

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

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Please have this enclosed

L. 22/1

Sent on posted to
Care of S. Beedmore Esq.

Sent to Jun^r United Service Club.

Ship. "Whitcomb"

At sea

Sept. 7th

77° South Lat.

24° W. Long.

(2pp.)

My dear Mother

I write a line in case of meeting an
homeward vessel which may be it is not unlikely
we may do about this latitude. We have had
hitherto a very favorable voyage as regard weather,
though the wind has not always been in the
right quarter for speeding us on to our destination.
The temperature was remarkably cool about
the line - averaging about 75° F. in the
cuddy - and as yet it has never been
above 80° F. a very pleasant degree of warmth
with a sea breeze blowing through the vessel.
At first the constant draught of air caused
me several relapses of inflammation in
my eye - none of a severe character however
- and it was only the other day, after
having sailed about 5000 miles from
England that I altogether laid aside my
spectacles. I hope that it is now strong
enough to bear against the wind and cold
weather which we shall have as we go
more South - it now every day grows

Imceptibly cooler, and the Captain intends
going as far South as 40° Lat. when of
course it will be very cold indeed. We
crossed the sun as the sailors call it, about 7°
or 8° South Lat. We are now getting
into the Spring of this part of the world
I shall soon be on the look out for
icebergs. After 2 or 3 weeks of cold
weather we shall then be running up
towards the line again on our way
to Ceylon. I have been doubting whether
I sent you word that we were going to
touch at Point de Galle, in Ceylon for
orders - I hope I did, as in that case
I shall hope to find some letters there
for me. My general health has
gradually improved since I came on
board, but my ankles have not yet
regained their proper strength or
size - I however am able to walk
much better than I did -

The Captain is a gentleman - a member of
the same club as myself. He was formerly
in the East India Co's navy. His father who
is a very extraordinary man - upwards of 90 years
but in full activity of mind & body - is most
probably known to Uncle Wm. His name
is Edgell - he is Treasurer of Gray's Inn
& has held numerous appointments in the
Legal world. Besides our own party of
10 of the 19th, we have 3 Officers of the
42nd - one of them an Asst Surgⁿ. The
Captain is the eldest son of the well known
Cluny Macpherson - all agreeable companions.

The table is very well found - supplied
with fresh rolls & bread every day as
good as we could get at home -
- the supplies of everything indeed are
most liberal, & with health nothing
could be more agreeable than the
voyage has hitherto been. The
band plays every day after dinner
on the poop - just filling up the

time from Depart to sunset, which
is here about 6 o'clock - The dinner
here is 3 - at 6 we take coffee,
from 8 to 10 o'clock, biscuits, wines &c are
on the table, & books, whist, chess, &
round games, form the occupation of
those who prefer the cuddy to the deck.
The incidents of our voyage have been few
beyond the ordinary circumstances
attending a sea life - A little
north of the line we fell in with a
French ship in distress - without food
& only 3 left of the crew - including
the Captain - able to work, all being
prostrated by scurvy - They had come round
Cape Horn & were bound for Haure
- our Captain supplied them with
liberally - We have caught & killed
a large shark - got a flying fish or two
on board - & have made several

attempts to hook the dolphins which occasionally follow us, but without success - I hardly remember anything else worth mentioning. I have been amussing myself as much as my eye would let me by reading - several are working hard at Hindostani. The crew consists of $\frac{1}{3}^{\text{rd}}$ Malays, $\frac{1}{3}^{\text{rd}}$ Chinese, & the remaining third Lascars - and as the order are given in Hindostani to all, we already hear something of the language about us, but as might be expected it is only a very corrupt Jatois, and would be I fancy understood very little by any but sailors. The Hindoss had a festival the other day, to celebrate what they call their Christmas day a Great day. They have their Loo Loo on board just as the negroes had in the W. Indies - & what with that sounding Melod for-ward, & the bagpipes to the men dancing

midships, & one evening, while the
echo of our own band is still in our
ears, we have plenty of music

Oct. 17th I left the former part of the letter unpunished in case of meeting a ship to send letters home by, but although we met with several with which we exchanged signals, we had no opportunity of communicating more closely. I dare say you have seen in the paper that we were spoken with. We are now speeding on towards Cyprus with the trade-wind, having lately escaped from the cold & stormy latitudes more south. A week ago we were shivering in 37° South Lat. with high winds & mist, now we have a hot sun & can hardly put on clothing light enough. The thermometer in the cuddy stands at 80° F. At noon yesterday we were in 10° South, today

occasional gales & rains from that date
till between 70° & 80° E. Long. when
we turned northwards. We went as far
south as 43° . During this time I had
some relapses of inflammation in my eye, but
generally slight. I suffered most from
several large boils which were very painful
& had to be lanced. Several other officers
& many of the men have suffered from
the same things. The general health of every
one on board has been however very good
— we have had no deaths & we are over
400 on board. My ankles & knee are
much better. Noon. The observation has
just been taken, & we are found to have run
240 miles since noon yesterday. I shall not
close this till arriving at Ceylon when I may be able
to mention our destination —

Oct. 29th Have been delayed by calms. Arrived off Pt
de Salle last night. Here we are to be transhipped to a
steamer to go to Calcutta. We probably leave tomorrow morning
done to all relations — Your affectionate son Thomas —

I Private Fort Wm Calcutta Dec-24/57
L. 22/2

My dear Mother / I have despatched a letter to my
Mother, but I have not wished them at home a
Merry Xmas & happy new year, for I quite forgot it was
the season. I am sitting now in a linen coat, windows
are open, jalousies shut to keep out the sun & glare - my
old grey-headed, spectacled, turbaned, tailor is squatting
in the passage outside my door, dressed in muslin, with his
legs & feet bare, using his toes nearly as much as his
fingers in separating & holding the threads with which he
is mending my shirts - the 4 palkey-wallahs who
carried me home just now in the palanquin were naked
from head to foot excepting a bundle of linen cloth round
their loins - the trees & the grass are green - every thing has
a summer like appearance - so one may be excused
for not remembering it is Xmas if lately arrived from
England. However I wish you & all relations all
the good wishes of the season, & when writing to the
Borough H^d I shall be glad if you'll rectify
my omission on the subject. I hope you & aunt
are both stronger & in better health -

I have just moved to quarters in
the General Hospital - about a mile from the Fort.
The situation is more airy than the Fort itself, &
my house is large enough to hold a married man

& a family. It is by no means certain that we
remain here, I should be glad if more troops
are coming on from the Cape, Australia, the Indies, and
England. I see of the last papers from England that
people were talking as if the size of Delhi were
the conclusion of the matter. I fear that it is
little more than the beginning. 50,000 men are
required in the field & even if we had such a
force I doubt if it could effect all that is necessary
there before the hot season. It is hardly of any use
my writing about events here - you have much better
accounts than I could give in the regular newspaper
correspondence. I am surprised at the immense
amount of red tape & office work here - it is
even more complicated and intricate than our
own. I wish some one like Louis Napoleon would
come out for a few months - he would soon settle
the red tape, rebels, & all. I fear our
scrupulous, methodical ways of proceeding are
not calculated to settle matters in a hurry
& are quite inconsistent with such an emergency
as the present - One of our department - the
head surgeon in the field, Dr. Dickson, has just

been terribly wrong in general orders, & dismissed
from his post, by General Macsfield, Sir John's Chief
of Staff - for not carrying out a certain order. A number
of doctors were to be sent at a certain hour of the night
to carry sick. Genl M. had promised an escort to prevent
the poorly bearers from bolting - the escort was not sent &
the doctor did not send the doctors at the time in
consequence of their absence. The D. not having the
same, fortune, parliamentary & family influence of
Genl Windham, is held up publicly to reprobation.
Genl W. sacrifices clothing, time, & perhaps stops
the progress of a campaign, but he has what the
D. has not, & you will never hear of all the
hurrying he has caused except by accidental or
private correspondence. The Crimea over
again - Sir Colin's relief of the Garrison was
a masterly affair - if Genl W. had only had
Sir C.'s prudence & caution. Affairs would be
in a different state now. The Lucknow
siege & relief will I expect excite great feeling
in England - it ought to do. I dined at the
Military Club last night with one of the Officers
who was all this time at Lucknow -

