

## Letters from Dr. John McLennan on returning to England from the Crimea

### Publication/Creation

April-Aug 1855

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~~John~~ ~~at~~ ~~the~~ ~~Consulate~~

Tuesday - 29<sup>th</sup> April 1855

My Dear Hall

I arrived here on

Wednesday forenoon after a very

good passage of about 40 hours from

Salamanca - The man who recd

my account ~~had~~ been put on

board in a hospital state - He had

my papers but Lewis fortunate in

having got very old cabin on the ship

This place is full to overflowing of

English principally Officers of the 1<sup>st</sup>

Army who have come to the

Turkish contingent - Having been

disappointed in some things

in fine holes I was on my way to  
Theoria when I got the general I  
was occupy in this hold out  
as I think a very nice one.

There are several Bombay Officers  
among them but having come  
from England they only find the  
news of public there - On the way  
at the instance that they were  
going to the Crimea several  
objections raised about the  
House - Light being

seen very in a box of returning  
from it in a box of papers of  
movements - Those to be a for  
others found now and then  
I shall probably be in England

by the fort of Louis - If I see Mr. Le  
more in any way I shall give you  
the news - I shall always be heard

at the Handel Club, Hanover Square  
or at Richard's, the Grosvenor

23 Cornhill - I have seen Mr. Le  
more that Mr. Le more had quite

got the notice of the French which  
had been to my satisfaction

which about him - in the paper  
of the 15th - I have not been able

to see one here although I have been  
in several places - I see facs

produces correspondence which  
had brought about this change

which is on my account  
I shall be in England

The report here is that the boats ordered  
in Malta have had orders to send  
forward any available men & troops  
seen to be arriving in numbers - it is  
also said that the Geneva Conference  
have broken up & that Austria does  
not join the western powers - You  
are no doubt in possession of better  
news news but seek me here  
- parts of those lent from England  
now here - When I see Mr. Hall &  
the children about the time of my  
arrival in England I will let  
you know how all goes - Hope to  
see great improvement in the little  
one who was not very strong when  
she left India - I have never seen  
& shall ever say a little of what

P. 2. 29 April '55

FCO 27/1

Thank you for all your kindness to me lately  
but I assure you it is not the least bit  
because it has not been spoken of -

I shall hence be able to clear myself  
to Mr. Hall of having driven you again  
to your winter quarters in the East  
I assure you this fact was the only  
discomfort I had and I should  
have prep'd the matter more  
ably ~~on~~ you had that you were so  
positive on the subject. We have  
had wretched weather here - rain  
incessantly & having been occupied  
in it in a cage up to Theapia  
to see Miss Irskine I have got a  
sore throat & much aguish feeling  
which has prevented me from



of a few months about the Crimea  
the Medical Department but  
there is an evident reaction & I  
yet hope all will come right.

I have not been much about  
as yet - My doctor has been long  
in clothing me & I do not feel  
very bright but I believe that per-  
-hance will yet be done you -

No one can give a clue to the de-  
-traordinary acts of the Executive  
-in outraging the feelings of the  
-the Dept but all seem to see  
-what has been done & what  
-must be the inevitable tendency  
-of all their acts - I am to see in  
-P. Clark who I see or read is  
-received our Authority in these

(Opp)  
122 Westbourne Terrace Hyde Park  
20<sup>th</sup> May 1855  
FCO 27/2

My dear Ball

I arrived here just  
a week ago having come home  
sooner than I intended or wished  
in consequence of our having been  
put in quarantine both at Athens  
& Tripoli arising out of our having  
quilted Coats taken off & with an  
unclean lice of health in consequence  
of some Cases of Cholera in some of  
the French Hospitals - For the  
Russians had on board 500 French sick  
& wounded there were several deaths  
and I suppose whatever may have  
been said to the contrary they were  
all put down as at least Choleraic

