

MOORE COLLEGE: BROUGHTON LETTERS

Broughton to Coleridge, 18|5|1844:

check

My dear Coleridge: Your kindly desire me to write by every ship: with which however if I were literally to comply, methinks you might be rather incommoded. My last Letter was written not long after the 18th of April, the day of my dear Phoebe Broughton's marriage; and was intended for the 'Sultana' which sailed about that time, but (I) fear it did not get away till last week by the 'Calendonia'. My reason for writing now is, first of all, to advertise (sic) you that by the Ship 'Penyard Park' to sail tomorrow, I have sent you two small views of this Harbour, which were offered to me by the artist; and which it occurred to me you might like to have as views of the locality, (as they call it in new-fashioned English) even though the execution might not please you. No 1 is very nearly the view from my house, shewing the North Head of the entrance to Port Jackson, and the open Pacific Ocean beyond. No 2. Is a reverse view, or looking from the Ocean up the Harbour. It is taken in fact from the South Head; which would appear on the extreme right in No. 1 if the view extended far enough. The time is soon after sunrise (in No 2) and the tinge on the clouds may appear unnatural to an English eye. But it is not too highly coloured for our skies. Indeed the gorgeous splendour of the sets (which I am more in the habit of witnessing than the rising) is often beyond the power of description or representation. I shld think that Anna keate might make good pictures by copying these in a better style; as they are minutely and laboriously accurate representations of the scenery.

In No 2 Sydney is seen in the distance. Our house is behind the dead tree to the right of the windmills. By the 'General Hewitt' sailed 6th April I forwarded to you a portrait of myself in lieu of the one which was sent last year: and hope it will be more to your satisfaction.

K →

MOORE COLLEGE: BROUGHTON LETTERS

Broughton to Coleridge, 18|5|1844 (Cont 2)

The appointment as Commissary and a Letter also went by that Ship.

Since my last communication a circumstance of some importance has occurred,

→ in the clergy having unanimously agreed to an Adress to me requesting to proceed to England for the benefit (as they suppose) of the interests of the Church. I have made a reply, or two replies rather, which have put the subject before them in a light for fuller consideration: and they are still deliberating. Certainly I do not think myself entitled to consult my own case, but fairly so to use my own judgment; and unless that be satisfied I shall not consent to go. Strange to say I have no copy at hand either of the Address or my replies; but if I can procure them in the course of the day, they shall be enclosed with the pictures by the 'Penyard Park'. There is one question in which I have unintentionally become involved by siding with Sir George Gipps in opposition to the general feeling of the colonists; or at least the occupiers of Government land, in the decision of which I should like very well to have a voice in England. The Governor I think wld have done better to have taken my advice 2 and a half years ago, before this celebrated Legislative Council of ours came into existence. By postponing it he has thrown all the advantages into the hands of those who are now making all this riot. On the list of the Committee of the Pastoral Association there are I observe 22 Members of Council out of 36; all of them large stock-holders, and embarrassed by speculation, and their demand is that the control of the lands, now vested in the Crown, shall be transferred to the Legislative Council: so that if the Council govern the lands with the revenue arising from them, and these gentlemen govern the Council, a monstrous pretty oligarchy they will have established. It is a very great question; and unless they who have to decide it, understand it thoroughly and are very firm, they will assuredly

MOORE COLLEGE: BROUGHTON LETTERS

Broughton to Coleridge, 18|5|1844(Cont 3)

put the rights of the Crown at the mercy of a party whose proceedings have already shewn too little disposition to respect them. But my principal object wld be, if I were on the spot, to endeavour to obtain some recognition of the duty of the State not to appropriate the funds arising from the sale of a territory, many times over exceeding all England in size, without making some provision for the acknowledgement and worship of the Almighty. I have written to the Archbishop upon the subject: also to the S.P.G. and (unless the subject were even of such vast importance) at an inexcusable length I should fear to your brother Sir J.T.C. in reply to a very kind Letter which he was so good as to write to me in September last. Even therefore in my absence I trust the subject will not be lost sight of: and as the language of your appointment as Commissary is very large, it will authorize your taking any part of my behalf which your judgment shall dictate, and your leisure permit.

I have for the present hired a cottage near my own house in which Charles Kingston with his family and his brother-in-law Barnett's are living, until we can find good employment. I sent Kingston up to my son-in-law's Mr Boydell's thinking the best thing they cld do wld be to take a portion of land from him, whereon they might soon put up houses for themselves, and begin farming on their own account. But by some mischance Mr B had not received the Letter which I wrote to him enclosing Mrs Hudson's Memorandum; and so Kingston came back re infecta. They must now wait till I can receive an answer to my letter. In the meantime you may be assured they shall be taken care of. ?

I have letters from the Bishop of N.Z. to the 14th of last month. He had then just returned in good health and spirits of Waimate. He writes in great spirits. Everything was proceeding to his satisfaction. Mrs Selwyn

MOORE COLLEGE: BROUGHTON LETTERS

Broughton to Coleridge, 18|5|1844(Cont 4)

much improved in health looking forward to her confinement next month; and as he says not seeming to dread it very much. Her picture has not yet arrived. I wrote as you recommended to the worthy bibliophiles Parker and Burns with becoming thanks. I wld also ahve written to the Mr J.W. ←
Bowden who has sent me a handsomely bound copy of his life of Gregory V11, but am puzzled whether to address him as Esqr or Revd: though from internal evidence I should rather incline to the former. But to be wrong would be awkward. If you know him, could you manage to convey one word of acknowledgment. From the book itself I have learned much that is valuable; and in point of style it is so far unique in the present day that there really is not I believe one single incorrect sentence to be met with from the first page to the last. We are all quite well. I mean, like a good courtier, to stay home until after the Queen's birthday on the 24th when all the world goes to a Levee, and secular people to a ball at night; among them latter ← ?
my wife and daughter. Of course not I.

God bless you, my dear Coleridge, and all who are yours: I am now and at all times, Sincerely and affectionately yours, W.G. Australia.