontier. Its value for English rural and especially agricultural history, has been overlooked.⁹

If much of what is contained in this document might be found scattered throughout a variety of other sources as separate pieces of information in farm diaries, account books or farming manuals, John Everett's notebook on the operation of Chute Lodge is unique in the brief yet comprehensive and microscopic analysis it provides for one farm. Apart from its record of prices and wages for a range of activities it indicates clearly the performance on which payment was to be based, and how many farm tasks by 1838 were contracted 'by measure' or by the 'piece', a means of maximising agricultural labourers' productivity, widely advocated in England as a cost-effective mode of increasing their notoriously low incomes to counter-balance their recent loss of allowances in-aid-of wages on the implementation of the 1834 New Poor Law. It also illuminates aspects of crop production and animal husbandry so that we are reminded *inter alia* of the need to hoe turnips twice, the volume of fertiliser required by various crops, the best way to cure foot-rot in sheep, the amount of work that labourers and cart horses might do in a day, together with the value of long-forgotten practices like hay-salting. The notebook is a remarkable snapshot of Chute Lodge farm in 1838 and might serve as an example for many other farms of around two hundred acres and larger, on the chalklands of Berkshire, Hampshire and Wiltshire.

What did John Everett hope to achieve by carefully noting so many details about the operation of a Wiltshire farm? The answers, of course, must be highly speculative, but the most obvious conclusion is that he felt he needed more familiarity with the business of farming than he possessed. Although the brothers would have been well aware of the contrast between agricultural practice in Wiltshire and rangeland grazing of enormous flocks in New South Wales, and conscious of differences in climate and soil-type, they also must have known that they would need some acres under arable cultivation to sustain the workforce of their remote station. By 1838 the opportunities for fortune building on

squatting runs only existed on the furthest limits of the ever-moving frontier; self-sufficiency was essential for the small communities who lived and worked on those runs, which probably explains why John took steps to acquire at least a theoretical knowledge of how to grow a range of crops. The fact that the notebook contains almost no calendar references beyond the generalities of 'summer' and 'winter' suggests that he was accumulating information for possible use in the colony where seasonal fixed points and traditional dates were reversed or inapplicable. The brothers' recruitment and sponsored migration of labourers from villages near Biddesden might also explain why John so carefully noted what could be expected of someone professing a rural trade. With his little *vade-mecum* he could issue orders, monitor performance, strike agreements and generally be familiar with the tasks a rural worker might perform – and on what terms. His careful listing of the prices of live-stock, farm implements and equipment down to the most minute level was, perhaps, less valuable in the colony, but at least gave him a basis from which to calculate the relative cheapness or dearness of commodities in New South Wales. With his notebook in his pocket John was not quite as 'raw' as many other gentlemanly 'new chums' who arrived with cash and great expectations, but saw their dreams disappear in drought, dust and disappointment. Indeed, the Everetts succeeded where many failed; "Ollera" returned dividends to the English family investors until the early twentieth century. Fittingly, it is still occupied by a direct descendant.

The pagination of the notebook, editorial insertions and a few undecipherable words are indicated by square brackets and the headings of the various sections of the notebook are marked as they are in the manuscript.

John Everett Esq.
Biddesden House
Wilts. May 1st. 1838

[1] 1838 Chute Lodge May 1st
Supposed value of all Farming Implements and live stock

Cart Colts, from 15£ to 35£ each
Cart Horses, four years old from 20£ to 45£ each
Cart Horse, aged, from 5£ to 20£
Young Cows with their Calves from 8£ to 16£ each
Aged Cows with their Calves, from 6£ to 10£ each

