

MOORE COLLEGE: BROUGHTON LETTERS

Broughton to Coleridge, 10/7/1844

My dear Coleridge: I wrote to you yesterday a hurried Letter by the *Check* → 'Archilles', which vessel was to sail, and I think did sail for London this morning; and therein acknowledged the receipt of your Letters to 23rd Jan and 10th and 27th February: as well as of the box with the prints of Mrs Selwyn, Grant's Bampton Lects, Anglo-Catholic Library, and other boos; and further of two boxes and a Letter of G.A.N.Z. It is truly said it is never too late to learn. This precision in acknowledging arrivals is not one of my natural excellencies: on the contrary I was up to a very recent date most irregular in keeping (except in my memory) any record of what I received or what I sent. But perceiving how particular you are I am trying to acquire the art: and hope you will pay me some compliment on my rapid proficiency. On those parts of your Letters which relate to finance I really cannot even yet overcome my astonishment and shall never be able to express it. As the first and most becoming duty I have bethought myself of returning short acknowledgement under my own hand to those who have in so no (sic) noble a spirit combined to do us service. Of this description I have written I think 87 Letters which are forwarded by the 'Ocean Queen' to Mr Francis in 8 packages, with a request that he will supply each with a queen's head stamp, and then send them on to you. I am not acquainted with the addresses of more than half a dozen at most in the whole list: and some may require to have Bart, or M.P. or some such note of distinction subjoined to the name. I do not mean to trouble you about such matters: but it occurs to me that the same kind hand which wrote out the List of names may apply itself to this additional labour, which by any other means I do not know how to get executed. To the best of my knowledge and belief I have not omitted any donor of £5 or upwards; nor wld my own will have led me to pass by any, but really my time was exhausted.

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To Dr Keate I have written separately: and shall do so to Revd H H Norris. As to the anonymous, I must leave you to decide how they shall be dealt with. There is 'A Lady' who contributes £15: and 'A Lady who gives £20. On the Letter meant for the latter there is a small figure of 2 in the corner. I somewhat suspect who 'Miss C.H.P.' is: but 'Miss C.A.' is inexplicable to me. Probably you know. In writing to a 'Protestant' I have commenced with 'Sir': but there is a possibility that it shld have been 'Madam'. At all events I presume it is not Mr Palmer of Magdalen. There are in this country some friends and correspondents of Princess Galitzin, who charges him (sic) with enforcing her continuance in a Church which she declares is idolatrous. ← How is this? I try to defend him: but not knowing the facts I make a bad case; and there is a strong prejudice against him. One symbol there is in the List which I fairly acknowledge has baffled and beaten me that is 'E'. I felt that thanks were due, and made an attempt to render them: but the attempt failed. Had it said Mr E, Mrs E or Miss E. there had been a tangible circumstance, and something might have been strung upon it. But how to personify simple 'E' in one's thoughts, or how to adapt words to one who was to me literally an abstraction, it was beyond my power to determine: and therefore, though impressed with gratitude and respect for 'E', I could not commit them to paper.

Now with respect to the amounts 1,2,3 set forth in your Letter of 27 Feb: and the references therein made to the Annual Report of S.P.G. I am somewhat perplexed. I ought however first to say that the £113 through the Bank of Australasia has been received. But in Mr Hawkin's Letter of 29th January, after applying some sums to the service of South Australia, he speaks of about £1500 remaining for General purposes. In another Letter, same date, he says

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he is enabled to authorize me to draw for : not naming any sum: and again on 28th February he says they will be prepared to honor my Bills for £1000 beyond the amount advised in his last Letter. This you will perceive leaves me very much in the dark: nor can I make their amounts agree with those advised in your last Letter of 27 Feb. The filling up of the blank might perhaps clear up all. However being anxious to avoid all risk of exceeding my authority, I have studied the several Statemnets and Accounts with care; and the result is an impression that I cannot do wrong, or run into excess, by drawing for £1500 between the present time and the close of this year. This wld clear off every incumbrance and wld leave me time to consider in what way the remaining funds can be best appropriated. My wish wld be to debote them to the permanent establishment and endowment of Church Institutions. ←

You will find among the Letters of thanks, one to Dr Pusey. I felt that after the kindness experienced from him it was quite a duty so to write: but I did not send him a Copy of my Charge. For not being personally acquainted with him, and having had occasion to speak to him in it, I thought it might appear like taking a liberty. Yet no one holds him in more sincere estimation and respect than I; although there be one part of the Collect for Whitsunday which we ought fervently to use on his behalf. Do not be offended I intreat (sic) you by this freedom concerning one who is so much your friend; but you know he is a public character, and speaking of him as such I cannot conscientiously say he has shewn 'a right judgment in all things'. Mr Palmer's Narrative did not arrive in time to guide me in my Charge but I have since read it very attentively. Not having any one with whom to discuss the subject, my conclusions are all my own, and I may be wrong. But my impression is, and I cannot help it, that from the very commencement there were various shades more or less decided of a disposition towards Romanism among the ← Check.