- We were to have had eight days more we were at once admitted to Malaga  
- rather in a small brig than and therefore after staying a day at  
being no pay or rations at the Straits of Malaga & 4 days in Paris  
- This seemed more than was due on time - In the Mackinac  
- advisable under the circumstances Corraux from Dover had one of  
& I hoped to find the sea-birds more than despicable all over the coast  
- was in which case I should have had to come on a coast  
- crossed over to Malta & see the sea-birds at the point of the way beyond  
- Hall tent on our arrival at Malaga at the bottom of the Carriage -  
- Although no more deaths had occurred this was followed by fever and  
- cured and some days had ulcerated same choleric symptoms & I  
- did not seem to be considered more than well known that I had quite well got  
- impure and was to have 10 days - People tell me I am thin & the  
- of 24 hours each - This put all - poor I must be so - I found they  
- they thus out of the question and had decided me to follow of the latter  
- Therefore went to Malaga & had decided me to follow of the latter  
- my to force the authorities more and yesterday was admitted pay  
- as available than in Greece or Italy - 55 - in fact for the same  
- this particularly was the case as I had the poor pay as in proportion

p. 2, 20 May '55

FCO 27/2

Mr. Mass could I shall expect to tell  
him my own prep was very plain  
- I'm the is out of town I am told  
but has there been virtually  
neglected of much or all that was  
laid to his charge - People are not  
nearly so indignant with the first  
man as they expected to find them  
although it seems true that they  
are known to whom blame might  
really to attach - I shall be at  
this point of England for one or two  
weeks yet and shall look out  
for Mr. Hall's arrival which  
must now be close at hand - I have  
to go into the country for some days  
but shall never be ~~long~~ out of  
town - Mr. Hall will put down

into the fine weather as it is only  
now beginning to be moderate.  
I met Holland Kelly the other day  
in the streets looking very well -  
She has been in India this  
I have not yet seen her - She had  
a friend at her house & was  
with her child. She has been  
living some where in the neigh-  
bourhood - Morehead is here  
quite well & in great force - He  
has had a year's absence of  
leave on duty to enable him  
to bring out a work on Indian  
history - This was recommended  
by us in India & has been  
sanctioned - I rec'd yr  
letter pointing out to that

from Madeline yesterday - She  
gives a good account of all in  
India & I have taken account  
to the same purpose - I have  
nothing yet but have been  
long on her - I must get a place  
of my own I think on settling  
down in the Albany or some  
such bachelors room -

I will write you again soon  
but have as you will see great  
difficulty in getting through  
a few lines with the wretched  
travelling things at my disposal  
Believe me Dear My Dear  
Yours affectionately  
Wm. M. M.

20 May 1855 - London

Letter from Dr. Williams  
on his arrival in  
London from the Crimea  
informing he was  
to have an interview  
with Sir James Clarke  
who was considered an  
authority in Crimean  
Medical Affairs, & that  
he should tell him  
the plain truth -

servants I should never hear  
my own voice - I have come  
to town to act for the  
Company's Physician who has  
gone to Valencia for 6 weeks  
but that will I suspect give me  
but little to do and yet keep  
me just for 6 days in each week.  
Like you mentioned I had no  
idea you suffered as you do but  
sincerely pray that the excite-  
ment & intolerable uncer-  
tains of relief now that so much  
has been done to send this  
Dew or in keep matters in check  
till you return - I really

Oriental Club. 14<sup>th</sup> Sept.  
(2pp) FCO 27/3 1855

My dear Hall

I arrived in town  
yesterday and have been delight-  
ed at the prospect of most well  
vers connected with you coming  
right at last - The world are the  
- here beginning to see rightly  
the acts and motives of actions  
of the times and that we hope  
- haps this might have sooner oc-  
- curred if there were not such  
a sorry set around us -  
Mr. Wright the clergyman is a  
very different man from Mr.

Hayward of whom I have no special good as the climate is fine and  
- on Ralph Mrs. Hall tells me you think well of him - He may be as  
good as you suppose him to be but if so he is afraid of the West  
and seems to me to be a little bit - I trust soon he will be free to return  
I cannot think his letter about Mr. Howe was such as a piece  
done in his position should have pleased and I greatly pre-  
-ize the honesty of plain speaking of the Mrs. - I saw Mrs. Hall about a week ago - very well - the children were out -  
The spoke of making a little trip which would do him great  
-ing - how that the Old Fort has fallen you and I trust will  
and with return to family and home you heartily wish  
Sincerely pray soon cease - I  
- here mine would be greatly  
- better if I had such interesting  
- objects to care for or indeed had  
- anything to care for - I shall  
- know as well as present &  
- true it will be speaking to

