

From Longmore to his mother, sisters and uncle - some from the Crimea

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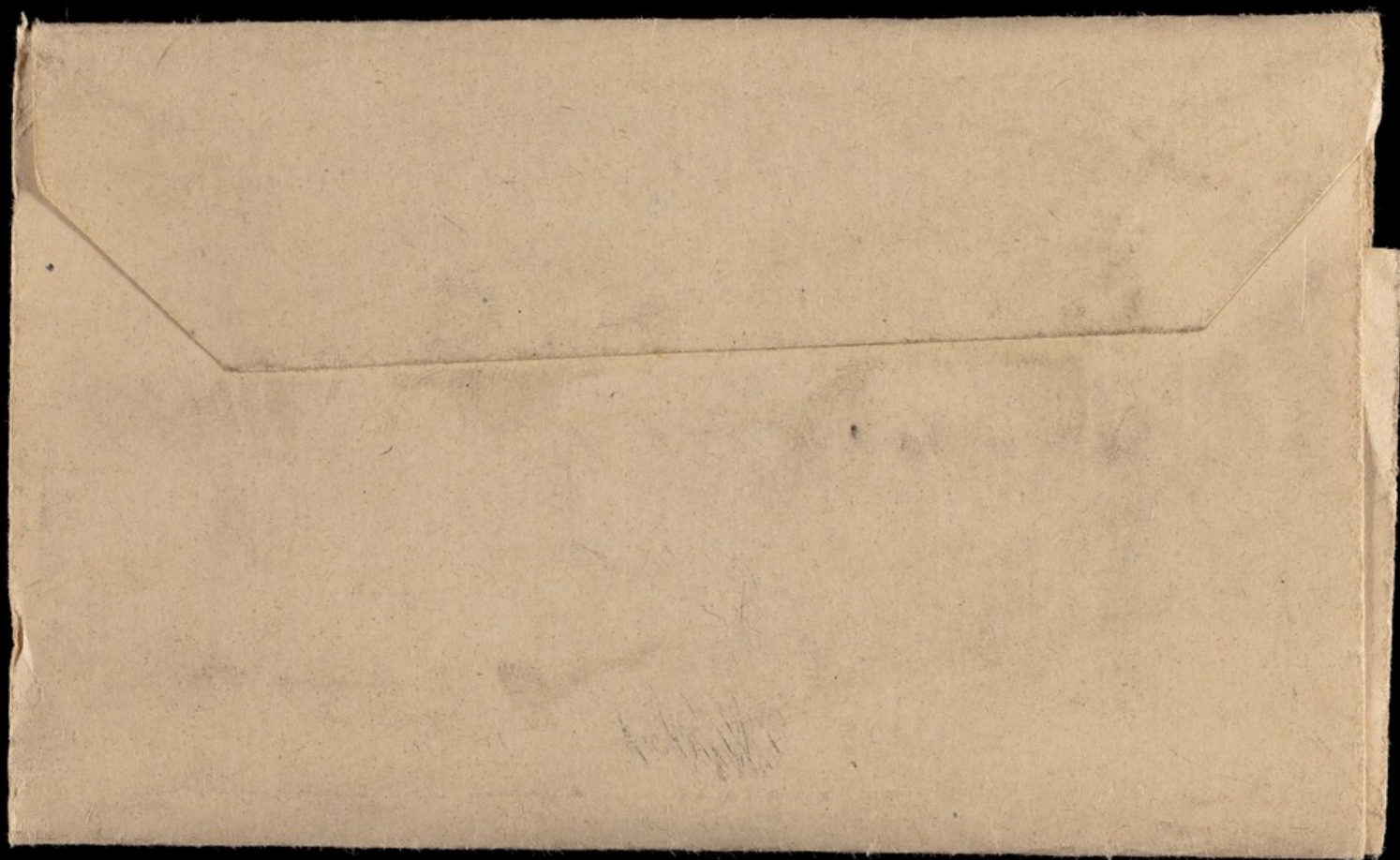
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Letters from Father from Crimca in
some concerning his brother John's death from
Coleridge etc. — one or two from Canada.†

HFL.

22/4/1929.

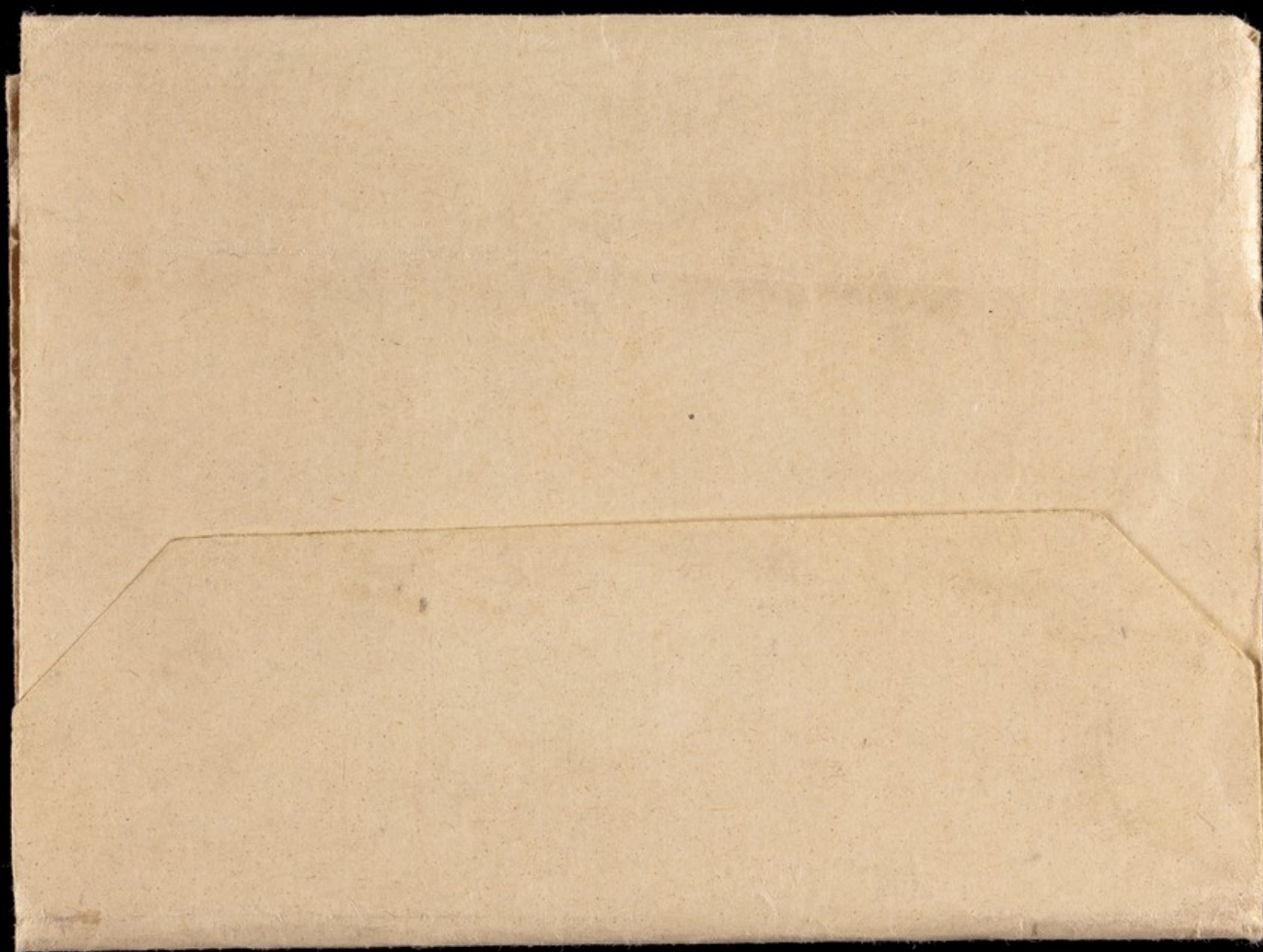
† in separate envelope



This Mother
chiefly letters from my father to Uncle John.
Indian Hunting & Crimea. ^{not} of much interest

HFL.

22/4/1929



L. 21/1
Winchester, Berks.
Friday night 7/12.

My dear Mother.

We got here all safe about 7 o'clock
last night. The Surgeon of the Regiment
here - one of the Foot-Gds. - was waiting
at the station & most civilly relieved
me of a great deal of trouble by taking
my sick into his hospital. At 7 P.M.
we sat down to a magnificent dinner
which the Guards Officers had provided
for us. My had expected us at 3 P.M.
had a luncheon laid out ready. The
misarrangement of the Dover Railway
people caused us no end of trouble.
we were so late at starting from
Vauxhall that we were obliged to leave

leave our baggage behind to be
forwarded this morning. We all slept
at the hotel last night & the greater
part of our officers are still staying
here. I leave this afternoon however
moved into barracks in common with
two or three others & am doing the
best I can without unpacking my
heavy baggage. The current opinion is
we shall leave on Monday. nothing
certain is known on the subject.

The Guards people leave today
civilly made us honorary members
of their mess - but although pleasant
enough it is conducted very
tyrannically & I don't care how soon

one route for passengers.

I have seen Mrs Bedford & her young
ones today - they are all well. Bedford
is not expected for a fortnight. Miss
Emma Bicknell has come for a week's
visit to her - I expect to meet them
both tomorrow at dinner - at the
house of a medical man who was a
fellow-dormer with me & Bedford -
a Mr Batten -

The jug - looks so - all right. The
former was not exactly of the pattern of
the cups but will do very well. The
ceiling wafers - flowers &c were all
very acceptable articles -

I should say one be sitting at Aunt Ann's

I should like them to say that I hope
to be settled enough in a day or two to be
able to write to her - & also to thank
Miss Westbrook for the very handsome present
she sent me.

Tell Ben that I regretted very much
not seeing him at the railway - ask
him to write soon. I hope Fanny is
well again.

I suppose you met our soldiers
before you got to Tamphall yesterday.
- what did you all think of
them? I will write again in a
day or two - if you were to write by
return of post I should very likely have
your letter here - you might direct it to
be forwarded to Jersey if necessary. Believe me
ever with love to all at home & especially to
Mrs. Longman

Tuesday 5th Feb. 2. 21/2

My dear Mother

I have been (and am
still, only I have got an officer
to take my place while I run
home & prepare for Mess.)
what is called tidy office
at the Fort, so that I
have only just received your

letter - Dr. Caplain was much
shorter than I, so that there
was not any ^{use} in trying to his
representations. I endeavored
however to find out if I
could purchase his sword & belt
but

but I could not ascertain
what friends he had in
England - I even if I had
found them - his father & brother
being in the army & abroad.
I was told that in all
probability they would not
had not the power to dispose
of his effects. I should like to
have had his cocked hat - an
expensive article & only
used at about six parades in
the year.

John Butterton has asked

Am I to come to town on
Wednesday to dine with the
members of the Lyon's Inn Hall
Soc'y. I shall ask leave as
I wish to try on uniform &c.
I shall most probably ~~be back~~
remain all Thursday & return
on Friday morning.

The books you allude to I
have not purchased - will you
get them for me? I think I
sent the publisher's name.

If you send to Charing Cross
for them - will you send at the
same time to Abingdon St (Opp: to
W. Malins' late house) to the Gov^r

Office for the "Statistical Reports
in the Sick and Le among the
Troops in the United Kingdom -
the Mediterranean, & British
America" it will cost about £. 6.