I went the other day to see some elephants landed -
such a sight has never been seen in Calcutta before -
I have sent you some description of it - for publication if you
think right - I should like to be useful if stationary
here - My limited correspondence is permitted from up country.
No elephants are allowed near a in Calcutta - they are almost
as strange here as in England -

My health is greatly improved - My ankles are weak, so I
do not walk much - I have not bought any vehicle or
horse, as in case of being ordered up country I could not
take them with me - I am thinking of sending some money
to England - I have not yet spent all I brought with me
in consequence of having been fixed here & not getting home
- I do not see I could do better with money saved than buying
some more Gov^t Canadian bonds - what a panic there appears
to be in money affairs just now! Love to aunt, & Martha
who I hope is better if not well from her move to Warrington -
your affec^ted nephew Thomas -

(2pp)

L 22/5-

Banackpore 17. Feb. 1858-

My dear Mother I rec^d. the day before
yesterday your letter dated Jan^y 2^d. I was glad
to learn you were all in tolerable health. You
write of a letter coming from Chas - I did not get one
but it gave me pleasure to find he had passed
the job. I hope to hear soon that he has
got a Commission. If Inspector General Dr
Alexander is in London, & he has difficulty in getting
an appointment, let Chas call on him:
Dr Alexander is generally to be heard of at the
Tavistock Hotel, Covent Garden, or at the
office of the Medical Board in Whitehall.

You seem to be in doubt whether
I stopped at Madras, but I see by the
paper which you enclose that I there stated
that we left Ceylon in a steamer going direct

to Calcutta. I should very much have
liked to have seen Madras, & the Keppels
there. I am anxious that no personal matters
w^{ch} I write in private letters should be published
& I am writing to Mr. John not to send any
such to the press: any one connected with the
Regiment would at once know who had written
the paper you sent me, & the authorities, if
they wished, could easily also know who sent it.
My Medical report of the voyage sent to
England contains a diary of events, so that
the dates, & position of Lat. & Long. would at
once prove the source of the communication.
I could have written a long history of the
management of the steam arrangements
between Ceylon & Calcutta, & the injury to the
health of our men from delays, & bad Government
ration, & the heat in the bay of Bengal

after the excellent feeding of the Merchant-
Transport, but I avoided doing so lest it should
get into the papers. I am glad I did for
having reported on the subject officially the authorship
could have been easily traced & no good would
have resulted. In the published Extract
from my letter, however, which you have
sent me, there is nothing of any moment
on to which objection could be made.

I do not give me any news of
Muel. Wm's family, beyond the fact that
you denied W. them on New Year's day -
I expected to have heard from him.
I do not know whether Mr. Bellair
has gone, I was going to call on him
about the time when we got the order to
move, & then I had too many things
to attend to, to go anywhere.

wished to ask him to take a small
parcel of ^{native} needle work which I got my
Aunt's wife to purchase for me.
He told me when I saw him that he
should leave Calcutta as soon as his
father returned from England -

I hope I have already in a previous
letter told you of my mistake in supposing
that the Diploma of the Leg. of Am. had
been left in England - I found it among
my papers -

I hope Aunt Fanny, Uncle &
Aunt Bowditch are well - you do not
allude to my relations -

It is very unfortunate indeed
that nothing has been heard of to suit
Benjamin - if you had been living
in a more favorable neighborhood

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L. 22/5

There might have been an opportunity
of a little private practice, but of
course in the night? of the Bow'r? there is
nothing worth attending to - it makes me
sad to think of the wretched people
you are living amongst & the degraded
condition of everything around, for I do not
see any redeeming point in it. The
servants - here are given a six pence a
month - pass a happier life than you can
do with - all your toil & anxiety, &
confinement in an impure atmosphere.

You do not say how Martha is getting
on, but as you say she did not go with you to Thule
Mrs I fear she is still weak. Are Aunt & Mrs L
Ellen well? With love to all at home, & all
relations, believe me ever yr affect - son

Thomas —

2.22/4

Calcutta - July 1st 1858-

My dear Mother,

I rec^d by this mail 2 days ago your letter dated Dec^r 10th 1857. Our newspapers were up to the 26th of Dec^r so yours appeared late. I suppose you know of the new ^{postal} arrangements of mails are sent monthly to India now.

I was sorry not to see Char's name among the long new list of Asst Surgeons - There would have been no difficulty had he gone up a short time ago in the getting a commission - The pay is now raised to £170. per annum a fourth more than

I had as an Asst Surgeon - It may still be worth his trying for - he might call on Mr. Logan in the office & mention my name. Sat. evening

I dined with ^{our} Callaway (of Guzi) who has come out here as a Local Asst Surgeon - I was

surprised to see him; after holding so much higher a position at Guzi, coming in so junior a position in our service - I, there any prospect of Ben doing something?

I saw Mr. Bonner's marriage in the paper - I hope he will retain his

health at Sierra Leone - I have not rec^d the

letter you speak of from Uncle Wm. I rather expected to have heard from him. I sent, him a cheque for £20 to be lodged at Cox's

to my account - if Maule W^r should not
have sent it by the time this arrives, &
I have any need of money, make use
of it. My pay here is very much increased
to all my expenses. I have just paid
my servants for Jan'y - 7 house servants -
this does not include my tailor who attends
all day to mend and make shirts & clothes -
a my 4 palapuan bearers - altogether
76 rupees, or £7. 12 a month. I have
just bought a horse for £40, so I have
to add to my servants a groom, & a
grapeutter. This multiplicity of servants
is a great nuisance - but one will not
do ^{any} of the other's work. I am living about
a mile from my camp - I have therefore
had to get a kitchen establishment complete
as well as table linen &c. My house is a
Government Quarters, but I pay I believe
£100 a year for it - as we get an allowance

called tentage to provide ourselves with
quarters in cantonments, or tents in the
field - My house is a large one, much
larger than I require, & in as healthy a
situation as any in Calcutta. In my
hospital I have apothecaries, steward, & 4
subordinates altogether, about 70. I am now
becoming a little acquainted with the language,
and getting into the ways of this place which
are so totally different from those of Europe.

Wdges. Feb 3^d. All my plans have been upset since
I commenced this note. The regiment has been ordered to
Barrackpore, only 16 or 17 miles off the road, but this
distance, that as it is, causes me a great deal of extra
work, & moreover renders all I have been doing in
the way of providing for my house fruitless. At
Barrackpore I shall join the reg^t once again - I
went there yesterday, by rail to Serampore, & across
the river to Barrackpore. I have engaged a bungalow
- a thatched house - at 60 rupees a month, 12, 16^o.
pleasantly situated near the landing place. The
present tenant is a Captain Brown - 35⁺ (the regiment
moving to Dinapore from Barrackpore). Mr. Brown, was
Miss Kickey, whom I knew so well at Jersey - I

found her sadly altered by illness in Burmah
& India. She remains after her husband goes to
Singapore for about a fortnight - in the mean time I
must find a lodging elsewhere. We are to move
on Sat^y I believe. We were told that we were
to remain here, & I do not know the reason of
the 54th taking our place here. It is said we are
to stay at Barrackpore for a year. all is uncertain
however - there is a force of sepoys there, dispersed,
one chief only will be to guard them & against them.

