

Robert Lyon D D Land
9th September 1843

Gentlemen

There are two periods appertaining to the office from which I have recently been relieved which cannot fail to excite deep emotion in the breast of any Governor; that of entering upon its high duties and responsibilities, and that of resigning his office.

In kindly alluding to my appointment to this Government as the reward of previous services, you remind me of expectations formed on your part, and imperfectly fulfilled on mine, which might well make me humble, did not the warmth of your expressions of esteem and attachment at the close of my administration, convince me that I have not altogether failed to justify your generous anticipations, and that at least you have appreciated my zealous endeavours to do my duty.

With pride and gratitude Gentlemen,
I acknowledge this tribute of respect
and

and regard, expressing as I believe
it does, the sentiments of a very large
and of the most respectable and influential
portion of the Community.

That some of you or even that all, may
have been led to differ from me in some
point or other of my Administration, is,
I conceive, a fact which was inevitable;
but I need not scruple to admit that
in attributing to me those lofty principles
of action which you have so kindly and
so unequivocally acknowledged, you have
done me scarcely more than justice.

The prospect of an approaching, perhaps
of a lasting separation from you, would
be a bitter trial to my feelings, did I not
know that a separation from you in
space is not necessarily one of interest
and affection. I can conceive no position
in life, no future sphere of action in which
the welfare of this Colony will not be
very dear to me. I pledge myself to use
my best endeavours to promote it in
every way which my experience may

Suggest, or which opportunity may offer.

Your very kind and flattering testimony to Lady Franklin's character and conduct in the position it has been her lot to fill, calls for an Expression of my especial gratitude. I may venture to say that, however limited her sphere of action, or however inadequate her means and her ability, her heart has been disinterestedly and fervently devoted to the fulfilment of her duties, in which she has ever regarded the promotion of every object tending to the moral and intellectual improvement of the Colony as an essential part.

I thank you from my heart for all your affectionate good wishes.

May the blessings of God, and every happiness and prosperity be yours

John Franklin

To. Mrs J. L. Miller

and the gentlemen
composing the Deputation.