

Government House Albert Town  
12 Dec 1835

Sir

I beg to acknowledge the receipt of your letter with its Enclosure herewith returned, seeing the Revd Mr Knopwoods personal interest was so much concerned, and giving due consideration to the Points of this having been so many years a Resident in these Colonies, I was very ~~loath~~ reluctant to interfere, or have anything to say respecting the Road to Mulgrave Battery. As the parties interested however expressed the greatest difficulty in proceeding with the Sale, whilst the question of the line of Road remained undispensed of, I was constrained to make up my mind, and to give my opinion upon it.

The Question was one, as between the Public and Mr Knopwood, the Original Grant made by the Governor, conveyed to Mr Knopwood the land in question, reserving a right of the



the Road at high Water Mark, thus it was  
stated ~~there~~. Lieut Governor Solle, in order to enhance  
the Value of Mr Knithwoods property consented  
to alter and sanction a space to admit a line  
of private houses in front of the Road. It certainly  
from the Earliest Moment I saw the Ground appeared  
~~there~~, that it was abandoning a public right of  
very important consequence, and one which  
could afterwards be alone recovered at a very  
heavy expense to the Crown. It appeared also  
to me that the Lieut Governor, acting in  
subordination to the Governor in Chief, did  
not possess the Power to alienate a right  
which had been expressly reserved to the  
Public, nor was there any official, or formal  
document to show that he had done so, although  
I did not doubt the accuracy of Mr Knithwoods  
statements, on ~~the~~<sup>es</sup> grounds my judgment  
was founded upon the most mature  
deliberation, I could give the subject,



and upon the information then before me, it remained unaltered. But if Mr Knopwood would desire to have the point considered, I will take any memorial into deliberation before the Executive Council.

But it however due to myself to state, that what I acted up, to what I considered my duty in this respect; I was not disregarding Mr Knopwood's interests, but took an early opportunity of communicating with the Archdeacon upon the inadequacy of Provision, which had been made, and an arrangement is consequently in progress, which I hope will be concluded in a few weeks, and prove beneficial to Mr Knopwood's future comfort.

I have the honor to be  
Sir  
your most obedient servant

Rd Bethune Esq

George Arthur



Lieut Governor Arthur  
Letter to  
W. A. Muhme Esq  
12 Dec 1825