We expect a grand move upon Oude soon - Sir
C. Campbell has moved to Cawnpore & has got the
large mortars from Dehra he was waiting for before
attacking Lucknow - I should think the general
mutinous attempts in various parts of India
will cease if the Oude rebels are crushed as we
expect they will be. I got this evg a letter

from Mule Jn. - The Postoffice is infamously managed
here - I ought to have got it at the same time as

Yours. I was sorry the part of my letter was
published, but it being stated that I had left the
wreck of the Transit. (The Transit having been wrecked in the
straits of Malacca & the ship en route to China) would
puzzle any one I think as to the probable writer
done to all at home & all relations, yours affable son
Edmond

L 22/3

General Hospital, Fort William Calcutta

Jan 1st 1850

My dear Mother

I presume your letters are still addressed to Madras. I expected to hear from several persons by this mail - I suppose all my correspondence has gone in the same direction as yours.

I have found the papers respecting the Legation of Honor which I thought I had left in London - I am sorry I have given you the trouble of looking for them. They were in a part of my baggage I had not previously opened since leaving Portsmouth.

I have been going out every night this week. On Tuesday I was at the Deputy Governor of Bengal's house - many other celebrities there were a son & grandson of Tippoo Saib of Seringapatam. The son was of course rather an elderly man - Last mail he rec^d an autograph letter from Prince Albert inviting him to England - They were magnificently dressed in richly embroidered

brayer, with diamonds &c but do not seem to be thought so much of as people in England would imagine they would be. Last night I was at Lord Carrington's - the Governor General's. There were about 50 to dinner. The state dining room is an exceedingly handsome apartment, & from the effect of the plate - all gold - and the number of lights, uniforms &c the appearance was very rich. Each guest has a servant in scarlet livery behind his chair - the Governor Genl & Lady Carrington have also attendants with large horse-tails mounted on silver handles. There were now & then they raised in the air, with a peculiar motion which makes the white hair expand, so as to keep away any mosquitoes which may be hovering near the persons near whose heads they are moved. I believe there is also some connexion with the idea of royalty in their use at the dinner table in the East - but am not sure of this. In one of the

Illustrated newspapers, just arrived there is a picture of an Eastern Prince with two of these show-riees as they are called, by his side. Lord & Lady C. are very affable to their guests - the prince had a conversation with me about the health of the regiment &c. I sat next at dinner on one side to an officer who had been all through the siege of Lucknow - & we both of course have read the details of this perhaps the most interesting & many respects in our history - The women & children & some of the sick & wounded from Lucknow will be here in a day or two -

My 3rd I have got just your letter of Nov-1861 forwarded to me from Madras - Your intelligence of Mr. & Mrs. Withins & Aunt Hannah's loss is very distressing - I know how very severe they will both have felt the trial. You do not mention the cause, and sudden death in a healthy child so young is rare in England, that I cannot imagine what it was. Take an early opportunity of letting Aunt & Uncle know that I sincerely condole with them in their bereavement - just at the age too when a child is of all others most

likely to be exciting the greatest interest and attention.

It is strange that my lameness continues very troublesome - for my general health was never better. Only one ^{of the rest} who came out in the last ship tells me they are surprised to see how completely I appear to be recovered. I am thankful that my eyesight continues to improve, & that I have not had any indications of a return of rheumatism any where. I have only since coming to Calcutta completely lost the stiffness in my right shoulder. When I write about my shoulder it recalls all the rubbing that Aunt Bessie had to give it at Rowood - I hope you give my love to her & Mabel when I write home - I do not forget all their kindness and attention when I was ill.

I am very sorry to find you have no news to give me of Ben being employed - it is very sad that in the prime of life he should be without occupation. I trust Charles's studies will not be interrupted till he has passed the College - he will have no difficulty in getting into the Army. I have some friends in London who would ensure an appointment for him as soon as he is ready - and every day lost is an important loss. It makes all the difference to me that I entered so late in life - had I entered 3 or 4 years earlier I should now be in a vastly superior position to that I am now in.

I fear the Borough R^d is not a place for an invalid such as Martha to convalesce in.

home dated Jan 10th. - I am sure (has 16th - 7 right to have got them several days ago. I am glad Chas is so near getting a consumpion - it is a provision for life, & at any rate better than when I entered the service - My mother is naturally suspicious - but I don't think the chances of life are much more unfavorable in the army than in private life, when the comparative absence of care & anxiety is considered - I wish I could hear of Ben getting some employment. Martha seems a complete invalid - I hope her visit to you will be of benefit to her -

+ We have been in a state of excitement the last few days about the Sepoys. There are 2400 here, the 2nd N.Y. being the strongest, then the 43rd N.Y., 32nd N.Y., and lastly the 34th N.Y. The Europeans consist of 700 of H.M.'s 19th Reg^t and 60 marines with six small field-pieces. On the 2nd of each month it is usual to send a body of Sepoys from Barrackpore to relieve the Sepoys on duty at Calcutta. The Government received notice that a depot of arms had been stored at Chitpoor, on the road to Calcutta, & that the Sepoys on the march were going to receive these arms with a view to assist in a rising at Calcutta, making an attack on the Treasury &c.

L. 22/6

Barackpore March 4th 1850.

My Dear Uncle,

I fear all my letters by the last mail will have miscarried, as the ship that carried the mail is reported to have been wrecked at Trincomalee. I wrote about a part of some former letters w^{ch} my mother sent me having extracted them from the D. H. There was nothing objectionable in the publication, beyond the fact that they would enable anyone connected with our department to know who was the author & I am rather anxious to avoid being known as a newspaper correspondent. The particulars of dates, lat. & long. &c would of course agree with the copy of the log sent home in my official report of the voyage. I purposely avoided mentioning in my letters the breakdown of the Gov^t steamers, especially of the one we were in, but it might get into the papers & be known as my writing. If we are stationary I can always I think find matter of general interest, without involving myself personally in the writing. I was at a large party & entertainment given by a Hindoo the other night - one band & a no. of officers went all the way from Barackpore about 14 miles to it - the host sent carriages for us. I thought a description of the entertainment might be interesting as everything connected with what is going on here seems to attract attention. I therefore wrote a brief one w^{ch} I enclose. There can be no harm in publishing it if you think it worth it - it was a public affair -

Sat: Evg. March 6th I have just returned from Calcutta where I have been giving evidence in court in a case of manslaughter - The case is getting very powerful now, & a crowded court even with punkahs going in not the pleasantest place - I find a letter from

24 Mar. 1858

L. 22/6

Did you ever think ~~any~~ of putting the enema practice into
operation? It is excellent against constipation & saves the injury
done to digestion by frequent purgative medicine. I hope Aunt's
health has continued as good as when you last wrote to me.
I was glad to read the good accounts of Ben's improved health
my mother sent me - I hope to hear of his getting some
employment - the Bowditch appears to me to hold out no
prospect of remuneration & I fear practicing there is in some degree
suggested by the idea of the trouble it will cause to get into work elsewhere.
I hope Martha will have improved at Worcester. Charles will be going with
I trust act as a stimulus to further efforts. I direct for Calcutta
intentionally - I know the story about the C-1 to be true. Imagine
the extent of mere pecuniary loss from such mismanagement - there seems
to be no excuse, for all the head and authority of the Presidency Division are at
Barrackpore - of course, the chief Comptroller's authorities are here at Calcutta.
Let me know whether this reaches you by the mail I have
named - Love to Aunt - I am affectionately attached to you all.

