

1841

11

Letter from Lady Franklin to her sister  
M<sup>rs</sup> Simpfinson.

X

On board H. M. S. "Favorite"

My dear Eliza

Hobart 21<sup>st</sup> Feb<sup>y</sup> 1841

I leave to Sir John to tell you about New Zealand. It is a great <sup>comfort</sup> to me to be going by his express desire, for he thinks such an opportunity should not be lost.

I wish you would tell Capt Beaufort in reference to his nomenclature that I find no hope whatever of getting people to say or write, Van Diemen Land, leaving out the possessive case, reasonable as it is.

They say it would be much easier always to say Tasmania, which is with us, indeed a most familiar <sup>and</sup> household term <sup>tho'</sup> I believe it appears uncouth and strange to Capt B's ear for he says he cannot "go the whole hog" with me. I find the general feeling also, is for Hobart, not Hobarton, leaving out the town in both cases, Hobart town is or ought to be, as bad as London town, and Hobart by itself is coming more and more into use.

Do you think you could procure for me a pretty little design for a Glyptothek? I mean nothing

more than 1, 2 or 3 rooms, of small size though  
good proportions, to hold a small number of  
pictures, and a dozen of casts of the Elgin and  
Vatican marbles. I should think a central room  
for the statues, and a room at each end; one or  
both for pictures, or one for pictures and the other  
for books and prints. Expense is an important object,  
or I shall never in this money <sup>loving</sup> ~~any~~ Colony, get the  
means of erecting it. When this is done or before,  
I want you to see if you cannot get the reversion of  
Mr. Raymond's beautiful Teniers to be the  
foundation of the picture room, I will not say  
Gallery - He would do himself immortal honor  
by such a gift and I would take care it should  
be <sup>duly</sup> ~~well~~ signified and recorded. You have  
always sympathy in these things - let me see  
what you can do, and without delay - perhaps  
even Sir Fr. Chantrey himself <sup>might</sup> not disdain to  
furnish you with a design for the building, and  
with instructions as to the 12 best casts and their  
arrangement, or where to procure them. I  
have heard of a man in Holborn who is the  
best; I forget his name. I am too much hurried



4  
a list. I must beg of you to take the trouble to look at the list and send the numbers by the post or otherwise to the individuals therein men-  
-tioned. - Taking copies for yourself, my uncle, <sup>de de</sup> ~~Mr~~;  
and sending the rest to Mess<sup>rs</sup> Murray. The third number is in progress. You must put "with Sir John Franklin's Compliments" or "respects," or "from Sir John Franklin" according to your discretion. To the Clubs and Societies, I should think from Sir J. F. would do.

Also to Mr Serjeant Merewether who has lately been brought to my remembrance by a nephew of his, a young lawyer at Sydney, having been a candidate for the private Secretaryship here, he applied to Capt Parker, having been informed by Mr Justice Stephen that the place was vacant, and would probably have obtained it, (as Capt Parker thought him well qualified) had we not previously engaged with Mr Henslowe.

Mr Merewether has since I believe accepted the office of Registrar of Deeds at Port Phillip.

I don't like the old Serjeant, having a young <sup>and</sup> pretty wife, such a loving wife too, as he had before!

712

By the bye, I see by Sir Samuel Romilly's  
life that Dr Rogee must be 62 years of age, and  
Miss R. 58. I saw the death of Mrs Wagner in the  
paper, and it informed me for the first time, that  
he had married again. x x x x x x x x x

Mr J. Archer told me, on taking leave of me  
this morning, that he had the deepest and most  
grateful sense of Sir John's and my kindness to  
him, and desired nothing so much, as to be  
able to render us some service. He said he would  
be sure to go and see you, for you were a great  
favourite of his. x x x x x x x x x

We had a prison ship lately from Ireland, the  
first bringing Irish Convicts, who have always  
hitherto been sent to Sydney. <sup>This</sup> is a change  
for the worse and ~~is~~ is in consequence of Trans-  
portation having ceased to N. S. W. Sir John  
had written against their coming here.

