

15  
Sydney 9<sup>th</sup> January 1840

Dear Sir

Some few days ago Mr George Cox  
called to speak to me concerning a subject upon  
which I promised to communicate with you.  
There is a native female at Mudgee who has  
been living in concubinage with a servant on  
Mr Cox's property, from whom she has now  
separated herself, or he from her, I do not  
exactly recollect which. Another man wishes  
to marry this woman; and the question proposed  
to me was whether the Marriage Ceremonies  
appointed by our Church could be legitimately  
used or not. I have great doubt whether a  
Christian may, without contradicting his  
Profession,

Rev<sup>d</sup> A. J. Stiles

profession be united to an unbeliever; but to  
besides this, I think it quite clear that our  
marriage service distinctly assumes both parties  
to be Christians by baptism, or in name at least.  
This woman, I fear, expresses no repugnance  
to baptism; but I apprehend it is a mere  
ignorant assent to what she knows little or  
nothing about; and which we therefore could  
not encourage. Mr Fox mentioned to me your  
desire to accompany him to Medford in April  
next; to which I could feel no objection if we  
can provide for the discharge of your duties.  
It occurred to me therefore that the desired  
object might possibly by God's blessing be  
brought to pass, if this poor ignorant being  
could be in the meanwhile placed under your  
instruction

Dear Mrs W. G. Armstrong 1-7-38

instruction; and if found to be qualified might  
be baptized by you at Medger, and after that  
term married. The questions therefore which  
I proposed to ask you whether any safe place of  
lodging could be found for her in or near Medger  
where you might attend to her; and secondly  
whether you would kindly undertake this  
office, looking to the result  
which I have named. As I

am going tomorrow evening to the Hunter and  
shall probably be away a month, there would be  
no object attained perhaps by writing me  
which might not be more directly accomplished  
by communicating directly with Mr Coe

I remain Dear Sir

Your very faithful servant

W. G. Australia