L 22/7

Barnack June 6th 1850

My dear Charles!

I got your letter of the 16th June yesterday - I was very glad when I learned that you had passed the College and that of Dr Paynter's advice you had gone up for examination to the Army Board. I do not wonder at my mother being anxious about your entering the army - but I do not think the risk of death & death is greater in the service taking all things into consideration than out of it excepting only during a campaign. It is one constant advantage is that, if disabled, a provision is made for you, whereas in private practice you must depend on patients & friends for support.

I managed very well for 10 years on 7th 6th a Day pay - an Appt. Surgeon now gets 10th a Day, house room, fuel & light, and with ordinary prudence he might live most comfortably on such an income. Your duties are seldom very heavy, & a good deal of time is under your own control, which it can never be said to be in private practice (that is, if you succeed in getting practice) - you see the world, instead of moping in one place & you may in all kinds of

river, & upon a wide reach of water just below the Govt. Secretariat's court & house - Opposite, about 400 yards across, is Serampore, where the houses are all on a large scale mixed up with lofty trees & palms. Native boats & European boats are constantly passing. The rent of my bungalow is nearly double the rent of some of the bungalows a little more inland, but I pay for the situation, & the advantages of the river breeze. While I am now writing the thermometer in the most shaded part of the room is $82^{\circ} F$, but I am surprised at what and there is so much breeze, & the balcony is so shaded, that to me the temperature is very pleasant. Of course outside in the sun it is very hot. Yesterday I had to go into Calcutta to give evidence in a civil case, we had junkies going in the boat, but yet it was very hot & oppressive compared with this place. I have a horse, dog, a goat which provides me with milk for breakfast. I go to sleep at 7 p.m. 7 o'clock on dinner hour, but I would much rather sleep earlier if I could. I visit my patients before breakfast. We go to hospital at 10 p.m. & I generally get home for my bath & breakfast about 10 a.m. I have seen the sick officers at their houses & done all the visiting work till the evening. At 12 my Moonshee comes to check my accounts. At 4 or a little after the sun

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+ begins to lose power. I am able to ride to hospital for every visit. The Govt. Genl's park is open to visitors & it really is a most beautiful place for a ride, & no doubt for the care taken to keep it clean & a source of healthiness to this locality. The jungle comes very close up to the cantonment inland. We have 2400 Sepoys here, 700 of ourselves & a few marines. Two Cos of our regt remain under med^l charge of Dr. Webb at Calcutta, & 1 Co is at Dum Dum. We have only lost 1 man since 1st Mar, & his death was caused by accident. By & bye we may expect dysentery & other serious diseases among the men.

The papers will give you all the news of public matters - we are all anxious at present about the progress of the siege - It is still uncertain whether we go up country. The 85th are expected at Calcutta soon, but I rather think the 6th will then go up, & we remain where we are. Moves are very expensive in this country, & we are not likely again to get such a healthy station as this. I have not unpacked my photographic things again yet fearing a move -

I am very sorry to learn again from my mother's letter of Jan 10th that Ben is without employment. I did not hear from Mr. Wm. Martin's rheumatism seems very obstinate, & I hope his visit to Worcester may be useful. I wish to thank John. I fear my letters by the last mail were lost in the wreck of the ship Tacket at Trincomalee. Love to all at home & all relatives. Your affectionate brother Thomas -

society, & if your own conduct is reputable
you receive a degree of respect and attention which
are seldom given to persons receiving direct payment
for their professional service in private life. The
great drawback after a few years is the difficulty of
marrying & establishing a home with comfort, but then
in private practice if a person marries early it seldom
fails to be the source of endless care and mental
anxiety - increased by apprehensions for the future in
case of casualty to himself. In the public service
a certain provision is made for widows & children,
which at any rate removes all anxiety about
them ever suffering from such a misfortune or want
of the proper necessities of life.

It would have been an advantage if you were
sufficiently prepared to have passed the Apothecary's Hall
also - in case of your wishing hereafter to leave the
public for private service, but in the army it is
of no advantage to be a Member of the R's Hall -
Callaway has gone up to Lucknow - but I hope we
may remain here - I have a beautifully
situated house, with 7 rooms, bathroom, plenty
of outhouses, stables &c. - The windows of the
room in which I am sitting open upon the

17 Mar. 1858

L. 22/8

My Dear Uncle/

B. March 17/58

I write you a few lines by this mail - if you think them worth making use of, so so, but you will see if would not do to be known I sent them. I think they are calculated to do good - our people are so wedded to the stock, there is no getting rid of it. I am long in to Calcutta & shall post it there. My general health continues very good, but the lameness of my foot is troublesome - I fear I shall never get rid of it. I do my work chiefly on horseback. It may amuse you to hear that the head of my Foxel established a fine lock, was carried off last night by a jackal - my servants got up but were too late - The jackals come into the cantonment & make the most unearthly yelling noise every night, that you can well imagine. Curiously the jackals cry at first resembles the voice of a shrill person in distress, then it gradually increases & others join in, until you might fancy an earthquake or some catastrophe was happening to the ^{neighbourhood or to the} town opposite and all the inhabitants were rushing out & screaming. I never heard any sounds like the cries of these animals. The natives have a notion that the jackals regularly post

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No news of our man yet, I am hoping as that
he may be kept here till the end of the rainy season.
The heat causes a great deal of sickness - in the field it
is according to all accounts terrible. I had 3 cases of
stroke here the last week, two were fast recovery.

I heard from Lucknow a few days ago, from the
Surgeon of the 2^d Batt.ⁿ Rifle Brigade. Callaway was
attached to the reg^t as Asst Surgeon - he was well-
framed writer. "Callaway is attached to us for the present - strange
his leave, Guy's - an excellent most useful man - ready to
do anything as though ~~we~~ he were a youngster - he knows you
I think so" This may interest Chas. & friends of
Callaway at Guy's.

I got the newspapers - I don't think much
of them, but they amuse the men in
hosp^l - I never see the D.M. - I therefore do not
know what particular articles you refer to -
I wish you would purchase for me any paper or
other of the sort likely to interest me & post it -
keeping an account against me for the expense.

I shall write to much to him - With
love to all at home, ever your affec^ted son
Thomas -

L. 22/9

Banashpore March 19/50

My Dear Mother,

Yesterday I got your letter of Feb'y 1st & with it
 a newspaper of Jan'y 31st. Today another newspaper Jan'y 24th came,
 I suppose they left England by the same mail. These are the only
 newspapers I have rec^d. Papers have been received at the
 mess up to the 9th of February -- they were at Calcutta on
 the 16th instant. The telegraphic news via Bombay
 reaches up to 16th of Feb'y. Lloyd's weekly newspaper does
 not appear to be as good as when edited by Douglas
 Jerrold -- ask Uncle John what weekly newspaper he
 recommends, & then I should like an order to be left
 in the Office for that paper to be sent to me. The paper
 will then be directed to me as each mail leaves England,
 & the news will be up to date & consequently more interesting.
 I wrote to Uncle John by the mail the day before yesterday
 (17th) -- I hope he got the letter. It was taken
 into Calcutta by private hand, a day after the Barrackpore
 post was closed, & I am therefore not so certain about it
 as if it went by post.

