

Letters to Charles C. Plowden of the Sanitary Department of the India Office

Publication/Creation

1868-1875

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35 South Street
 Park Lane W.
 Sept 13/68

Sir

I feel much hesitation in troubling you about a matter which may seem to you like an impertinence, if Sir Bastle there has not written to you on the subject.

A short time ago, he wrote to me (from Bohemia) saying that he wished me to have a few copies immediately of the "Memorandum on Measures adopted for Sanitary Improvements in India up to the end of 1867." - (that is, before the Blue Book of Sanitary Abstracts, of which it is a part, comes out -) & that he would request you to be so good as to forward them to me.

May I ask whether you have heard anything from him to this effect?

May, Sir, believe me
 ever your faithful servt.
 Florence Nightingale

C. C. Rawdon Esq

Miss Nightingale's
first letter
Sept 13th/68

Don
Bolt
Lemon handle

35 South Street,
Park Lane,
W.

April 9/69

Dear Sir

I beg to return the proofs with
which you have favoured me -
viz. p.p. 56 to 106. (Madras & Bombay.)

The Abstract is excellent &
represents most faithfully the facts in
the various Reports.

After looking them over carefully
& with the utmost desire to criticize,
I cannot do so at all.

The spirit is very good. The same
tone runs through them which actuates
your Committee - viz. a desire to
bring out the evils boldly & carefully
with a view to remedier - and a
hopefulness which is strongly expressed
but not more so than the case
authorizes. When the whole

Country is well in hand, an excellent
future is warranted by these Reports.

So would forward our knowledge, very much
of the causes of disease in India, if
they would send the Death-rates of
children born in India of European
parents for various ages: -

Such as:

Under 1 year	
1 ant under 2,	
2 ant under 3	
3 and under 4	
4 and under 5	
5 " "	10
10 " "	15

with existing agencies for improvement.

Now the Commissioners also state that
statisticians appear to show that, when every
thing is done that can be done, the
death rate should be only 10 per 1000.

It would be of great importance to
give the Causes of Invalidity.

I am glad - and I am sure that you
must be so too - that I have so little
to say on this occasion -

And I am always your faithful devot^e

Florence Nightingale

Charles C. Snowden Esq

Miss Nightingale
April 9th /69 x

Private

5480/3/1

67476

35 South Street,
Park Lane,
W.

June 15/69

My dear Sir,

I have to thank you for your two notes of June 14 and 15 & their enclosures -

And then to arrange my reply to them under the following heads as conveniently as I can for the purpose: -

1. your own Report: -

Page 2 - third line from foot of page.

Does the Report of the Municipality of Calcutta fix "1869" as the date for the water supply? If so, would it not be better to place the words "present year" immediately before "1869"? - to prevent an anachronism.

Page 4.

Perhaps two additions would make this passage (about improvements) complete. viz:

to insert at **A** the words

"into which improved drainage, cleansing & water supply had been introduced"

and at **B** the words

"the influence of these combined improvements in lowering the death-rate especially from"

2. Dr. Morehead's "Sketch".

Possibly it would be better to avoid any appearance of controversy with so good a man. Query: I would suggest for your consideration whether, after having added the facts about the new nomenclature^x to your own Report - and the striking proofs of the utility of good drainage & water supply in London & other English towns, it would not be better to leave out the three M.S. foot notes at pp. 13, 21 and 37.

Dr. Morehead's objections are those of a Medical man - [I think, when I was a school boy, they used to teach us that these "are solved ~~by~~^{by} walking"; - as you have already proved in the body of your Report.]

x N.B. In ^{your own} M.S. A, p. 2 of your Report, (second half of M.S.) "College of Physicians and "Surgeons" I believe it ought to be. But please look at the title of the book. You have the book.

3. About the omission of terms of praise:—
of work done in India.

Your Committee knows the Indian
feeling with regard to introducing such
into official documents. So very
much better than I can possibly do
that I should be very sorry if my
opinion weighed for a moment in the
scale when it differs from theirs.

41. Capt. Sullock's Report.

I herewith send you my copy?

The state of the case appears to be this: and something like the following might, if approved by you, be inserted at p. 7 of "Abstract (Municipal) Bombay" at **A**

N.P. [The discussions respecting drainage plans for Bombay are hence not as yet satisfactorily concluded.

Two methods of dealing with the question have been advocated - one, mentioned above, for providing sewers of large dimensions for carrying off the tropical rainfall of Bombay together with the sewage of the city - the whole to be discharged into the sea, leaving the sewers nearly empty during the dry season - The other proposed by Mr. Rawlinson & adopted by Capt. Sullock, R.E. who was specially sent to England by the Madras Government to study the various questions regarding

town drainage & the utilization of sewage. This latter project provides for draining & sewerage the city by sewers & drains large enough only to convey away the sewage & for applying the sewage to agriculture at a distance from the city.

It has been objected to the first proposal that the large sewers, being left almost empty during the dry season, will become generators of foul air & tend to deteriorate the health of the city. While it is objected to the second plan that there must of necessity be partial flooding of the surface during heavy rains when the tide is unusually high.

It appears to be an important element in the discussion to bear in mind that town sewers & drains are primarily intended for removing the foul water of the population, & not

for removing rainfall; While
any attempt in such a
climate as that of India
to provide for rainfall
(sometimes 14 inches in
24 hours) by sewers,
even if practicable,⁺ would
entail an enormous outlay
for an occasional &
temporary purpose.

It might be well in any
further discussions which
take place on this subject,
to consider the two questions
as separate problems - so
that, while foul water
only is removed in
underground sewers, the
point of surface drainage
may be settled, & the proper
out falls for this water
into the sea provided for.

[Mr. Crawford &c &c

+ which is not
Editor's note.]