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projectors of the Tracts: and that there was no ruling power over them, or general unanimity of purpose among them, which cld properly check and control that disposition. Mr Newman acknowledges, in his latest Volume of Sermons, that the religious views which he inculcayed were from the very beginning such as tended, without a very strong safeguard, to the theology of Rome. How many then let me ask with great respect were sensible of this inherent tendency; and of them who did discuss it how many were instrumental in applying the strong Safeguard that he speaks of? I do not know who concurred in the publication of Froude's Remains; and therefore will not blame any. But in sober sadness I have always regarded that publication as an act of positive high-treason against the Church of England. But there are three special public acts of Dr Pusey which dissatisfy me. The first is his kneeling, as if in adoration of the host, during the celebration of mass in the convent: the next apologetical, and, I think seductive, style of speaking of the Church of Rome, in his Letter to the Archbp. of Canterbury and elsewhere: the third and last his more recent declaration of perfect concurrence in the principle of the 90th Tract as to the interpretation of the Articles. Upon this subject I have thought long and intently: and it is to me incomprehensible how his judgment can take that side. It is easy to understand that he may, as a matter of feeling, have thought it ungenerous not to take part with his friend when all else, or nearly, seemed to abandon him. But then 'magis amica Veritas:' ought not that to have had weight? I see there is danger - great danger. With me it is not imaginary but practical. The allusions in my Charge to the stone altar and the crucifix are not too ideal or fictitious circumstances. We have however good firm solid ground, the ground of the Gosepl to rest upon, and there I hope and pray and supplicate that Dr Pusey may patiently abide. With respect to Mr Newman I fear, I fear, I fear, that he is gone.

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To return however to my own immediate concerns I hope you will have received, ere this reaches you, my Letter of 20th June in which were
→ deratiled the proposals made by me to the Archbishop for the further separation of this Diocese; and my earnest request to you was that in your capacity of my Commissary, invested with full powers, you would undertake in my behalf ← ? to give assent to any proposal for effecting this great object which shld be conformable to the terms I had stated, and with which your own judgment shld be satisfied. It is a measure of immense importance; nor can I feel thoroughly satisfied until convinced that I have done all in my power towards accomplishing it. The ground of the proposal is the immense extent of the territory, rendering it beyond the power of any man living to occupy with proper effect. South and Western Australia are utterly out of reach.

Supposing there remained, if you look at the Map of this Colony which I sent home to Mr Hawkins, you will find a quiet little note in one corner stating the area to be 300 millions of square miles (E.C. 'acres'): and, as each County with us contains about one million, the whole territory will divide into just 300 Counties, each of these wld be, as nearly as possible, double the size of Nottinghamshire. Suppose then a bishop having charge over 600 Nottinghamshires, and, besides traversing these by land, to have sea voyages to make North and South, as extensive as from London to Madeira, and these points will afford something like a trace of what this Bishoprick is. I am far from thinking that the evil (for such it is) can admit of very immediate

→ or easy remedy. But it appears to me proper to represent the true state of matters to the Archbishop; or else people might hereafter turn round and say, Why did you not? These will always be standing proof of my having been alive to the imperfection of our present system, and of my having done my best to remedy it.

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The proposal made is to divide the territory of N.S.W., containing the number of square miles aforesaid, into two bishopricks: the proposed limits of which I pointed out in my Letter to the Archbishop. As to the offer which I make to surrender £1000 p.a. to the new bishop, it may seem a great sacrifice: but it is not so much in reality. If the plan which I suggest cld be carried out, so as to give me a few hundred p.a. beyond that £1000 which I propose to retain, and a house rent-free, I cld adapt myself to a new kind of life, and be quite well provided in temporals as now: besides enjoying the satisfaction of knowing that I had assisted in establishing a succession after me: which is in reality the great object to be aimed at, and is at present totally lost sight of. It is a most momentous question: and I hope the Archbishop and others in power will look at it and treat it as its importance deserves.

With respect to Colonial bishops generally I may say that they neither can nor shld save much from their incomes (perhaps not anything) let their amount be what it may. In proportion to what they are supposed to have, people will make demands: and indeed there is no one else in such communities as these who seem as it were to challenge such applications, and to have scarcely the power of resisting them even if he wld. This is an argument against giving them large nominal incomes with secret expenses attached which eat them up. Thus for instance, house rent, life insurance (especially for sea-going bishops) and travelling expenses are very formidable sources of expenditure: and yet the world overlooking all these expects the bishop to conduct all his proceedings according to the scale of his gross income. I think a great service wld be rendered if these truths, which practise has made me acquainted with, cld be impressed upon the managers of

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check → the Colonial bishop's fund. Could they begin with providing a house rent-free, then calculating what expenditure shld reasonably be made for life assurance and Visitation expenses, and allotting next a clear income for his maintenance over and above those charges, the bishop would do very well even though that income shld be small; and wld escape some invidiousness. By systematic adherence to these principles I believe there might be a fair chance of extending our episcopacy throughout the world at no very serious expense. At present the mistake appears to be to lie in not sufficiently discriminating between that part which is given as actual income, and that which is given merely to be paid away again in necessary charges. if I had been better acquainted with Mr Hawkins I wld have written thus much to him: but perhaps if you ever think it can be done usefully you can let him know my opinion. As to saving money, beyond what may be secured on an insurance of life, it is clear to me that it cannot be done: and therefore I maintain (and am fully prepared to act upon it in my own case) that if a few preliminary steps be prudently taken for his security, a colonial bishop may live as reasonably well upon a very moderate income as he cld upon a larger nominal one. The reason for this wld be that the claims upon him wld be reduced in the same porportion.

You know that we have lost our dear stedfast friend Burton, promoted to the Bench at Madras, £5000 p.a. and retirement after 8 years service. He sailed on Saturday. How much will depend upon the principals of his successor. Our Chief Justics, Sir James Dowling, seems also failing. Should there be a vacnacy, and you can aid in putting a right minded Churchman in, oh do so I beseech you by the regard which you have ever manifested for the spiritual welfare of this community. Next to the clergy in influence come the Judges. I know that they are straining every nerve to bring in a Roman Catholic. I am, My dear Coleridge, Yours most sincerely, W.G. Australia.