I was very sorry to learn that Charles did
 not pass the Army Board examⁿ. However, I have heard that
 many have been rejected of late, so I suppose it is rather
 strict. I trust he will make all sure next time
 he goes up. Benjamin's improvement in health is very
 satisfactory. I hope it may continue & that before
 this reaches you he may have got some occupation
 to provide for himself & his family. From Steady's
 account of his practice & from what I know of the

I see by your letter you sent the Illustrated newspaper?
It has not arrived. There was nothing
objectionable in the extracts from the
paper you forwarded - altered as they
were by Mr. John - I am sure
John the enclosed - he may think
the remarks of interest. I fear there
will be disappointment about the result
of the siege, so many witnesses having
escaped but we know no particulars
here yet.

I have very much enjoyed it since that time. I have heard that many have been benefited by it, so I suppose it is worth a trial. I don't think it will make all true every time. The improvement in health is very rapid. I hope it may continue & that before this reaches you, he may have full power over his limbs. I provide for himself & his family. How strongly I know of the account of his practice.

Boro' & neighbourhood. I feel certain that no one but a very strong & energetic person could scrape together a living there, & under any circumstances it would be a very miserable one... I should think any of the new neighbourhoods in the N.W. of London would offer a better prospect than the low warren-like places about Southwark.

I wonder that I have never heard from Uncle Wm. more especially as you said in one letter he was going to write - I wrote to Mr. Bellairs this other day to know when he was going to England, asking him to take some country work to see if he were going soon, but he did not appear to know when this arrival of his further would enable him to go. I suppose you met Mr. Bellairs in London -

My lameness is not much better but I have very little walking - I generally ride. I fear my foot will always remain stiff. I am thankful that my eyes continue so well. In the glare is very strong here. There is a sort of slight crape veil before the right eye, but it is only perceptible when I close the left eye. The heat is making some of the gangster officers, especially those who are not careful, look thin, but some are better than they were in England - I among others. We are very fortunate in having so good a station - I trust we may keep it during the hot season - but it is very uncertain. I would prefer remaining here even to going up to the hills. I have just sent one of the Lieut's for his health to Darjeeling. Love to all at home & all relations of mine affectionately
Thomas -

Calcutta, 20th March 1858

L. 22/10

My dear Nephew, I write a few lines to you to go by overland route to Bombay, to meet the steamer expected to leave there on 12-7th of April. The next steamer for Calcutta will not leave till the 8th of April, & will touch at Madras, Galle &c. - They say that every thing connected with Indian life excites great interest at home now so I send you a description of a Bungalow.

We have no news here. We are waiting for Sir John's despatches about Lucknow. In the absence of official information, opinions are very divided about the plan of operations adopted. The city has been taken with very little loss of life, but the impression made by the escape of the rebels is bad. They are hemmed in, but a long time must elapse now before their final discomfiture is effected, and this hot season, so favorable to them under present circumstances, is fatal to much movement on the part of Europeans.

The native Rajahs and rich barons in the neighborhood of Calcutta have got together from eight hundred to a thousand elephants, and placed them at the disposition of Government to assist in transport service. They are to be fed at the expense of Government, but no hire ~~is to~~ or ~~other~~ money is to be paid for them ~~now~~. They are to be used between Dum Dum and seven marches beyond Rancegunge, the present termination of the Calcutta railway. This will be a very valuable addition to the elephants already in Government employ. The latter will be set free to carry on from the stage where the borrowed elephants cease to work, and will then act in connection with the bullock train. The low condition of the river prevents much transport taking place by boat, and the

Services of the railway are comparatively inconsiderable from there being only one line of rails along part of the way to Ranceeunge. There is still a great strain on the energies of Government for transport to meet all the demands for supporting and sheltering the large bodies of European troops in the country. Kohilcond is one of the chief sources for supply of timber ^{for building purposes} that is completely cut off. Timber will have to be brought from Burmah and elsewhere, and conveyed up country. The Government has been increasing its own stock of elephants. Especially valuable as these animals are now, I was told that several were sacrificed last week ~~to~~ at the shrine of routine. There are eighty elephants at Barrackpore, but sheds only for the accommodation of sixty. The elephant does not bear constant exposure to the sun with impunity, and when picketed, as twenty of the elephants are obliged to be at the station just mentioned, exposed to its full power, from its own sagacity ^{screens} ~~covers~~ itself with a thatch ^{roof} as it were, made from the long grass to it as food. The animals may be seen standing with their heads and a considerable portion of their backs covered with hay litter. Representations were made of the urgent necessity of temporary sheds - easily constructed at little expense - but while the requisitioners were slowly travelling through the various offices, in the short space of one week five elephants died from apoplexy. The sanction for the construction of the sheds had not gone to Barrackpore yesterday when my informant, whose connexion with the elephant service left no doubt as to the truth of the statement, told me of the deaths of these animals - ~~improved elephant class work, and with them not~~
~~cooperation with the bullock train. The low condition of the~~
~~own private much transport along place by bullock, and the~~

You ask me why I call my house a bungalow, after Indian fashion, and not simply a house. The fact is, although a bungalow is a house, every house is not a bungalow. The houses inhabited by Europeans are of two kinds in this part of India. There are pukka houses, or houses built entirely of burnt bricks and tiles, including the roof, and bungalows, or houses ^{with pukka walls but} roofed with bamboo and thatched. Strictly speaking, the natives make another distinction in respect to the latter term; for with them a Bungalow is a house with a thatched roof having two sides, while a house with a thatched roof of pyramidal form, or having four sides, which is the most common, is called a Chaurree. The origin of the term Bungalow seems to be involved in obscurity. Some of the learned ones say that the Europeans introduced it, and that before their arrival in the country bungalows had only the name of chhuppur houses - chhuppur being still the word in ordinary use for thatch. In this land of endless dialects it would of course be presumption for a stranger to give an opinion on such a subject. When speaking of pukka houses I said they were houses of burned brick. At home such an adjective applied to bricks would be an unmeaning addition, but it is not so here: for there are bricks very extensively employed, called kutcha bricks, or bricks simply baked by exposure to the sun. Very probably these are of just the same nature as the bricks employed at Nimnich and other great Eastern cities of which the remains are little more than ~~shells~~ mounds of earth. A very large proportion of the natives of Bengal inhabit kutcha houses, the walls being only protected from the effects of the rain by the projecting thatched roofs: were there to disappear the walls in the rainy season would be soon reduced to so many heaps of mud. The walls enclosing and dividing different properties are very commonly made of these kutcha bricks, being covered by a coating of composition, consisting of lime and a material called ^{literally brick-dust} surkhee, to protect them from injury by the weather. In the neighborhood of Calcutta many gateways and walls of considerable pretension ~~may be seen~~ connected with ^{unintended} country houses which have been originally built by wealthy merchants may be seen falling to pieces and presenting a most dilapidated aspect. A short period of neglect suffices to produce the state of ruin, for, if one part of the structure gives way, the parts contiguous soon follow. The absence of stone, and of the means of making cement, in the delta of Bengal and its neighborhood the neighboring country, gives a peculiar character to the buildings. Perhaps in no city of the world are the houses of so large and palatial an appearance as are the houses inhabited by the Europeans & wealthy natives of Calcutta and its neighborhood, and very probably no where are houses of such a scale so perishable in their nature. Blocks of stone are great rarities in Calcutta, and are only seen as ~~scattered~~ pedestals for statues, or for similar objects warranting the expense of