Something of the above might do - but it
would be well not to Complicate the
Paragraph too much. The fact
appears to be that, in a place having
300 inches of rainfall in 3 months,
the other 9 months are generally dry -
& all attempt to remove the rainfall
by sewers perfectly impracticable -
while, in places where the rainfall is
only 30 inches in 12 months, there
is a little rain most days, which
may be removed by sewers.

I am very sorry I have kept your
papers so long - but the fact is, business
interruptions are my normal state
of being. I have hindered me these 3 days.
I shall be very glad to look at anything
more that you please -

May believe me
my dear Sir
and your faithful servant
Florence Nightingale

Charles C. Plowden Esq

see that the Printers are bad
vaguer - And I am afraid
that their error will give
you a good deal of trouble
in comparing with the
original documents.]

M.

Private

XX.

5480/4

35 South Street,
Park Lane,
W.

July 6/69

My dear Sir

I return your Proof
which I have looked through
- not with regard to literal
corrections, however, which
I have left entirely to you -
but as a whole.

As a whole, I think it
is excellent - It steers its
way very well through the
disputed questions without
taking one side or another.
And yet it will lead me
to think in India - while
affording to them much
useful help & immense

ground for hope.

It is much better than
last year's. And that is
saying a great deal in its
favor. It is one of the best appropriations
of sanitary matter I have ever seen.

I have merely looked
at the general arrangements
& matter.

[In the notes at p. 173,
one or two literal corrections
are needed - as for 'place'
read plan - and for
'point' substitute 'question'.]

Any papers which you
are good enough to send me
I wish to send me

will be forwarded to me in
the country from this
house.

May let me thank you for
all your kindness which,
believe me, makes me
always your obliged &
faithful servant

Rosanne Nightingale

Charles C. Norden Esq

P. 197 for 'Nitrate' read
'Nitrile'

P. 198 ditto ditto

P. 200. for 'distillation' read
'distribution'.

[You will

3.

5480/5

March 31st 1870

The facts in your Digest are of the greatest interest & importance to the Public Service. And it is eminently well done.

Your List improvements show more than anything else what can be done in India to raise the standard of health.

I cannot bear to suggest an increase in your labours. But, for a rather obtuse British public, would it not be advisable to make your Report (now) not only an Abstract of other Reports but also a Report on the sanitary question & progress in India?

There is a considerable amount of interesting matter, for instance, in the Monthly Reports ¹⁸⁶⁸⁻⁹ from the 3 Presidencies which you are so good as to send me. And it has occurred to me to suggest that good use might be made of these in raising the interest of your Annual Report.

e.g. how remarkable is the experience
of the Madras Sewage System! [O. "Proceedings" for
October 1869 (Ind.)
[Minute 237. Page 549.]

A good digest of all these, ^{Monthly Reports} written
as you would write it, would excite
great interest in the British Lion -
who, royal beast, knows very little of
what e.g. China does in this line
of agriculture - but who ought to care
about his Indian dependencies & will
be made to care by you.

I shall be very glad to do anything in
my little power that you may wish
in looking over the farther advance of
your valuable Report.

Believe me
My dear Sir
Ever your faithful serv^t
Florence Nightingale

Charles C. Snowden Esq

I cannot think of the
incalculable sufferings
hanging over Europe -
such as eye has not
seen nor ear heard
in our time. Only
let us do all we can
& help them.

I think your patience is
admirable about the
delay of the A. S. C.

As you ask me, I think the
impression ("cannot be
better concluded") reads
better than "I cannot better
conclude." With the rest of the
Report. ever yours sincerely
Florence Nightingale

+

5480/6

Address

35 South Street, Aug 4/70
Park Lane,
W.

My dear Sir

I return you, with
many thanks, my Revised
Proof.

I have made one or
two slight corrections.

You seem to have done
all things well - (as usual.)
And I don't know any thing
more that I have to say.

O yes: I have.

I could not but look
on that man who had

Charles C. Bowden &

been my kindest friend -
as my direct enemy -
who revealed my London
addresses (I who am
always in hiding from
my creditors) - especially
in print, especially
at this time.

[I have carefully erased
the smallest trace ^{of it} on
the Proof, & substituted
"London."]

My creditors, my beggars,
my "candid friends" &
"all the ills an angry Heaven
can send" -

(it was either Sir B. More's
father or Canning who
wrote that line)

their name is: Legion.

My ordinary allowance
in time of peace is: -
8 a day, each modestly
deciding an hour's hard
writing from me -

But, since this dreadful
war has darkened the
world, - and here I become
serious; for people have
a right to ask in wars
'horrid wars', for every
help they can get - about
9 letters a day come of
which each would require
2-4 hours' hard writing.
Don't let us talk of it -

5480/7

1870 +

35 South Street,
Park Lane,
W.

Aug 27/70

Allow me to congratulate
you on the completion
of your Herculean work
for this year - & I wish
that the other Herculean
work of cleaning out
the Augean stables you
have laid down were
as well & promptly done.

Pray believe me

My dear Sir

and your faithful servant

Florence Nightingale

Charles C. Howard Esq

My dear Sir

I am extremely obliged
to you for sending me
the Revised Copy of your
Sanitary Report & Abstracts
- as well as a list of
the papers you propose
to constitute the Appendix
with the two Cholera Maps.

It will prove a
most valuable & exhaustive
Report - worthy of the
great Empire. It is not

an easy thing to make
so complete a Repose
for an Empire of
200 Millions of souls.
It will undoubtedly
require a Table of Contents
& Index of reference,
since there are such
overflowing contents to
refer to.

I have not had time to
look through the whole

as I should wish. But
I cannot find anything
I suspect. And I have
read the first 20 pages
which I had not seen
before with much
interest.