My regimentals cost £47-10.
- interest for ready payment - being
deducted. In this is not included
any of the things I inclose a list of
as I may get some of them second
hand. - There is there any light-
clothing, which consists of Jean jackets
white vests - socks - towels - pillow-cases
white pocket-handkerchiefs (which also can
be used with regimentals) sheets - & shirts.

I have not time to write
more - I have got some little more
to do - Subscripⁿ & will for Jan^y - Landady's
bill &c - Love to all - ever yr affecⁿ
Wm. Thomas.

(2pp.)

11 Front Row - Chatter
Nov - 30 - 1942

My dear Louisa

L. 21/3

I don't understand
why you should be astonished
at my not mentioning in the note to
what you allude the nature
of Aunt's present to me. Seeing
that I did not myself know
if not having received it. I
forgot to ask Mr. Bunker what
day he called on the Board &
I assumed letter not being
dated of course "today"
did not convey the information
to me.

I am this evening presently
going to

going to find my husband, what
is technically called a "wiggling"
- she having charged me too
much I consider for coals -
I have been summoning my
cousin to the sticking place for
some days - but it is an unpleasant
thing to abuse people with whom
we are in every minute in
contact - The trouble of changing
lodgings too when everything is
huddled away & in its place
is very great - My lodgings are
I think as decent - perhaps
cleaner & somewhat better
furnished than any in the row
but I think she charges more

for the stealer. I have
adopted today a new plan - have
gone down to the town & arranged
with a baker to leave me a
peewee loaf every morning - so
in that matter they cannot
cheat me. To prevent the
loss of luncheon I have got
a tin can of small biscuits -
as I do not eat generally after
noon - they cannot cheat me
much in the bread line -
Butter bothers me. but I
mean to try & do with marmalade
instead. After I have ordered
a small jar & I shall keep
that in my own closet. The
nuisance of that is felt on any
morning coming in. You do

not tell me anything about
George or Mr Clark coming. I
do not think there is the
slightest chance of my being in
town at Xmas - they are very
strict indeed about the Germans
leaving their patients. With you
tell George I should be glad
if a few pounds in the course
of the week as my purse at
present is empty. But when
when he sees Uncle William
help to tell him I am expecting
to get to my last 2 letters as
they both had queries I should like
answered. I had a long letter from
Uncle John. Tell your
Mamma I have a strong

p. 2. 30 Nov. 1842

3

L 21/3

inclination to publish my
correspondence it would have
so much trouble - as however
she writes so much to me
about Aunt's letter - I
enclose it. - Mr Cooper's

I should like to have back
Remember me very kindly
to Aunt & family &

Uncle Sam - when you
see them - I intend - to ask
each & every relation &
acquaintance who may
be kind enough to
express after me I
believe in yourself

to be your very affec-
tionate brother
(three ones) Thomas

Cake - Portuguese - Luncheon -		
Steamboat Charles on Windsor		4. 6
Ten - Chocolate		3. 4 1/2
Letter Stamps & Sealing wax		4. 6
Chambers		4. 6
Lodging &c 1 st week		1. 3. 2.
Travelling 1 st week (5 days)		10. 9 1/2
Coat repairs		1. 0.
Travelling 2 nd week 7 days		17. 11 1/2
Landlady's bill 2 nd week	friend.	1. 2. 10 1/2
Working		1. 9

I can't - a lot to
add - or
shall be to
write for you.

L. 21/4
Fort Regent

Nov-24/43.

My dear Mother

I had arranged to write to
you this evening, but I was detained
at my desk. I have only just finished
a long letter to Mr Cooper. It is
now half past 1 A.M. - & the
post closes at 9 p.m. - so I
must leave this finished for my
servant to take early in the morning.
Much Wm wrote to me this
morning - he did not allude
to anything like the disease
of the heart - of which you
speak - but seems still in
in health & uneasy.

I have been expecting to
hear from Taylor - I wrote
to him two or three weeks
ago. His mother is an
invalid. I have very quiet.

Did you keep the
letter I wrote off the
night - after the storm?

If so - let Uncle Wm
see it by some means -
he writes that he could
not - understand Ben's

account of it & it is
too long a story to write
over again.

I have had a sore throat
— the weather has been bad
— so that I have ~~been~~ confined
myself almost wholly to
barracks. I have refused 3
parties on plea of indisposition
— I have been to two — one
an evening party at a Colonel
Wells' on 19th of June — the
other

a theatre party - a kind of
State night. I send you the
bill. The Manager sent me on
asking him books of 2 of the plays
which I read over - each twice -
with one of our party - so that
the evening was not - altogether
wasted.

I am afraid I have no
opportunity of accomodating
Louisa to any satisfactory
extent at present - but will
get my husband to make a
selection for her next time he
operates. Love to all at home
Believe me ever your very
affectionate son
Thomas

(2 pp)
L. 21/5
Fort Regent - Sunday -

My dear Mother

I am delighted in being able to say that in all human probability I shall spend Xmas Day with you. Sir James here today sent me his permission to apply to the Duke for leave - & tomorrow the application, with Sir James' letter, will be forwarded to the H. Guards by the General commanding here. They tell me there is no probability of its being refused. I have no doubt

Mr. Cooper's influence has obtained it for me more especially as he has just written to me today. I wrote to him by the same post as that by which I wrote to Sir James - asking him to see him. I have no doubt Sir James promised him to do it, so that knowing he shall soon see me he has not thought it worth while to write.

My going now will save me a good
deal of expense here. The Assembly balls
are under the patronage of our Depot
in a great measure & I should have had
no option as to subscribing. & thus with
the number of parties at this season over
the whole island would have involved me
in a good deal. I am obliged to pay up
what I owe to the Paymaster - but
Sir M. Tuite has lent me £10 to do this.
What will be saved in my pay by my absence
will enable me to repay him on my
return - and I expect will give me
enough to pay you back £5. of which
I wish you would send me by post office
order next post. I could borrow £5.
more of Sir Mark but do not like
doing it. My journey to London will
cost £3. & I wish to have £2 more
in case of accidents occurring - If you
have not got it I dare say papa
will lend it me. The application
A. B. do not speak of this money matters beyond
the home circle

of leave for me is from Jan Dec^r 13th
to Feb^r 13th - should the granting of it
come next Sunday, I shall ask the
General to allow me to leave on the
10th so that I may be at home
perhaps on the 12th - I rather dread
the passage - from the specimen I had of
it before - but if the sea is as smooth
as it is at present I shall not care.
Write next post & tell me if there be
any thing you want which is cheaper
here - I do not know anything myself
worth the while of carrying.

I have received your letter - I am
much annoyed at the lawsuit not being
finished and fear that the prospect of
its being done was some rise in the
heart of the lawyers to keep up their
client's spirits - I suppose this is the
reason of Hugh W^m not having written to
me as I mentioned to him how glad I
was to hear there was a likelihood of its
being settled expecting he would tell me something

about it.

I have never met McAlister's Regiment,
but have remarked his name - there being
an Officer of my own name immediately
above him - He has also 2 relations
in his Reg^t of one of our Officers -
Col^l Temperance - & Surgeon D^r. The
22nd is one of the Reg^t - which has
so much distinguished itself in
Indian battle -

Friday 1 A.M. - I intended ^{at 11 P.M.} this to have
gone by the mail of this night, but was
prevented finishing it in time for the
packet. I have just returned from a
very agreeable Jersey party with one of our
Officers who is going tomorrow this
morning for 2 months leave by the Southampton
packet & he will post this for
London. I have nothing to add

excepting that the General was
civil enough to send my
application by this mail & that
consequently I hope to receive a
favourable reply from the Duke next
Sunday. I am somewhat of a
favorite with old Sir Edward so
that I am quite certain, if it
do come, he will allow me
to leave on the following
Sunday; & if so, I
shall be with you on the
Wednesday or Thursday & of
following -

I am engaged at parties
all this week excepting

Widg Rev. - I that I spend
sweetly with Mr Hobart's sister
Mrs Baker / & her relations
the De Tour's - I suppose
I cannot be of any use
in that quarter -

With Love to all
at home & expecting
to see you soon

Adieu my dear

my affectionate son

Thos Maynor

Worcester. 1855.

Sir,

Honors and rewards have been liberally bestowed on Officers of various grades and departments serving with the Army in the East from the Commander-in-Chief to the non-commissioned Officers of regiments, one ~~has~~ has, however, been wholly neglected. Yet in every account I have read in your columns from the seat of war, and previously from the conflict of pestilence and disease in Bulgaria, - whether in private letters or the remarks of your own correspondent, - I have seen the Officers composing this ~~class~~ class invariably mentioned with respect. Nor have I met elsewhere with any comments from superiors or inferiors, from military or civilian, reflecting discredit on their conduct and services, or disparaging to their merits. I allude to the Regimental Surgeons. These Officers, more than any, have had unremitting labor, mental and bodily, from the first landing in Turkey to the present date. They have shared all the fatigues and hardships of the campaign. Whatever shortcomings there may have been in respect to absence of ambulances, medicines, and medical stores, - theirs has not been the fault; they have been in no way responsible for the neglect. On the contrary in many instances their outcry against these errors has been loudest, and writers of all denominations in their letters to England have constantly reiterated the bitter complaints they have heard from the Regimental Surgeons on these subjects. These are the Officers who have practically experienced in their hospitals the results of the blunders and mistakes of those in authority over them, whether in their own or other departments. These are the men who best know what has been wanting and the consequences of each want. Every soldier in the field who has been rendered ineffective, whether by wound or disease, has passed under their treatment and observation.

I think I am proposing what would be no ~~life~~ ^{less} life advantageous to the Public Service, than it would be honorable to the authorities, grateful to the feelings of the Country and the Army, and fair and just to the Surgeons themselves, when I suggest that out of the body of Regimental Surgeons serving in the Crimea, a selection should be immediately made for promotion, altogether irrespective of Seniority or Routine. General capacity, energy, professional knowledge, and service in the field, I would make the test. You would then have at once a number of active, practical, Surgeons, possessing the physical power, and having an object in exhibiting zeal in the exercise of their professional avocations, - men ambitious of still further advancement, instead of seeking only, as would appear to be too often the case in the higher grades, to lead an easy quiet life until the period for retirement had been fully completed. Let one Surgeon from each Brigade be selected, and let the choice be made by the Inspector of Hospitals at the head of each Division of the Army, who must have had, - whether amid Cholera and pestilence in Bulgaria, in battle in the Crimea, on the diseases consequent on Want and Winter in the camp before Sebastopol, - ample opportunities of deciding on the capacity and professional abilities of each Surgeon acting under his surveillance. There are Six Divisions, including the Cavalry Division, forming the army, and two Brigades to each Division. Thus by the plan I propose, 12 Regimental Surgeons would be at once promoted, and I do not think the Country is likely to grudge the additional pay which these promotions would cause.

I do not understand how any one can be so well qualified to select the Surgeons for promotion as the Inspectors under whom they have been immediately acting: no one at home can be so good a judge of their merits. Let them forward for approval the names of those whom they may distinguish and recommend for advancement; just as Generals of Divisions name Officers of their Staff or Commanding Officers of regiments, but not so promiscuously. Justice and Interest call for the adoption of some such plan as I have proposed. By its means you will procure, for the Army, a Corps of Staff Medical Officers, whose faculties have not been impaired by time, who have now full practical experience of what is required on field service, and who will have energy and independence to consult only the welfare of the troops entrusted to their care; and at the same time you will have the satisfaction of bestowing a reward on a body of Officers whose services have not yet been acknowledged by any but the most passing tribute.

T.L.

