

Dorchester Bank 15th Nov. 1831.

My dear Father I am very glad that I have resigned my
situation, as it comes out now that the Managing Directors
Salary is too much £500 a year for too little work in the day
and I have been confidentially informed that there will be some
opposition to Mr Aday, as the managing Director will be expected
to stand behind the counter, and give his answers, it certainly
is a very grateful return of £100 after taking charge of his
money for six weeks and all my own work getting into bed
to write against me to you, whether Mr Hamilton made him his
Cats paw in the business I do not know, how could he expect me
to work morning & night in a cold room without a fire to
get up areas that was not my neglect, but I shall not complain
to him until I have quite finished with the Bank, and then I
shall be quite on an equal footing with him, at present I should
only bring Mr Hamilton & Swanston about me & it is not likely
I could contend with them all three single handed, it is decided
that Hamilton goes to England by the Eliza early in December, when
I acted as Cashier I always got the Cash balance 10 minutes after
3 and Mr Aday often kept me 2 or 3 hours before he could make
out all his mistakes, and when he found that the books were
getting into arrear, he got Mr Walter to take charge of his cash
and set me to my own business again, then they were content
for a little, and wanted to make the Bank hours from 9 to
5 which I would not agree to, for if the same work can be
done in 6 hours which 9 hours would be too little if you waste
it, what interest could I take in business when all they wanted
was to keep us working at the Bank, and we were to see
very little of the Managing & Resident Directors except to find
fault, or some fresh job. The assistant that I have had

Early has been obliged to be taught every thing, and he is also
shock sighted, the Balancing time is also very tedious, I think
Books should be balanced once a Quarter, as we have now
230 personal accounts, but I have been always glad to put
off the evil day, Hamiltons manners are always so forbidding
that I never thought myself in his favor, & since Aday
and he got intimate friends, the other officers of the
Bank were not worthy to be treated kindly, Aday's ideas are
so selfish that if you do not always appear his humble
servitor as every body does ^{Hamiltons} that comes to his discount of
him, that if you differ in him he turns very shy and
thinks you take no interest in the business, he is also very
jealous of any body but himself going on any occasion
for instance as soon as he got well enough, ^{to come down to the Bank} I asked him
for the loan of his boat to fish, when his answer was that
we had other fish to fry, than go on the water. I shall not
dwell any longer on this disagreeable subject and I am so
disgusted with it all together that I would sooner have been
burned away in disgrace than have said any longer than
my year out, for it is very hard after slaving for years
suckers that are not content with less than 15% for their
money and a good fat salary into the bargain, with
a bare sufficiency to keep oneself respectable to be
traded so shamefully but I now find out it is quite the way of the world.
I saw Stoddard yesterday and he has got another basket of tobacco
to be sent by the first opportunity, regular carriers are
very hard to be met with and it would be much better
to arrange the years supply and set every thing up by

one own cards, there are many things that would say to
bring to soon, which I am now much better acquainted with
our wishes have been always necessary so frequently that they do
not know themselves what they want, I am sorry that I
neglected mentioning the newspapers, but I will do so when I
give them the advertisement, Your balance after paying all
the charges is £72.9. and you have 2 Bills for Collection
Fennell & Clarke & Ladd. by the by Mr Clarke Bookster is
anxious to know when the rest of the merchants will be ready
to be delivered, as he is now anxious to have them,
the head prisoners arrive very fast, and I should think
you would do well to apply for a mechanic or other
useful farming men that you might require as it
is not only by jobs & shares that good men are
to be got and we expect prison ships in every week &
there are so many bushrangers at Sydney that they
are sending men here only at the present.

I am very happy to hear my mother and you spent so
pleasant a day at Wottons & Panamoon, and hope
the fine weather has quite revived all your spirits
I should not fear but we shall have plenty of Rain
in the autumn to make up for the dry spring and
it will only have the effect of raising the price of
wheat grain & meat you may have to sell. the vicinity
of the mountain gives us plenty of showers here and
if the soil was of not so stiff a nature I think it would
be much too wet even this season, I have no doubt
you will hear from Hull as ships are arriving every day
and the one you lettered are on board may have been detained
with best love to your other
I remain
Your Obedient Son
W. Weather

John Leake Esq
Rosedale
Elizabeth River

18 Nov

W. B. Leake