Barren Cows, from 3£ to 7£ each
 Fat Cows from 7s to 8s 6d per score
 Do. Calves Do. 5-7 √d per lb
 Working Oxen from 6£ to 15£ per yoke
 Fat Oxen, from 8s to 12 s 6d per score
 Bulls from 5£ to 15£ each
 [2] Donkeys from 1£ to 3£ each
 Sow and 8 pigs about 2 months old, from 3£ to 6£
 Pig about 3 months old, from 10s to 15s each
 Pigs ready for fattening, from 2£ to 3£ each
 Boar pigs, 1£ to 3£ each
 Fat pigs from 7s to 11s per score
 Roasting pigs¹⁰ from 3s to 5s each
 Young Ewes, from 25 to 40s each
 Old Ewes from 18s to 30s each
 Wether sheep from 18s to 40s each
 Rams from 2£ to 10£ each
 Lambs from 8s to 28s each
 Fat Sheep, from 5 to 7 √d per lb
 Do. Lamb from 7 to 10 per lb
 Wool from 8 to 20d per lb
 Narrow wheel waggons from 20£ to 30£ each
 Broad wheel waggon, from 30£ to 45£ each
 [3] Broad wheel carts from 8£ to 12£
 Narrow wheel Do. From 6 to 10[£]
 Light carts from 5£ to 10£ each
 Donkey cart from 3£ to 7£ each
 Rollers of Wood from 5£ to 12£ each
 Iron Rollers from 8£ to 16£ each
 Drags from 2£ to 4£ each
 Harrows from 1£ to 2£ each
 Land Presser from 3£ to 5£ each
 Cart Harness from 3£ to 4£ 10s per pair
 Plough Harness from 1£ to 2£ per pair
 Leather Halters from 15s to 30s each
 Hempen Do. 6s to 9s per Dozen
 Waggon tires from 15s to 30s each
 Tar rope 10s per Ciol [sic]
 Ploughs from 2£ to 4£ each
 [4] Winnowing Implements from 5£ to 12£ each
 Corn Sieves from 2s to 3s 6d each
 Hempen Sacks from 2s to 3s 6d each

Tar & Pitch, 2d to 4d per lb
 Bushel Measures, from 15s to 25s
 Bushel Baskets, Do. 2s to 2s 6d each
 Chaff Baskets from 6s to 8s 6d each
 Hay Knife from 4s to 5s each
 Chaff cutting Knife from 3s to 4s each
 Spades from 2s 6d to 3s 6d each [*on opposite page*] Spades Australia 7s 6d
 Shovels from 3s to 4s each
 Scythes from 4s to 5s 6d each
 Rubbin¹¹ from 4d to 6d each
 Reaping Hooks from 1s 6d to 2s 6d each
 Rakes from 3s to 4s per Dozen
 Hoes from 6d to 2s 6d each
 Pickaxes from 2s to 4s each
 Grub axes from 2s 6d to 4s 6d each
 [5] Bill Hooks from 1s to 2s each
 Hatchet from 1s to 3s 6d each
 Axes from 2s to 5s each
 Ladders from 6d to 1s per round¹²
 Sheep Cages from 18s to 21s per Dozen
 Hurdles from 5s to 7s 6d per Dozen
 Hurdle Gates, 20d to 24d each
 Spars from 3s to 4s per 1000
 Wheel Barrows from 15s to 25s each
 Hand Barrows from 10s to 15s
 Prongs from 1s to 2s 6d each
 Prong handles 2d per foot
 Hay Forks 2s to 3s 6d apiece
 Water Buckets from 2s to 4s each to contain 4 Gallons
 Casks for Water or Beer, made up from 4d to 8d per gallon
 White Lead from 30s to 40s per cwt
 Paints Oil, from 3s to 4s per gallon
 Paint Brushes from 6d to 3s each
 [6] Nails from 3d to 10d per lb
 Iron fold bar, at 6d per lb
 Shepherds Crook from 2s to 5s each
 Sheep Shears from 18d to 2s 8d per pair
 Chaff cutting box from 12s to 3£ 10s each
 Seedlips¹³ from 3s 6d to 10s each
 Cast Iron ploughshares from 7s to 9s per dozen
 Plough Wheels from 4s to 5s each
 Iron plough traces from 3 to 6d per lb

