My dear Sir,

I have just received a letter from you, which, I am happy to say, the post brought me in time to prevent my having to speak to you on the subject of the female prisoners, in the colony. I have been informed by a reliable authority that the conditions of the female prisoners are difficult, and I trust that you will do your best to alleviate the sufferings of those unfortunate persons.

I wish in my present letter to explain to you (it is difficult for me to explain myself to you on this point) that the circumstances in which the female prisoners are placed in the colony are not in general favorable to their welfare. You are aware that the assignment of these prisoners has not been as successful as it might have been. The name has changed the name of the colony, and I trust that the change will be for the better. In my opinion, whatever may be said in its favor, it is the cause of suffering. I cannot see how it can be justified.

What becomes then of the fact, that all the women came who came out here, were the victors into assignment? And, not a single voice that I have of has been raised in England to save them from this tyranny, this degradation?
Are the women wholly forgotten in England? or is it supposed
stripped of its breasts & cleaved from its nuptials, when applied
to them? Not. The fact is otherwise. The assignment of
women is an infinitely worse thing than the assignment of slave.
It has all the evils of that assignment, with no respect the
"slave" is the matric or未必 is still here. The women are only active but productive women nothing. I will continue this view
in the point of view why it's handed from the ship after
a voyage which itself is a cause of increased desolation.
They are thrown at once on the terms of society, the difficulties
over every part of it - no corner of the island is remote in
which their presence is not to be found. Few families to
mean that they cannot afford to maintain a single female
presumer servant. But chiefly they are congregated in the
towns, in the midst of every temptation. To the lowest condition
in life. These women in life but the highest positions a not
infrequent are in their souls, are the录入 & history made
of our Colonial bachelors. The earliest teachers consequently
grown up daughters - And of whom is this affirmed? 2 of a
woman who "trade" in England. That, trended to be
recruited in letters of shame in the literary superintendents
name book. That such a state of things appear to
have but little auspicious effect on the society it is composed of
the female youth of this colony, can only be accounted for, by
the fact that these female bachelors are held up by parents
to their children, as a class apart, to be avoided. even
while it is made use of. But that propensity that he the
prevalent sin of the female population. will excite no
wonder. It is followed by the dedications of native female
perissaries in the same family, by the temptations to which
They are eventually exposed, as the very few coercive restrictions to which they are subjected in corrected service, so it is evidenced by some different penalties of the law, or indeed it, be not pressed a mistaken philanthropy, directly encouraged by the institutions which exist in this colony, to relieve the pregnant women of the burden of their offspring.

