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Sydney. 14th September 1843

My dear Mr Watson

I purpose so far as lies in my power at present, to reply to your kind letters of 18 February and 8th March 1843. So far as lies in my power I say; because the sincere feeling of regard towards myself, which is conveyed by them, more like the pen of one whose good opinion I estimate at a higher price than that of almost any other person living, is really more than I feel myself equal to acknowledging in due terms: more especially coupled as it is with so generous and liberal an effort to serve me. Your letters (and Duplicate of the latter) I first received here during my absence from home which was protracted to upwards of two months in visiting a distant, difficult and, I lament to say; as to external ordinances of religion most destitute part of this wide country. However my return was expected at no very distant date, Mr Broughton forbore to exercise the discretion you so considerately granted to her, of signing the Bill. You will have heard of the receipt of your advices by my letter to Mr Colton, advising

him of my having drawn the Bill and negotiated it as you desired through the Bank of Australasia. In Mr C. I communicated nothing beyond the bare fact of my having so far complied with your instructions: but I will now enter into some more detailed account of my proceedings and of the reasons which have influenced them. At this present time all mercantile and pecuniary concerns here are in such an embarrassed and precarious state, and credit and confidence so shaken, that taking all circumstances into most serious consideration, I could not decide on taking upon myself the responsibility of placing out the £700 upon any unsecured security which might be offered. At the same time bearing in mind your expressions "that it is as personal favor as such an opening can possibly be — and "it is offered to the immediate ease relief and comfort of Bishop Broughton", I was led to consider whether without imputation of ungenerous selfishness it might not be practicable for me to combine that relief which you so generously seek to afford with a proper & perhaps more satisfactory security than under the present circumstances of this country I could venture to promise from any quarter out of myself. I am not an adept in matters of business; and therefore may have committed a very gross solecism in the opinion of those who have greater skill in such matters. I have however gone honestly to work: and trust that what I now done will suffice to secure the property until it can be in my power to hear again from you whether what I have proposed is satisfactory, or in what other way it may be wished that my intention, which I will now state, should be carried into effect. I need have no scruple or reluctance in stating to so kind a friend that my position in this respect is not a desirable one. In taking Holy Orders nearly 15 years ago a proceeding upon which I can really look back without a blush as to my motives, for I would have declined the office if a sense of duty would have allowed, I incurred expences beyond my very limited means at once to meet: and again in voyaging to and from England for advancement to the Bishoprick (which neither did I seek but took with fear & sensible reluctance) other expences were imposed upon me. The total amount of these, as I incline to think, was not less than £1400: which amount if I live long enough it may be in my power gradually to replace (though as yet it has not been) or else it must go in diminution of the provision which by life insurance I have ability to make for my family after my death. It is vain to deny that this encumbrance has always been embarrassing to me: and therefore I have (not blinded by self-advantage let me trust) arrived at the conclusion that the most substantial mode in which your benevolent and friendly wish to promote my personal comfort could be effected would be by allowing the sum of £700 to go in diminution of the incumbrance in question; my engagement being given for

for it to secure application attentively to the intended
purpose of benefiting my successor in this office. It made on
which I have endeavoured to effect this has been by entering on
the enclosed paper a receipt for the sum drawn for; with an
engagement sufficiently express and conclusive I trust to bind
my executors for its repayment out of the effects which will
come into their possession after my death. My earnest wish is
to make everything in that respect as secure as possible and
therefore my dear Mr Watson if you think that the proposal
to leave the money in my charge for the purpose stated can
be admitted without detriment to others, or even annoyance
able risk to them, I should feel the obligation doubled if
such documents could be sent out for my signature
as may carry into regular legal effect the security which
I have thus rudely attempted to furnish.

If is not in my power to touch upon any other subject
at present; having from constant press of business been
compelled to put off writing until the day, and almost
hour of my embarkation to visit the District of Port
Phillip. At 9 P.M. this day I go on board the Ship "Rajah"
and expect to sail at daylight. The weather is boisterous
and the prospect of an equinoctial voyage not very grati-
fying. But I have reason to be sure of the providence which has
so long protected me: and arriving, under this protection, at
Melbourn I will forward the Duplicate Receipt and Engagement
and at the same time write to you again, and more fully. God bless you
my dear Mr Watson. Such is the earnest prayer of y^r affect: friend W. G: Australia