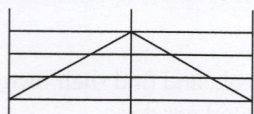
Grinding Stones from 10s to 25s each
 Grubbing tools from 10s to 30s per set
 Horse Combs and Brushes from 1s to 3s 6d each
 Birch and Heath Brooms, from 3s to 3s 6d per dozen

[7] Blacksmith Work

Wages, per day, from 2s to 3s 6d with victuals and Beer, do all Ironwork from 5d to 8d per pound
 Put on new Bands on wheel at from 3s to 4s per score
 Shoe Horse at 6d per shoe and have the old shoes
 Hoop iron is sold at 4d per lb, and Blacksmiths nails at about 6d per lb
 Usually make up old Iron at half price, and give from 2d to 3d per lb for it
 Iron Wedges for grubbing Wood are made up at about 6d per lb
 Old Cast Iron is generally sold at from 2s 6d to 5s per cwt and new cast Iron about 3d lb

[8] Carpenters Work

Wages per day from 2s 6d to 3s 6d, and sometimes have Beer
 Put up rough fencing made of Lugs¹⁴, at from 6d to 12d per pole of 16 √ feet, and can put up about 3 poles in a day
 Cleave pales, from 2s to 3s per 100
 Do. Lathes, from 2s to 3s per 1000
 Make common Lug Gates at 9s per dozen, 6 feet long, 3 feet high. With four Rails and brace and which will make a very useful & strong fence
 Pattern of Gate



The prices of Boards as under
 √ Inch thick from 2d to 3d per foot

Δ	Do.	3d to 4d
1	Do.	4d to 4 √
1 √	Do.	5 to 6[d]

[9] 2 Inch Board from 6d to 8d per foot

All Building work is generally done by measure

Park Paling is put up at from 18d to 2s per pole of 16 √ feet including all labour

Carpenters always find their own tools and work from 6 [am.] to 6 [pm.]

Sawyers Work

Wages from 2s to 3s 6d per day

Sawing done at from 2s 6d to 3s per 100 feet of work

Cutting down timber, at from 2s to 3s per ton, of 40 feet

Taking off Oak Bark, from 9s to 12s per load, of 60 yards

Saw out posts from 5d to 8d each

Do. Nails from 2s to 3s 6d per Dozen

Do. Pales from 4s to 6s per 100

Price of timber from 40s to 160s per ton of 40 feet

[10] Masons work

Wages from 2s 6d to 4s per day, Building, Tiling and Slating are generally done by Masons

Price of bricks from 30s to 40s per 1000

Do. Tiles from 30s to 35s per 1000

Do. Slates from 35s to 100s per 1000

Mud walls put up at from 15s to 20s per Perch of 16 √ feet long and one foot high

Tiling is done at from 5s to 6s per square of 100 feet

Brick and flint walls are built at from 36s to 40s per Rod of 270 square feet

Paving is done at from 4d to 7d per square yard

Stone lime is wet up at 6d per quarter

Slating is done at from 5s to 15s per square of 100 feet

[11] Woodsmens work

Wages, from 8s to 12s per week, and find their own tools, and sometimes are allowed one bundle of wood per day

A good live hedge, is cut, and made, at from 5d to 9d per pole of 16 √ feet

A common dead hedge, at from 18d to 2s 6d per score, poles of 16 √ feet square

Hurdles made, from 2s 6d to 3s per Dozen, to include topping out the Shores¹⁵

Faggots, made from 6d to 8d per score

Bavens¹⁶, do. From 4d to 5d per score

Spars, Do. From 2s to 3s per 1000

[12] Roots grubbed up, at from 6s to 10s per Cord, of 8 feet long, 4 feet wide and 4 feet high

Small pieces of wood cut off for indoor use, at from 3s to 5s per cord
 Digging up land, at from 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ d to 4d, per square pole
 Trenching land at from 10d to 15, per square pole
 Banking at from 6d to 15d per pole in length
 Coppice wood, and live hedges, are generally cut about once in every ten years
 Gorse Bavens, are cut, and made up at 6d per score
 Old Hedges, are made into faggots at 4d per score
 Sheep Hurdles are repaired at 6d per dozen