It may be necessary for me to explain this matter when a female neglected servant is likely to become a mother, she is conducted from her master’s residence, wherever it may be, to the Factory of Hobart or of Launceston, where she is received: a carefully tended till recovered from her confinement. She is then sent with her child (if at Hobart to a small house in the town, called the Factory nursery, to nurse it. There the least facility of companions, plenty of food, no work, a nurse is liable to the egregious curiosity of being visited some day, on application being made by an individual wanting a cook, nurse, to enter in that capacity into a private family, or rich one perhaps (such is the facility of free service for even the best services) where the nurse, with the usual bribes by which tender mothers strive to secure to their children, the care of the hired substitutes. In ordinary cases however, the child being weaned, at the end of from 9 to 12 months, the mother letter is removed into the nursery as a source of the care of the care of corrected children, where this scenario is reenacted to service, or she goes back to the factory, not this time to be treated with peculiar care, but preferably to be punished for her neglect and transgression. You will ask what is the nature of this punishment, with which she is now to be visited, it may perhaps suppose that, on re-entering the Factory, there, in contradiction to her situation,
in the ensuing before mentioned) were they all alone with
in the frame, from the corrupt influence of the connexions of a
fracture of them—to all the Foundling Hospitals of
other countries, the unhappy objects of their cruelty are
received when infants, as the partners with them the care
from them, so more—this state, which charges itself with
their maintenance, a education, has also the exclusion
right of a Parent over them—ever that of imposing on
them an arbitrary name, to the absolute impairing of
the rights of nature, & their law, whatever else may. be
thought of it, i.e. it may be supposed. Some checks by
the violence, which it owes to the maternal instinct,
to the prolificity, which such institutions strictly encourage,
also as the effective security against the contamination
to be derived by the children, from the depravity of the
nurser or who gave them birth. Such in the Great Foundling
Hospital of London. There is no check whatever on the
children, as has been seen, have been buried or killed by
their parents during the first 2 years of their childhood
by wrong to return the foundling boy, which they have
become the objects, at in the Orphan School. This same
treatment is allowed to be carried on, of course under
certain restrictions, which, however, from the want of
sufficient officers to exact the necessary vigilance, must
be wholly insufficient to neutralize the evil. Children
who in their earliest infancy, have never had to
experience the privations, of the hard usage, of which a
lot of the infant son amongst the few, are there
acquainted with their parents, only as ministers to the
of pleasure, enjoyment in contrast with the constraints
of school. From them they derive probably, their knowl
of the civil world, true enjoyment of time, of its purchased pleasures, true knowledge of its serious language, and their aspirations after the appealing attractions of gross excitement. But this is not all - the children thus maintained, educated by the few, are not so that, but lose the complexion properly of their parents, whenever the latter think proper to change them. The virtuous training [presuming it to be so] which they have received from the age of 2 to 10, or 12, may be arrested at the latter age, or at any other, by a claim advanced by the father for the protection of his child, founded upon the ability to maintain it, such ability arising either from the marriage of the woman, while yet as unmarried, to a man who is gaining a competent livelihood, or by the woman herself, having obtained her livelihood of her own, or her father. In such a case, the child is unexpectedly given up - its claim to and right to education, which alone was to be a considerable check to the children being withdrawn, but without penalty or penalty of any kind, the parent is allowed to take it away, such an occurrence is by no means uncommon: after the age of 10 or 12, when the services of a boy or girl in the colony becomes valuable, i.e. their as an institution capable of under the common condition of a foreignPunishing a child into good, is degraded into a mere factory for the encouragement of vice, wasting its resources, its ears on objects which can bring it no obvious remuneration.

I have purposely avoided bringing forward any which might be considered as exceptions to these evil tendencies - in looking to the principle...
of things, are only public expediency, any judgment by holding on such public
consequences as were not reasonably to be anticipated from them. This
is more good perhaps in this country than could be expected from the
abundant evil materials with which she is stocked. Whether encouragement
is that for earnest endeavors after amendment! but what additional
wahly resource available for healing thins as they are!