I return the copy with
many thanks. I am
quite satisfied with
the addition you have
kindly made in my
paper.

15. C. H. Bracebridge Esq ^{Wetherstone}

13. W. Shore Smith Esq
3 Park Place
Grovenor Road
S.W.

14. Hy Monham Carter Esq
91 Gloucester Terrace
Hyde Park W.

and 6 copies to me, if you
will be so good (F.R.)

35 South Street
Park Lane W.

Do not suppose that I have
the audacity to desire
that all this trouble
should be taken - tho' I
think the copies would be
well bestowed.

It is too much to ask

Address

5480/8/1

35 South St.
Park Lane W.

Oct 10/70

My dear Sir

I am extremely obliged to
you for your kind note, &
for the copy of the Annual
Sanitary Blue Book ^{for 1870} which,
under the pressure of
more urgent work, I have
only as yet been able to
glance through.

The whole volume is
excellent - & will give a
practical direction to
Indian work, which is
the main thing.

You are so good as to ask

& whom I should like
copies to be sent: -

if it is not too much to
ask for copies to be made
up & directed at the India
Office, would you send
one to each of the following:-

1. Dr. Hewlett
Bombay
2. Dr. Norman Cheever
Calcutta
3. Dr. Cunningham
with the Gov^t of India
4. Dr. Patterson Walker
somewhere in the N.W.B.
(he was at Chukrata)
5. Lord Lawrence
26 Queen's Gate W.

6. Dr. Farr
General Register Office
Somerset House
7. Lord Noughton
Trystone Hall
Pontefract Ferrybridge
8. Rev^d.
the Master of Balliol
Oxford
9. Sir Harry Kerney Bt MP
32 South Street
Park Lane W.
10. Monsieur Mohl
35 South Street
Park Lane W.
11. W. E. Nightingale Esq
Sea House
Matlock
12. R. G. Whitfield Esq
St. Thomas' Hospital
Newington S. E.

1870

2

5480/8/2

the I.O. & direct them,
please send all the 20
copies & me - And I will
do so -

Also: I have no doubt that
I have of the final in my
list. The I.O. sends
copies of its own free will.
I do not think however
that a duplicate copy
would be wasted on them.
The Indians especially
complain that, unless copies
are sent to them direct (by
mail) privately, they do
not receive I.O. Blue
Books for 6 months or more.
But this is a matter for the
indulgence of the I.O. to
determine. I will gladly

do it, if sent to me.

May excuse a hurried
note which a rational
being could have made
shorter. But I am grinding,
grinding, grinding at this
awful war - trying to do a
little bit of good where
no good can be -

May believe me
My dear Sir
ever your faithful servt.
Florence Nightingale

Charles C. Rowden Esq

If the S.O. prefer the
course of sending me the
21 copies, would you be so
very kind as to send me
back this dice, that I
may remember my own
friends - (not very friendly,
you will say -)

Yr.

5480/9

(Oct 14th 1871. Miss L. Nightingale)

I have just glanced through
your Blue Book. It seems
to me the best of any I have
yet seen - which is saying
a great deal. I shall
read it carefully.

W.

to Miss M.!! [I am thankful
for this any how, as I had
rather have any small surgical
operation any day than the
trouble of writing to the "Lancet"
or any newspapers.]

Yours a hurried note

10/72
Miss Nightingale

Embley
Romsey
(Hampshire)

5480/10

67-12

35 South Street, July 10/72
Park Lane,
W.

My dear Sir

If you think I can be of
any use in looking at your
Proofs (Annual Sanitary
Blue Book Abstracts)
I shall be most happy - &
therefore lend my present
address I save time. altho
any thing which you may be
good enough to send to me
in London will be forwarded
to you & sincerely

Florence Nightingale

Charles C. Rowden Esq

5480/11

1872

35 South St. Park Lane W.

Oct 1/72

My dear Sir

I am come back here,
like a bad penny.

And any communication
which you are so good
as to address to me here
will find

Yours sincerely

Florence Nightingale

Charles C. Snowden &

5480/12/1

xx 35 South So. W.

Oct 11/72

My dear Sir

I have according to your
behest - & only because of
your behest - [you who
have done so much for
India ought to command]

- written a few words - for -

(But then you must say
that you asked me - in -
your Report -

You are quite at liberty
to burn, as it deserves - omit,
or alter, as you please -

But I do not think it

Charles C. Plowden }

W
W. C. Plowden
xx

Worth putting in at all -

If not too late, the words
"for distribution" should
be put in - pencil foot-note -
p. 45.

in haste
Ever your faithful serv^t

Florence Nightingale

5480/12/2

?

Two years ago the privilege was given me of making a few Observations on Indian Sanitary progress. Since then, ^{and} an immense number of Reports of current work having passed thro' my hands, I have been asked ^{now} to give my small opinion.

What is most striking in these documents is: the strong & living interest taken by the authorities in India & their Officers in improving the people's Sanitary condition, as well as the practical character, increasing happily year by year, of the work done.

