

MOORE COLLEGE: BROUGHTON LETTERS

Broughton to Coleridge, 5/2/1849 (Syd)

I wrote to you on 16th ult by the "Cheapside" and 2 days after that received your Letters by the September packet with Mr Markland's enclosed. The latter, as you may believe, afforded me an unexpected gratification: not more from the generosity of the giver but from a sense that it was to you I owed the benefit. If the Hamlet do not sail tomorrow I will not fail to write to Mr M. regardful also of the topic which you suggest. But if the Mail close this evening I must postpone it till the next Ship sails which will be only a few days. I am trying by a little finesse to make this act of bounty productive of an exertion in other quarters; and therefore have announced to our Cathedral Committee in general terms only that I have authority to make such an offer if a corresponding advance be obtainable here. They are good fellows; and willing, but not rich: but still by a utd effort each doing a little I think they may accomplish my purpose.

By Captain P.P. King R.N. who goes home in the Hamlet (to return after a few months) I send you a little book: a foreign edition of the Apostolic Fathers: and I think very good. You desired me some time ago to send you a book with an inscription. But I do not know how it was, I never could fix upon any book with satisfaction to myself. This is worth only a few shillings: but I am sure you will take it not as it is so valued, but as a token of the very sincere gratitude which I feel, and which is still beneath what I ought to feel, for your many noble and long-continued efforts for the cause of this Church. You did not say whether the inscription should be in English or Latin: and therefore I have tried my hand at the latter, thinking it more becoming in a book of that character. I hope Australicus is right, according to the analogy of Italicus, Thessalicus, Anglicus and so on. Neither Australis nor Austricus seemed definite enough. Also I use dilection for which I do not know there is a better authority than Tertullian. But it seemed to me rather in

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keeping with the title of the book. With these Retractations I now commit it to your keeping. I have told Captain King if he can visit Eton I am sure you will shew him all the attention you can. If you do not see him, he will bring anything back to me next November. His address is at Messrs Stilwell & Co, Navy Agents 22 Arundel St Strand. He takes his young daughter with him to shew her the wonders of amazing England. She is a good girl: brought up in some strictness by her mother who inclines a little perhaps to methodism: but still is true and good. Should the damsel come with her father to see Eton and Windsor I shall be very very thankful to Mrs Coleridge if it fall in her way in any manner to make her visit a pleasing one: and such, as in the wilds of Australia she may perhaps look back upon like Miranda saying:

O wonder

How many goodly creatures are there here!

How beauteous mankind is! O brave new world

That has such people in't!

I notice all that you say, and acknowledge the weight of it, respecting the defection of my co-presbyters which has caused me so acute a pang: yet hardly healed if it were to be so. But what I have to say on this and some other subjects of import must be postponed until I can write again: which shall be very soon. God bless you my dear Coleridge. I trust you are happy and prosperous as you deserve to be: and with kindest regards to Mrs Coleridge, I remain, Your faithful and sincere friend, W.G. Sydney.