

V.D.L. in which our Macquarie Harbour bearings and names will be made use of - so I hope we shall see Turnbull island in print.

R.S. 1794/A73

My dear Dr. Turnbull

Sir John is absent from me at Southampton consoling the widow of his poor friend Kendall or he would probably have written to you- The Archdeacon is sending a box today and I do not like to miss the opportunity of acknowledging your letter to him and its accompanying paper but oh ! what a revelation do they make it is a fearful one - the whole of his unscrupulous policy exhibited, boasted of as it were, without apparently the slightest sense of shame or one lingering remonstrance of Conscience - We knew all this before, but to read it in his own reckless words, to see it all laid bare, in so hardened and exulting a manner , it has given me a shock as if for the first time I had unravelled the iniquitous conspiracy - And you dear Dr. Turnbull - there are some things that perplex me - Am I to conclude that the aspersions he makes which you do not contradict are true - is it true that he spoke of me before you and others of his friends in the way he states, and yet that after this you resisted and combated my persuasion that he was going to try and save himself by sacrificing me - I judged by his newspapers which proved to me the conspiracy that had been organized , but you had still stronger reason for knowing it - and yet not only did you hesitate to accept such a view of things but you insisted on my inserting in the "statement" that you combated my impression.

Again Mr. M. asserts that you and Mr. Forster and Mr. Ch. Arthur advised his answer to Mr. Aislabie in which he says that he has read in Mrs. F's handwriting that she did suggest to Mrs. Parsons the private petition in Dr. C's case etc - This you have not contradicted - am I to conclude you did advise, or acquiesce in that letter ? If it be so ,let me copy for you the exact words which Mr. M and you too have read in my own handwriting from the very same memo. which I wrote by Sir John's desire (I will put it on a separate piece of paper) both Mr M's assertion and the real extract from my memorandum which contradicts it , are at the Col. Office.

Sir, I remain of the same opinion as to the propriety of having

dissuaded you from sending your statement to Mr. M. at the time - When witnesses are called to give their evidence, they are examined separately - the one does not hear what the other has said first. Had Mr. M. read your statement, he would have sent something more difficult to refute that his present memo - Hence Mr. Forster's desire it should go. His strong desire goes far to prove to me Sir John judged right - There would have been less discrepancy a less daring assertion perhaps of the untrue, perhaps perhaps not - but in ordinary cases it would be so. If you mean that in a moral point of view, you would have saved Mr. M. some gross untruths, and therefore have to regret it. I can appreciate this feeling but I fear it is wasted here - out of the heart proceed these things - it matters not what the pen traces.

There is another part of your letter which appears to me to be equivocal, you say you were clearly of the opinion that Mr. M. was not pledged not to mention to the Sec. of State my name in connection with any facts necessary to his defence - May I ask of you why you form this judgement, or in what sense you make it? It would appear to imply that Mr. M. had ground to consider I was the cause of his suspension - Yet I can scarcely believe that to be your meaning - if it is so however, tell me frankly, for however hurt I may be by the knowledge - and exceedingly surprised, yet it is your duty to do so, and I know dear Dr. Turnbull to your credit and your honor, that when you clearly see your duty, it will overcome any fear, or timidity or aversion to giving pain which might otherwise deter you from the direct expression of your sentiments.

Another observation I must make - even at the risk of displeasing you - on the 2nd day, you state, that is after you had assured me that Mr. M. could and would be a sincere friend in future to Sir John, you heard Mr. M. declare that he had given me an opportunity of retracing my steps, - and that if I did not avail myself of it, I must take the consequences. What this expression means I am rather at a loss to imagine, but at any rate it intimates a state of mind so hopeless, so ^{hostile} ~~Aggrieved~~ on his part that I almost wonder you could think it ~~desirable~~ desirable to pursue the negotiation - do you think it was right even to commence it, with the conviction that Mr. Montagu believed, or the knowledge that he affected to believe, I had any steps to retrace, if those steps mean, as I presume they do, the steps which led to his suspension - Do you not recollect telling me that whatever Mr. M.'s feelings might once

or lately have been towards me, of course they must be removed, since it was paying me the highest compliment he could do to throw himself thus on my generosity" - and you afterwards said the same to Sir John when you observed that he attributed Sir John's application to me to a mischievous motive.

Mr.M's pledge - narration is shocking, "he did pledge himself by your desire ~~xxxxxxx~~ not to repeat the conversation and religiously adhered to the pledge" ! What a cunning mass of mystification.