Things are very different indeed now from the "Died by the visitation of heaven" days, from "Cholera the inevitable scourge" doctrine, " inscrutable judgments from on high", these being Fevers & the like - A holier worship & a better understanding of the laws of the Most High have taken the place of this jargon - which jargon was in fact little better than the astounding spectacle we see now in a neighbouring nation of crowds of devotees - & many of them

Omit - - -
If this would
be offensive
in India
where there
is so much
Fetish worship

public men - going on pilgrimages by
rail (rail: the usual concomitant of
civilization) to a "Virgin" - Idol,
actually condemned as an imposture
by the very tribunals of the Country
& by the educated opinion of its own
Church & co-religionists -

^{Are not}
the old helpless days of the "old Indians"
(in sanitary things of "untutored minds")
~~are~~ nearly gone? - and ^{has not} the great
discovery ~~has~~ been made in India
that the diseases of which so many
of these "poor Indians" had alas!
died are largely mitigable or entirely
preventible? - Indeed has not
Dr. Tagore shown that even infant
life in India is by no means the
frail plant supposed if only reared
in due conformity with the laws
of the Supreme Being? - "The very
"small mortality," he says, "as well as
"the small amount of sickness, proves
"that the European child under proper
"hygienic conditions & careful physical
"training may live & thrive in the
"plains of Bengal almost as well as
"in its native country". And ~~does he is~~
even able to

~~not~~ add: "It is not merely in the
"absence of any serious disease, & in
"the low death-rate, that this is manifested,
"but in the vigorous healthy appearance
"of the children generally".

Now, children are, as is well known,
the very touch stone, the live tests
of sanitary conditions - or sadly
but too often the dying & dead tests
of sanitary conditions.

What ^{good} hope for the future here!

Altho' a little unnecessary theory still
crops up now & then in the strata
of Indian Reports, is there ~~not~~ growing
- and most vigorously - evidence
that the enormous Indian problems
are being dealt with on their practical
side,? as has already been done
in the Home Army & among the
Home Civil population. Do not some of
the results now obtained - & eminently
so at Calcutta, at Bombay, & in many
villages - show that many causes of
ill. health are as easily removeable
in India as elsewhere? It is true
that sanitary works & measures for
India must generally be somewhat
bigger than elsewhere.

last year (1871) the Death-rate
Among British troops serving in India
was only $17\frac{1}{3}$ per 1000: but there
was little Cholera -

Alas! there is one ^{great} exception & propriety:
- need it be said that it is the Burdwan
fever? - the causes of which are
well known but remain unremoved
while the people are dying off by
hundreds - as in former times, so
in these. Here is a case indeed
in which it would be well worth
while to try even an experiment
in removing a Disease-cause -
[the experiment it would not be.]

The Bengal Government has done
all in its power to alleviate -
& with but very partial success -
the sufferings of the people - The
one thing not done has been: to remove
the Fever-cause - by improving the
natural drainage of the country, by
supplying good water, & the like
needful measures.

[Oct 11 1872]

What appears now ~~to be~~ most required in all these Indian Reports is an Annual Summary of work carried out. The absence of this information might give a most imperfect idea of what has been done: - indeed an impression that, because no "progress" is reported, there has been no "progress" to report.

Taking these Annual documents as a whole, there can be no two opinions as to their great value - & when compared with Sanitary Reports, in which scientific considerations have not seldom - it may indeed be said unintentionally - taken precedence of saving of life - this value is a splendid gain.

May ~~the~~ end, without too much impetuosity, be of this little homily - the repeating as emphatically as possible that in this matter of improving Public Health the ^{as} in so many others, larger but ~~none~~ ^{none} weightier, the Government of India is well served by its Officers. And

there can be no shadow of a doubt
that this, joined with the increasing
interest taken by the Native Population
in that subject of paramount
importance to their lives - an
interest which is indeed only a
desirable - for there was a time
when the Oriental was far away
ahead of the Saxon in sanitary
as in metaphysical things -
there can, we need not say, be no
doubt that these ever motive
powers will before long shew
their results in the abatement
of disease all over the country.

Florence Nightingale

London Oct 11 1872

1872
Miss Nightingale

In this work how large
a share you have had!
Nov 9th/72. Miss L. Nightingale

5480/13

most fully. And ¹⁸⁷² it does
not commit any body to
adopt it.

5480/14

X+X35 South Co.
Park Lane W.

Jan 22/73

My dear Sir

I am quite ashamed
of myself that I have been
so busy & so ill that I
have not sooner acknowledged
your kind note & the
Annual Sanitary Blue Book.

Only last night was
I able to look it through.

It is quite worthy &
indeed more than worthy
I think of your former
productions.

Would that 'promotion'
in the Courts of Government
here below always went

with well-earned success
& good work done!
But if the saving of
millions of lives in the
future is any
compensation, that is
yours.

In answer to your kind question,
if you would lend me
6 copies, I would lend
them at once to men in
India -

I will think of names in
England.

It occurs to me that if
you would be so good

as to send a copy to
Wm Rathbone M.P.
Liverpool
it would be well placed.

May believe me
ever yours sincerely
Florence Nightingale

Charles C. Plowden Esq

[In a mem: on this very
Report in, I believe,
the possession of the I.O.,
this has been shown.]

Can you import a thing
which does not exist?

There was no Typhoid Fever
(as has been shown)
in Ireland.

Has not Dr. Mearns also
personally examined the
whole question & shown

35 South St.
Park Lane W.

5480/15/1 May 31/73

My dear Sir

Tho I cannot say that I
am not a good deal the worse,
yet I am 'clothed' and in
my right mind.

[Or it would be perhaps
more correct to say: 'clothed'
but not 'in my right mind'.]

Your 2 Abstracts which
you were so good as to send
me appear to be as
valuable & as admirably done
as usual. Which is saying
Charles C. Plowden Esq

a great deal.

They are in fact too well done. For unfortunately a Master of Pious writing has to abstract all the errors as well as the truths - and so to give the official sanction of your Mighty Rod to the former.

E.g. in Dr. Hewlett's Bombay Report, do you not object (not only to his comparison of his outlay with that of Liverpool but also) to the Liverpool outlay itself.

p. 6. top of page.

Is not the real point that great outlay has been incurred which might have been avoided in great part by proper Engineering work?

2. Madras Abstract

p. 2. middle of page.

It is quoted from Mr. Cornish that Typhoid Fever was imported from Ireland into Cannanore.