their conveyance from very long distances. Lime ~~can~~ of good quality can only be obtained from the lower ranges of the Himalaya or from the tertiary deposits below the Garrows hills. & is consequently very dear. The lime used by the less opulent classes of natives, and it is used by them only in very small quantity, is made in a very rude manner by burning shells collected from the pools, or shallow lakes, which abound in the delta. It is dark in color and of inferior quality from the imperfect method of its manufacture. Up-country white lime now costs one rupee, the maund, or eight pounds avoirdupois; and the relative amount of this cost can only be estimated by remembering the low rates of wages, - from one to four rupees being the ^{only} monthly payment to ^{many} labourers who generally, out of these small earnings, have also to provide for a wife and family. It can be easily understood therefore that none but the comparatively rich can afford to live in houses ~~built~~ in which lime forms part of the structure. Even the Kutocha houses are regarded with envy by a large portion of the population, who live in hovels, generally clean, however, constructed solely of a few bamboos, mats of coarse reeds, and a covering of straw thatch. These flimsy structures have their advantages in this hot climate: the free entrance and exit of air permitted by them is absolutely essential to health, considering their limited size, and frequently their own ~~cost~~. "The Dacca News" wisely comments on a proposal to substitute pukka cottages for these native huts in the following paragraph:

"The Dacca News — The same journal mentions that there have recently been several extensive fires in Dacca. On the 15th of March 308 huts were burnt at Byrageetolah and Sootrapore, 14 at Bungsee bazaar, and on the 14th instant 323 huts were burnt at Chandneeghat. It is recommended that a society should be formed to enable natives to build Pukka houses. The suggestion is impracticable. The houses would be ill ventilated, as the first thing a native would do would be to stop up every outlet but the door way. They would be smaller than the smallest English cottages, and in this country would be excessively close. We ourselves have seen whole rows of Pukka cottages deserted for huts hastily run up with mats and bamboos."

But I have been led away from my subject, which was to give a brief description of an Indian Bungalow. The striking peculiarity to a stranger in all Indian houses of any pretension in size, is the number of smaller houses attached to each large dwelling for the accommodation of servants who never leave under the same roof with the master. In very large country houses the out-houses are concealed from view, but as the ~~ground~~ space around bungalow houses is usually comparatively limited in extent & it is convenient to have the servants near at hand, these buildings are generally so conspicuous

may say what they like, but the rebellion is more deeply rooted than we imagine, even the bearers who carried our coolies from Mozaffernuggur have been taught to chant ballads in honor of the Mogul dynasty in hearing of the English travellers whom weight they are sweating under. The burden of the song with which they kept time while carrying me, was that they were the Padshah's inkurs, and I was no better than I ought to be!

TUESDAY, MARCH 23.

— A telegram has been received from Fettehghur dated the 19th of March. The rebels crossed the Rangunga in great force on the 18th with four guns, but fell back to Bangoon. The column at

objects as the bungalow itself. A dozen of such detached out-houses is an ordinary number; for the Mussulman Khitmatgar will have nothing in common with the Hindoo bearer, no one would think of making a companion of the sweeper, and so on according to prejudices of religion or caste. One room with a verandah before it usually serves for sleeping apartment & all the wants of each servant, and these apartments are generally built in a row under a common roof. The family kitchen also is always a detached building, and any one, viewing for the first time the simplicity of the means of cooking therein, must be surprized at the ability of the cook, who, with such appliances, can produce ~~such~~ the variety of excellent & palatable dishes which an ordinary native cook will do. But a native cook in an open plain, and he will in a very brief space of time dig & construct a ^{cooking place} ~~kitchen~~ as complete as that usually found in any kitchen in Calcutta, and with a few articles of diet will serve up nearly as good a dinner as a French artist would with the same materials in the best kitchen of Paris. There is always another range of building in the Bungalow grounds, a compound, as it is called, for the stabling of coach-horses, & here the horses, syces or grooms, and grooms, all live together. The syce frequently making his bed by the side of the horse he looks after. So many out-houses, to a house, which itself is only of moderate size, would be out of all proportion in England, but the nature of the country renders them absolutely necessary. The ground about the bungalow is often very prettily laid out in gardens, and the Malice, or gardener, usually acts as a resident agent or representative of the person from whom the bungalow is hired, and has a small hut and kitchen garden in the compound.

A Bungalow of ordinary size consists of eight or ten rooms. The larger rooms being in the centre & opening into all the others by doors common to the adjoining apartments. As might be expected, the number of doors and windows is very great, compared with what is usual in a milder climate, and they are of larger size. There are no windows enclosed in sashes, such as are used in England: all are made like the French windows, opening down the centre to the ground & folding back, thus answering the double purpose of window & door. They are fastened within by a bar, generally of iron; wooden bars of wood, unless very large & cumbersome, would not be strong enough to resist the force of some of the hurricanes. Each opening, or door-way it may be called, in addition to the window, is furnished with jhilmiels, or doors peculiar to the country. They are strong, but instead of being solid, are furnished with six or eight compartments which are made to open or close in a manner somewhat like that of Venetian blinds in England. Thus by having the windows open, but the jhilmiel doors shut, shade can be obtained while the breeze is freely admitted, and both the amount of light and air permitted to enter the apartment can be regulated by the occupant.

The floors of all the rooms are on a common level, and are raised about a foot above the floor of the verandah: this again is raised about the same height above the ground outside. There is a necessary provision against the effects of the rainy season. The floors are never made of wood: the ants would very quickly destroy them if they were. They are made of the usual cement, chiefly consisting of baked bricks reduced to powder mixed with a small proportion of lime, & beaten together, with the addition of a little water, by hand labor. Coarse fragments of brick first are laid first, then smaller, and finally sifted powder of brick - all being beaten together by a small ^{flat} wooden instrument used in the hand. A dozen native workmen will be employed in days in making the floor of a single room, all squatting in a row, and beating the ground with a slow regular movement, and keeping up such a monotonous pattering noise, that it is a matter of wonder the whole party does not fall asleep shortly after commencing the operation. The lime is thrown down from time to time by another workman to bind the whole together. At last a firm smooth surface is formed, and not infrequently a thin coating of asphalt is laid over this, as a further protection against damp and ants. These floors are covered with a fine description of matting. ~~which~~ ^{this} would soon be destroyed if placed on any uneven surface; such even as a floor of wooden planks, but on a pukka floor lasts a very long time. Woollen carpeting is never used, and it is difficult to conceive any thing more smooth or cool to the feet, or ~~and~~ in any way so adapted to the climate, as the ~~pukka~~ pukka & mat floors in common use. The floors of the verandah is made of large flat tiles. From the edge of the roof of the verandah, between the columns supporting it, screens are usually suspended, called chicks. They are made of long strips of bamboo, ^{perforated green} or cane, stitched together in such a manner, that they can be rolled up, or put down at pleasure. When down they act as a shade against the glare of the sun without keeping out the air, and thus enable persons at pleasure to sit in the verandah without inconvenience. The roof of the bungalow combines comparative lightness with coolness. A considerable slope is required to carry off the rain in the wet season, and therefore the centre walls of the house, on which the roof rests are much higher than the outer walls. A few timbers constitute the main framework of the roof: on this a closer framework of bamboos is laid, each bamboo being securely lashed to the adjoining one as they cross one another: then a covering of reed mats is put on; and finally, the thatch. In the verandah, the bamboo network, with the mats above, forms the ceiling; in the rooms of the bungalow the ceiling is formed by whitened canvas stretched and fastened to the walls, and also secured to the roof above. This is

(5) L. 22/11.
necessary, not merely for the sake of appearance, but also to prevent insects dropping into the apartment. It might be expected snakes sometimes take up their abode in the thatch of houses, and were there nothing between the thatch & the rooms of the bungalow might occasionally drop in very inopportunistically. The walls are not papered, but kept ^{more} clean by whitewashing; a little vicewater added to the lime when mixed, prevents it from readily rubbing off. The punkahs in bungalows are usually suspended from the walls instead of from the ceilings as in punka houses, but are worked in the ordinary manner.