[12a]¹⁷ Labourers Work

Wages from 7s to 10 s per Week
 Boys Wages from 2s to 4s per Week
 Womens from 3s to 4s per Week
 [U]sually work from 6 till 6 and are allowed two hours in each day for their meals, have Beer and double Wages during the harvest and then work as long as their Masters require
 Turnip and Bean hoeing is done at from 5s to 10s per acre, the first time, and from 3s to 5s per acre, the second time, and should always be done twice
 Reaping from 6s to 12s per acre
 Mowing and taking up corn from 2s 3d to 3s per acre
 [13] Mowing field Grass, from 16d to 20d per acre
 Mowing meadow and Sainfoin Grass, from 2s 6d to 3s 6d per acre, and sometimes have Beer
 Hay trussing from 12d to 15d per ton
 Thrashing Wheat, from 16d to 2s per sack
 Do. Barley, from 14d to 20d per quarter
 Do. Oats, from 12d to 15d per quarter
 Do. Beans from 6d to 12d per sack
 Do. Pease, from 10d to 15d Do.
 Do. Clover seed from 5s to 8s per Bushel, and vetches about 18 per sack
 A Labourer will usually thrash 1 sack of Wheat per day
 1 quarter of Barley, per day
 2 Do. Of Beans, per day
 1 Do. Of Pease, per day
 3 sacks of Oats, per day
 if he does a good days work
 [14] [D]igging up potatoes, from 2d to 6d per Bushel
 Thatching, Building, from 2s 6d to 3s 6d per square of 100 feet when the thatchers will find all the labour & Materials except the Straw, and

when thatching ricks, have 2s to 2s 6d per day, and their Beer, about 2 quarts per day and sometimes victuals

If Buildings are thatched with good straw, and the work is well done, the thatch will last for twelve years

Cutting, and burning ashes, to use for turnips, will cost from 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ d to 2d per Bushel, and from 20 to 40 Bushels are used on every acre, with one quarter of Bone meal

[14a]¹⁸ Grinding Wheat 6d per Bushel

Do. Barley 4d Do.

Do. Oats 4d Do.

Do. Beans 5d per Bushel

Chaff is cut, for Sheep and Cart Horses, from May, and Straw at 3d per Basket of 8 bushels

Carters usually have from 1s to 2s per week more than common labourers and one shilling when they go out with their Waggon

One man can sow well, about 120 bushels of ashes in a day

Some farmers, keep their labourers in the house, for five or six Weeks, during the harvest, in stead of giving them double pay for that time, and also their Shepherds during the lambing season.

[15] Shepherds work

Wages from 8s to 12s per week and usually have 2£ to 5£ over at the end of each year, and sometimes their victuals, and Beer, during the Lambing Season, and generally are allowed 6d per week to keep their Dog

Cutting lambs costs 1s per score

Do. off their tails 3s Do.

Washing sheep, 6d per score, and Beer allowed, about 2 quarts per man Every 100 sheep will require three men, to shear them well, and if done by measure, will cost 2s 6d per score with Beer and sometimes Victuals

Two Rams should always be allowed to every 100 Ewes [16] and the Sheep should be kept very well, and quiet during the Season the Rams are with them *

[*16a]¹⁹ A Ewe goes with Lamb 21 weeks

200 Ewes require about 20 Acres of Backward Turnips

Swedes are not good for Ewes and Lambs

Too much clover will make the Ewes turn [?] being [?]