Is this not a mere figment of Mr. Cornish's imagination?

have a good many papers to
send you - when ready -

What pilgrimage shall we
perform that they may be
'ready' before the next Total
Solar Eclipse in 1999?

Th.

2

5480/15/2

(in a Report being printed)
that Typhoid at Cannanore
is a local product -
& that the Rajah of Cannanore
- may his shadow soon be less!
is the chief manufacturer of it? -

It would do my health good
if you could put a Foot-note
to this Paragraph to this effect:

* - This statement rests on the
opinion of Dr. Cornish
but subsequent enquiry has
not substantiated it' -

3.

Same Report

p. 37. fourth Para. from top

"Contagium" of Cholera "conveyed"
to men all at one "time".

Is this not all fudge?

Is there any proof whatever
of this?—or indeed of the
existence of this "Contagium"?

Would you not take this
expression out?—

Pray believe me
my dear Sir
ever yours most faithfully
Florence Nightingale

— N.B. —

I have heard from Sir Bartle
Freere. I rejoice, with you,
that we shall soon have
him at home again.

For my part however
(but then you know I am
not in my 'right mind')

I had a good deal rather
fight against Slave-Traders,

— I think him of Zanzibar,

I certainly him of Muscat,

a good deal easier not to crack,

than Govt. official authorities of

— well, a country in pre-historic times.

2nd N.B. They of the Army San^y Commⁿ.

5480/15/3

The funds of the various
Sections of this Society have
been created out of the weekly
two pence of its members,
invested in Savings' Banks
& utilized when the members
are sick or out of work.

We want to extend it to a
labours Registry Office
where any woman can have
indicated to her where she
could get work & the
value of it.

where both employers &
employees might have a
House of Call. The employers

L

I have to ask you a question
Mr. Acland, M.P., who is
going to bring in a Bill
[you probably know its contents]
Asks: "Whether Miss Hopkins
is opposed to making General
"in our towns the power of search
"of bad houses, provided
"that Civilians are in
"Co-operation with the Police"

Many thanks for your
leaflet about the Brighton
"Registry Office" & for "Young
"Servants". It is a blessed
work.

This is one great engine for
preventing sin, if only all the
poor girls who work with
their hands, ^{who} are in trades &c.
could have such help.

There is a Society whose
main object^{it} is to enable
women who work to gain
the highest wage that the
market will give them. It
is called the "Women's Protective

& Providence League."

Its

Chief champion was a Mrs
Patterson, the wife of a
Cabinet-maker. She has
lately died of this & other
hard work. It is an obscure
little Society, numbering
only a few hundred women
belonging to various trades.
This makes it all the more
remarkable that it should
have lived for 11 years a
hard but healthy life on
what has practically been
its own independence & the
sympathy of a few friends
who have shared in its work.

5480/15/4

3

to find the hands, & the
employees to find the ~~hands~~
work, & the money which
we do not wish should
ever come without it to
a healthy working woman.

2. to extend it to be a Fund
where any woman may,
by paying in, receive weekly
allowance in time of sickness
- a fund which, strange to
say, does not exist for
women in this England of
ours.

Enclose a Circular - But
should a Public Meeting be held, the
objects will be explained much more

fully. I hope it has
your blessing.

I did not mean to have
written at such length :-

God bless you & your great
work

Yours

Florence Nightingale

5480/16

10.73

xxx

xx

35 South St.
Park Lane W.

June 19/73

My dear Sir

I am afraid that you will
think that I have not been
busy over your work -

But this is not the case.
It is the excellence of your
work that gives no
room for remark -

So far as we can see,
your Abstract "of the 8th
Annual Report of Sans Commission
with Govt of India"
gives the facts with

Charles C. Plowden Esq

your usual accuracy & fulness.
& masterly power of abstracting.

Our Sanitary Commission's
Remarks are in the hands
of the Copyist - and are
limited to the practical
results.

And I hope that you will
find that you will
elucidate each other,
when printed in the same
Blue Book -

Are you engrossed with Sir
Bartle Fene?

or with the Shah, now
owned by Mr. Renter?

[It is as if Pickford were
to own the Pope.]

ever yours most faithfully

Florence Nightingale

5480/17

I.O. Sanitary Blue Book }
Draft enclosed.

Address

35 South St.
Park Lane
London W.
Sept 15/73

Charles C. Plowden Esq

My dear Sir

This is a capital Digest: & will do much
good.

We have gone carefully over it: and I hereby
return it. We have no suggestions to make:
because it is perfect.

Do you know Sir A. Power's "Sanitary Rhymes"?

Do you not wish that he would set up in rhyme all that
discussion about Quarantine at page 25? He might have

is sung to a comic tune in the streets of Constantinople
in perpetual memorial of the labours of the Cholera
Conference - Does it not put one in mind
of what takes place in America when a number of
Sportsmen fire at the same game, & find at last
that they have only shot a skunk?

Might it be suggested to you that in all passages
where the word "Contagion", or "Contagious" discussions come
in, the I.O. should use some expression which
will show that they take neither one side nor
another, but hold only a judicial position?

"Contagion" is the witchcraft, & "Contagionists" are
the witch-finders of the 19th century: are they not?
Can we argue about witch-craft?

All the I.O. can do is not to support the
delusion.

I am very glad that you are going to have a
holiday in Scotland - The fold Coast is
Salubrious compared to the I.O. & W.O.

And with renewed congratulations on your very
able Draft, believe me yours sincerely my dear Sir
Florence Nightingale

5480/18

150 Hacks 1

35 South St.
Park Lane W.

My dear Sir & constant help in time of need —
Oct 19/73

Gulliver & do Governor of Bengal has asked
me to see the enclosed gentleman — Col: Haig.