His date does not agree with ours and for this undoubtedly he has some reason, and it is not true that Sir J. transmitted my correspondence to the Secretary of State though it was transmitted as you may recollect to Mr.Stephen together with an account of his application not to be used against him unless he made out a story that I was the cause of his suspension - up to this day Sir J. does not know (having never asked) whether Mr.S. made use of it .

You have answered Mr.M. judiciously I think as to your defective memory and Sir John's bribery, for such it means - if you had been a little more indignant, everybody would have forgiven you, with what cool insolence are these sentences penned - but would everybody be able to read them as we do ? What do you mean by the word treatment ? Not that Sir John ill used you first ?

I am sorry in your " Statement" that you did not bring out the interval of several weeks which must have elapsed between my efforts to be reconciled with Mr.M. and his with me even at the sacrifice of a former friendship and at the hazard of much personal embarrassment as to the talent you have shown in debating all Mr.Montagu's fallacies ~~in~~ and exposing his intrigues and falsehoods, no one is surprised at that. Your last letter from its high and fearless tone and its great ability is in my opinion a masterpiece. I have no doubt you have made it known to your friends in V.D.L. The proof of its power and its success is in Mr.M's letter of the 13th June 1846 .-

I do not wonder at poor Mr.Forster's advice to his brother-in-law - he must even himself have dreaded any further exposures. I have heard that he had ruined himself at the Colonial Office by sending home reports these totally different from the truthful accounts he sent to his private friends, and it is said he would not, had he lived, been long retained in his office. I believe it was either his brother of or

Col. Fox who was asked by a friend of ours what he thought of Mr.F..How ? (This was just after the pamphlet had come out) and who answered " Jé m'en lave les mains) (I wash my hands of him.) Devoid of principle as he was however, he was not so devoid of feeling as Mr.M. - he had occasional good impulses tho' they were forever yielding to his interests and his necessities and he was dragged down by Mr.M. into a lower state than he might have been without these unfortunate connections. I was deeply shocked to hear of his sudden death and of the destitution of his wife and children and especially of the former's alienation of mind. This misfortune however is, I hear, constitutional and of her extreme weakness even when in health. I have heard some remarkable proofs from my own maid of the same name who formally lived with them and was attached to them both. It is a singular additional link which I have in addition to the many important ones which bind me to V.D.L. that I brought home from thence as my maid a person who arrived in the colony as an immigrant soon after ourselves and was strongly recommended to me by friends in England but who was taken hold of by Mr.F. before I could engage her - her husband a butler in England had been transported, but had obtained his T. of leave while living in Mr. F's. family - when ~~my~~ ^{FOSTER} poor ~~Trouten~~ arrived however, he had been sent to Port Arthur in disgrace, for an offence too, which a faithful and attached wife would perhaps be the least able to forgive - however at last they found themselves together again in Mrs. F's family, but the poor weak husband, a victim to drink, ended by becoming insane and then died, and his widow, then in Mrs.Kemp's family applied to me to take her home when it became known we were about to leave the Colony. She has lived with me ever since and is a very clever and prudent woman tho' of disagreeable temper, but to this day she never hears the name of ~~Trouten~~ ^{FOSTER} mentioned without tears, so connected is it with the weak man who possessed her heart, and with the experience of their kindness and forbearance to him and to her.

I shall not enter into any discussion on the Sheriff affair except to express the deep concern I feel that you do not think justice was done to you therein and my conviction and knowledge that Sir John believed he was in duty called upon to act as he did in which belief he was confirmed by Mr.Henslowe who suffered by it as well as yourself. I recollect Mr. H. being naturally enough vexed at the discovery which

you had made, yet insisting upon it that when it was pointed out to Sir John, the latter could not have acted otherwise - It is a matter I conceive in which people may reasonably differ and conscientiously - *not* this consideration should allay I think any irritation which the consequences of your upright and disinterested conduct produces or perhaps I ought not to use the word irritation at all - you feel an undue advantage was taken of you, or an injustice committed and you have as much right to complain of it, or to resist it, if you feel so, in your own case as in that of another. Long before this reaches you, poor Sir Eardley will have ceased to disgrace the place he occupied and to do mischief - but how is the mischief he has done to be cured? I am shocked more than I can express at the servility of the people of V.D.L. - he has led a life of political profligacy and exercised an amount of tyranny, such as one would have supposed could scarcely be endured among a free people - his private profligacy has I fancy been grossly exaggerated, but in public life he seems to have had no other rule of action but his own interests. In England, his name is almost a by - word for all that is dishonourable.

