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GEORGE PEACOCK,
WHARF, HOBART.
BOX POST OFFICE, SYDNEY.

Clifton Cottage
Allce St
New Town
Sydney.

Novem 20th 1883

Dear Pauri

I hasten to reply to your kind letter received yesterday, but not without having fully considered its contents which consideration I regret will not allow me to fall in with your plans. Before giving my reasons for this course let me thank you for the kind interest you take in my affairs of which this matter is only one of the many proof. I have had.

The ambition I have held most keenly for the past three years has been to have a paper of my own or, at any rate a considerable pecuniary interest in one the policy of which I should mainly direct. Yet though this has the main desire I had in life I left the press after having but a very short experience of it. I saw my object pretty plainly, at least I thought so, when I left the work I felt the most interest in to go to that which I not only did not care for but felt a repugnance to. I saw a chance which I still see of getting the paper within a few years of having a paper of my own even if I still remained a purely business

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man. The way is plain to anyone who knows
the management of big well spread businesses.
If they take a young fellow into their employ and
have to trust him fully he must eventually
become with half the profits of the particular
part of the business for which he is responsible
and in very many cases the pecuniary benefit
he receives grows with the business. This is all in one
line and for the other my recollection of penny papers
struggling against want of capital and the opposition
of a large so-called respectable class in Hobart
I scarcely recommends trusting too much to them. A few
years ago a year lost was nothing, but as you get
on to middle age you can no longer afford experiments.
Notwithstanding all this had such a chance opened
out to me twelve months ago I would have seized
it eagerly and endeavored to make it more than a
cynematic hobby - a profitable undertaking. Now, however,
I cannot disguise the fact that I am to a very great
extent pledged to Peacock or at any rate if I wanted
to leave would feel constrained to remain with him till
he was assured my place could be filled without inconvenience.

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Much as I desire the luck I must seek by it without I have a
run of luck which would enable me to go with some confidence
into something else and in such a case I would stay here
till Peacock felt I could leave without detriment to the
business.

There are some of the reasons, dear Padre, which induce me to
remain where I am in spite of your kind desire and the
probable chance of a congenial berth with fair pay among
friends who become dearer as the weary months of my
forced retirement go by. But I have ever looked upon my
absence from Guernsey as temporary; I still feel
the old ambition, I still believe in my luck, and I still
feel that I could put a great power of energy into
a congenial berth based upon a legitimate ambition and
directed by the highest principles of my nature. I will have
a paper and an outlet to some day. It may be many
years off still; but surely think how by our most earnest
desires are gratified somewhere. Somewhere

Remembers me kindly to Mrs Clark and the boys; kiss the babes
including his little Excellency whom I fancy I see, and

Believe me
Yours faithfully yours
Geo. Peacock