And I can't so much as learn his arrival
— much less his whereabouts —

Do not trouble yourself if you know neither
— I will try the Agencies: if you will return my note.
to ever yours Sincerely

C.C. Plowden }

Florence Nightingale

President: to recall the
past to him compared
with what you have now
made it:

& another to Mr. Hardy.
to show him how to protect
troops.

Would you send a copy to
my brother-in-law

Sir Harry Verney Bt
32 South St.
Park Lane W.

also: to
the Rev^d Mr. Lowett
Balliol College
Oxford

5480/19/1

35 South St.
Park Lane W.
Feb 25/74

My dear Sir

I am extremely obliged
for your kind note & for
the copy of your Annual
Sanitary Report for 1873.

I have just had time
to look thro' the Report
to see how it shines in
its Dress Coat: having
read it all in dishabille
before its toilet was made.

It is exceedingly good.
Charles C. Plowden Esq

as usual.

You are so good as to offer
me copies.

I conclude that all our
own people

& Dr. Adland: of Oxford.
Will receive them.

& Edwin Chadwick Esq
Park Cottage
East Sheen
Mortlake
S.W.

Dr. Hewlett
of Bombay
started this morning via
Bombay for Bombay.
Dr. Cunningham is I believe

still in England.

So to Mr. Clark

late Municipality Engineer
for Calcutta.

These should have copies,
of course.

I think I will ask you
kindly to send me
6 copies.

When Ministers have a little
settled down, I think I
will send 1 copy privately
to Lord Derby, who ^{first} gave
me my India R. Sanitary
Commission & then was its

5480/19/2

India Office
Sanitary &
Promotion -

[no Plowden 25 Feb. 1874]

2

I will send any copies
by overland mail
to people in India
who would not otherwise
get their copies so soon.

I thank you for your kind
Sympathy. I have lost
in the last month 2 homes:
my dear Father, & Mrs.
Bracebridge who went
with me to the Korean
War: And Dr. Livingstone's
death & that of my dear
old friend, M. Guetelee.

of Brussels, the Founder
of us all, - pain me
sorely.

Pray believe me
my dear Sir
ever yours sincerely
Florence Nightingale

Would you also send a
copy, please, to
Mrs. Harriet Martineau

Ambleside -

F.N.

decimal point (before 2
figures) is omitted.

I however inserted this in all
the copies I gave away.

Pray believe me
my dear Sir

ever yours most faithfully
Florence Nightingale

2/81

X 5480/20

Smbley Park
Romsey
(Hampshire)
April 14/74

My dear Sir

I had come down here,
after my dear Father's death,
to nurse my poor Mother,-
whom we have to remove from
her home of 56 years.

And your kind letter of
April 7 was forwarded to me
here.

I can see no objection to
your re-printing my little
pamphlet: "How some people

Charles C. Plowden Esq

"have lived & not died in
India" - if you wish it,
in your this year's Sanitary
Blue Book - With which
I wish you all your usual
success: & trust that you
do not mean to threaten me
with ~~any changes~~ "in the
I.O. which would affect
our great advantages in
having you for the most
important Sanitary work.

I have 'placed' all my
copies, even my own marked
one, of your last year's
Sanitary Blue Book - very
profitably, I think: including
one to Lord Derby, & one
to Lord Pembroke, the new
Young Under-Secretary at the
W.O. [Sidney Herbert's son]

And I think I will ask
you to be kind enough to
send me a copy now for myself.

Have you observed that
at p. 4, first Para: [I
have no copy to refer to] a

5480/21/1

35 South St.
Park Lane W.
May 7/74

My Dear Sir

I am so truly sorry that
you have not obtained that
position at the I.O., which
your work so well deserves,
that I think I am almost
more sorry than you are
yourself.

But I hope better things.

- Pray do not "regret"
having written your "last
letter" but one -

Be sure that I have
Charles C Plowden Esq

always spoken & always
shall speak to those
whom it may concern
of the high value of your
work: & tho' I do not
expect much from my
poor efforts, yet I
think the work itself
must find its level -
high as that is.

I don't know what we shall
do if we have not you
for the Annual Report.

I grieve to hear of such serious
illness: tho' I trust it is
not hopeless. There is but

one letter & one brother to each of us:
other ties may be replaced: but a brother
I'll never see more.

Yours very sincerely
Florence Nightingale

5480/21/2

+++ See Jan 22nd / 73



Charles C. Plowden Esq
Chiselmudde

7/5/74

seems to carry with it half one's life, at whatever age one is.

I have brought my poor mother down here, so late in the year, because of her intense desire to see again 'once more' her 'home' of 56 years.

This has been a most sorrowful year: & my health (you kindly ask) is as bad as it can be: but not too bad to fire away about India.

Pray believe me

My dear Sir

Yours sincerely

Florence Nightingale

Charles C. Plowden Esq.

63 P.

Blue Book: Sanitary. }
for 1874

5480/22

Dea Hurst
Matlock

Oct 3/74

My dear Sir

Your kind letter & Abstracts were forwarded to me down here: & I have set to work on them at once.

I hope to cause you no delay, so that you may have the Blue Book "off your hands" by "the end of the month."

I am very sorry to hear the reason which sends you abroad. But I earnestly hope that the remedy may completely restore your valuable health.

2. I send you, according to your desire, a copy of my pamphlet: "How some people have lived & not died in India".

I forget what was my reason for thinking the "Irrigation" addition had better not go into your Blue Book. As I have forgotten it, I presume it was not a very valid one.

But there may be an objection to inserting any of it now: after a notice which appeared of it in the "Times," Harrison, the ^{War Office} publisher, published it. I do not know whether this constitutes an objection. If you do not feel clear about it, would you kindly ask Sir Bartle Dacre; and I will ask some official authority at my rival Blue Book workshop, the War Office.