Year
 March 31st. My dear Dr. Turnbull, I had written so far on Sunday evening scarcely able to hold my pen, but resolved to close it the next morning - That next morning I was worse and the Bishop's packet went without it - I had the hope of another before long - but it has not ~~arrived~~ occurred, or if it has I have been ignorant of it, having been absent from town, suffering in health myself and painfully anxious about my dear Eleanor who has never entirely recovered the measles she took last Xmas, her chest is extremely delicate and we have been again advised to go abroad to a warmer climate but till now, she has not had strength for the journey. The climate of Madeira last year and still more that of the West Indies was of extreme benefit to her. We are now going to try the S. of Italy for we are too much advanced in the year to go to those places again and shall probably remain abroad for 4 or 5 months. As the autumn advances we must be at home again, as we shall then be tremblingly looking for the return of the Arctic Ships - Sir John Richardson tells me that if they do not return by December there will be reason to fear some disaster, but that at present the not hearing of them is not any sign of evil at all but is exactly what he expected - there have been a vast number of foolish

paragraphs about them in the newspapers, but all written in ignorance or if otherwise with the motive of exciting alarm for some special purpose - old Sir John Ross has been trying to persuade the Admiralty and the Rl. Society that he is the fittest man in the world to command an expedition in search of Sir J. and that he promised Sir J. he would go and look for him, words which go for nothing with those who know him. The Govt. will ~~commit~~ commit such a charge to a different sort of man - not that he wants enterprise or training, but he wants disinterestedness and truth. His nephew you know to be a very different man. But the Admiralty have not been neglectful of the interests and safety of the expedn, and at the suggestion of Admiral Beaufort whom they consulted on the subject, they have written official letters to 4 persons, Sir Edw. Vraney, Sir James Ross, Sir John Richardson and Col. Sabine requesting their opinions on the best measures to be now taken in anticipation of the possible non arrival of the ships at the time expected. I am not yet fully aware of what has been decided in consequence, but I knew from Sir John Richardson that he has recommended rewards offered to the whalers for penetrating into the regions where they are likely to be heard of and instructions to the officers of the Hudson's Bay Company who have ^{now} an exploring expedition in the unknown shores of these Arctic Seas. They say Govt. will offer as much as 1000 pounds reward to the whalers. Admiral Beaufort is of opinion that a couple of steamers should be immediately built for the purpose of setting off about this time next year. May God in his mercy grant that all these means may be unnecessary by their timely arrival, but it is of course necessary to anticipate the means which will not otherwise be ready at the time they may be wanted. I feel an increasing anxiety as the time draws nigh, even tho I know that at this time there is no ground for apprehension but I try to believe and fervently pray that our Merciful Protector will not lay upon me and upon them more than we are able to bear.

The Bishop has obtained the abolition of the office of Chaplain General of Convicts, the appointment of which so much displeased him - I have not seen him very lately, having been absent from Town- I believe he has given some evidence to the House of Lords about the convicts.

Have you not fears of Lord Grey's scheme ? I think you will

have some very bad people let loose upon the Australian Colonies, without any check upon their actions, and what is to become of England without transportation.

It is more dreaded say what they will, than a years solitary confinement in England or working at the hulks and will not many a man be able to restrain his evil passions for the necessary time in expectation of the free passage and unbounded liberty beyond ? I shall be very glad to hear from you how convict matters are now working in V.D.L.. I have heard the propriety of D's appointment much questioned - and that he did not gain it by handsome means - is this so ? My own impression is that poor Mr. F's removal had been determined on some time before he was aware of his ^{pro}position. We hear the most contradictory ~~and~~ accounts of his poor widow, at one time I heard she was deranged - then (Mrs. Alice said) there was no truth whatever in the report - again that she was in the Stanwell (?) lunatic asylum and now, lastly, that she is very well and with her relatives - her daughter is at Southampton where the Granophars are living . Do you ever hear from Sir Geo Arthur I presume not - since when we parted it was already long since you had heard or I suppose he arranges himself on the same side as Mr. M tho I have no doubt he condemns his conduct, it is not likely the intercourse should be revived. I saw not very long ago Dr. George Gregory the elder brother of Mrs. S. he is a very old acquaintance of my family's, but since the affair ^{of} with Mr. S the intercourse has dropped - my sister however having met him lately at a party and entering into conversation with him, invited him to a party here and here it was I saw him, I took the earliest opportunity I had of advancing toward him and shaking hands with him which he seemed to be expecting and we had a little conversation in which of course his brother's name did not enter. I very much fear that Mr. G. having declined accepting whatever offered him a living (?) perhaps disposed to make better bargain himself than the Col. Office thought ~~necessary~~ will not easily get employment. We have just read in the papers Lord Stanley's speech in defence of his *protégé* it is very characteristic, for one cannot but feel that he ~~was~~ ^{is} more intent upon justifying his own appointment (because it was his own) than upon doing good to the dismissed Governor - everybody feels that he has only given increased publicity to that unhappy man's character and position and since it is perfectly well known

