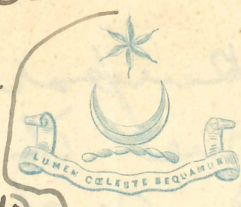


The crest of my maternal
grandfather Hugh Beattie
of Brooklyn, Waigya Waga
long ago. I, of course
cannot use it - a
cousin (my aunt's)
Beattie does. Paper
sends me this paper



2 Clarendon
99 West. Rd.
King's Cross
Sydney, 28.3.53

Dear Mr Blakemore - I am a very
tired, aged, over-worked woman; you
have a whole college of young
people who will later on go all
over the State. Make them your
collectors of Australiana, which will
include all our writers - & even me -
Create, in them, a feeling of duty, in
this, to future literature, to Australia,
& to their own college - They are young -
let them start now & in 60 years
Wagga Wagga & the College will be
proud of them: them & their successors.
As to my books, I cannot get copies
now for myself.

Private & confidential. It was originally
painted by Eric Sander. It was a travesty
The eyes were marbles & the nose a blob.

* I had set a paid hawker as a young beginner. Later Julian
Ashton told me he wd. never be a painter as he wd. not even.

Because it purported to be a
portrait of me it was hung
in that year's Archibald Exhibition
Hugh McCrae writing to me said
"I saw Mary Gilmore keyed up
in colours that screamed."
I had paid for it - it was mine (The
face was well painted), so later
on I asked a friend, Miss Kate
Beard, to paint me the face, the
neck & lace. This also I paid for.
Miss Beard was an animal as well
as a portrait painter. English, her father
was London's Chief of Police, he himself
arrested John Burns in the 'Dockers'
strike in London. The two men became
life-long friends. Miss Kate Beard's most
famous painting was "The Duchess of
Newcastle's Dogs"; the Duchess made a
small fortune out of the Postcards she
had printed & sold of this. An Indian
Rajah sent for her to paint his horses.
She had her own palace suite & staff,
elephants to ride - & was there almost
as a princess, for six months or a year.
I am writing this for record, but not for
publication till after my death. Both names
are on the back of the canvas. It is still a bad portrait
over sincerely Mary Gilmore (but unique in being
the two people)