Bungalows are supposed to be cooler than punka houses, for the thatch roof does not become hot ^{roof} like as a punka does; on the other hand, more air is admitted into a punka house, as the roof is flat and lofty and the verandahs high. The thatched roof is easily set fire to, for the edge of the verandah can be readily reached by a man's hand. Early in the present revolt arrows with lighted tow at the end were employed to fire bungalows, and even the kites were made subservient to this purpose. A piece of meat was connected by a ~~piece of~~ string with some lighted cotton, the cotton having been previously soaked in cocoa nut oil: the kite ~~was~~ ^{then} clanked up the meat, ^{according to its custom}, flew to the nearest roof, unconsciously carrying the firebrand with it. ~~and caused~~ This plan of incendiarism was proved to have been adopted in several instances.

22/12 16 April 58

My dear Mother. Since writing the previous parts of this budget I have
been laid up & tortured with a sort of indolent boils - known as
Bengal boils - not throbbing or forming matter like English boils, but
kept acutely sensitive when touched. I have been unable to sit at
all, & unable to lie down without pain. Both my elbows have been
inflamed with boils, so that I can only bend my arms a little with
much pain. To console me I am told if I had not had them I should have
had fever or some other mischief. I guess I think to be excessive action
of the skin for perspiration. I prefer substituting silk underclothing instead
of flannel, for my health has just been better since I was in the Prison
than it has been now about the time I was seized with these horrid
boils. If the regt were to move, as there has been a talk of it,
I say on the arrival of the regt at Calcutta - I would not go with it
till I am better. I am confined to the sofa. My serum apert has
been dangerously ill in Calcutta - he has come up here to stay with me &
recruit. I think what I have written to you about linen dress very
important - all medical authorities agree on the subject. I would
have sent by mail a copy of the letter to Bombay & Calcutta had I been up &
well - now I am forced by the steamer advertised to leave on the 22nd instant.
If you think I send too much to appear at one time, you might send me subjects at
a time - about which especially keep my name secret from every one. I hope
nothing more than, talk of what I write to you. If you could print out my
subjects more suited I would be glad to receive them in the 1st. Put down any questions

[The document contains mirrored bleed-through from the reverse side.]

I have been thinking about you very much lately
and wondering how you are getting along.
I hope you are well and happy.

Your friend,
[Signature]

P.S. I am sorry I cannot write more often.

L. 22/16

Barrackpore, July 31st 1858

My dear Uncle!

In the "Times" of June 14th, in a leading article on the defence measures for Bengal, among other matters, it states, that just before the mail left w^h had just reached England. "2 soldiers had died from Red-coats at Barrackpore with no other provocation than a drill!" I presume this statement, which is erroneous, must have arisen from some wrong information communicated by their ^{Calcutta} correspondent, but it is strange that just at the same time I was writing to you about the use of sidecoats & stocks at other places. We were the only white troops in Barrackpore at the time referred to. The mail just then rec^d in London, was that w^h left Calcutta on May 15th. We had only one death in Barrackpore in April, & none up to May 4th in May. Our men here were then wearing white smock frocks - the same as had been issued to them for use on board ship, ^{they} not having got their summer clothing. On May 6th I wrote a recommendation that the use of the stock should be discontinued during the day-time & the gov^t acceded to my recom^d. Of course our Detach^t at Calcutta do more under other orders. The Colonel at present in command is writing to the "Times" to say the statement is untrue. Did it attract your notice?

I see in the "News of the World" an article on the "Dress of Soldiers in India". It is written in very strong terms, & is founded on the remarks you know of about cotton in India versus brown holland clothes. It did not acknowledge the source of its information. At last I have seen, today, Mr Alexander's name in the Gazette. I need not say I was very glad to see it, in any respect it was gratifying. Unwar is certainly an apt name, but as he says there are 50 appointments in the E. I Co's service shortly to be

competed for, I am not sure that he would not act wisely in
trying for one of them, instead of an ^{1st} Lieut^y in the Queen's service.
The pay is so much better, as well as the period of retirement,
& the amount of pension. Had I entered the ^{for} service,
in 2 years' time I could retire on my pension if I chose; in
my own service, I must wait 10 years more. From what
I have seen & hear I think the chances of health &
life are about the same in either service - you are
perhaps aware how old the subalterns & captains usually
are in ^{for} reg^t from the few vacancies which occur
among the officers from death or other causes. I shall write
to father this mail. I have got my mother's & your letter of
June 10th. Thank you for your trouble in taking the articles to
Bowen's St. no doubt the expectation of payment being asked for
operated in preventing them from being read. I was much
surprised at learning from my mother's letter that the £20 I
sent home from Ceylon to be lodged at my appts^s were still in
Mule Man's hands. My mother says that on getting it she
will lodge it in my name at Cox's - I suppose therefore she has
no particular need of it, as I told her to keep it if she had.
However, I will send through you a remittance draft for
the same amount for her use as soon as the next oppor-
tunity of the Paymaster occurs, but this will not be until
September. I am sorry to hear of Mauley's house being
vacant: in such a good situation it will not be long so I
hope. I feared his drunken habits would ruin him -
the last time I saw him he appeared any thing but like
the Robert of my boyish days. My boys are at last getting
better, without others as bad taking ^{their} place, but I must
~~not~~ cry out while I'm in the wood. Conceive how you
would all feel if the high temper^e you complain of were
to last day & night & from one month's end to another -
what a state the Mauleys must would then be in by all
accounts. You do not say how Aunt is, so, I hope, well. My
love to her - your affect^d nephew Thomas -

June 16th L. 22/15

My dear Uncle, I began the enclosed with the intention of simply sending it to my mother - but as I went on I thought it might be of more general interest. I have therefore enclosed it to you to read & to use as you choose. From the mark - // - it might be equally as well written at Calcutta as here.

I will try & write something else before the post leaves. I am so tormented and harassed with prickly heat & boils, & weak too, without any appetite, that it is a great exertion to write, & beyond my mother just saying that there was something of interest in the D.H. I don't know whether what I have written has been of use or not, nor in what kind of writing might be most acceptable. I asked my mother to send me any D.H. that might contain anything of mine, but she has not done so, & I have never seen the paper here. The work as you may guess is very heavy now. The 2nd M^o has just died of fever. The Col^l, Sec^y & Adjutant, & Paymaster as well as others are on the list. 96 in hosp^l. The boils & prickly heat almost amount to a plague among officers & men - I never understood the amount of John's temptation or his use of the potsherd till now - one must come to the East to understand the full force of it -

L 22/13

April 21st My dear Uncle/ My trials are better at least the last corners
have not been so large & are more about my legs. My face looks
as if I had the small pox - I had written to you on Fort W^m Calcutta
& 1st Drap of En^l soldiers there, 4 very closely written pages, also a page on
the scarcity of food for the lower classes in Bengal, but on second thoughts it
seemed best to send to Lincoln direct - the old address of Bouverie St. 7th St.
I suppose this is right. I remember your speaking of the value of early information
I saw in the ^{St. James} ~~Daily~~ News the description of Landis' elephants. Whether
from the stops being altered, or other cause, the some parts did
not appear to read very smoothly - Our stay here is still said to
be uncertain. Troops cannot move now without a certain proportion of
W^m for cholerae - My love to Aunt. Your affec^ted nephew T. L.