p. 2. 14 Sept '55

FCO 27 / 3

believe that my circulation ~~is~~  
system generally are in a better  
state than they were but Lord  
know in coming to town. The  
members this to show that such  
have bills men are not beyond  
relief from the hor. nature  
and you have so much more  
to do in a year recovery than  
have that it is Street certain  
and likely to be complete - you  
must keep out of the way of  
shot though - they seem to have  
several times made what  
Paddy would call a good  
office as you - My people here  
are all well - Samson has

had I more of his Daughters sent  
out to sea - This is a very happy  
note but I have seen no one  
for a long time and feel more  
than ordinarily dull -

Where are my Dear  
Mrs James & Miss  
Mull & Mrs

to me & I must have had a  
wants not agree - I find of mine  
Dr. Bird formerly of our town in the  
how lectures at St. George's Hospital  
Military Surgery & I must have had a  
relation of the results of Primary and  
Secondary Operations in the Cranium  
to you but I declined to trouble you -  
I had been reading my cautions  
to the use of Chloroform in general  
I am sure that the skull injuries &  
so bring it the request about I suppose  
I must have been less handy  
worked than when I was with you.  
Do not think on taking up time  
by writing to me as I shall often  
hear of you from Mr. Hall - These  
you have made the acquiescent cause of  
the skull shell or has he said

(247) FC027/4  
Great Western Hotel London 16 June 1855  
My dear Hall -  
I was delighted to get your  
to see Mr. Hall looking so well - She  
had arrived some days before but this  
Lord will know but she was good enough  
to write me - I often called at the Mr.  
Jagers but they always said they did  
not know when Mrs. Hall was to arrive  
but would tell me when she did come -  
this they did not - Little Lucy looks  
very well - Her stomach is clean & healthy  
and she seems not only to be well but  
more to have the appearance of great health  
- Mrs. Hall seems very well too

has not this appearance of the highest  
health or hard work - His colour is  
more delicate, more of white than  
clear brown in it - I have as I have  
said never seen Mr. Hall looking better  
- He had a long conversation about  
the treatment of the P. M. D. in the  
Crima by the Govt - I could not but  
- but am some distrust in parties who  
behave as do the English Officials but  
then I am sure you had your own  
- yet he is glad that your merit is  
- properly rewarded - I have he  
- had of office the full of the art of  
you are encouraged to take some  
- pleasure from your employment  
- duties on account of your health.  
If the Army should go into

Wm. dearies you and I should like to come  
- I should not have been so much  
- I am not as the said wish to be  
- without touch my own calendar in all  
- today - You recollect my last words  
- which I have of you - I do rather they  
- for both eyes are affected does not do  
- - create - People here consider it as the  
- really recent - nothing can be done  
- but to see as my sight is a good deal  
- affected and I put the days long  
- - I am some from want of precipitation  
- - I am able to read much but of the  
- - the wide men think connected with  
- the above degeneration the matter  
- may not trouble me long and I do not  
- feel any excited on the subject - All  
- the said to be better but really I do not  
- think it is so more for I am sure

Explained her inquiries about the  
 Rochesters Council records 1954  
 about their report - I have been  
 to get it for the paper finding  
 marks on the department - I have  
 been out of town into the country  
 and shall again soon I am better  
 here than here - I have settled no  
 things yet with a view to  
 being independent here - I have  
 been able to see Dr. Smith & Suber  
 he too has been out of town - He  
 has been trying - the very hot & the  
 cold but I am informed that the  
 recent rains have done much  
 good & that there is every prospect  
 of a good harvest - my humble  
 thanks have not asked me to any

of this family reunion! This kind of  
reunion I do not recall many. I feel the  
kindness of my service has not  
satisfied them - I have that kind of  
you tell me and thought too strong  
I wish I had more news to send  
you for this is a very simple  
letter but I don't like to forget the  
-count of the appearance of Mrs.  
Hall & the children may make  
it more

Please me my dear Hall  
I see yours most humbly  
Whittier

Morehead is here working away  
on his book and his leaving to  
the hotel is to me a very

great comfort - I shall go down to Scotland in the  
of this month & hope to see Mrs. Hall there -

