York 31/7 Nov. 1845

My dear Sir,
Geo. F. Story

I have to acknowledge the receipt of the Board's Case, which was received by me but from some cause or other, nearly all the plants were dead. I think they had been too moist and had had too much sun upon them. Only one Gunnia was living and some Brassica fall upon it and cut out its eye. We preserved a piece of Camalas littoralis, two Orchidaceous Plants which lay at the top, Helypodium, Villa Sera and Antrophylum globelatum, all of which are growing. The hole at the bottom of the case is intended to drain off the water when the case has been filled with earth; the earth saturated before the pots are plunged in it. The hole is then plugged up. If I doubt if the clay is not too impermeable to moisture, I do not think it a good vehicle for seeds, they can scarcely be got out again. So far as my experience goes seeds travel well in paper, or in muslin, or calico bags in boxes not too air tight in the cabin. Exposure to the steam of the upper part of the boat is destructive to them. They are
near the floor, yet quite out of the way of wet, probably the elevation of a cistern would be best. Tent in letters in muslin bags seed some well we have raised a crop of what was sent for Platycarya betleancum and what I hope will prove it but its young leaves are rather rounder than I expected to have seen it. Plants are best if established in pots before being put into the case we propose sending thee another after a while. I hope it will have better success. I ought to have mentioned that David's Biancardi often sheds its leaves and remains dormant for many months. We have had it without any appearance of vegetation for more than a year. Your high mountain plants are desirable to us, especially those which are showy in flower. Mr. Hooker says he has had terms from M.D. L packed in a bag in nearly dry moss. Could you send us any in this way? We have Adiantum affine in addition to the two above mentioned. I think it quite possible Guinea might like wise survive the voyage packed in moss in an air-tight bag.
I have had a letter from John Walker. I think since I wrote, as has also Josiah Forster, of Bennington, has likewise had letters from him. Peter Bedford has lately had one from A. B. Flower, from Providence, he joins me in the hope that this of your love will deal tenderly with them feeling for the trying situation in which he has been placed, and for his constitutional peculiarities, which claim in some other members of his family, great allowance. It is very important in disciplinary proceedings to keep in mind the just remonstrance. Remembering yourself, but know also be tempered. I shall be glad if you can enjoy yourself comfortably in the seaside in the Botanic Garden, as I think it will suit your taste. I am writing rather hastily being on the eve of leaving home on a religious visit, part of which I have accomplished at intervals, and for which I have had a minute more than half a year. Several kids in the ministry are moving up and down in this country, but I conclude you will be made acquainted with such proceedings by the British Friend.

My love is to my dear generally at Hobart town, if in Swan Port. If long since I wrote to Elfrid, but now have my hands very full, so be must excuse me a while longer. I remain ever...

E. H. Frakehouse