

**To Longmore from Deputy Surgeon General William Alexander Mackinnon**

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To Thomas Longmore

from Deputy Surgeon General William Alexander Mackinnon  
(on personal staff of Lord Clyde in Mutiny)

1886 - 8

Mackinnon

6. Craigs Court  
L 38/1 sh



31. 7. 86

My dear Longmore.  
I was under the impression I had written  
to you some time back  
but in the confusion  
that has existed in the  
office for the last few  
weeks. the letter has  
never seen; & I found  
it among a lot of  
other papers some days  
back. I am sorry to  
tell

for that the financial  
people decline to allow  
for any reservation  
for your service, and  
though the D<sup>r</sup> recommends  
it. I hope you will not  
serve any more for them  
it is not clear, & we  
in your place would  
decline to do any part of  
that kind of service. We are  
now in a new office a  
miserable hole in Craigs  
Court. Opposite Cox & Co.  
I hope it

is only a temporary arrange-  
ment. I see the Indians  
have again taken the  
highest places at the final  
examination. I hope Paris is  
getting on well. I have  
not seen Willie for a  
long time. I left in box  
till Sept. and then go  
away for some weeks.  
I was very sorry to miss  
you the last day you was  
up for the Senate Meeting  
when I was away at  
Dorking from Saturday till  
Monday. I see Frank now  
again & sometimes go  
with

be to capitals.  
Let me know any day,  
for am likely the ap.  
Can stay for the next  
10 or 12 days with a  
friend of mine at  
Huntington Palace, it is  
quite like a visit to the  
country for me. With  
kindest regards to you  
all. Believe me

yours very sincerely.

W. A. Macdonald

L 38/2



2.8.86

My dear Longmore.

I think you shall write officially exactly what you have written to me privately, and send it ~~on~~ in the usual manner, but without alluding to the refusal already given at your ~~of~~ know of privately through me

  
There is no use in  
resting quietly about  
the matter. and a letter  
for you may make them  
ashamed of themselves.

I return you Miss  
Letter also two others  
you sent me to peruse  
long ago. I believe Hunter-  
ton is a very nice place  
I know some people who  
were there last year.  
I return your letter to

me

I have marked in  
pencil the part I think  
you should put a few  
official letters.

With kind regards

Believe me

yours very sincerely

R. A. MacLean

Woolstone, 1<sup>st</sup> Aug<sup>1</sup>/06

My dear Mackinnon, Many thanks for y<sup>r</sup> letter just received. I hardly know which most surprises me, the want of liberality, I may say just dealing, w<sup>ch</sup> those who rule in financial matters at the Stationery office, or that I should not have heard long ago of the decision that nothing was to be given in the work of the Optical Manual - seeing the time elapsed since you sent in the application - I think March last - I know it was during the time the Dr<sup>r</sup> J<sup>r</sup> G<sup>r</sup> was confined to his house at Blackheath. The "Optical Manual" is not a simple revise of the "Ophthalmic Manual" but is really a different work - it represents some years of labour in leisure hours & contains the results of many original experiments - especially in the parts wh deal with optics as applied to the use of the rifle. This may be readily seen by any one who compares the Optical Manual with the ~~Ophthalmic~~ Manual. I know the book has been selling well for a War Office book - I know it would have had a much larger sale if it had been printed & published in a different way - & I am given to understand it would have been a success.

source of some income to myself & family after me  
had it been put into the hands of a publisher as Porter's  
Hand book was. However I will say nothing  
more about it - the refusal of remuneration for the  
book does not affect me so much as the little value  
that seems to have been set upon it. In turning over  
some papers in my Ophthalmic portfolio about a  
fortnight ago I came across a letter from Muir  
referring to compensation for the Ophthalmic manual  
of 12 years ago & this it was which led me to inquire  
about the Optical book - I inclose it for you to look  
at - let me have it again - you will see I had  
been writing to him about for Porter.