'why he cannot come home, the attempt to give an honorable reason for it is a ruse which deceives no one. I cannot help however feeling some degree of pity for the disgrace which has been cast upon him and I fear he will not improve in private life and that he may perhaps be a rallying point for the profligate and unprincipled people of the Colony

If he has any hope of a better future for himself, he may however be saved from this farther deterioration

So your son George has become an Agriculturist and all thought of College honors and emoluments for him are abandoned? I am sorry for it but I will venture no opinion upon your objection to the V.D.L. College - I am very low Church indeed and our good Bishop is not so but I think he may retain his theoretic opinions upon Apostolic succession without imposing them on the students it being the express acknowledgement of even the highest Church party that the laity of this (?) are not bound to accept any of these theories but ^{no more is needed than [?] + [?]} are to be taught Commandments and Catechism. I shall send you a book by old Mr. Gill Lesson on Spiritual baptism, it will suit your vision and I think it does mine tho I must acknowledge that I think the holders of what may be ~~call~~ called the High Ch doctrine on baptism have some g'd in scriptural expressions yet I do not believe it to be the real meaning. I cd go on writing to you a long time but must close in haste for we are off in 2 minutes more for Italy on acct of dear Eleanor's health. I have not time to look this ~~through~~ ^{these} 3 now old sheets ^{to see if or how much} to see how much or if I have mentioned her before. She has never quite recovered the measles and a warm climate is recommended - ~~but~~ we shall be back I hope in August Yesterday I learned that the Govt. mean to stop at no expense for the search (?) of my dear husband and his companions and crews. If they do not return by the close of the year a steamer will be built to sail about this time next year. I think the command of it will be offered to Sir James Ross and probably accepted by him. The "Rajah" is just arrived and we have seen Mrs. Ferguson, she tells us everybody wishes Mr. Gill to stop for the sake of the Colony I could wish it to, for I do not think you will get a man like him again. When he is gone and when they hear of him hereafter people then will think so to. You ^{would} be surprised to hear how those in much more eminent situations than himself speak of him and his destinies if destinies he even apportioned to peoples merits ^{be ever} ^{according} ~~even~~ as we ^{perhaps} too presumptuously ^{doubtly} judge them Mr. Davies often comes to my father's but does not always see me when he calls. this is almost always owing

to indisposition on my part preventing my leaving my room but he says it is a broadside convicting him of being troublesome and I will not say that he is always or even at any time particularly welcome to me and yet he judges wrongly of me. Tell me how you like Mr. La Trobe and if you think he wd have suited V.D.L. permanently? Think of poor Sir ~~George~~ Geo Cippes I saw him after his arrival in town - such a sad wreck - he has been a martyr to his work - poor Lady G (?)

a Mr Barnard dined with us lately on the eve of embarking as Priv Sec. to ^{Lord} ~~Mr.~~ Farnington in his Gov of Ceylon. I close my letter in the train carriage to Southampton so do not be alarmed at the shuffling writing. I am very glad indeed to hear of your improved eyesight. I trust Mrs. Turnbull is in good health and all your children. I should be glad to hear how they are all progressing. Please give my affec. regards to Mrs. Turnbull and remember me kindly to any friends who may be good enough sometimes to think of me. Pray write to me frequently even tho you do think I have not behaved handsomely by you in this way myself and believe me dear Dr. Turnbull with unalterable esteem and attachment ever yours

Jane Franklin.

H.M.S. ERKBUS
off Greenhithe
19th May 1845.

My dear Turnbull,

I must devote to you some of the very little time ^{which} ~~that~~ remains to me for letter writing, and thank you for the very interesting letters I have from time to time received from you.

I need not say to you how shocked I was by the display of falsehood and treachery afforded by Montagu in his correspondence with yourself. It arrived most opportunely for the pamphlet which I have printed and in which I have exposed much, though not all of the dastardly policy which has been suffered to triumph against me.