Wrote at the Rectory. Sunday Aug 5. 1853

Dear Miss Hall

Thank you for your letter of the 3<sup>rd</sup> & 15<sup>th</sup> July and delayed reply to the former as I intended to see Mr. Hall in London in a day or two after its reception - On Friday last I had that gratification and both she & the children are testifying in various ways to the children and particularly the young one improved in a wonderful degree so far they she could scarcely have been better than when I previously wrote but now a clearer and brighter face before but the latter is roused & plump - serene and the brightest little lady I have seen for many a day - about a month only had had a change & that a great one even in the seeming intelligence of the child - she talks and that interval had added far more than

a couple of years to her previously. I think her  
very like you. Mrs. Hall told us she has no  
doubt told you her views by the letter and  
you have received but I think she is a great deal  
more than you are getting on it & that her  
truth & patience will ultimately conquer.  
I thought she had right in sending you letters  
about those to the Society and suggested  
that she ought to consider the advisability of  
Mr. F. J. Gould's (which I had a chance of seeing  
likewise transmitted). I believe with such as  
are therein contained might stir up the  
old Whigs or Whigs who have they say  
he in the Crown and might make the  
papers cautious about inserting all they re-  
ceive from that quarter. If you had any  
idea of who your enemy was should have it  
whispered or intimate to him that you were  
likely to know or did know him. And you  
tell me about snuffing out to my mind  
your prejudice has nothing to do with the  
uncertainty of the cause & the more about  
whom certain disaffection & truths might set  
it all much better have been stated.

I am out of the way of the papers I see but Mr. Hall tells me of that letter in reference to the Separatist cause. I saw it & believe the movements of the States thereon and think you have got a victory - The gist of your letter is a reply to our Democratic letter which the Liberator introduced out of your friend sets the matter in a proper view though I think I shall say to have done you deal more of this over in public but this is my all - I feel in a very hollow world. The Professors in this country are everywhere and I fear by sophistry or more words they do not depend on being superior but I think to do all the excellencies of the paper - I have in manuscript some pieces which my mind says I should like to see in print but you do not wish to be set against it the time may come when the reader may not believe yet they may follow the lead of the papers & find your piece more than I can say - I fear I had less credit than you give me - The most delightful agreeable members of the Profession are I think to be found elsewhere than in the ranks of the "Liberator"

been cast - I have seen a paper and I  
am sure it is correct that my opinions on the  
- us in the America we are not as we  
looked for or wanted and it is a wonderful  
how very soon they are dropped - In fact I  
- my all have been mostly but I am not  
sure that he has great influence - I have  
much respect for his opinions -  
I hope to see you - I shall on my return to the  
- the month hence - I should have written  
- a little longer in the past but I had already  
- I would have and was in the  
- meant to have it over the 2<sup>d</sup> when I did  
- not like to break - He showed me a copy  
- of your letter to Lord Beaconsfield - surely his  
- help in us do something to our  
- our efforts could be better - The character  
- of these who serve the Public faithfully  
- is noble - I hope to hear of his  
- I should like to see your letter & a  
- few more of yours in print - I am now  
- taking little time - a day or two at the  
- some of my most intimate friends of the  
- Board of Civil Service work to stop his  
- holidays & am showing him the fine

P. 2. 5. July 155

FCO 27/5

leaving on the way. It quite comes up to my  
 expectations which in this country have gene-  
 rally been disappointed. These notions will  
 and are not true that I may not be worse  
 than I had supposed for though I rather long  
 at the importance attached to the Arcus  
 Sordis as an indication of great heart  
 disease yet my symptoms have lately  
 been rather on the increase and this might  
 not to have been the case as I am most  
 decidedly in better general health than I was  
 - I will not show but it is to me a great  
 disappointment that I am not more  
 or many Greeks as to which I ought to be  
 and but for this I should be quite equal.

Sigh for occupation I see with the  
 proof before me in your case that the  
 Public is a hard & a hard master. I believe  
 every one would say I was ignorant of  
 the real advantages of my position &  
 that so far from regretting I ought to be  
 happy & contented. I do not say they are  
 right. Money is not what I want - it is