For foot sore

Vinegar $\approx$ pint

Blue vitriol as much as will lay upon a shilling

Turpentine half a table spoon full

The qualities required of the best wool is length, strength and softness of staple

[16 contd.] and great care taken of them during the Lambing season, and kept warm and dry

Sheep should always be washed about one week before the shearing; and must be quite dry when the wool is cut off, and generally will produce from 2 $\sqrt$ lbs to 5 lbs each, and the Wool is usually sold by the [?] of 28 lbs; and if put away, and kept quite dry will keep for many years

1 oz of Mercury put into 4 quarts of boiling water and when quite cold add one table spoon full of turpentine will make an excellent [17] mixture to kill all vermin usually found in the Sheeps Wool; and this mixture will never injure the Wool and a little should be used about every other Morning

Shepherds are sometimes allowed to sell young lambs, but this is a very bad plan as they very often sell too many and even when their Master wants some

If your Hay is pretty good and you have a few turnips, 100 Ewes can be well wintered on from 15 to 20 tons of Hay and 100 Wether sheep will not require more than 15 ton

Lambs should always be castrated when about 3 months old, and their tails cut off when one month old

[18] Pigs

Pigs are cut at 3d each

Pigs should be full grown when put up to fat, when 2 sacks of potatoes, or Mangle Wurzele, 1 sack of either Beans or Pease, and 2 sacks of Barley Meal will fat a pig of about 10 or 12 score

And if pigs are not full grown, when put up to fat, they begin to grow up fast, and will require a very great deal more food to make then 10 or 12 score

Porkers are generally killed when about 60 lbs weight

Young pigs should always be castrated when about 8 weeks old

And sows should be kept warm and clean when they have little pigs

[19] Cart Horses

Cart Horses, in constant work, require from 1 to 2 Bushels of Oats per Week, and from 1 $\sqrt$ to 2 cwt of hay and also about 1 Gallon of old Beans

Their shoes usually last from 1 to 2 Months

Three horses in a plough, will plough from Δ to 1 acre of Land per day and when done by measure will cost from 8s to 12s per acre

Two horses will Drag about 2 acres of land in a day four times over, and when done by measure will cost from 10s to 12s per acre each time

Two horses will roll about [20] 10 or 12 acres in a day with a roller 10 feet long

Three horses will harrow 3 acres of land, seven times over in a day; and if done by measure will cost from 6s to 8s per acre each time

And rolling will cost from 10 to 12[s] per acre

Six horses with a new share plough can do about six acres per day; and if done by measure, will cost from 3s to 4s per acre

Manure, if taken out by measure, will cost from 15s to 20s per acre; to have from 12 to 20 cart loads put on every acre

Common working hours for Cart Horses, are in the [21] Summer from 7 in the morning to 4 in the afternoon and in the Winter from 8 in the Morning to 3 in the afternoon

And during the Haymaking and Harvest, always work as long as their labour is required

In the Summer, when they have plenty of good Grass, they will not require more than 1 bushel of Oats, per week

In a Waggon usually go at the rate of about 3 miles per hour, and about two ton weight is a very fair load for four horses

Many farmers make their Horses eat straw during the Winter, but this is not a good plan as by so doing a great deal of manure is lost

[22] Seeds usually required to sow on every acre of Land

*[22a]²⁰ Receipt for preparing wheat before sowing to prevent it from producing smut

Three pounds of common salt, half a gallon of quick lime, and four gallons of hot water well mixed up together, will be sufficient to use with every sack of Wheat; it should never be used till nearly cool and must be of sufficient strength to bear up a fresh laid egg. Dress the Wheat the evening before the day on which it is sown, turn it well over at least three times and do not keep it more than two days after it is prepared

[23a] Another receipt for dressing wheat

1 lb of blue vitriol mixed with a gallon of water. Put half a gallon of hot water in the first place to kill the vitriol, then add the remainder of the water cold

[22 contd.] Wheat, from 2 $\sqrt$ bus. to 4 bushels per acre; and the land should always be made very firm after sowing; except in very heavy,

strong land, and pretty wet when sown

Barley, from 4 bus. to 7 bushels per acre; and the land should be made very light; and put in when very fine

Oats, from 6 bus. to 8 bushels per acre; and should be sown rather wet

Beans, planted in rows about 18 inches from each; and the Beans from 3 to 5 in a hole, about 6 inches from each other; will require from 2 $\sqrt$ to 3 $\sqrt$ bus. per acre