Montagu's own testimony is invaluable and I have placed the whole correspondence in the form of a postscript to my pamphlet before my friends. This postscript has already been sent ^{by} to me in Print to Lord Stanley by way of assurance that the Pamphlet will soon follow. Finding a week ago that with all my exertion that it was ^{improbable} ~~impossible~~ that the whole of the M.S.S. could be got correctly through the printer's hands before my departure I thought it right to apprise Lord Stanley of the painful step to which I was reduced, that of publication and to forward to him the Postscript as affording a strong reason for the necessity. I expressed in the same letter to his Lordship my regret in being unable to get the whole of my pamphlet through the Printer's hands before my departure and requested his attention to the sheets I enclosed. I said also that without his Lordship's permission I could not venture to forward

when the other portions of the sheets in their unfinished state. I have ^{received} no reply to this letter, ^{and} I cannot regret there has been none.

Lord Stanley can now only be forced into renouncing his determined advocacy of Montagu but I have no doubt that he heartily repents his rejection of my statements respecting him - and Lord Stanley cannot be ignorant that many men of sound judgement and high station, conceive and have said, that I have been most unjustly and harshly treated - I know too that Mr. Hope the partizan and I suspect the mouthpiece and ear wig of Lord Stanley, has heard some plain truths on this point from different

quarters- It is evident that the boldness of Montagu's policy has ensured its success for a time - and the want of principle in Lord Stanley prevents his own avowal of his having been deceived by it. I think you have been rather over-indulgent to Montagu in reply to his letters and statements : and one very important point is un-noticed by you altogether, viz, ^{Testament} that you were directly a party to the letter written to Mr Aislable on Lady F'S supposed interference in the Coverdale case. Since you last heard from me I have found a memo to the effect that on ~~the~~ a day after Mr. Montagu's departure from V.D. Land, I mentioned to you the correspondence between Mr. Aislable and Montagu, of which you had up to that moment heard nothing; it is therefor plain that the whole of the minute details given by Montagu of your active participation in the framing and sending his reply to Mr. Aislable are false from beginning to end. I cannot but regret that you did not in any way meet this point as if uncontradicted it affords to Montagu a decided advantage, but I am sure that the light I am enabled to throw upon it will afford you sincere pleasure. You will of course have heard of my Expedition and will be glad to learn from myself that the appointment has been given to me unsolicited and in a manner most gratifying. It is considered by my friends so directly indicating that Montagu's slanders have failed to injure me and that Lord Stanley's conduct towards me has been altogether without the participation of his colleagues except perhaps that of Sir James Graham (who as a statesman is equally unpopular as Lord Stanley). Indeed I cannot speak too highly of the unvarying kindness and consideration I have received from the Admiralty, from the First Lord down to the Junior of the Department. The Expedition excites the strongest interest in England among all parties and likewise on the Continent, the most flattering testimonies of these facts have reached me from numerous quarters where ^{such} compliments are highly gratifying

The visitors to inspect the ships became so numerous as to impede the men in their work, and we were glad to hasten from Woolwich to this place that we might get the ships to rights before proceeding to sea.

My friend Crozier is my Second and the Admiralty have appointed a Commander unsolicited on my part to my ship - all the officers have been of my own selection in both ships and they are a fine set of

young men, active, zealous, and devoted to the Service. Equally good are the crew - and many say that no ships could go to sea better appointed than we are. I trust also my dear friend that we shall all proceed on our voyage, not trusting in our own strength or judgment but in the merciful guidance of the Almighty, with whom alone must rest the issue of it - It was gratifying to me that yesterday (Sunday) the Officers and Crew assembled on board their respective ships to offer their thanksgiving to God for his infinite mercies already vouchsafed to them and their prayers for the merciful continuance of His Gracious protection and blessing to them.

I had the happiness of seeing my dearest wife my child and neice assembled with the crew of this ship on that occasion whose prayers no doubt were as fervent on our behalf as ours were on theirs.

This circumstance tended with many others to soothe their sorrow at the prospect of my long separation from them, - and they were also much supported in becoming personally known to the officers and seeing that there was every prospect of our living and acting most happily together, - no one ever embarked on an expedition with more causes of rejoicing than ourselves - it is not therefor to be wondered at that we commenced our *hazard* in the highest spirits and full of hope that it may please God to prosper our effort to successful termination. You must not discontinue writing to my dear wife, nor to me, for I assure you on my return to England I shall have pleasure in reading your letters. My interest in your welfare will not abate - nor my personal desire, nor my personal desire to be of all the assistance I can to V.D.Land. And on the latter point I will not despair, but trust that the seed we have endeavoured to sow for its improvement since our return to this country, the not at headquarters exactly, may be of some service. May God bless you, Mrs Turnball, and your family in safety amidst all the evils we now hear of as prevailing in that land - will ever be my fervent prayer. Again God bless you.