L. 21/60

Dear Maria. I have just received

by dear brother) on the morning of the 6th / Sept / 1841
leave this for Trinidad & Guayana. I have expected you that you
of our detachment who left with me for the arrival of the steamer
they may remain here another month - The Regiment to which
came with me when we have been obliged to be in a situation
impossible back from their long marches in hand. I
don't intend touching on it at all. I have
occupied about 40 days. I am sure you will
not suppose me of doing the best in one of the
first things of the sort in the West Indies. I intend
itself in respect to money is almost impossible to
go to it from this place. I have changed dollars for
Spain in Europe. I think I shall try to pick up a
small thing of Spanish - it may be useful hereafter - I
have kept up my French. I have not been able to
see that I was well, just making arrangements
about a meeting which must of course totally frustrate
the road between this town & Port-au-Prince has been
almost impassable on account of the heavy rains
the mail has had to be carried by horsemen
instead of by carts & has had to suffer from
the way of nearly every thing in June - Last year
at this season some people have been permitted to
one bucket of water for 1000 fms. now the price is
in the defect - the merchants have been overcharging
things everywhere. There is a great deal of

a great stir about Hospital matters here - They talk of establishing
Grand Gov^t Hosp^l for all new this colony - in consequence of the
numbers of Colours & Portuguese & at the General Hospital. I
have written to Bob to watch the tide of events & benefit of it
- it appears to me to be just the time for a medical
man to establish himself here - there is a great opening
on account of the actual value of immigrants & the
consequent anxiety in the part of the government to keep
them in health & fit for labor.

I have written to Colonel Bickleton - I wish some of you
would give him the letter I say that I shall be so
buried with my money that I shall not be able to
write to John Keppel in time for Mr Keppel to take the
letter as I told Adam I intended to do. Mr H. with many
kind remembrances from & Mr John & tell them what news
may interest them that I have written to Adam.

I have not received any letters from you this post as yet if the letters
have gone to Barbados I shall get them before I leave off at
St Vincent to our H^d Quarter - this will be forwarded to me.
The Regiment is very much scattered. H^d 2nd at St Vincent
- part of a Comp^y at Tobago - 3 Co^s at Trinidad - the 2nd Co^s
here should be in Grenada.

I am busy packing & preparing for having a winding up
hospital affairs - transferring patients acc^o to my success.
I shall have my hands full at Trinidad till the middle
of ~~March~~^{April} - one year ends the 31st of March & I shall get

which the Officer at present there is trying
to relieve him of all the trouble of
making up the Annual Report &
Return.

With Love to all at home believe me
ever your affectionate son &
Thomas Dwyer.

Dear Son

The date of this
must have been
1846 when L. 21
Th. was in
Trinidad

I was gratified by your
concern at the loss of my health,
it appears to me that the power
of the Stomach to digest strong
food is gone, inevitably if I
take animal food it brings on
Diarrhoea followed by great
debility, and no means seem
sufficient to prevent that
effect. I do not know what
this state of things is to be
wondered at, looking at my
time of life, and the intense
care and anxiety, that I have
had to endure for so many years,
thru the lies and cruel deceit
of Maline. I foresaw that
without the fearful debt
was very considerably reduced
the family must inevitably

since his property and wealth
and it was had to be done
in the midst of great diffi-
culties and much anxiety
stances. My principal object in
consulting Dr. Hensley was to
ascertain if there was any
organic disease of the heart
which I suspected from its
not having sufficient power
to propel the blood thro the
capillary vessels. But he con-
cluded after a minute exami-
nation that there was no
disease but a very great loss
of power. I gave him the
Quinine and bitter infusion
a fair trial but without benefit
and I gave but little faith
in medicine, change of air
with an easy mind was alone
the chance of being of service,
it is only by the strict
adherence to a plain and diet

and the assistance of about
10 drops of Sassafras twice a
day that I can keep the lungs
at all quiet. We are very
anxious about Ben, tho we
have frequent letters from him
we know very little about him
he goes into his meticulous con-
cerning himself, in his last
letter from Mexico, he stated
that the practice was of a
nature to be worth at least
£200 per ann. Captain Moore
informed me a short time after
that it was worth at least that
and that when Dr. Moore, who was
in Mexico for 18th, he was making \$200
a year, if this be true, surely he
ought to realize for himself what
would be a little capital beyond
any news you get about him
will be very acceptable to us.
We are very thankful for your con-
tinued interest in such good people and
are so happy at his recovery. We
do not know how to thank you
best, and that you
will not spend more than one

Winter there, a circumstance
likely to occur if the present
peaceable state of the World
continues, when I trust you
will return in perfect health,
and find a comfortable home
and warm affectionate friends
ready to receive you that I
shall be very anxious to see,
looking at my declining health
and strength, if it is to be so.
I trust we shall yet meet
again in a more peaceful
and happier state of living.
Good bye my Dear Son.
God bless you. believe
me to remain.

Your affectionate
Father Wm. Longmore

J. 21/8

Quebec, Nov: 9th 1857

My dear Mother, I had expected to have
sent you a letter today informing you of my
having left Quebec & of this time being
some way on my road to the U. States.
My application for leave was sent last
Sat: & I was wondering at not receiving
a reply. I telegraphed ~~up~~ & then found
the letter had from some cause not
reached Montreal. A fresh application
has been sent by tonight's post & I
suppose I shall not start till Tuesday
or Wed: next. I go by the advice of all
the people here & trust it will prove the
means of giving relief of my ailments.
I shall most probably be ~~at~~ away
till Jan: by the 30th & my proposed
excursion is first to N. York where
I shall have to make some

arrangements - then to Baltimore, from
which place partly by railroad & partly
by coach I over the Alleghany Mountains
to Pittsburg. There I shall go
down the Ohio & Mississippi - 12
Days travelling to N. Orleans -
& after a sufficient basking
return of the Eastern States to Canada
do not expect to hear from me while I
am away & until my return to N.
York & as I shall not have letters
sent after me calculate your letters to
me so that I may get them at Quebec
about the end of Jan^y or 1st mail in
Feb^y next.

I was reading yesterday a letter from
Ellerman which he sent some
time ago to Callaghan from Eng.

He sent a message in it to me saying
that the day he had intended calling
on you he was compelled to leave
London in a hurry to be present at
a meeting of trustees connected with
family affairs at Antwerp. He said
he should try to find out by letter
at Brussels whether he did so
or not I don't know. I suppose
now he must be with the
deputé at Bruges.

We are about to give a very large
ball here next Thursday evening
- my not being present at it is
a source of no regret to me - especially
as I am disabled from dancing.

Thank Maithu for her
letter also which came with
yours & thank you all for

In the kind wishes which she
sent in it on my behalf. I
hope next year we shall meet
in England & all in good
health. I hope you have heard
good news from Ben & am
sorry that I shall not be able
to get your letter for some
time so that I might get
news of him & Harriet.

I quite agree with
all the remarks made by
Aunt Rees with respect to
the advantages of a respectable
neighborhood & associates which
you allude to in your letter.
The fate & character of

L. 21 19
Eliora near Yuma
June 8th 1854

My dear Mother

We have been encamped here for several days, & move on next Monday. Marshal H. Arnold & Gen. Brown were to have come over to inspect us to day. The whole division was under arms, but both weather & roads being very bad, Gen. A. D. C. only was sent to postpone the inspection. This day it has been cold, wet, & cheerless, the thermometer I should think about 64° F. - yesterday morning it could not have been less than 30°. We are in a very pretty country - by the side of a small Lake, of which there appears to be a series between Yuma & our next station - Devina. The 8th & 11th Regts are a few miles in advance of us. Opposite to our encampment, separated by a broad valley, are three Batteries of Horse Artillery, & a heavy artillery train etc. Within sight are two Turkish villages - nearly deserted by their inhabitants. Our supplies are very precarious. We have had no butter since we have been in this part of the country. We go out foraging, & sometimes contrive to get some eggs, sometimes a goose, or a fowl, but nothing is certain except our bare ration of the 1½ lb of bread or biscuit & one lb of meat - salt or fresh as the case may be. Tea is our great standby - of which we laid in a good stock. We have got now & then a small quantity of brown sugar, rice & black tea through the Commissariat, but all those regular supplies of such articles which were promised in England have turned out to be a fallacy. The last two days, the men of my regiment have been

I have bought 2 baggage horses & got one now very
fairly. Several of the Longfitt horses have died,
mine I was happy to say with the exception of a
sight I was not from a transport or any cause is
quite well. I wrote to Uncle William from
our last encampment — I hope he had
my letter. I have never heard from any one
since I left England — I hope you are all
well — Love to all at home. Ever your affectionate
son Thomas

"Courier" - Kavarua Bay. Wednesday 6th

My dear Uncle / I write a hasty line

I send you a copy of the Orders for
re-embarkation though I suppose you will
already have rec^d them from other sources -

I send you also a list of the transports of
our Division - I trust I may

have the opportunity of writing
to you again soon - By the bye I have

written that under any circumstances my
watch, Army Case of Hospital Tools - and a

Thermometer given me by B. Cooper made by order
of the master Sir A. Cooper for delicate experiments
are to be transmitted home for John - The chief
part of my books is in store in London - I don't

remember anything else to write - Love to Aunt
and all relations at home - Your affectionate nephew

I imagine we can hardly get into
action till about Monday next. 11th it appears to me

Thomas -

still very remarkable that so great an
enterprise should have been put
off till so late a season - the
equinoctial gales are said to
commence here about the 20th
Instant - & it is already
commencing to be cool at
night and will soon be
cold. Lord Raglan is we hope
too prudent to run any way
disproportionate risk. Many people talk
about Marshal St Armand playing the English
some trick - it is certainly wonderful how
few French transports are to be seen here
& we left behind at various some very large French camps

L. 21/11

Russia

August 26th 1854

My dear Uncle

There is no doubt now I believe about our going
into action, and I presume no place would be worth an expedition but
Sebastopol - I trust we shall be successful - I have no doubt about
the result in spite of our sickness if pluck can do it. In case I do not
come out of this business I may as well mention again to you what I told
Uncle William - that I have no debts whatever to any one except the £100
borrowed from Maline some month or two before I started - that in addition to
the things I left in the Bro'dst, Messrs Sunderland & Dolan, Drury Brothers
& St Martin's Lane, are warehousing several cases of mine - a box of which
I gave to my mother - that Messrs Grace & Co - Constantinople
agents to the Light Division - (and great rascals I think) have
in store 2 boxes. An air tight iron case - containing new
regimentals, & other things, and a smaller locked hat case
both marked with my name. I expect we shall not be
allowed to take more than one portmanteau on board - my
other portmanteau will be left I suppose in some Drury Depot at Varna.
The B&B boxes are to be left behind - I have two - for me I paid
£12 Sterling - (I was offered £15 for a few days afterwards) at Scutari, the other
about £5 at Varna - My horse (charger) with go with me I suppose -
My account of Messrs Grace & Co must be now considerably to the good -
- my cheque book he will be in the portmanteau left behind at Varna
- but for Grace may be trusted to a penny. My capital case of instruments
(cost £20) will be of course with me - I shall make it known here that
they are not to be sold, but to be sent home for John - I sent Ben my
former portable case. It is as well to make these arrangements but
I trust to see you all again and be talking over the scenes we are
entering into. I have been very fortunate hitherto -
I find by mistake I have written this on the outside of a letter I had
intended sending home -

Love to me & mine - Varna - 28th just in time to catch
the boat - ever yr affec^d nephew

Via France.

