

2 Claremont  
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Hings Cross  
27. 5. 57

Dear Mr. Blakemore, when  
"Barra's" came I began ~~at~~  
an appreciation of it, & then  
<sup>small but constant</sup> hemorrhages began, <sup>again</sup> & I had to stop,  
rest, & build up. So there is  
only a scrap to send you.

Now the cold plays up with my heart,  
But looking through the magazine  
just now I am more than ever  
struck by the general standard ~~of~~  
especially of the <sup>prose</sup> piece. It is  
steady. No flights & flashes with  
weak spots between. There is  
observation plus (not just wit) feeling.  
Both are one.

The verse is less good. It has too much of today's general bank of form without creating a new one. It is a flock without a leader, everyone going his own way. However that, as individuality, is better than the weak regularity & 'nothing new'. Nothing comes out of that, but no one knows what shining angel may come from non-conformity - where it means force & individuality. For (if I may use a strong word) better be damned as a runaway than die as a stick-in-the-mud!

I am very proud of the work in this magazine, of the old town & the work these young people are doing for it -

If someone is coming to Sydney I have been given a pottery (Cotta)

aboriginal head I wd. like the  
 College to have. There is no  
 record that I can find, on it, but  
 it was given me by a man from  
 Alice Springs who told me he  
 had carried ~~it~~ <sup>it</sup> over half <sup>century</sup> ago  
 speaking for the aborigines -

with every good wish to you, the  
 College and the Gates (Mrs. Catts  
 has finished her Magnesian Opus,  
~~the~~ "The Life of King O'Malley",  
 when published she ~~is~~ intends to  
 send a copy to the College. It will  
 be a treasure! Also it sh. make  
 a wonderful play & an outstanding  
 film) Yours sincerely  
 Mary Gilmore

"Baringa"

Dear Mr. Blakemore, Fresh my thanks to the College, you & the Editors of "Baringa" for their remembrance of me. But the Magazine is the important thing.

Fresh. The cover & name are excellent, the design is modern but not being fantastic is ~~the~~ within the world's Kingdom of art and, prose first you have good stuff in the first three articles, but "The Capole" is by a writer in being, not one yet to be. I was in front of that plug myself at the end. One thing I wd. like to see next time the technical ~~is used~~ is used (how valuable it is!) & that is a little vocabulary & meanings: jettling, stinking & so on. "The other side of the Sea"; this writer & Mr Wheatley have the same capacity for the complete, with something still in hand. the strong essential story; but Wheatley is stronger & better. It wd. be surprise me if he became a scientist & Mr Hagthorn a novelist; Mr Wheatley always the one ahead.