Ever your friend

John Franklin.

P.S. The present state of V.D.L. is well known in England and the causes of it - but I must not say more on that painful subject.

21 Bedford Place

Russell Square.

21st January 1845

My dear Turnbull,

As you will perceive by the enclosed letter that Dr. ^{conceal} ~~Janneset~~ alludes to you and as his father in transmitting it to me, intimates he shall not at once convey to him my answer, I send you a copy of a letter I have addresses to the father which you will perceive contains explanations on some points which Dr. ^{conceal} ~~Janneset~~ had brought under my notice through him.

The letter which he wrote to me affords another instance of the ^{thoughtless} inconsistency which I have so repeatedly had to ^{hold} ~~assume~~ Dr. ^{conceal} ~~Janneset~~ assuming for facts what he has fancied to be probable as if it had been obviously established and this he does with a degree of self importance which has often given me concern. His pertinacity too in adhering to his own views of whatever case relates to himself, notwithstanding the pains taken to prove to him this being ^{erroneous} by whose duty it has been carefully to investigate the matter is most provoking, and, I know that such conduct on his part has indisposed many who would have assisted him with their advice from undertaking the hopeless task of convincing him he was wrong.

Should you hear that either Dr. Jeanneset or any other person speaks of the points to which his letter alludes, you being now in the possession of my explanations of them to his father will I am sure let those persons right under my written authority.

Were not V.D.Land the very hot bed of calumny and misrepresentations I should not have considered it advisable to trouble you on this matter, though I feel as I am sure you do that all calumny is best met by declaring the truth, and that is not sufficient to say that these calumniators are well known, nobody in the Colony believes them, they are not worthy of your taking the trouble of exposing them for we are commanded "constantly to speak the truth and boldly to rebuke vice". Bad indeed must that state of Society be which can rest comfortable under any ^{calumny} ~~calumny~~ arguments.

Lady Franklin has had pleasure of receiving very recently your letter By the Gazelle. It has not surprised either her or me to find that Montagu has been at his old tricks [] indeed we thought this might be the case, though we thank God that having truth for your

weapon you will be more than a match for all his subtlety - we shall be happy to receive the correspondence you have kindly promised to send us. There can be no doubt however unwilling Lord Stanley may be to make an avowal of having been much deceived by Montagu's misrepresentations that his Lordship has seen cause to mistrust him - Indeed an M.P. who has the means of getting at information told me the other day unsolicitedly, that he had understood that as regards Convict matters Lord Stanley had found out things were very different from what Montagu had represented them to be. I know too from other quarters that they are much puzzled at the Colonial Office as to what is best to be done on these Convict Matters - I know also that it has been admitted in that Office that it is evident from the accounts recently received things cannot remain as respects the Convicts as they are - And that some change will be necessary. The whole subject I believe to be now enjoying this close attention at the Colonial Office - What the result may be I am not prepared to say.

Though I have thought it right to absent myself entirely from the Colonial Office I have not refrained from giving my written opinions on many points respecting the present Convict system and its working - to those who are in communication with the heads of the department on these matters - and if either Lord Stanley or either *of the authorities* should request to see me on them or to receive my opinions in writing I shall be prepared to give them frankly and faithfully without the least reference to the questions at issue between Lord Stanley and myself as regards Mr. Montagu. These however I shall pre^{fer} in another shape confident on the justice and honour of my cause. The cause of truth will be heard and through the blessing of God will prevail over cunning and deceit however skillfully practised.

You will be glad to hear that we are at work for the College in V.D.L. aided by the sincere good wishes and exertions of many influential persons who take a deep interest in its being established - and that we have reason to hope that Lord Stanley is not *inimical* to our views and that he will grant a charter accordingly, providing we can raise funds for its endowment.

We hope to set many inquiries to work on this latter object - indeed several good subscriptions have already been promised to us.

It would be premature to say more on this point at present but this will

I am sure suffice to convince you that our constant attentions will be devoted to what we feel to be the ^{higher} and most enduring interests of your adopted country.