L 22/14

Via Marseilles

~~LOAN~~
In this is the letter to my dated May 31st stating
the contents of the box sent by Capt. Clay
& that the ~~conservator~~ ^{in requirements} ~~was~~ way to be
taken care of for himself & to review the
(it arrived here Sept 30th) ~~box~~ ^{of the straw} ~~of the straw~~
forces ~~of the straw~~

The parcel from M^r Bellavie
received on Oct 26th

England

APR 28 1889
NEW YORK

APR 28 1889
NEW YORK

Aug^t. 27th/50

L 22/17

My dear Mother,

Your letter of July 17th has just come, & 2 papers
Weekly Times - Thank you for the enclosure from the D.
G. - it seems old - as it is dated May 17th. I wrote
also on May 24th. but this letter you have not attended
to - I am very sorry to hear of all the illness you
refer to - Ben, Much Chas, & Bishop Bowen's -
I should have thought Ben might have gone to
Cheltenham, & been of use to Much Chas in keeping
together his practice, & the change of air might have
been of as much good as going to Herne bay. I
shall hope to hear better accounts. I fear Much
Chas's rheumatic fever may prove severe - it
is an old complaint of his - Do not forget to
let me know how he gets on - I shall hope also
to hear of Bishop Bowen having recovered: it is a
treacherous climate, but many Officers in West India
regt preferred Surinam leave to stations in the
West Indies. Mr Bellani called on me a few
days ago. He had business at Desampnes & came
over by boat - the river was so high at the time

That the boat came in at the lower garden
gate of my compound. He has arranged to leave by the
packet which this letter will be sent by. He asked
for Uncle Wm's address so I suppose you will
see him in London - I am writing this in
anticipation of the mail. It is not unlikely
I shall get letters from England before this
leaves, but I take any opportunity of writing
for I am very busy. This is the sickly season
I see have a good number in hospital:
Moreover, from Banackpore by the H.D. 2nd of a very
large division, & from my being one of the Senior
Surgeons, I am almost every day engaged as
Medical Officer - In visiting Officers, examining
native Doctors, & such duties. We know
nothing certain yet about our move, but there is
no probability of our remaining much longer
here.

My last letter was written on July 22nd, enclosing
one in reply to Uncle Williams.
Please to envelope the enclosed, & direct according
to address given. Captⁿ Currie is &c &c.

Sept. 6th/57 ^{L. 22/18}

I have kept my letter open to see if any letters from home came, but none have come by the Bombay mail. W^m has brought me news up to Aug^r 2. I shall hope to hear soon, that all the ~~things~~ ^{things} you wrote of last mail are better. I wish Ben had gone to Fetterham & wonder why it did not strike you also as a desirable arrangement. Practical work is what Ben requires - if he stays in doors & gets back to his former abstruse and theoretical studies he will bring back all his old illness. I fear much (has's) may be a long attack, so, if Ben has not gone, he might still be useful there. I should like to hear from him how he is getting on - home & all at home. I am just off to Devon Down on a sort of excursion into the recent great mortality there, & am afraid to see Thomas.

L. 22/19

Naples, Sunday April 12th/57

My dear Mother, I dare say you will expect news of me & therefore write at once after my arrival here. I left Marseilles on Thurs: Evg at 10 P. M. & got to Civita Vecchia yesterday after a rough passage - so rough, that no one on board was able to make appearance at the dinner table. I was very sick on Friday but better than my neighbours on Saty. This is the time for the great Church fêtes at Rome, but I avoided going there on account of the crowd. Just as we got into the harbour of Civ: Vecchia, the salutes were being fired & the bells ringing to announce the end of the Semaine de tristesse. From Civ: Vecchia to Naples we had a tolerably smooth passage.

To day the sky has more the appearance
of an English than an Italian one, but
it is warm, the gardens are filled with
flowers, & the trees are in full blossom.

I am at an hotel the "H. des Etes
Britanniques" on the riviera di Chiàja

- not far from the point on which the castello
you will see it in the plan of Naples in the Society's Maps.
Bell' ova is: this site was particularly
recommended on account of its aspect &
seems to be the best part of the city.

I think I may calculate on
remaining at Naples a fortnight &
a week at Rome & of then turning
homewards. This will be in the
first week in May. My journey
from Paris has been rather fatiguing
but I have stood it well on

the whole. My lameness is still
very troublesome - especially in my feet
- my knee is better. My left eye
- that last attacked I in wh^{ch} I
had the relapse at Brighton - is
nearly if not quite as well as
it ever was - my right eye is
still misty & obscured by the
floating haze but does not
annoy me much. In addressing
me direct to me (name clearly
written) Poste Restante, Naples
or Rome - according to time -
Every one that I have as yet met
here has been recommending his
favourite baths - some the warm

Naples April 22^d /57

My Dear Mother,

L. 22/20

I have taken my
passage by steamer tomorrow for Civ. Vecchia.
I have not staid here so long as I intended,
as I should have liked, in consequence
of having received a letter from Col. Sanders
at Rome whom I am anxious to join. He
has delayed his departure in order that
we may meet. I am stronger & better
in health altogether, & my lameness is less
troublesome - not so much so perhaps as
it would have been if I could have
avoided walking more, but this was
scarcely possible. I have been to the
summit of Vesuvius & down into the
crater close to one of the volcanoes where
the lava was boiling just as melted iron
appears in a furnace - even on the outside
of this small crater it was hot enough

to cook some eggs for our luncheon. This I did without any fatigue - driving as far as a carriage could go & afterwards being carried in a chair carried by 4 men, such as is generally used for taking ladies up the steep part of the mountain. There are two active openings at present & I was fortunate in the day I went up - the second opening at the distance of some two hundred yards from that wh. I went near was throwing up stones from time to time to a very considerable height, & the fire was burning very brightly. I am very glad I made this excursion for I found Vesuvius in many respects different from what my reading had led me to fancy it. This is the only place at any distance from the city that I have been to. My eyes have not

given me any trouble, but the mistiness wh. continues in my right eye - tho' the light is so much stronger here I have not had occasion to use my spectacles.

I got the 2 letters you sent, with Dr. Wilks's enclosed, a day or two since at the Post-office. I hope you have not forwarded any more here as I am not likely to get them if you have - every thing at the post office is twenty years behind what it is in these countries. I think it will not be worth directing to me again in Italy - poste restante. Paris will be best, as I expect to be there about the 1st or 10th of May, on my way home - though you say the postage to Naples wh. you paid in London was heavy, I had to pay about 3^s on your two letters & another forwarded from Paris - this last of course not prepaid.

Please to write a line to Capt. Franklin who
wrote to me from Ireland, merely saying that I
am in Italy on account of my health & that
you had opened the letter by my direction & that
you did not expect I should join the reg^t at
any rate till my leave of absence had expired.
I am glad you didn't send me the letter.

The weather has been delightful - today
there is a change & rather strong wind
- the boat does not leave till 4 P.M. tomorrow
so that before then I hope there may be
a change - I shall try & post this
on board to some time.

Love to all at home, with kind
remembrances to relations & friends,
& believe me
your affec^ted son
Thomas -

I was glad to learn from Dr. Webb's
letter that the reg^t was likely to go to
Portsmouth -

April 23rd On Steamer "Hellaspoint."