

1842.

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Extracts.

Lady Franklin to Mrs Simpsonson.

Government House  
September. 1842.

The last ship from  
England about a week ago, brought letters  
to Mr Pell from Dr and Mrs Arnold.

Dr Arnold's letter has produced in us much  
consternation. He has been framing the  
charter with Dr Peacock, and they both think  
that as this is a British Colony, not an

English one, the Scotch Church must have  
equal rights in the College with the English,  
so that it is to be subject first to one religious  
mode of supervision, ~~then~~ <sup>then</sup> to another;  
a cause of ~~stife~~ faction, and party strife  
to all.

But this is not all, -  
he proposes that there should always be a  
clergyman of the Church of England and

another of the Church of Scotland as members, (that is to say Fellows or Assistant Masters) in order to provide for the religious worship and instruction of the students within the College itself, thus making a permanent provision for disunion and rivalry, and forcing the boys to be ranged under two different standards, when perhaps they may like their own the least. The proof of the latter is in the Queen's school, framed as to religious matters as we wish the College to be. There are two or three Presbyterian boys in the school whom Mr Gell would have seen were instructed in the Assembly's Catechism, if their parents had desired it, but they preferred their boys should do as the others did, and should learn the Church of England one. Now this the parents would not have dared to do if there had been a Presbyterian minister there ~~already~~ <sup>all</sup>.

The Doctor's argument about its being a British Colony, that is, an English and Scotch

colony, (Colonised I suppose he means since the Union) is of no avail because by a mischievous ~~act~~ of Sir Richard Bourke in New South Wales <sup>(and)</sup> which by Lord Glenelg's instructions, was adopted in this ~~Colony~~ also, there are not two only, but three established churches, the Church of Rome being one, therefore the Church of Rome also should furnish in turn a Head master to the College. See what a pretty business we should make of it. Dr Arnold does not seem to be aware that on his own grounds of justice, the Romanists must come in if the Presbyterians do, but he actually goes so far as to doubt whether there can be any prayers in the college on account of the Roman Catholics ~~in this Colony~~. How sad all this theorising is! when the facts are with the Presbyterians, as I have stated; and as to the Roman Catholics in this Colony, they are all of the lower orders, and I do not believe amongst <sup>them</sup> could furnish a boy for the College; though of course if the Romish priest is to be by right a member of it

boys will be found from some quarter or other to place there. P The Church of England comprises more than two thirds of the population. † If on no higher grounds therefore, on the ground of numbers they should have that ascendancy which may be implied by the Principals being always of that Church; and that, not so much because it is that Church, as because they ought always to be of one, and if of one, it is fairest that it should be that of the Majority.

P Sir John <sup>in</sup> writing by this ship to Dr Arnold in order to remonstrance with him on his views, has made use ~~as made us~~ of this argument, but I fear Dr Arnold is not to be moved by any arguments. After he and Dr Peacock had sent in their proposed Charter to the Colonial Office, Dr Arnold received a letter from Mr Gell; expressly requesting that the Principal might always be of the Church of England. Dr Arnold communicated this to Mr Stephen, but it has made no difference in the Doctor's own views.

and ~~as~~ he puts an honest conscience into the matter, little can be said. Mr Gell <sup>I believe</sup> feels this so much, and has such a habit of <sup>reverence</sup> ~~of~~ and faith in Dr Arnold that <sup>his</sup> ~~his~~ remonstrance against his opinions does not savour of his usual vigor, yet when the subject was discussed here last year, no one could confute them better. We have kept our knowledge of this proposed charter carefully from other people, we have still some hope that it may be modified for the better, and if otherwise it will be time enough when it comes, to give cause of exultation to the Presbyterians and of despondency to the Church of England.

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I believe I have told you that Sir John has written to the Secretary of State requesting we may have a Bishop instead of a second archdeacon. Mr Foster knowing we must <sup>work</sup> have a Bishop has written to his private influential friends in favour of its being offered to Dr Arnold, and Mr Gell has written to Mr Stephen with the same object. My own earnest

desires to the same effect are somewhat modified by the disclosures he has made to us of his sentiments on the proposed Charter. We are delighted with Dr Arnold's ~~portrait~~ <sup>portrait</sup>, - it is the very man sublimed and beautified.

x x x x

I believe I omitted to mention to you in my last letter the arrival of the surveying ships "Fly" and "Bramble" under the command of Captain Blackwood, a son of Admiral Sir Henry Blackwood and nephew I believe of the late Lord Dufferin, he is a very gentlemanly and handsome man with manners <sup>which</sup> ~~that~~ indicate that he has lived much in the world, and is a little blasé in consequence, but this sort of fashionable languor and nonchalance is wearing off a little, as he becomes more familiar with us. Seven years ago he was here in command of the "Hyacinth" and was then considered to be a singularly handsome young man.

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The main object of his expedition is to survey Torres Straits, the dangerous passage from Australia to India; - his attention has been directed also to terrestrial magnetism, and he has brought out some instruments which have been set up in a portion of the foundations of the New Government House, covered in for the purpose, he has been nearly a month with us, and I think will remain a few weeks longer before he proceeds to Sydney. As is invariably the case those who have seen both places greatly prefer this, and those who know but this are enchanted with its beauty. There is a mate on board the "Fly" of the name of Sullivan, who was a shipmate of Frank's in the Sulphur.

x            x            x

The "Fly" and "Bramble" have brought us some certain news of Captains Ross and Crozier. Capt Blackwood, and Capt Wickham who has also come out as a passenger in the "Fly" for Sydney were not positive in the reports they brought of our Antarctic friends from the

Cape, but we have recently found out that a letter has been received by a young Lady in Town, from Lieut Smith of the "Crebus" to whom she is engaged, dated from the Falkland Islands the 2<sup>d</sup> of May last. The ships had put in there to repair having been sadly battered in the ice; they had run foul of each other in a gale of wind amongst icebergs and were for ten minutes entangled together <sup>and</sup> in the most imminent danger. Our information does not extend to their future proceedings when they ~~are~~ <sup>would be</sup> ready for sea again. It appears that Capt Ross wrote to Sir John, from the Falkland <sup>Islands</sup> but this letter has not arrived, though the lover has, a proof that lovers have more resources than philosophers for the attainment of their object. It is a great comfort to us to know that their <sup>(Dear)</sup> old friends of ours were safe and well up to a certain period. I hope Capt Crozier also got the news of his promotion. Our two ships now at the same anchorage (in Yacht Bay as named by the "Crebus" and "Terror")



remind us of those interesting and exciting times. They do much good to our three observing officers who live, poor fellows, a life of most burdensome drudgery at the Observatory, one or the other of them having to make an observation every hour of the day and night, and once a month they have to do this every two and half minutes.

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From Risdon there is the most enchanting view of the Derwent, hemmed in by mountains like a lake, a landscape both grand and lovely, and possessing a look of seclusion and solitude, remarkable in the immediate vicinity of a busy town.

You have heard me speak of Mr. Gregson before. His eldest son is now in London studying for the bar. He had ~~the~~ liberty to go to Oxford or Cambridge, or remain in London, as he thought proper, and he has preferred the latter, and is studying with great credit and success at the London University.

*J. H. A. [Signature]*