W^m Longmore
4 Portland Place
Brompton Road, Southwark,
London
England

Private

Oct-27th/57 L 21/12

My dear Uncle - I have got letters from home of
the 13th but have not rec^d any from you.
I have seen the D. R. of the 12th & find
myself dubbed by a new ~~little~~ title - pray
keep it entire news - I wrote last time
direct to the E. of D. R. No P. Lombard
St. - I enclosed a copy to you in case of
accident - this was to save time - I
also asked him to insert it as usual -
"copy of a letter" not knowing your new
arrangement - I don't know what course
he may have pursued. My letter after
Alma was lost in the confusion & through
of being separated from the reprint.
I would now put a copy of my
narrative direct, but cannot go to the
post myself - the communication between

Balablava & the fort is not practicable with
us, & not permitted on urgent grounds -

Perhaps it may be given up altogether & we
should then make the French harbor near the
Cherson point our base, & entail on him
of defence in rear - I will therefore
put y letter to the Bro's & request a
messenger to be sent with it at once -
again in case of accident I send you
a copy - The account of the battle
has been most garbled - the General
got all the credit - compare
the nos of killed & wounded
in the different divisions -
the Light Division for example

with the First Division - The soldiers
who behaved most nobly & after
having nearly 50 killed & upwards
of 200 wounded in the regiment
have not even been named by
the Times ^{or by others} correspondent & I am
have no idea how the Serpents
& men feel it. The return of
the 19th is quite wrong - we had
only 2 officers killed in the field -
Ernest Carden the severely wounded
- returned in the despatch as killed
- it goes in favourably & will

Women - saying the doubtless shock
to his mother & saying the
false announcement was cause
- by medical returns were the
not correct me in my examination nearly
every man I left in my path -
Captain Warden returned as wounded slightly
had a severe gunshot wound in the leg -
- these mistakes are too bad & you
can't imagine how different the
military news talk of the battle
from what the dispatches & the
partial accounts give - wish
the one it was in my hands

See suggested letter to the Times - by T.L. to John Lubbock - Worcester - 10/85

Honors and rewards have been liberally bestowed on Officers of various grades & departments serving with the Army in the East from the Commander-in-Chief to the Non-commissioned Officers of regiments. The class has, however, been wholly neglected. Yet in every account I have read in your columns from the seat of war, and previously from the conflict of pestilence and disease in Bulgaria, - whether in private letters or the remarks of your own correspondents, - I have seen the Officers composing this class invariably mentioned with respect. Nor have I met elsewhere with any comments from superiors or inferiors, from military or civilians, reflecting discredit on their conduct & services, or disparaging to their merits. I allude to the Regimental Surgeons. These Officers, more than any, have had unremitting labor, mental and bodily, from the first landing in Turkey to the present date. They have shared all the fatigues and hardships of the campaign. Whatever shortcomings there may have been in respect to absence of ambulances, medicines, & medical stores, - theirs has not been the fault; they have been in no way responsible for the neglect. On the contrary in many instances their outcry against these errors has been loudest, and writers of all denominations in their letters to England have constantly reiterated the bitter complaints they have heard from the Regimental Surgeons on these subjects. These are the Officers who have practically experienced in their hospitals the results of the blunders & mistakes of those in authority over them, whether in their own or other departments. These are the men who best know what has been wanting and the consequences of each want. Every soldier in the field who has been rendered ineffective, whether by wound or disease, has passed under their treatment and observation. I think I am proposing what would be no less advantageous to the Public Service, than it would be honorable to the authorities, grateful to the feelings of the Country and the Army, and fair and just to the Surgeons themselves, when I suggest that out of the body

of Regimental Surgeons serving in the Crimea, a selection should be immediately made for promotion, altogether irrespective of Seniority or Routine. General capacity, energy, professional knowledge, and service in the field, I would make the test. You would then have at once a number of active, practical, Staff Surgeons, possessing the physical power, & having an object in exhibiting zeal in the exercise of their professional avocations, - men ambitious of still further advancement, instead of seeking only, as would appear to be too often the case in the higher grades, to lead an easy quiet life until the period for retirement had been fully completed. Let One Surgeon from each Brigade be selected, and let the choice be made by the Inspector of Hospitals at the head of each Division of the Army, who must have had, - whether amid Cholera and pestilence in Bulgaria, in battle in the Crimea, or the diseases consequent on Want and Winter in the camp before Sebastopol, ample opportunities of deciding on the capacity and professional abilities of each Surgeon acting under his surveillance. There are six Divisions, including the Cavalry Division, forming the Army, and two Brigades to each Division. Thus by the plan I propose, 12 Regimental Surgeons would be at once promoted, and I do not think the Country is likely to grudge the additional pay which these promotions would cause.

I do not understand how any one can be so well qualified to select the Surgeons for promotion as the Inspectors under whom they have been immediately acting: no one at home can be so good a judge of their merits. Let them forward for approval the names of those whom they may ~~recommend~~ distinguish and recommend for advancement; just as Generals of Divisions name Officers of their Staff or Commanding Officers of regiments, but not so promiscuously. Justice and Interest call for the adoption of some such plan as I have

proposed. It is to be remembered that the Army is a Corps of Staff Medical

Officers, whose faultless lives not been impaired by time, whose services were not less valuable in the field than in the office, and whose well-earned recognition was not less deserved by the public as by the Government. It is a privilege to be permitted to contribute to the record of their lives, and to the satisfaction of bestowing a reward on a man whose services have not yet been acknowledged by any Government.

I feel almost certain you might do some
good for us in this way. A good private letter
to the S.D.'s of the Union, who I think is partially
disfranchised, would do us some good. I have not thought
of speaking the truth about our department
taking advantage of the present panic. The times
seem to be -

friend Le.
 General Brown has joined again. He
 was with our Cannanaunder. Ofice posted
 - one of the chief things he pointed out was
 that the men must be properly taught.
 No discipline to be put, was the reply, "in
 Galaklava. Then it must be got from
 England was the rejoinder - at any rate
 it must be got - the men can't remain in
 this B's state. I do not think any
 one need have a better illustration of
 a B's ideas & character - at a time
 when the men are swarming with
 vermin & dirt in the extreme in their
 mind nothing - when no means are
 established for washing & drying even
 such things as the hospital blankets
 (I have a heap of 50 or 60 now too
 filthy to be used & too valuable to be
 thrown away in the ground near my
 hospital refuse) - discipline and
 appearance are made the requisites.
 We want men of sense & modern
 notions. Sir E. has been away all the
 worse months a he would know that
 clothes & looking white as he has
 would be soiled & brown the next
 hour the mud in the tent & all around

L 21/13 (3)

The Med^l Department are not blameable for one tenth of the charges made against them. Their influence is almost nominal. in reality, and sometimes the medical officers are employed as a sort of shield to cover the acts of others. I cannot give you a better proof of the manner in which the public interests are neglected and medical officers "smothered" than by mentioning two instances which have occurred within my own knowledge. When the 19th Regiment was under orders for foreign service, Lieutenant Blake, a married man and of some years standing in the army, reported that he was unable to go abroad on account of his state of health. I considered him unfit for service, reported this to the commanding officer, and subsequently another officer was sent out instead of Mr Blake. I also reported it to the Head of my own Department in a letter dated "The Tower, London, 11 March 1854" - stating that from permanent disease of the heart (on account of which he had been invalided from India in 1845) and from liability to sudden attacks of most severe asthma, I thought him unfit for duty in the field. A Medical Board was ordered by the Horse Guards to report on Lieut Blake's case, and this Board confirmed my report.

Yet Mr Blake has been kept on the strength of the Regiment, and on December last obtained his furlough without purchase. He had been since he was sent to Malta to command our Depot there. Of course he was quickly sent home again by another Medical Board, and two miles ago one of our Captains here received a letter from his cousin Lieutenant Major, a lad of 16 years of age and who only entered the service last February, and he was then commanding the Depot of the 19th Regiment at Malta in consequence of Blake having left for England. I need not point out what loss is entailed on the public in ~~the~~ money & other more important matters by this way of doing business. Not that we have a superfluity of Captains effective, for out of a roll of 16 in the Regiment there are only 4 doing duty as Captains in the Crimea. Eight are now in England, & here. Of the 8 in England 7 are supposed to be at the Depot of Walmer, 1 with his friends laid up by a severe wound received at Alma. Of the 8 here,

to the Medical Department taking a higher stand, I despair
of it. The Inspector General Dr. Hall, our Chief, has been
twice reprimanded in General Orders - and has neither replied
to the charges against him, nor resigned his position. How can
we rise when the head falls so low. His Confidential Adviser
Dr. Dumbreck, also reprimanded in General Orders, though not
by name, not only remains silent, but gets a Medical Board to
take him home, and receives the higher appointment of Confidential
Adviser to the Director General. Dr. Lawson another Medical
Officer in a leading position, is found guilty of neglect by a
Court of Enquiry, is reprimanded in General Orders, and is
immediately promoted to receive the situation of Head of the
Establishments at Leontari. What hope is there for the men who
do their work faithfully? Ever your affectionate nephew Wm. Longmore

(4)

4 are doing duty as Captains, 1 as a Field Officer, 1 as Paymaster, and 1 is about to leave on account of ill health.

But the case of a Lieutenant Mitford is worse than Lieutenant Blake's. He positively refused to do duty here last December, because he stated his sight was so bad that it involved risk to himself and the men under him. He wished me to put him on the Sick list in this case, but I declined doing so, and gave my reasons to the Commanding Officer, Colonel Munn. His vision was, as it always had been, exceedingly defective, but I knew it could not be improved by medical treatment. He had been frequently on the sick list from other causes. Mr Mitford then sent in his papers to leave the service, but his application was sent to England and before his reply arrived he requested that a Medical Board might examine his case. He hoped to get home sooner (this might examine his case). The Board sat, & Dr Alexander (now Depy Inspector of Hospitals) being President, and after proper examination, declared Lieut Mitford unfit for service on account of near-sightedness, but they would not recommend his being sent to England at the public expense because it was a defect under which he had always labored. In the proceedings of the Board they reported that "the Board cannot help expressing their surprise that an Officer laboring under such a defect could have ever been admitted into Her Majesty's army". Yet this Officer was sent home at the public expense, and it was published in General Orders of the 21st of December 1854 that he was sent at the recommendation of a Medical Board. He has moreover remained, & is drawing his pay to this day. I have a letter received from his father (who was very indignant at his son trying to leave) it appears that he hopes to set aside the verdict of the Board, and recommend Officers in the Crimea. The Lt Colonel Munn, who was conversant with the whole matter, is in England. I wish I could be examined on this subject, it is a gross case and I have not time to expose it fully to you. Mr Mitford is a person of influence: - he married a daughter of Lord Ashburton. In my opinion a Regimental Surgeon ought to be able to object to an Officer Recruit on account of physical defect, as much as he now has the power to object to a Recruit for the rank and file.

Via France

John Longmore Esq^r
Rosehill, London Road

Feb 7. 12th 1855

Worcester
England

Refus^d



2.21/13

HON, SECRETARY & CURATOR
MAJOR-GENERAL R. E. BARNLEY
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Telephone: Fleet 971

Via Marseilles



Thos Longmore Esq.
19th Regt.
The Crimea,
Army in Turkey.