Mr Hugonin of the 96<sup>th</sup> a nephew of Mrs  
Murchison's was the officer of the guard who came  
out with them. A Mrs Bicknell, (formerly  
Miss Birch of Lincolnshire, whose father the Revd Dr Birch  
was Sir John's Godfather) has written to Sir John

about her son George, who has been with his  
brothers at Rugby and College. She says he is a  
Special pleader and wants to know if he would  
do well here. Does John recollect him? for it depends  
on his merits whether he could do well, we are  
in exceeding great want of good Lawyers.

Mr Lell says he was the best of the three brothers  
and a young man of good ability and Character.

Mr Lell has shewn me some notes of a con-  
versation he had with Mr James Stephen of the  
Colonial Office.

<sup>genuine</sup>  
Letter by Sir John.

Government House.

23<sup>d</sup> February. 1841

My dear Mary

Jane embarked, leaving this letter to be finished by me, and I undertook to inform you of her having <sup>kind</sup> accepted at my recommendation the very offer of the Capt. <sup>ain</sup> of the "Favourite" to take her to New Zealand. The "Favourite" is a sloop of war having excellent accommodations and a gentlemanly set of officers, and the season for such a trip is particularly good. <sup>therefore</sup> I considered such an opportunity of Jane's seeing New Zealand should not be lost. There was also another inducement to her going at this time, which <sup>is</sup> that our friend Capt. <sup>own</sup> Stanley of the "Britomart" is the senior officer on that Station, and he has promised either to bring her back or arrange that the "Favourite" shall, if he can. If he should not be able to accomplish either of these arrangements we have the satisfaction of knowing that the vessel in which she was going thither last year is on the point of sailing there and will bring back a cargo to this place. She may therefore calculate

with certainty of finding a safe conveyance for her return, and I hope to welcome her home again by the Queen's birthday. May 24

Miss Williamson, and Mr Bago, my A.D.C. are her companions. The Captain's Cabin has been placed entirely at Lane's disposal. Herself, Miss W. and the maid are to occupy it at night, and ~~the~~ I believe arrangements have been made by the officers to invite the Captain and his party to dine with them daily so that the Cabin may be left for the use of the Ladies.

New Zealand is an object of peculiar interest at all times and especially now when colonization and Emigration are going so rapidly forward, and the question as to the adjustment of the titles to the land is on the tapis.

I heartily wish that I could have accompanied the party. I went a little way down in the ship, and enjoyed the gratification of seeing the management of a ship of war under sail, which to me is always a great treat. Lophy, Eleanor, and Tom Craicraft, Mr and Mrs Henderson (the private secretary and his wife) are my companions.

and our old friend Capt Ainsworth acts as A.D.C for Bazot. You will be glad to know that I find Mr Henslowe a very good secretary, he is gentlemanly and mild in his manners, and very assiduous in the performance of his duties. His wife is a lady like person, both she, and he keep very retired, and have no desire to enter into any of the society here. I am therefore very comfortably fixed as regards my private office with Mr Henslowe and Tom, the latter applies closely to ~~his~~ business and performs his work well.

I perceive that Lane has given you some account of Mr Jones's letter, which is a violent trashy production though intended by its author to do mischief to me and several others. but his object will I trust be defeated for I have taken every pains to let the parties against whom he has written give their own explanations upon his statements, which will accompany my own observations, and a mass of documentary evidence, to the Secretary of State. The most complete refutation will thus be given to Mr Jones's reckless assertions

and his real character be exposed.

He is another instance of a person falling through over ~~much~~<sup>weening</sup> conceit and vanity into the rank of a detractor. These passions were the bane of Mr Gregory and led him to associate with men in every way unprincipled that he might through their means carry out his own wishes.

I am strongly impressed with the idea that the same system, of desire to embarrass which commenced with Mr Gregory under the auspices of the noted Robert Lathorp Murray, has been followed by Anstey and Jones, aided by the no less noted, and equally unprincipled Gilbert Robertson. I feel a consciousness however of having acted with forbearance and kindness to <sup>ward</sup> each of those officers, and that I have not any cause to blame myself for precipitancy or harshness in the steps I have felt it my duty to take. I am certain <sup>that Gregory</sup> will do all he can to injure me at home, and I know him to be a subtle man and very clever, but I can look upon all his machinations with