If you & they say yes, I will try to write a few words of introduction, as you wish.

[But I am at this moment lost in Reminders & "Illegal Copies," at Sir G. Campbell's desire]. I am so glad that even the Blue Book is still in your able hands that it somewhat (not much) abates my mourning that the work does not, as before, all pass through your hands.

I was very sorry to hear of your loss: all other losses may be replaced: but the loss of parents

that your journey abroad - unhappily for
health - should be delayed, even were you
willing to delay it, for this:

I can only tell you, as I am directed,
what these Mem^a are.

I am glad that Dr. Cunningham's Abstract
goes in full into the Appendix. The Army S. C.
minutes explain it: & uses all the data
Dr. C. has omitted.

May believe me, my dear Sir,
ever yours sincerely

Charles C. Plowden Esq

Florence Nightingale

Sanitary Blue Book
for 1874

5480/23

Lea Hurst
Matlock

Oct. 8/74

My dear Sir

Anent your desire to insert my pamphlet
into your forth coming Sanitary Vol.,
my W. O. Mogul says that there is 'no objection'
to its going in, Irrigation & all, if you wish it
& that its having been published makes no
difference.

The place for it which you propose
"at the end of the Reports" is a very good place.
And I will try to write a few words of introductory

matter, as you propose.

2. But I am sorry to say that I have a thing of quite other importance to say:

Mem^a on the Madras & Bombay Reports, ^{for 1873,} and on 4 others, 6 in all. (which came to the Army Sanitary Commission about a month ago), are all ready, & have passed the Sub-Committee. They have to circulate among the other members: & then to go formally before a Meeting: which will be ~~done~~ ^{called} immediately. Our men ~~they~~ describe these Mem^a as of the "utmost importance": as contradicting "certain false principles": & they attach the greatest value to your noticing them in your Report. These Mem^a go far to settle the question of Indian fevers: & should certainly be printed with the other Mem^a of this year. They partly accept certain Indian statements about the prevalence of fevers: & suggest inquiry.

The new ones contain the results: & shew some statistics & have been untainted by ^{the} "keep back"

The Army S. C. even beg you to ~~stay~~ ^{keep back} your Report ~~for them~~ ^{until} you have dealt with all this year's matter. It is of course quite out of the question

5480/24

Lea Hurst
Matlock

Oct 13/74

My dear Sir

Only a few lines to day to answer yours.
I have written the substance of what you say
to Dr. Letherland of the Army Law^y Comm.
I need not say that I urge above all things
that no temptation shall be put in the way
of your kindness to remain any part
of November in London. I am too sorry
for the occasion which sends you to winter
abroad

I have also said to Mr. Sutherland that it
would be best under the circumstances
for you to be in direct communication
with him or Mr. Frederick: to save time.
[I am afraid that our dear old friend, Sir
Ranald Martin, from his other avocations
& want of time, does not know much enough
of the business of the Commission]

I hope to write to you tomorrow

I am ever yours most truly

Florence Nightingale

Charles C. Plowden Esq.

It grieves me deeply to hear you say that
this may be your last Sanitary Blue Book.
May it be quite otherwise for the
work's sake!

F.N.

5480/25

Lea Hurst
Matlock

X
X
X

My dear Sir

Oct 14/74

You will think that I have taken
a long while merely to say
that the Abstracts show
workmanship as superior as usual.

But it takes longer to see
that no holes are to be picked
than to pick holes.

I enclose my short mem^o, which has
nothing in it: you have given me
nothing to say.

As I wrote yesterday, I will not trouble
you with anything more till I
have your further work

except to beg you to believe me
ever yours sincerely

Florence Nightingale

Charles C. Plowden Esq.

1874
17/8

5480/26

Dea Hurst
Matlock
Oct 16/74

My dear Sir

In case you have not already heard yourself
from the Army San. Comm., that is, from Dr.
Luthealand or Mr. Frederick, you may perhaps
like to hear the answer they make to me:
that on no account would they be the means of
even indirectly helping to detain you:

[Of course not. I th.]

that they are very sorry on your account & also
on account of the loss the cause will sustain:

for your temporary withdrawal & its reason:

Dr. Sutherland says that, although their Mem^{da} tell the tale [their remarks were called for by certain statements in Reports sent to them: - these are 5 in number: Bombay 1873: Madras 1873: Madras fever Statistics: Bude fever (an Inquiry suggested by them:) Berar 1873:] he thinks it would scarcely be fair to put these in without the Abstracts Reports:

that he almost thinks that the whole had therefore better stand over for the present:

that it ought to be out of the question for you to wait.

Mr. Frederick will be only too glad to correct all the Proofs of any of their Mem^{da} that you put in.

in great haste

pray believe me

(I am glad that I have not to say farewell yet)

over yours sincerely

Florence Nightingale

Charles C. Plowden Esq

I will return you the proof of my own
paper & your Preface to it
to-morrow.

I cannot bear to think that this is
'good bye'.

Yours ever sincerely

Charles C. Plowden Esq. Florence Nightingale

5480/27

Lea Hurst
Matlock

Oct 25/74

My dear Sir

I feel sure that nothing can be
better than these proofs: India, Madras,
Bombay.

They might, of course, be made much
longer. But I think that they are better
as they are. And nothing essential

18/74

has been omitted.

You see by the note enclosed how little we have found of required corrections in the Proofs.

[There appear to be some prep errors which we have not dealt with.]

We think the matter admirable: & admirably condensed.

2. I cannot see that there is anything "unbecoming" in your notice of the change of office. And what is more to the purpose our Commission do not.

If Lord Salisbury had only altered the word "Sanitary" to the good old "Public Health," I should not have minded.

10/14

5480/28

Revise of my paper in }
your Annual Sanitary B.B.)