L. 21/14a

Inkerman
near Bay

road

road

1 1/2 miles

Khuta Markuige
road as it
ascends behind the
Inkerman mountain



(2pp)

Before Teherstapol

Aug 15th 1855

L. 21 / 14^b

My dear Martha

I know a few lines
from you will interest
you & as I am charitably
disposed I will take this
opportunity of insinuating my
in your good graces. I shall
serve myself in doing so
it is a pleasant thing when
a foreign country, & distated from
familiar faces, & the scenes
that give a locality & a name
other days to of the days gone
when our associates are not
of our own selection; under
circumstances what can furnish
matter for more real enjoyment
than to sketch with the pencil
fancy a picture that shall
represent in exact proportions
of light & shade - the pleasures
of our former life, & each individual
thing or person that either furnished
matter for the means of

enjoyment or increased it by
participation - Do you recollect
when I used to tell you that in
a short time I should probably
be in the Crimea, little did I
how soon my expectations ^{think}
be accomplished, & there is ^{would}
mistaking the fact that ^{no}
Crimea is the seat of war,
frequent in the tale of distress,
the scene of war that everywhere
meets the eye, speaks sufficiently
& clear to the senses, though a
tear is not shed - nor the ^{man}
~~man~~ brow suffered to droop:
burial parties are constantly
seen performing the last offices
to the deceased, but the men
who fall in the trenches or at the
barricades are buried here, & the
living men have met with this
fate; - it was only by accident that
a man of the 14th Regt - whose
head had been perforated by a ball
was saved this horrible fate:
Thomas performed a necessary
operation on the man but he died
short -

-by afternoon - our men in the
advanced works are so near the
enemy that a stone could easily
be thrown into their batteries, tho
as you may imagine they are
greeted with missiles more
destructive than stones. The
business of the day is done at night
here - then the ^{noise of the} cannon is
heard, the rockets penetrating
the air are seen as well
as the shells which look like
falling stars & perhaps the music
of the Russian yell sounds
in the air - as they advance
in their sorties. This morning
a battle was fought on the
plain of Balaklava - the Rus-
sians doubtless of making ^{any}
the acquaintance of the Sardinians
attacked their camp; they were
driven back with great slaughter,
the French only taking part
in the action. There are a
quantity of accoutrements
of war taken as well as
men

I am very sorry to hear
Uncle William's are heard
again - this is very unfortunate
especially at the time of morning
I think the severe untoward
circumstance obtained when
he changed his abode from
Wentworth to Bedford Row. I was
then at Bristol. so I am not
quite sure; - remember
me kindly to Uncle W. as well
as to Aunt Hannah & little
Ellen. & the baby I have not
received the communication
from Uncle W. containing
Sir J. Kirkland's note - for
what reason writes I do
not know whether my money
has been received or not;
what I want is a letter from
Sir J. Kirkland stating up to
what time I have received
my pay & it is also necessary
that he give me a written
testimony to prove the
de -

2/ Deduction of my business
expense during the voyage.
I shall require none of this
money, tho' of course I should
like to know the amount
received - I shall of course
also be refunded my travelling
expenses from Chertsey to
Plymouth as well as two
days hotel expenses at Genoa.
I can receive no pay out here
till I have this letter from
Sir J. Kirkland. I am
very much obliged for John
Carter's kind offer to write
to me. I owe him the return
of much kindness - How
where are Aunt Mee &
Ellen - I have not heard
any thing about them for a
long time; remember me
kindly to them - I should like
to have sent out a small
inkstand - the top of which
should be brass screwed on

on & off - also one warm
tuned if possible under
shirt - & 2 pairs of drawers
the rest of warm clothing
I can get here - I dread the
winter - I am better but
very weak. Mr Taylor is
gone to England ill - The
Commanding officer
of the troops that came
out with me is sick -
I have not been out
of the camp of the 19th
Regt - for 1 month - so I have
not been able to see
Mr Swinburne or any else.
The other day a Artillery
man & a man of the
29th Regt - were killed in their
beds - With love to all
relations & friends believe
me & be your affectionate brother
John Longmore

Copy of dear John's last note
to Martha dated 3 days
before he ~~widely~~ ^{was} taken
ill for death -

My dear Mother

221/5 Augth 10th /55

I acknowledge the rec^t of yours of Augth 2nd.
last mail. I hope Uncle Wm is better - sure is time
to him & Aunt. His very old his letter has not
reached John, I wonder if it were directed so as to
be sent on to the Prince.

John is gaining strength - eating with appetite &c.
he will so on board ship in a few days & change
of air.

August 21st /55

My dear Mother: This was the beginning
of a note written on Saturday last. I
little thought that only the next day
would bring about such a change.
I pray God that you may bear
without hurtful excess of grief the
painful news I have sent Maria.
I well as the good features of my

dear brother's character, and
the undoubted truth that he is
now happier than he could be
here. To how many others in
the Crimea has death come, without
affording 2^d their relatives or friends
any such sources of consolation!
The Reverend Mr. Evelyn offered
kindly to write to you about
the calm and happy frame of
John's mind when he admin-
-istered to him the Holy
Communion, but I thanked

him and told him it was
not necessary. I hope that
you and my dear father and
all of you will look upon
the brighter side and avoid
dwelling on the dark painful
one of our common bereavement.
Would that it had been God's
will for my brother to be still
with us, but He has directed
otherwise, and, severe as the
wound is, we can only
submit, and next only to say.

and feel, Gods' will be done.
I trust that this will be your
feeling, and that you will
not be without other sources of
consolation to lighten the weight
of this sad blow. Give my
love to my father and all at
home and believe me ever
Your affectionate Son
Thomas.

Monday Aug²¹ 20th 6 P. M.
My dear Maria, ^(3 pp.) L. 21/16

I don't know how to
write to you I am in such
abject distress - poor dear John was
seized yesterday afternoon with
Cholera, and he is now in a
most precarious state. Break
this sad news to my mother
and father as gently as you
can. I need not say that
I have not left him until
now to write this note, and
Webb my Senior Assistant Surgeon
is at this moment with him
Every body has been most kind!

I have had every thing that
could be thought of for his relief,
even to ice in abundance.

He was so weakened by his
previous illness that I fear
the worst. Yesterday he
climbed together and he seemed
well, eat soup and meat.

He did not let me know
till afterwards that he
had had a severe attack of
charrhoea early in the morning.

Now I should have rejoined

a different diet. All the
arrangements had been made
for his going on board ship for
change of air, and today he
would most probably have
been in the 'Dumbar' lying in
the main road of Bolaklava
had it not been for his illness.

At any rate I know that
every thing is being done for
him that can be devised.
which I should not have known, had he been away from me.

The Principal Medical Officer
of the Division, Dr Alexander,

has visited him several times.
He is most resigned, patient,
and uncomplaining. I thought
he would think I had been
unkind in speaking to him
so much about his careless
way of attire, and want of
thought in trifling matters,
and he seemed hurt that I should
think so when I talked to him
on the subject, and said he
knew my motives and was
very grateful for them. We

have taken the sacrament
together, ^{his} hand in mine, and
I trust his calm and trustful
composure may prove a valuable
example to myself. He has ~~not~~
suffered very little pain, and
some of his symptoms are so fa-
-vorable that persons around me
entertain hopes of his recovery. I
dare hardly encourage them. He
chiefly labors under labored and
disturbed breathing - worse at
intervals - his cramps have
been but of slight duration,

and the vomiting and
hurying were checked early.
But his weakness is great, and the
heart labors sadly to keep up
the impeded circulation. I
told him I was going to write.
He desired his love to all.

I asked him if he had any
message in particular; he
said none - but give my love
to all, saying a step on all.

Should it please God to
restore him, I shall have him

Sent to England by a Medical
Board at once -

What distress this note will
occasion you all! and I can't
alleviate it. I never knew
John well till now: his
diffidence, and as he called his
feeling on writing with other persons
when speaking on the subject last
night, his extreme "timidity" appear
unaccountable to me in a young
man who has been at a public
school and gone through an education
at a public hospital. Had

I understood his great timidity, I
should have acted for him more, &
spoken less - and this now distresses
me - God's will be done. John
has sent for me - he cannot bear
me away for an instant, and
intimately so wounded have
come in since he has been ill,
and my assistants I have done all
my Min. Duties - He is dreadfully
restless just now from short breathing
and to see him I know I can't
where him distresses me beyond
all measure -

p. 3. 20 Aug. 1855

L. 21/16

Tues
21st John, concurring to my anticipa-
-tion is alive, and, moreover, his
symptoms have improved. He has not
been so restless all night, and the
general warmth of his body remains
good. His mental faculties continue
unimpaired. The great difficulty to
 contend with will now be the secondary
fever. He is of course very very
weak. I am compelled to con-
-clude on the letters are being
collected. I have not ^{been able} to write
to any one else. Let Uncle
John know we are affected brother
love to all
— T. L.

(2pp.) L 21/17
Camp. Tuesday Evening, July 21st -

My dear Maria, I wrote to you last mail because I thought you would bear the sad news I sent you without any undue outbreak of excited feeling, and that you would break the shock it must cause to my poor dear mother & father. When I began the letter I fully thought before it left I should have had to tell you that my dear brother was no more. Providence willed it otherwise, and when I concluded it for the post, I really felt more hope, both from my own observation and from what others told me, than I expressed to you. I now address you again instead of my mother from the same motives I have mentioned above, and pray you not only to bear my sad tidings with fortitude yourself, but to do what you can to lessen the blow to all around you. Dear John is lying at my side, but he is not in any pain or difficulty now. I trust he is far happier

than any of us. He died quietly in my arms about half past four o'clock. In the morning he felt much better, took sago at intervals, and looked forward to regaining strength enough to return to England. I had to go away for a time to perform an amputation, but left Dr. Webb with him. On my return I found him weaker, and some symptoms about his head caused me very great alarm. I remained watching him anxiously, trying to support his strength and at the same time to relieve his heat of forehead when suddenly he showed unmistakable signs of effusion on the brain, and then I knew death was inevitable. You can conceive my extreme misery - John was quite unconscious of it and of everything, and so he remained till the last. My dear brother - when he was alive and with me, his being here seemed no

extraordinary event and I looked forward to me passing the winter together - to his being useful to me and to my assisting him - as a matter of course.

Now he is gone, and his loss is irreparable, I seem not to have half loved or valued him enough, and I am weighed down by the thought. And yet I was constantly anxious for his welfare and advancement, and what I supposed to be his benefit. I fear we never completely understood each other until his last illness led to mutual and complete confidence and explanation. Had it pleased God that he should have been restored to health I think we should have continued ever afterwards most devoted to each other. I write my thoughts as they come uppermost - but do not think there was ever any misunderstanding between

us, In there never was - but I remember
now that sometimes my manner in pointing
out things to him was not as warm and
affectionate as I deeply wish it had been. I
suffered him to perceive that I was annoyed
at trifles, and fear that I hurt his feelings by
showing my annoyance. As far as dear
John was himself concerned, we all have
every source of consolation: I am sure he
was a good Christian, and he died in
the execution of his duty. The total
absence of arrogance and self-sufficiency
which characterized him rendered him
vastly superior to most of the young men
of his own age that I meet with.
When time had brought a facility of
employing the information with which he
had stored his mind I feel convinced
that he would have distinguished himself
in his profession and in general ability.

P. 2. 21 Aug. 1855

L. 21/17

But death has in an instant destroyed all these prospects - and nothing remains but to bow in submission, and say 'God's will be done.' I dread the effect of this blow at home, but at the same time am aware that you are all in the habit of resorting to sources of religious consolation which may render it less severe, than the many like events which have occurred here may have proved to hundreds of other families in England. God grant that it may be so, and that you may all bear this visitation of Providence with resignation. I feel lonely, indeed - my only relative at this distance from home - my dear dear brother - lying dead by my side. It is a real affliction.