For myself it is not improbable that I shall be ^{soon} employed on a service most congenial to my feelings - that of a N.W. passage. There is in England a very general desire felt that another attempt should be made to effect this object and though I have not entered among the list of candidates to offer my services for the command of it, deeming that my position entitles me to be sought for I have reason to know they will be called for in the event of the ministers approving of the Exploration. I have already been consulted on the question and I know the wishes of the Admiralty respecting it- but the treasury must furnish the means- if this be given the fitting of the ships will ~~immediately~~ commence- indeed no delay must take place if the expedition is to sail this ^{year} ~~will~~ - its sailing must not be delayed longer than May next- Lady Franklin will of course remain and she begs me to add my hope to hers that you will continue to correspond frequently with her- you know that we both highly esteem you- It is very gratifying to me to see that your services are as much required ^{as never before} on drawing up reports on all ^{different} subjects- I know that no other officer can do this work so well ^{and efficiently} ~~difficultly~~ ^{as yourself} and I trust your services will be duly appreciated and substantially rewarded. Lady F. is at present very anxious for the state of her aged Father who is lying in a state of great debility with little hope of his recovery; she has also recently lost an ^{uncle} ~~uncle~~ to whom she was much attached She will not therefore write to you now but she begs me to assure you of her very sincere regards and friendship for you - Eleanor is writing opposite to me and desires ^{also (?)} remembrance. Miss Cracroft is with her Mother in Essex at present.

Believe me ever

John Franklin.

P.S. In the event of my absence I shall take care to ^{have} friends to look after the Montagu affair. You will be happy to know that in all debates to my professional career Sir John Barrowⁿ is one of my warmest friends. It is quite clear that his unfortunate son's affair has left no trace upon his mind. Some little time ago we met Lord ^{Eland} ~~Eland~~ in Society at a party- He made some kind observations to Lady Franklin, talked to her about the Australian Colonies. I hope our nephew Frank ^{Simpkinson} is recommending himself to the ~~good~~ ^{good} opinions of all worthy people.

Lady Franklin will write to you soon,

21 Bedford Place

Russell Square

20th Sept 1844

My dear Turnbull

I must not let the Mayflower sail without ^{assuring} ~~apprising~~

you of the continuance of our esteem and regard for you. I have been writing all ^{the} day and the post hour is at hand.

My correspondence with Lord Stanley is not yet closed. I will refrain therefore for the present from giving you the details of it. He is a difficult man to deal with in the language of almost every person - but I have stuck to my text with him, and I shall continue to do so until the end. The result will be to expose the machinations of Montagu and his faction. This has already been done to a considerable extent by the publications with comments of the results of the action Gregson ~~xxx~~/Dobson in the Colonial Gazette.

Many influential friends are warm in my cause and consider me to have been hardly treated. I have however no vindictive feelings to gratify and I would not injure my enemies even Montagu himself were it in my power, beyond what is necessary for the justification of my own character- This Lord Stanley knows. You would be surprised to learn the extent of Montagu's malevolence and the efforts he made to injure me and my dear wife - but he may rest assured they will recoil upon himself. Peoples eyes have already been opened to them and I know of some to whom ^{he} ~~he~~ ^{has} ~~shown~~ his base compositions who have expressed contempt for the man even before ~~they~~ ^{and} heard our counter statements. His talented cunning may serve his purpose at the Cape for a time - but when the man becomes known he cannot be respected.

I have received a [21] letter from Lord Stanley in reply to one I wrote recently about the College. He expresses his regret that circumstances prevented my carrying out his propositions and thanks me for what he ^{is pleased} ~~terms~~ my liberality about the purchase of a site at N.N. -(New Norfolk-?) The coast is now clear however for the exertions of the friends of the Church of England to be put forth in behalf of a College on that principle and there are several influential persons ready to ^{act} act in collecting subscriptions in its cause as soon as we learn the Bishops sentiments. It will of course be independent of the Govt.

People here much regret the stoppage of the Tasmanian Journal and still

hope it will be carried on either in V.D.L. or in London. They laugh at the New Society ^{with} will all its parade and show :-

We are endeavouring to pick up all the works we can find on Australia for the Museum Library and I shall continue to do so.

I should like to know how Montagu's salary was managed - it did not peep out in the estimates .

I believe Lord Stanley would do anything for me except acknowledge his vexation about the Bank ^{Bank ?} affair which it is evident he deeply feels. I look upon Foster as little better than Montagu but much more dastardly. He little knows how much I can say about him if I am forced to it.

I shall forbear till he is convicted of treachery in the exposure of private confidence. However ^{rel.} depend upon it if I come to publication or in any way in which I may have to mention you I will do you justice as I have always done.

