

42. Reel 6035; SZ17, pp. 24-5
1825, April 17
Cunningham discovering coal
in Upper Hunter Valley

Sunday. 17. apr. 1825. fine morning
mild pleasant weather

.....The River having bent(?) wly []. And again obs. to lean(?) from the North, we advanced across the flat swollen(?) with []. [] [] amongst which is [] [] [] (botanical name), & ([] australis) occidentalis(?), and in a mile again [] the River in its Northern(?) [], - [] [] its Channel withal [] which is sandy and about 140 yds wide altho' but about 40 are occupied by a [] stream(?) of 12 ins deep, Banks of gravely depositions, the product of successive floods, were formed in width(?) and in these silicon(?) beds I observed large masses of Coal seemingly of like excellent quality with that I had gotten previously(?) at W. Bills farm, and of [] [], which proved highly bituminous. - More Coal depositions prove to me that that formation extends farther to the North & West - inland from the Coast, than has been hitherto considered or known. (Coal one(?) parallel?) what is that(?) of Newcastle?

[] Chart
his however are [] in [] information of these parts of the Country inland upon this [] - I suspect however it is very(?) [], [] [] [] January of 1823 in the Country 50 miles NW from this river no indication by(?) shale or other approximate form of [] led me for a moment to suppose that this valuable mineral exhibited(?) is within an [] range of my [] route. He could not [] with []! Remark the height to which stubble and the wreck of the floods, has been lifted in the [] of the standing Timber and the banks of this Channel in extraordinary season of long protracted rains. 50-60 feet above the present level reeds(?) & often stubble rested in the forks of the Trees, shewing in that the flats over which [] [] and where [] [] indicated an alluvial soil or coating, have been at a [] suspected distant, several feet covered by these alluvial deluges.