I have not time to write to any one else - let Ben and other relations know the contents of this letter. Tell Ben with my love that I received his letter of August the 4th about my health, and that I

Felt much obliged for his considerations
I sympathize with Henrietta's and Ben's
sorrow at their recent affliction.

22nd I returned about an hour ago from
my dear dear brother's funeral. It was
almost as much as I could bear, and tried me
to the uttermost. I several times thought I must
fall. Every one is kind, but no one can re-
lieve me of the weight which I feel at
the loss of poor John. The blow has come so
suddenly, when I thought he was rapidly
getting well again from his illness, and I
feel so infinitely more deserted and
lonely than I ever felt before since I
have been in the Crimea. I got a
coffin made, and intend to have a
brass stone with a simple in-
scription placed at the head of his
grave. He is buried near Colonel
Egerton, and all the others who have
fallen in our Brigade. All the

Officers of the Regiment followed, and
Dr. Alexander, and many other officers
of the Division. I shall send home
all his things. I send now half
a five pound note which he left
behind him - the other half I will
enclose in safety to Mrs. William.
Have his death announced in the
^{and "Daily News"} "Times" thus - "August 21st Camp
before Sebastopol, John Longmore,
Medical Staff, Aged 22 years,
from Cholera."

I know, my dear sister, this note
will make you all as miserable
as I am myself at this moment,
and yet send it, I must - I would
that I could lighten your affliction
in any way.

I will write to Uncle John and William, not
this mail perhaps, but the next. I had a
letter nearly ready for Uncle John last mail, and
also for others, but could not leave to
conclude them. It would be selfish to ask you
to pity me when you all stand in so much need
of consolation, but I am more depressed
than I ever was. My best love to all
and believe me your affectionate brother
Thomas -

Camp - August 30th / 55 L 21 / 18

My dear Mother I have today received your letter of the 17th, Uncle William of the same date, one from Uncle John of the 15th, and yours of the 17th. Instant, to my dear brother, now no more, which I opened. I trust this will find you in some degree resigned to the sad stroke of Providence, which so many other parents who have lost sons in the Crimea have had to suffer from, with perhaps fewer sources of consolation than you have in dear John's character and conduct. I will write fully to Uncle William on all matters of business. The recollection of John is constantly recurring to me - I look for him to come in at moments when I am writing & at meals, and yet by my side is the large stone which I have had cut out of the Russian quarries at Inkerman and which is being chiselled into the form of a Greek Cross to be placed at the head of his grave. I forget whether I told you all at home that he lies at the spot where Colonel Egerton, young Captain Lempreire, Captain Ker, and so many other officers of this Brigade, are buried on the left of the Woronzoff Road, about a hundred yards from the Dicket House ruin on the top of Kenehan's hill. If you had near you a description of Col^l Egerton's funeral in D. N. & you would see also some mention of this spot. My constant occupation serves as a distraction for my thoughts. I have sent the clergyman who was more particularly attentive to John, one of John's books, Bossuet's Oraisons funebres, a singular work for John to bring with him. I have also given some books to Doctors Webb and Bayfield as mementos. I have rather a good deal to do at present - many wounded, and a good amount of writing.

I feel much obliged to you for all the
enclosures you have sent, the printed matter,
and the postage stamps - The latter very acceptable as
none can be obtained here just now, - I fear
you give yourself much trouble about these things,
and that I have written too much in asking
you to look after them - I hope you will not
mind what I have written, and on no
account involve yourself in any inconvenience
in sending things to me. I shall not ask
you to send any box to me - I have every
thing I want here, and can purchase
any superfluities - the extra cost is not
worth considering. If Dr Watt should
be able to bring for me the flannel
it will ^{be} all that I require - I
wish he had been with me
 lately - and trust, from selfish motives,
that he does intend to rejoin his
regiment in the Crimea.

I hope Aunt Bowditch and others will
pardon my not answering their letters,
excepting to you at home, I have not
written anything but business matters
In the last fortnight - I have a large
packet of letters unanswered

The newspaper you mention, and
H. Words, were received correctly - Thank
you for them -

You seem to be pressed for money - I
have money lying idle at Cox's
- it is altogether at your service

I enclose a ^{blank} cheque which you
can fill in as far as fifty
pounds - but should you not use
it, be sure and destroy it, it
might fall into other persons'
hands. I have given my tailor

a cheque for £27.10:0. which
will be presented at Cox's
at the same time this reaches
England. You may just as well
be using the money as letting
it remain at my Agents -

I am compelled to conclude this
abruptly. I am not sure in consequence of
various impediments in the office if I shall
be able to get Mr. Williams' letter off till
next mail - I have done my utmost
to send it by this -

With Love to all at home -
Your affectionate son
Thomas

My dear Mother,

L. 21/19
Camp - Schastopol -
Thurs. Dec. 20th/55

I have just rec^d. your letter dated Nov^r.
30th. & Martha's, & 12 blue stamps, enclosed.
Three mails are due this day - one wh^{ch} ought to
have come on the 13th last Thurs: another wh^{ch}
ought to have come on Mon. 17th. - & one due
to-day - I suppose what we now get is what
we ought to have got on the 13th.

I am surprised no D. N. has come
with this, nor any letter from Uncle J. whom I
expected to hear from. The "Lancet" you sent
did not reach me, but was of no consequence as
I ~~did~~ rec^d. another copy from Birkett. The
H. Ward also failed.

I am very sorry to learn that
papa continues so weak. I hope he means
flannel. My campaigning has had the advan-
-tage of teaching me to wear it, I do not think
I shall ever do without it in future in
whatever climate I may be. My rheum^{is}
has not left me, and I have been confined
to my bed with it, but I am again
better, & hope to go out again in a day
or two. My general health, thanks God,
continues very good. I avoid having for
Matters where I have been advised to go

for a change, on account of expense, and
loss in various ways, in the first place, and
in the second, because I have every thing
here as to clothing, food, & shelter; I can
desire. I hope Papai's appetite continues
good, and that he is able to eat meat.
I fear the cold of the winter will be very
trying. We have had it very cold here -
below zero - and many have been
frost-bitten.

I should be glad to hear that
Smith Elder Co. sent my parcel by the
Admiralty agents direct, or I fear it will
arrive very late to be useful. Messrs
Hayter & Howell are getting the name
of being very dilatory. Should the
box which I wrote about, & the wash-
-bath & underclothing, not have left
when this note arrives. Do not
send them, as they cannot arrive there
till March. Should the coming money
in the Spring, I am doubtful whether

to send the first 2 things I have had to
bring here, home to be taken care of, or
whether to send them into store at Scutari.
I will give you notice if I send them.

You allude to a letter of mine written
to Uncle John on 16th Nov. - Did he get one
from me the week previous 10th Nov? enclosing
some remarks about Mr. Braebury & the med-
ical officers - I dare say there is a letter from
Uncle J. on the road for me, I wish now
however in case of ^{it} accidentally not having
reached him

I am glad to hear Ben's children
are well & that he is in better health
and spirits. Give my love to them all. I
wish I could hear of his getting some remain-
-ent employment.

I hope you will have heard from the
Clark in the War Office to whom you allude
- my friend (Credence) - Darguista Prov-
Battalion, Isle of Wight, would assist I know
if necessary - he knows the clerks in the
War Office, & would doubtless give Uncle
Wm a letter to one of his friends there, &
it would be settled at once - It was

Clodion's sword & cloak, which were
sent home with poor John's boxes -

Remember me kindly to Thway and
congratulate him for me on his recovery.

I ought to have told you not to
send the French Dictionary out again - but it
is not of much importance - I will give it
to one of my assistants who I know requires
one - neither it, nor the 3 vols. of H. W. D.
to which you allude in your letter of this day (31st)
have arrived as yet.

Do not omit to remember me
kindly to Aunt Alice & Ellen - I do not
think any of the Sebast^e relics I have
sent home would be of interest to them,
but I have a good many miniature guns
with a Frenchman makes here out of the
Sebast^e stone - if I get them, I will
send them a specimen as a memento.

Tell Martha I was much obliged
to her for writing so long a letter - I hope
she will enjoy her visit at Aunt Bowditch's
- ask her to give my kind remembrances
to Uncle & Aunt - and with love to
all at home believe me ever
Your affectionate son
Thomas

24¹² - Dec. 21/20

My Dear Mother

Yours of Dec^r 7th has just arrived. with the printed enclosure. I was sorry to see the latter - I had intended it for private information & fear that to some persons the allusions in the latter part might point out who the Special man. I must write to Uncle J. this next mail - I have not time to do so by this, if writing, say I have rec^d his of Nov-20th. I am much obliged in the trouble he has taken &

as to the money with which
guided by his opinion of what
is best. My letter to him
will probably arrive very nearly
as soon as this to you, this is
the slow mail by Smyrna &c.
The two Household Words &
the Lancet arrived this mail.
I do not know who wrote
about me in the Illustrated
Times - My name has been
often enough published, & I

must try & prevent it from
appearing again - I am glad
the cheque arrived safely.

We all dine together at
mid tomorrow Xmas Day
& shall have no want of
the good things for the
table - I furnish the
plum pudding I have to
make it this evening
to be boiled all night.
This will reach you sometime

After Xmas - but in a previous
letter I think I wrote wishing
you all a happy Xmas, &
happier new year -

I had not heard of Mrs Bedford's
death - she will be a sad
loss to Miss Bedford whose constant
companion she was - should you
see her or Mrs Bedford say that
I condole with them at their loss.

I have rec^d from Hayter & Howell
notice of a parcel coming to me by
the "Osprey" - is this yours? with
love to all at home believe me ever aff^{ly}
yours - Thomas

L 21/21
Camp. Dec. 28th/55

My Dear Mother, I have rec^d. yours of Dec. 13th with
the 12 blue stamps. By the same mail has
also arrived the French Dicty. and the packet of
Household Words. I did not get the letter
you refer to from Ben - it will come next
mail probably. I got the O. R. of the 10th.
I am surprised at hearing
the War Office people had not yet settled the
money due on account of poor John's pay -
I hope Uncle Wm may have consulted my
friend Cleudine on the subject, as he has
personal interest in that quarter. Uncle Wm
has not written to me on the subject.

I have rec^d. notice that a
General has been sent by the "Official": perhaps
the one sent by Smith Elder & Co. "Hayter &
Howell" are getting into disrepute as agents
- it is generally supposed that they keep the
boxes sent to them until a considerable number
has accumulated, when they put them into
a vessel, with tons perhaps of Sorts stores
on top, which may be travelling backward
& forward between different stations for
months, before the boxes can be got at. I

wrote to a friend the other day for
some things from Plymouth - by
return of post I heard they had been
shipped immediately after the receipt of my
letter & were already on their way to the
Coast. I hope now, being so late, the
boats may not have left, in which case
I will send them.

I should have liked to have
seen Mrs. J. Bedford before she left for
India - I must write before she leaves.
I am expecting a letter from Bedford in
reply to my last.

I wrote to Uncle J. last mail.
I had no time to write to any one
else. I should like to hear from Martha
soon but Miss & Ellen are - give my
love to them - Does E. go on with her
painting studies?

