

Malolo
Gorford
8th March 1943

Dear Harry Thank you so much for
your kind letters of sympathy. I
appreciated getting them & I know you
will understand why I have been
such a long time replying. We have
both met with the same terrible disaster
I little thought when I was sympathizing
with you & feeling so desperately sorry
that I was due for the same tragedy
& I suppose we are liable to these
disasters during life, but that does
not make them any more easy to
bear. Mother & Min have quite
settled down to country life, & are
adepts at feeding fowls growing
vegetables etc etc. It is terribly hard
to get anything to grow at the present
time. The weather has been hot windy
& very very dry. I sent away some
grapes fruit but the quality this year
hasn't been as good as it might be

don't expect to be able to retire on
the proceeds. Carlyle is back in Australia
He expects to arrive in Sydney on
Wednesday or Thursday. We are all
feeling excited about the event &
Mother will be going down to meet the
train. You can just imagine how excited
Nell will be. We have been expecting you
home every day for the last 2 or 3
weeks. Several boys have had some
leave & I feel quite sure that you
are due for some. Mother was so
certain that you would be home
last week that ^{she} did not write to
you. Hylda is down in Sydney
waiting to see Carlyle. Your father
has gone back to Marma. I thought
he looked remarkably well when he
was here. I believe your Aunt Rose
is very ill, although she is still able
to get about. Bill has quite recovered & has
rejoined his unit. Trust you are enjoying
excellent health. Take care of yourself
my lad. Hoping to see you soon. Much
love from us all. Your affectionately
France

P. S.

Mother has just received your
letter dated 28th Feb. 2.