[23] Pease, from 2 $\sqrt$ bus. to 5 bushels per acre and do best on rather light land

Vetches, from 2 bus. to 3 bushels per acre, and will grow on every sort of land

Rye, from 3 bus. to 5 bushels per acre

Saibfoin, from 4 bus. to 7 bushels per acre; and no other sort of Grass should ever be sown with sainfoin

Grass seeds, from 2 bus. to 3 bushels per acre

Clover seed, from 6 lb to 12 lb per acre

Turnip. From 2 lb to 4 lb per acre

Mangle Wurzle, in drills about 20 inches from each other will take about 16 lb per acre

1 sack of potatoes, properly cut, will plant about 20 poles of land, at 20 inches from row [24] to row and should always be cut about 3 weeks before they are planted; and in the rows should be planted fully 6 inches apart

From 20 bus. to 30 bushels of ashes should be sown on each acre of Grass as early in the Spring as the Season will allow it

From 12 to 20 Cart loads of good rotten manure are enough for each acre of Land intended for either Potatoes, Wheat, or Turnips

From 6 to 12 Waggon loads of Stable Muckle, are generally put over land in the Winter before it is folded over by Sheep, and when folded should be immediately ploughed in [25] and some Women or Boys should always attend on the plough to prevent the Muckle from drawing up into heaps

A Sheep fold on land intended for either wheat or turnips should always have 2 sheep for each square Hurdle, and for other crops 1 $\sqrt$ sheep to every square hurdle will be quite sufficient

Grass should always be hurdled off for the Sheep because in the first place, it goes much farther and the sheep will do better, when they have a fresh piece of grass every day

Vetches, when cut green, will make very excellent Hay and usually produce from 2 to 3 ton per acre

[26] The general produce per acre of all Crops

Potatoes will produce from 80 to 140 Sacks per acre

Turnips and Mangle Wurzle from 10 tons to 30 tons per acre

Sainfoin Hay, from 1 ton to 2 tons per acre, and if left for seed, from 3 sacks to 10 sacks per acre

Field Grass from 10 cwt to 30 cwt per acre and if left for seed from 4 sacks to 12 sacks per acre

And Clover seed, from 1 bushel to 3 sacks per acre

Meadow Grass from 10 cwt to 25 cwt per acre

Water Meadow from 25 cwt to 60 cwt per acre

[27] Turnip seeds, from 2 sacks to 5 sacks per acre

Wheat from 4 sacks to 10 sacks per acre

Barley and Rye from 5 sacks to 12 sacks per acre

Oats from 6 sacks to 14 sacks Do.

Pease from 5 sacks to 10 sacks per acre

Beans from 6 sacks to 12 sacks per acre

Vetches from 4 sacks to 8 sacks per acre

Clover hay can always be cut twice, and the second time should generally stand for seed

Potatoes should never be dug up before they are quite ripe and their Stalks will wither away, and must be well secured from the Frost

[28] The price of all Corn and seeds

Potatoes from 3s to 7s per sack

Turnips and Mangle Wurzle from 10s to 15s per ton

Sainfoin, and other Hay, from 3£ to 5£ 10s per ton of 20 cwt

Sainfoin seeds from 30s to 70 s per Qr

Grass seeds from 18s to 35s per Qr

Clover seeds from 4d to 8d per lb

Turnip seeds from 6d to 12d gallon

Mangle Wurzle seed from 10 to 14d Do.

Wheat from 18s to 36s per sack

Barley from 20s to 40s per Qr

Oats from 16s to 30s per Qr

Pease from 20s to 25s per sack

Beans from 16s to 30s per sack

Vetches from 40s to 80s per load

Chaff from 6d to 12d per Basket of 8 bushels

[29] To manage a Farm of about 200 acres of Arable Land

Have every year 40 acres of Wheat, 20 acres of Barley, 20 acres of Oats, 20 acres of new Grass, 20 acres of Turnips, 20 acres of Old Grass, 20 acres for early Turnips and Vetches, and about 40 acres of Sainfoin Hay
And a farm of this size will require, to cultivate it well seven Cart Horses, 1 Carter, 1 Under Carter, 2 Boys and 3 other men and a few Women when wanted to make the Hay and cut out the weeds from the Corn