We had a very pleasant Xmas
Day. The whole of the Officers of the
regt. dined together, with some friends
from other regiments. Each offr. sent a

Share of the dinner. My share, arranged
by the Pres^t Mess (Cottee), was a plum
pudding. I made it myself the after-
noon of the day before, & it was pro-
-nounced to be very good. It was put down
to boil at 10 P.M. and a man on
watch kept it boiling all night and
all the next day till dinner time. My
Hospital Sergeant, Orderlies and Servants
also dined together in a Mess - I
supplied the Plum puddings of their
dinner & ale. I also gave to all the
Convalescent Patients a plum pudding
dinner - These were made by the
Hosp^l Cook, & with mine, boiled in a
large boiler brought up from Sebastopol &
fitted in our Hosp^l Kitchen. We got all
the necessary ingredients - but currants, but
for my own, and for the Hosp^l Sergeants
Mess puddings we used the Sultan's
raisins, small & not requiring stoning, &
the currants were not wiped. At our
own mess we had wines of every description.

in abundance - The Colonel has built
a very substantial & comfortable mess
& anteroom, quite proof against any
storm or weather, the bricks, roofing,
& all other materials brought up from Se-
bastopol. Nearly the whole of the night
previous to Christmas Day, the various reg-
imental bands were playing melodies
like the "waits" in England - The
weather was cold but very fine. In
every respect the contrast with the want
and suffering of East London was extreme.

Whenever the interesting part of the
newspaper is shut, such as you sent me
the other day, it is better enclosing it than
sending the whole paper -

My rheumatism is gradually
leaving me I believe - I am very
well in general health, but not able
to leave the camp for any distance
save to all at home - ever yours
A. Pitt Rivers
Darius.

I hope the paper - Dray & many
arrive soon -

Camp Jan 6 1/56

L 21/22

My dear Mother

I have rec'd yours of Dec. 21. I thank you for sending Chambers' books, the H. Words. Dickens' book &c; they have not reached me yet. Neither have I got the box from Smith Elder & Co. I am much obliged to O'Hara & the mess for their kind interest about my parcel. I hope my letter will have reached you before the books left: so that they may not now be sent. I can do very well without them.

I have heard from Uncle Wm & wrote to him last mail. I hope before this reaches you the money will have been paid by the War Office. I had no conception Mr Marshall's bill was so much - I thought you had written to me it was a little over

£ 40, or whatever sum I sent the
cheque for, & that it was then
paid. If Marshall will not take
the money back, I will sacrifice
it, but I will take it instead of
the cheque I sent you. It may
be useful to me with a little
alteration -

I am glad to hear Aunt
Fanny is well - give my love to
her. My general health is good,
but my rheum^{is} still troubles
me a little. If my general
health were to fail, I should go

away in a time, but I avoid
saying as much as possible as it
would entail loss in various
ways.

Please to enclose in an
envelope this note for Mr
Bedford -

I am writing to Uncle John.
With love to all at home.
Believe me ever yr affec son

Thos,
The Queen's heads were all
right - of course you keep an
ack of the no. you send to me -

Jan. 8. / 56 L 21 / 23

My Dear Mother / To day I rec^d yours of Dec^r. 22.,
with Maria's Dec^r. 10th enclosed, & D.M. Dec^r. 22.
The books & pamphlets you alluded to have not yet arrived
nor have I heard any thing about the vessel bringing the
box from Smith Elder & Co. I shall be glad to
hear if Mr Bourne did send me the paper, as Uncle
Wm thinks, & why he was induced to send me
that particular number. I gave, or rather sent,
it to Mr. Russell, the "Times" correspondent.

I am glad to hear Marshall has become more
reasonable, & that the shameful delay in the
payment of the money due to dear John is at
an end.

Tell Otway I cut out of one Mr Officer a grape
shot the same size as the one I have sent him
- he was struck by two grape shot, at the back of
the chest, as he was turning round to say something to
some men. He was going up to the Aidan at the
time - The shot, such as I sent Otway, were fired
from large guns, nine at a time, in 3 layers, separated
by iron plates, with holes to receive them - They both
made dreadful wounds, chest & lung extensively injured,
& he died in a few days - The shot were sent home
to his friends.

Tell Maria I am much obliged for her note
and its contents. I am glad to hear the £10 was
useful - also that Aunt Bonnet's was strong & well,
& that she had spent her visit pleasantly at her
house - I cannot get rid of my rheum^m as I
wish I could, but feel thankful that my
general health continues good -

Dec^r 10th I have rec^d. the Dr. of Dec^r 24th
no other papers, pamphlets, books, or letters.
There is a talk of the Light Division
joining Sir C. Campbell's Corps d'arm^{ee}
& of our moving early - perhaps the
middle of February - no one knows
where - but it is suspected Sir
Campbell will operate in Asia Minor.
There is now no time for things to be
sent from England as I should write
in one or two things - My rheum^m is

up trouble some, & I trust I shall
not have to leave. I have discovered
a spring, just below the level of my
floor, which has kept the rock under
the bricks, with which the room is
laid constantly damp. The spring
was outside the wall & by digging
a deep trench, & having a drain
made, I expect the water
will now be carried away
in another direction.

With Love to all at home
believe me ever

Your affectionate son
Jas.

Tell Uncle John I shall be glad to learn
that he heard tidings of the missing letter
I wrote to him about East mail

Private

(3pp.)

Camp. Feb: 16th/56

L. 21/24

My dear Uncle,

I have just returned from spending two or three days with the Highland Division near Kamara. I have hardly derived much benefit from the trip. Perhaps I was there too short a time, and not improbably I exerted myself rather more than I should have done, as one day I rode nearly 12 miles to see the Vermontka valley and pass leading to it. When the fine weather arrives, I hope to get all right again.

While at Kamara I glanced at "Whom shall we hang?" in the Schastopol Committee. Have you seen the book? if not, it would be worth looking at.

After reading it, you will almost doubt if any one neglected their duty, or, indeed, if the amount of alleged disease and death, during the winter of 1854-5, were not all a fiction. It is chiefly a defence of the Duke of Newcastle, but includes also a defence of nearly all the persons who came then before public notice. (Our worthy Head, Dr. Hall, among the number.)

The Author has been well repaid. It was written by Mr. P. Benson Maxwell (now Sir P. B. Maxwell) who was one of the Commission with Dr. Cumming and Dr. Laing, to enquire into the state of the hospitals. He was a barrister, without brief, in London - brother to Col. Maxwell of the 80th Regt. He had also a brother connected with

The Morning Chronicle, in which the Duke has
or had, some shares; and then broken was out
with us as in Bulgaria as the Spec: Court of
the M.C.. The Maxwells are all gentlemanly
agreeable persons - Maxwell ^{gent}, has long been
a friend of mine. As a reward for his services
- Whom shall we hang? Benson Maxwell has
got the Recordership of Penang, which gives him
between 2... and £3.000 a year, and has the
promise of the reversion of the first Judgeship
which becomes vacant in India, which will
give him from 5. - to £7.000 a year.
It is the wind that blows no one good.

We are at a loss to imagine what
General Sir M. Anson is coming out here again
for. Is it to attract attention for his being
appointed 2nd M^g Gen^l? Some say it is to
communicate verbally the result of the debates
about plans of campaign at Paris, to Gen^l
Coburnton - others that it is an affair of
accounts. It seems strange, as he left so
late, and his office in England is so im-
portant. ~~and~~ -

About my promotion which you alluded to
there is no prospect that I see of my getting
it, and Breuck-promotion is out of favor
for Medical Officers. As far as I can learn
there are only 5 Surgeons of Infantry in the
Army, who came out at the commencement of
the War as Surgeons, who have remained in
the field the whole time, and who are
Surgeons still, I am one of them. If the
Death vacancies which have occurred among
us, in Bulgaria, Crimea, and in Bosphorus,
had been filled up by Surgeons serving at the
seat of War, ~~I should~~ as is done among the
Artillery Officers of regiments serving in the
East, I should have got a step long ago
— but the Director General, Dr. A
Smith (who never served in a higher rank
than that of an Assistant Surgeon out of
England) with not estimate service
in the field, notwithstanding all its risks
and hardships, at a higher rate than
service at home. As vacancies have
occurred he has sent men who had
been previously serving in Cavalry reg^{ts}

in England, or who had been serving
in colonies, to take advantage of them
and get promotion. I could find 7 or 8
dozen instances at once. Dr Grant, who was
Surgeon of the 79th Regt when the war broke out,
refused to come out with the regiment, and
being an old Surgeon, he was permitted to avoid
foreign service. Through interest he was put
into a quiet berth at the Prov^l Batt. Depot
at Winchester. He is now on his way out,
and when he arrives at Sactara, will be the
Senior here - he with them be ready to get
the just promotion of his rank going,
I with no doubt get it. It is understood that
Lord Parnham, in consequence of representations, has expressed
a wish that promotions should be made by seniority
at the seat of War - this will be accorded with
by Dr Grant getting the step - but Lord Parnham
evidently intended it to apply to men who had worked
at the seat of war - & he cannot ^{be} expected to know
the history of each Medical Officer. We believe that
the Director General Dr Smith is really thwarting Lord P's views.

p. 3, L 21/24

Feb: 21st. I have rec^d your dated
Feb. 1st & 3rd. When I send letters
out of the common course to H. Y. L.
I must write 2 let you know. I
had prepared the greater part of the
enclosed list, so send it now, but will
not do so in future according to
your directions. I thought perhaps
you might have copies to refer
to, & could compare them with
some list of your own. The case
you refer to occurred in one of
our young officers - the ball
went right through his neck, and as
it passed through his gullet on its
way - it made 4 holes. He recovered

wonderfully quickly - his wounds
were healed when I sent him
away a month after the
Redan business. I send
home young Dunham happy
on Saturday by the "Andes"
his recovery is a most happy
one - They will make a
Jug about him when he
gets to Ireland - Gen L
Codrington has taken very kind
notice of him lately.
I have intimately been

very successful with my
patients, but it would have
been much the same as far
as my promotion and advance-
ment are concerned, if they
had all died - I really
don't envy as you seem to
think young Dowbiggin his
Majority - he is a very gentlemanly
nice fellow & we are friends
since I knew him on joining
the 71st in Canada - it is this
system

System w^h gives him such
advantages that I find
fault with. We have in
this Division 2 Officers who have
now attained the same rank
as I hold in less than 2
years' service. You can hardly
estimate the superiority this gives in
military life. My Colonel long
the regiment was an Ensign when I
joined it. With love to
Aunt (to whom I send a sprig from the
sacred citi at the Falls, call Schast^e) believe me
your affec^ted nephew J. L.

p. 2. 16 Feb. 1856

L. 21/24

repat. These blue books
cost ~~me~~ very little more than
their worth in paper & can
now be sent as a book parcel
at a very low rate.