35 South St. +
Park Lane W. +

Nov 13/74

My dear Sir

I restore you my Revise in your
Blue Book.

I have returned to London.

I could almost wish to hear that
you were gone: (since you had to go:
which we do much regret:) as November
is here with all its darkness -

God bless you: & speed you:

C.C. Plowden
Yours ever sincerely Florence Nightingale

1875

Miss Chapman

Trist letter

5480/29

Address

35 South St.

Park Lane W.

July 26/75

My dear Sir

How little there is to be said: for matters seem to me at the I.O. to be all in the "Land of Promise".

And how little I can say how exceedingly sorry I am that you should be obliged to leave the I.O.: and for such a cause.

We shall be for ever grateful to you

for your invaluable aid at the
initiation of the Sanitary work: your aid
which we shall, I know, always miss:
and we hope, more than we expect,
that the work may make progress
under your Successor.

My health is not better: (you kindly ask:)
rather worse. But I have had many
troubles and a heavy charge in my
Father's death: And my strength is
not improved by seeing many public
matters, for which I would have given
my life - as I think, retrograding.

I will certainly claim your kind
permission to write: & not, I hope,
to write mudmuds: but sorry I am
not to be writing to you at the S.O.
And I am ever, my dear Sir,
Yours most sincerely
Florence Nightingale
Charles C. Plowden Esq

1858

5480/30/1

67476

Name	Date of appointment	Salary & Allowance	Service to January 1859	Length of Service to attain £400 p ^a Ann.	Probable Service before attaining a Station at this (favorable) calculation of 1 in every 2 years
11 H. Bull	July 1855	£200	3. 6	12. 6	
12 J. H. Willock	7 Feb' 1855	178	3. 11	14. 6	14
13 W. Kidder	11 Mar 1857	579 10	1. 10		16
14 J. Mangles	10 June 1857	146	1. 6	16.	18
15 J. C. Danvers	25 Sep' 1858	306	. 4	7.	20
16 C. C. Plowden	24 July 1854	225	4. 6	11.	22

The above Statement shews that Mr Plowden's service as an established Clerk exceeds that of the five gentlemen above him, and places him 11, instead of 6, from the lowest Station Clerkship, which he cannot calculate attaining £ before 22 years, & 26½ years service. — Secondly, that he will have served 15½ years before he attains (by annual augmentations of £16 p^a Ann) to the Salary of £400. —

War Office
9th March /68

Dear Sir,

Your Note of the 23rd ult.
with reference to the printing
by Parliament of the Sanitary
Reports, for Bengal 1866/7

Madras 1867

Bombay 1867

was laid before the Army Sani-
-tary Commission at their Meeting
yesterday and they were unani-
-mously of opinion that inas-
-much as the Abstracts in the
Memorandum issued by the India

Charles Plowden Esq. }
se — se — se }

Office

Office last year were so well & carefully prepared, it will answer every purpose to follow the same course on this occasion and that there is no necessity for the reports sent from India being printed as Parliamentary papers.

The Army Sanitary Commission would of course wish to have Indian copies for reference.

I am

Dear Sir

Yours faithfully

J. J. Frederick

5480/30/3

67476

Minute Paper.

Sanitary

Public Department.

Letter, No.

Rec.

186

	Date.	Initials.	SUBJECT.
Under Secretary	Oct 31	H L G	
Secretary of State...	31	Hm	
Committee	Nov 2	Hm	Memorandum on Sanitary
Under Secretary	24	Hm	improvements in India to the
Secretary of State..			end of the year 1867.
Council	25	Hm	

Copies of this memorandum have been circulated I believe to the Secretary of State and to the Members of Council. My only object in circulating this copy, is to state, that although my name has been subscribed to it during my absence, the entire credit of the work is due to Mr C Plowden, who has taken the greatest pains with it. I sincerely feel it a duty to state this fact, as I trust the memorandum will be regarded as highly creditable to Mr Plowden's zeal and ability.

Oct. 31stH L Anderson
in Sanitary Dept.

H H A

Let me have a copy for myself if you please

Hm 031

Sanitary Committee - 24th Nov 1868

Secy (annual)

Nov 26 1868

5480/30/4

House of Commons.

Tuesday, 16th March, 1869.

East India
(Sanitary
Improvements).

Resolved, That an humble Address be presented to Her Majesty, that She will be graciously pleased to give directions that there be laid before this House, a Copy of Memorandum on measures adopted for Sanitary Improvements in India up to the end of 1867, together with Abstracts of the Sanitary Reports hitherto forwarded from Bengal, Madras, and Bombay.

Ordered, That the said Address be presented to Her Majesty by such Members of this House as are of Her Majesty's Most Honourable Privy Council.

D. Le Marchant

Ch. W. Jones

1868

Saw. Oct^r 27

Present^d 2 Paid^d

5480/30/5

1869

67476

Royal Medical & Chirurgical Society,
53, Berners Street, Wormley 1869

Sir

We are directed by The Royal Medical
and Chirurgical Society, to return you their thanks
for your Present of the Report, and Memorandum
(two parts) on the Sanitary Improvements of India

which has been received and deposited in the
Society's Library.

We have the honor to be,

Sir

Your obedient Servants,

Thos. H. Chambers

Chas. Brooke M.A. F.R.S.

Honorary
Librarians

To Charles C. Plowden Esq
India Office

5480/30/6 . 67476
Note at the end of the Abstracts of Sanitary
Reports for India 1873. signed (Charles C. Bowden)
"The Army Sanitary Commission have much
pleasure in again expressing their sense of the
services rendered to Public health in India by
the publication of this Annual Report and
summaries. It is, like its predecessors, replete
with useful information brought together with
great care from many volumes of data."
Dated 18 July 1874.