And will keep 166 Ewes well or 250 dry sheep

The land should always be well cleaned and manured before [30] it is sown, either with Wheat or Turnips, or you will stand a very poor chance of having an abundant crop and should only be sown with either of the Crops before mentioned, once in every four years, and with Clover only once in 8 years, and with Sainfoin only once in 20 years and always rest one year before it is sown with Wheat

All Corn should always be cut before it is quite dead ripe and should generally lay in the fields for a few days before it is carried away into Barns or made into Ricks; and never carried out of the field until it is quite dry; and Oats should always [?] before they are carried

[31] Grass of all sorts should be cut before it gets too old; because when young it will make much better Hay and the Wet weather will not injure it half so soon as it does when it is old before the mowing

If the Hay is much injured by the rain, put about one gallon of common salt, to every wagon load of Hay when the Rick is being made, and the cattle will eat it very well, but salted Hay should never be given to Ewes before lambing as it will sometimes make them drink too much cold Water, and very much injure their Lambs

Hay Ricks should never be thatched too soon, but all Corn Ricks as soon as they are finished

Notes

1. John Ferry, *Colonial Armidale* (St. Lucia, 1999), p. 22. 'Ollera' had a registered area of 74, 800 acres by 1854.
2. Janet H Stevenson, 'Biddesden', in D A Crowley (ed.), *Victoria County History of Wiltshire [VCH]*, (1995), vol. 15, p.134; Elizabeth Crittall, 'Collingbourne Ducis', in Crowley (ed.), *VCH*, (1980), vol. 11, p.110.
3. After leaving Sydney on 11 November, the Everett brothers boarded a vessel to Newcastle and then sailed up the Hunter River as far as Green Hills, where they disembarked to made their way to 'Dalwood' – the property George Wyndham had carved out of the bush in 1828. Journal of John Everett, University of New England Archive [UNEA], A 103

- V3053/10, pp.14a-15a. For details of Dalwood see Judith Wright, *The Generations of Men* (Melbourne, 1965), pp.2-10.
4. Notebook 1838-46, UNEA, A 103 V3053/17, pp. 13-4.
 5. *Ibid.* pp. 2-4, 7-8, 12, 15-9, 21-3, 27, 30-7.
 6. George and John Everett returned respectively to England in 1856 and 1858, while Edwin remained on the enlarged family holding until his death in 1909.
 7. Journal of William Everett, UNEA, A103 V3053/15.
 8. Journal of John Everett's Voyage 1838: Journal of George Everett's Voyage 1838, UNEA, A 103 V3053/16, p.5: /16a, p.1.
 9. For the impact of the Poor Law Amendment Act in Hampshire, and farm labourers' wages, see R Wells, 'Andover antecedents? Hampshire New Poor-Law scandals, 1834-1842', *Southern History*, 24, (2002), esp. pp.123-5, 148-9. Journal of John Everett, UNEA, A 103 V3053/10.
 10. Evidently these were sucking pigs.
 11. Placed as it is between scythes and reaping hooks and given its cost this is probably a sharpening device and the entry should perhaps have been 'Rubbing stick' or 'Rubbing stone'. Alternatively 'Rubbin' might have been a local term for a strickle, used to sharpen cutting tools, and normally made from a short piece of oak with a pitted surface covered in a lard and sand mixture.
 12. A rung or rundle of a ladder.
 13. Baskets carrying seed for hand sowing.
 14. Sticks, poles or branches.
 15. The vertical stakes in a hurdle.
 16. Bundles of brushwood suitable for bakers' ovens differing from a faggot in being bound with one band rather than two
 17. Everett mistakenly repeated number 12
 18. As above with number 14
 19. Addendum opposite page 16 marked for insertion
 20. Addenda opposite pages 22 and 23 marked for insertion