I shall have my little L-
with L- — This mail —
My rheum^m unfortunately prevents
my leaving camp, & camp
-life in winter quarters is
most monotonous. I fear
be declared I am almost
settled I think I'll go away
in a time — perhaps to try
the baths at Constant ^{the} or Scutari

I see that the General Report of Sir
John McNeill's Commission has been
published. I hear that there was
a Confidential one also which is not to
be published: this is perhaps right, as
it mentioned names particularly, and
reported opinions about character &c. I
am anxious to see whether the letters
which Sir J. McNeill called for from
Surgeons are published, as some of
these will speak very plainly. If you
have the Blue-book, look at
Dr. Alexander's letters, I have
seen most of them - they were very
strong - some of my own are
not very mild. If I thought
we were going to remain here
long I would send for them

Private Camp Mon: ^{L 21/25} Evg March 3^d

My dear Uncle,

I hope you recd - safely
my letter sent to you last Friday
Evg. in wh^{ch} I wrote at length about
various matters - I am anxious about
that matter of E's - knowing it has
created a good deal of comment -
However, if the worst happened, I,
seeing an article in which only
allusions, but very distinct ones, had
been made, gave to a friend the
information, explaining the circumstances
of the case; he, thinking public justice
required the circumstances should be made
known, published the remarks -

But you may imagine what a scrape
it would get me into with the - ad,
if it were known - If you got my
last letter, the additional explanations
would perhaps be sufficient in
themselves to establish what had been
previously mentioned. I was told
today that beyond all doubt letters
are opened at the Military post office
& if suspected examined - that at
the French post office, in the case of
French military letters, unless shown
to a Captain or some officer, they

are placed almost as a matter of
course - an officer of the 33^d told
me this, & he gave us his authority
some one whom he knew connected
with the prof. I have written
last night to H. J. L., this time
twice - we will render it
unnecessary for you to refer to
the subject. I am anxious
about Charles - the letters
last received make him
appear to be very unwell

I hope Genl has exaggerated
his ill state of health
No news of movements here
beyond his armistice -
if peace is declared - I can
hardly be required to remain
here, & I shall go somewhere
for benefit of health. With
Love to Aunt & believe me
Yours affly nephew J. L.

L 21/27

My Dear Uncle / I send you a copy of a letter I have asked a
friend at Plymouth to forward to Mr Stafford. Uncle William, through
his brother in law, the Rev^d Mr Bowen, who was with Mr Loring in the East,
has some knowledge I believe of the letter, & I have enclosed a
somewhat similar letter to him to be forwarded to Mr Loring.
Now that the war is likely to be at an end, & the Army Surgeons
no longer in request, the rewards about to be conferred on us are
not to be given, it appears, (beyond the £.15.0 already bestowed). The
new Warrant, which would have bettered our position greatly, is stated as
the authority of Mr Guthrie, to be torn up. You know what
expectations our Surgeons have of Dr Andrew Smith doing
any thing for us — so now we are driven to look to Parliament
for redress. Perhaps Mr Stafford's motion may be of use to us.

I have enclosed within you a very long letter
a very short one only to H. J. X. Love to Anna's, & Mr. J. J. J.

Confidential

L. 21/28

My Dear Uncle, I think it will be safer for me
when writing to you to make the distinction between
"private" that is, not for publication, and "confidential" what
I would wish you only to see, and to be torn up as soon
as seen. I do not see why you should not show M.W.
if you think right my remarks about Dr. G. S. &c.
but this for ex: is for yourself only. In case of letters
being opened, an enclosure directed to M.W.
would be less likely to be examined, I may
therefore write them occasionally. You must see
from what I told you last mail about letters
being looked into, how necessary it is to be
most guarded. Perhaps my ~~own~~ remarks from
"the strictures" to "similar kind" would be useful as an
"extract from a private letter" - they will confirm the
statements published by Dr. W. and 2 points - the com-
plaints to Lord R. about Dr. H. in Bulgaria, & the
facility of getting the newspaper things in the Crimea, by
sending someone to Constantinople & securing for them, have
not been (& this was urged on Dr. Hall by Dr. Alexander)
touched on or mentioned before. If you send this
extract you can date it as you like - Crimea &c -
the writer would appear to be at Varma when the ^{troops were} suffering at Monastir.

Private

camp. March 4th /56

L 21/26

My Dear Uncle, Lord Roberts mentioned yesterday that it was settled for the Guards' Light Division to go to England. The Light Division to go first, and to be sent to Aldershot - of course in case of peace being settled. Whether his Lordship's information is correct & remains to be proved -

If the Daily News knew Dr Andrew Smith's history, I doubt if they would praise him as they occasionally do. You may depend upon it the "Times" know it, & they would have not hazarded such strong articles about him. Here is an extract I have from a letter written by a very eminent man, who retired from our service as an Inspector General, which I received this morn. "Dr A. S. excels in low cunning, having lived so much among savages, & is I believe destitute of all the high qualities which would induce him to prize exertions made not with selfish motives, but for the good of the service, and especially for his own Department." The allusion to the "savages" is this: Dr Smith as an Assistant Surgeon passed several years at the Cape of Good Hope, and while there went a good deal into the interior, ^{among the Kaffirs,} being engaged in zoological pursuits, under the patronage of Government which employed a Commissioner to make enquiries on various subjects at that time. While at the Cape, Dr A. S. formed a liaison with a

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old man's wife, who continued to live with him;
~~and she was never received in society~~ Of course even after
he was in life she was never received in society, & this
was one source of degradation to the whole department
when he became its Head. This woman was a Roman
Catholic, and has within the last 2 or 3 years caused Dr.
Smith himself to become one. They were married a few
years ago. When I was at Chatham, Dr. Smith was the
Priv. Med. Off. there, & this person was then living with
him in his quarters, but when any one was asked to
breakfast, or go in, she never "showed." The
circumstances of his first conversion are well known to
all Medical officers who served when he was at
the Cape. It is only fair however to mention the
explanation which he has given out respecting it.
According to this, Mrs. Smith was the wife of a Barracks
Sergt in the frontiers of the Cape colony, & attended
him very carefully while he was ill. Her husband died
& he married her - but never could declare his
marriage, as his father & mother were very strict
Presbyterians, & it would have killed them to
know that their son married a Roman Catholic.
The marriage was therefore kept secret until

after their death, ³ and as they lived in Scotland,
his duties kept him generally away from their
neighbourhood. They knew nothing about his having ~~been~~
~~married~~ ^{married}. Dr A. Smith has never seen any active
service in the field, was never engaged in reg-
imental duty or practice beyond a few months - under
a year, being on the Staff - and was never abroad
in a higher capacity than as an Assistant Surgeon.

When Sir J. M. Greig retired, it was de-
sired, at the Horse Guards, to give the appointment
to Dr A. Smith. His subservient character was
well known there, because he had for a long
time acted as ~~second~~ Chief Assistant to Sir James,
and was the active go-between from him to the
Horse Guards. The difficulty was that he was
comparatively low in the list of Depy Inspectors, and
above him were others, as well as Inspectors General,
who were distinguished men & well known on
account of their services. If you could refer
to Hart's Annual Army List for 1851 a glance at
the names above Dr Smith's, and the record of
services attached, would show this at a glance.
Moreover, there were many very eminent men,
who had passed through the grade of Inspector

General, and in regular course had gone on Half Pay, but who were fully competent to discharge the directing duties of the Medical Department. To avoid the manifest claims of such persons, it was determined for a time to do away with the Office and Rank of Director General of the Army Med^l Dep^t and to call the Head simply a "Superintendent", giving him a reduced salary. This was an appointment Inspectors General would not consent to take, of course, because it was descending the scale, but to Dr. Smith it was great promotion, & no doubt a hint was given to him of what followed in 1853⁽³¹⁾ when he was removed from being Superintendent only, and made "Director General of the Army and Ordnance Department."

When Dr. Smith took the office of Superintendent with its reduced salary, the whole Department became by that alone, lowered in status - more especially by contrast with the Med^l Dep^t of the Navy, where there was not only a Director General, Sir Wm Burnett, but an Officer who in rank and every way, took precedence of the Head of the Army Med^l Department.

From the time Dr Smith took the direction of the department, it became evident that ^{what} was desired on the part of Medical Officers under him was passive obedience to himself, and the routine system of the department. Private Character and habits, in which the respectability of the Medical Depart^t from the nature of its Profession must greatly depend, were of no account, no more than particular zeal or ability, in respect to office appointments & promotion. No wonder so many became lax in their habits, and that as a Professional body, with the greatest opportunities, the position of the Army Med^l Offrs was far lower than it ought to have been. The great object of Dr Smith seemed to be, by making Med^l Offrs give as little as possible to their patients, to have hand over as large a surplus as he could out of the Soldier's hospital stoppages to the Military Chest, and so obtain favor with the Government. A species of terrorism was kept up over all subordinate medical officers, which has only been broken through at all since the Army came to the East.

One plan of Dr Smith is to encourage Officers to send communications to him direct,

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that is, not through the regular channel of official communications, or by letter, through their superiors. I know several who have been constantly corresponding with him in this way through the campaign. He thus becomes acquainted with the characters and feelings of individuals. When I was coming out, he told me, he should be always happy to hear from me, and receive my suggestions. I have avoided writing, however, except on duty. Dr Alexander, the S. M. O. of this Division, has throughout written most plainly of the conduct of affairs in the Army, and especially deprecating the apathy of Dr Hall about the suffering of the troops, and the provision of the necessary medicines and comforts for the sick - months and months before there was any public outcry on the matter. Dr A. S. knew that if Dr Hall were removed, Dr Alexander, as Second Med. Off. in the field, and confessed by all, Military & Medical, to be the most independent and enterprising officer present, would certainly succeed him. This would ~~be~~ not have suited Dr Smith's arrangements, and this, among other private motives, was believed to be one why Dr Hall was retained after his incapacity had been made public by the Medical Commission - Dr Hall,

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2. 21 / 26

who served at the Cape during the last
Kaffir war, and Sir Harry Smith's time,
had the character of a good administrator,
but subsequently he was appointed to be
Head of the Depart^t at Madras, and there
appeared, either from age or the effects of
climate, to have become completely
changed. No one could certainly have exhibited
less energy, or made less effort to obviate
difficulties, than Dr H. has done in his
present campaign. Of course after the
attention of the whole world was called to the
state of things, and stores were poured in
from every side in the most lavish manner,
and there was help on all sides, the dif-
ficulties ceased, and things moved smoothly
enough. But even now, we are gradually
drifting back to the old system of routine
and senseless formality, and it will
require some efforts yet to prevent the

My ³husb^d Depart, again becoming
the soul-less machine to which it
had been previously systematically
reduced.

Remember I write this privately - if it
were known I was the author of such
free expressions, farewell my peace.

D^r. S. is by no means a forgiving man.

I was told the following a day or two ago,
which will serve as an illustration.

A medical officer got into a scrape
while at Chatham, and was "wigg"
by D^r Smith, then P. M. O., for
having improper characters in his
quarters. The Surgeon, not subservient,
retorted that he did not know such

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private conduct was considered
upreheensible there, and made very
evident allusions to the well known fact
that Dr Smith was himself living in his
garret with a person who passed as a
female domestic, but was generally
believed to be acting as his wife.
A short time ago the Surgeon had to pre-
sent himself before Dr A. Smith at
St James' Hall, where he underwent
a lecture. In the course of it, to his
surprise, he had cast aside all re-
collections of things which had occurred
so many years before - The Doctor then
said. "Take care, Sir, I remember
your conduct at Chatham, you were very
insubordinate there, Sir, very in-
subordinate" a broad Scotch accent
is required to give this effect.

You may remember Dr Alexander got
his promotion as Deputy Inspector
unusually early last winter, & very
now and then the military authorities
recommended to the Queen a Mid^l Officer
for promotion, without reference to
D^r A. Smith - and this appears
to have been one of the instances.
D^r A. Smith has never written
once to Dr Alexander on the
subject, and Genl Argy, when I saw
him, mentioned the highest Divⁿ for some
time while Genl Brown was away,
after he had become D^r M^r Genl of the
Army, mentioned to Dr Argy? that he
might look for a step in promotion
shortly. Some afterwards he got it.

I am now going to write to Her's sister - I had
to open a letter to her to find her direction - It was from
her sister - I such a letter! - I hardly know how
to write to her - In spite of the horrors we grow
callous to, moments of feeling with burst out & overcome us.
I would

I would gladly compound for a wound like the
Geny Brown's and to leave this continued
harrows of mind. I body — My love
I must — I have written hastily home.