In looking over our papers on the homeward passage many strange facts have presented themselves.

The Admiralty have received me as I ^I would wish, and so have the Treasury, ^{where} I have had some interesting conversations about V.D.Land .

I hope you will continue to write to us. Your letters are much cherished. Lady F Eleanor Hopy desire their kind regards . So does Miss Williamson ^{here} here to dine .

Believe me my dear Turnbull

Your sincere friend

John Franklin.

Toronto.
22nd Sept. 1839.

My dear Doctor Turabull.

How shall I begin a letter to You ? What shall I say to pur away your just displeasure at my long protracted silence ? I can do no more than repeat to you what I have just said in a letter to Mr. Forster that every day has brought upon me it's official transactions with which I have been unable to contend successfully- that I have neither been able to take sufficient exercise or rest and have been utterly incapable to correspond with my nearest relatives , even about my own dear children whom we have left in England- ^{or} ~~the~~ responsibilities and duties have been cast upon me here much beyond my capacity - this I say in the most perfect sincerity- and all the industry I could give has scarcely made amends for the want of those commanding talents with which it has pleased God to bless some men. It is literally the honest truth that I have been behind hand with my work ever since I came here; and, although success has hitherto attended all my measures and called forth the strongest expression of satisfaction from Her.M.Govt., yet to you I may unreservedly say, that it has been the result of the most irksome labour and that all has depended upon giving the whole bent of my mind and of my thoughts to business by day and by night. Whether any man ought to do this, and especially the Father of a large family, is a question which I could not satisfactorily answer ? That the consequence has been that ~~all~~ my social and domestic duties have been all but abandoned is a truth which is not to be denied and has at times made me very unhappy. When I arrived in the Province the jails were full of traitors and for a long time another Rebellion was generally expected. Then followed the Border Warfare and every exertion was necessary to prevent a successful rush of the vagabonds collected in the States whose services had been sought by the disloyal in the province- for some months I had sixteen thousand militia in the Field besides the regular Troops- incurring an expenditure of more than half a million.

All this I urge as matter of duty that pressed upon me daily, and I could add from the hour I landed in England to the moment I am now addressing ~~you~~ you I have been oppressed with care upon care and I have paid dearly enough for the honour of the post I fill.

I think I begin to see you relax a little from the unkindly sentiments

which you have so naturally entertained towards me - and as you hope that all your omissions will be forgiven, in pity entirely forgive mine, and assure me that you have done so.

Appearances, I know are sadly against me when I make the assertion that I do affirm with confidence that I have never forgotten all your labors in my service, and that for your cheerful and most able assistance I am deeply indebted to you.

Notwithstanding my lamentable delay in replying to his kind letters, Mr. Foster has persevered in conveying to me all the interesting transactions that have occurred, and I have certainly found time to read though I could not muster courage to write.

You may well imagine how much I have been gratified to find that the "Arthur faction" have so successfully stood their ground. But the cause of truth will ever prevail, and although we had our faults yet we endeavoured to pursue right principles.

So your old friend Mr. Moodie has been removed as a public officer, I was very much attached to him, and although I fear He has not left his family in good circumstances yet I am satisfied He was a sincere and upright man. Who is there my Dear Doctor without some failings? Mr. Moodie had a few, I believe, as most men and I have always regarded him with esteem. The great question in daily discussion in Canada now is - What Constitution is to be given to the Country?

To my mind it is impossible to satisfy any party. At present the cry ~~is~~ is for "Representative Government" - by which is intended a scheme proposed by Lord Durham of making the Executive Council answerable to the House of Assembly for all their Acts and when the Council cannot command a majority of the House they must retire in favour of those who can! Was ever such a notion entertained before for a dependency upon Great Britain?

You must understand the object is not to take away from the power of the Governor, but to prevent the interference of the Secretary of State - and that of course with it the connexion with the Mother Country would be lost - and this is just what all the Republicans and Reformers want to bring about.

I most sincerely hope that Mrs. Turnbull and all your family are well - I beg you will remember me to them most kindly in which Lady Arthur desires to join.

I need not say that I am closing this hasty letter abruptly- but I have not any more time than to assure you of very unaltered regard for you and most sincere good wishes for your health and welfare in every way.

Ever most faithfully
yours,

Geo. Arthur.

P.S. Do try in a most particular manner remember me to Mr. Noyes and to Miss McLachlan. I ought long since to have written to Mr. Noyes and have thanked him for his very very kind letters - but I will do so soon.

E.A.

R.S. 1784/A73