Dr. Bowen tells me that you fear for the poor women who arrive
here (some of them under various Euphues of pretences) the rise of
indiscriminate assignments. It would seem that those should be 30 female
or individuals, a circumstance in the island, who, at the moment the ship
arrives were ready to receive the 30 women the bough. Have they
even poorest persons? I state herein he might himself, someone that question
when he had examined by walking through such a done another, as he
thinks of an hour of moderately decent appearance none without
a female convict debar. I know of none whom he had heard speak
the Pooben, who, as well as the ticket of leave holders have been
by the short regulations deprived of the power of receiving convict
debar. It always happen when a female convict ship arrives,
that a many people as there are prisoners on board some decide
as candidates for their services. These candidates are not bound to
show any qualifications of their fitness to be the employers of convict
debar such a thing is impossible. Their fitness lies in this work
of the prisoners' services a, in their sense of having as much right to
them as others. The best of the prisoners, or those supposed to be
best, are reserved for the best masters or managers, (an arrangement
which falls under that of the Chief Superint. of Convicts) that is to say
those who are in the most respectable classes of Society. The rest
fall to the lots of the lower ranks. But, so I have never listened
so staked, is undeniably the principle of distribution, although it
would not be a better or worse, the best, but in what can be said of the
other? What should we say, if in an hospital, the most serious of
further patients, the most difficult cases, were always made over to
the worst physician? and that many of these employers of convict debar
Suffering may be concluded from the fact that all to which there is scarcely a pretty tradesman in the town when agents prevail of the tradesmen are emancipated convicts themselves, who have some female persons in his employ. That system is as ancient as the origin of the penal colony itself, procured from something very like necessity. There are no other women (the number of originally few female convicts is quite insignificant) unrest a very extensive system of female emancipation is entered into, it would be considered an wonderful fact, the most intolerable hardships, to put us to do. This observation will enable you to see the first difficulty which always attends the discussion of remedies on this subject, the difficulty viz. that the extent of the penalties of the colonists are not identical. Besides these, there are no receptacles for women but the homes of the colonists. The whole arrangements of the convict system have been based on the principle that the convicts colonists are only the prison's fillers, that their dwelling houses, adapted as many of them are only to the rude farms, what poor habits of colonists or hardworking life, their only prisons. The treating is only a large sleeping house for the women whether on their first arrival or in their transition from one place of residence to another, it is also a house of correction for faults committed in domestic service, habits of juvenile life, a place of reformatory discipline - it seldom fails to turn out the women worse than it finds them - hence the constant endeavor of the authorities how to remove the women atomic from the ship into private dwellings rather than to send them into the Factory. Thus few convicts long enough to be materially acted upon by any reformatory process ever left each other, but these in part arose, unless a religious service on the Sabbath, sometimes performed by the chaplain acting as the Prisoner's at their by a chaplain who has also an extensive parish to alternate, can be considered in such. There is no classification which is worth the name. The separate cells rare few in number and only by means of police magistrates for special offenses. Silence is wholly not enforced, but the utmost confusion of to open prevails in every yard every room, and short, without entering into
more particulars, its character may be ascertained from the fact
that even as a place of punishment, it fails in its object. The women
whom to it again and again—when they wish to change their place of residence, they are known to commit offences on purpose to take
back to it preparatory to their re-assignment elsewhere.
If you feel astonishment that a state of things such as I have
generally described should still continue, it is the time when
the colony is in a state of moral prostration as well as of physical
hunger, greater perhaps, than even looked before, a time too
when the State Government has tried some experimental
amendations of the condition of convict men which promised
the best results, I must remind you that the poor women
have been altogether overlooked in the general revolution. As
they have not I suppose been overlooked, but it has been found
much more difficult to deal with the women than the men
on the subject, so perplexing subjects are apt to be, has been
put aside— Till very lately the expense of convict discipline
was regulated by the same rigid economy which was exacted
in all other branches of the public expenditure. The Governor has
been called upon rather to view pounds of justification for what
he could not help spending, than encouraged to propose amend-ments
which to be adequate, must be costly,—The Re-assignment System
had its origin in economy—the vice of the Factory system in
the same. It is only the Orphan School which deis this principle
at defiance. This from the want of room, the want of officers
that the evils prevailing in them chiefly arise. Not only do we
want building of vastly increased capacity, but had we even a
Millbank Penitentiary, it would be useless without the officers to
administer its discipline. There are wholly wanting. The Colony
cannot furnish them. They do not exist in the country. At present,
there are only 5 free people, men or women, employed in the Factory,
(Signed) Dorothea Trantline
which contained the sick day about 400 women. If any one, or any couple of three were to go away, I do not know whose to find who could fill their place. A stranger found for the endurance of what is annual, could scarcely be imagined. I have stated all these evils without desire of publication, but not without seeing more than any one perhaps can do who has not lived a few years in the colony all the difficulties that lie in the way of removing them. I cannot believe however that the present ministry who have shown so much desire to relieve transportation from some of its greatest faults, would not do all more to cleanse it from the foulest blot of all, the female regiment, a Factory system, if they were aware of its nature. Now I should rejoice to hear that investitures were set on foot, that they were to be raised from some of our qualified people, such a system would be totally out of the question, the more so as the present system is interwoven with the habits a prejudice of the community, with its influence also as they suppose, an irremovable body of officials would be perplexed by any change. I have known some of the best men in the country while they deplore existing evils, console themselves with the observation that this state has not and to be, a few singular reasons why it now should be any better. I do not think his plan is of this opinion, as I know he has it in contemplation to evade penurious in the center of the island, on an improved principle of all, but he has not yet been able to procure the plans from the civil engineer who has the handling of these matters, who has also upon his hands at this moment the execution of instructions from the secretary of state to carry this plan through the management of the male council, involving as they do great waste with an inadequate moral machinery to perfect them which require his unremitting energies.

[Signature]

The last chief, etc., etc.