I was very sorry to be called away  
the very day the D.L. came down to wind up  
the session at Netley. I felt rather strange in  
my visit to Osborne, I was ordered to go in  
plain clothes - "not in uniform of any kind".  
I went down in the steamer from Southampton  
with Douglas MacLagan of Edin<sup>h</sup> - whom you  
no doubt know - & Mr. Tomes the eminent dental  
surgeon. It was a great pleasure to me to  
have a talk with Dr. MacLagan - I have known

him for many years past & I was with him  
a good deal when I was up in Edinburgh  
about the portrait. We had to return to  
Edinburgh - as he had come down - very hurriedly.  
At Aspinwall General Ponsonby talked to me  
a long time about the regimental hosp<sup>t</sup> system  
& the absence of regt surgeons - a subject w<sup>t</sup> I  
thought had been concluded long ago -

The sepium at Helbig has been a very trying  
one, & I am going on the 10th instant to  
stay at Hunstanton on the Yorkshire coast for  
a few weeks. I shall have to write there  
an introductory address for the 1<sup>st</sup> of Oct<sup>r</sup> - a  
task I would rather be clear of

Kindest regards from all here

Very sincerely yours

No longer more

Glad to hear Frank is all right.

Mackinnon

L.38/4



21. 7. 87.

My dear Longmore.

Just a line to  
tell you that I have  
made up my mind not  
to retire and told the  
D<sup>r</sup> so yesterday. I suppose  
I shall remain here till  
Oct<sup>r</sup>. & then I shall be  
prepared to go wherever  
I am ordered. Gibl<sup>r</sup> or  
Malta the only two  
places

I can be sent about.  
I am afraid by returning  
of is a regular sell for  
some. However I will tell  
you more about it  
when we meet.

I was at the Duke of  
Lis Levee the other day  
& my interview with him  
decided me not to leave.  
Now I did not see you  
on Saturday, but I was  
at the P. of Wales'  
Levee &

did not come to office.  
Furdest regards to all  
Believe me  
Yours very sincerely  
W. A. Mackintosh

L 38/5



1. 8. 87.

My dear Longmore.

Very many thanks  
for the cutting for  
the Forthminster paper  
giving me the account  
of the doings at Nelly  
I wish I could have  
been as one your friend  
there or the occasion  
but for this that had  
I was unable to be  
present

How much I wished to  
have been with your  
other friends to do for  
you on the occasion.  
The Corsette or equipment  
at Aldershot propose to  
have the Field Dressing  
put in a pocket or  
bag on the inside of  
the right hand skirt  
of soldiers tunic or  
jacket. but they say  
it must be altered  
in the folding. I propose

there was folded according  
placed in the silver  
foil & parchment in  
I send you the size &  
keep the bulk as it  
is suggested by Corsette.  
I think it will fit  
nicely & is much flatter  
than the present method  
of folding. Let me know  
what you think of the  
proposed plan.

Yours very sincerely  
W. A. MacKenzie

L. 38/6

Private

Sept. 9. 1888

My dear Longmore.

I arrived in this country last month  
on ~~two~~ <sup>two</sup> days the last &  
embark again for Feb.  
or the 11<sup>th</sup> of Oct next.  
I have only been in town  
for a few days having  
remained at Torgau  
for a fortnight.  
I have not yet seen the  
L. G. W.

has been away, but returns  
tomorrow - I hear. I have  
had a very satisfactory  
interview with the Duke  
who was most kind. I also  
saw Woosterley in the Duke's room  
and shall see her again  
before I leave town on the  
12<sup>th</sup> for Scotland.

I hear from Webb that you  
and yours are at Lavenage  
but as I do not know  
your address there I send  
this to Woosterley.

I shall see the Duke most  
likely tomorrow when I shall

hear something I daresay,  
whether it be truth or no  
I don't know, nor do I care  
much about what is said  
by the brother who now  
rules the Deptl. Clarke &  
Co. the former is fully  
appreciated at the Hause  
Gounds they know all about  
that fox there now.

I hope you are all well &  
that I may see you before I  
return to Gb. I shall be back  
in time about the 28. or 30<sup>th</sup>  
Sept. & if you are at home  
shall call down to see you.  
With very kindest regards

for each & all of you

Believe me

Yours very sincerely.

W. A. MacLean

L. 38 / 7  
18. Victoria St  
Mr. Private



March 31. 1890.

My dear Longmore.

I have read the  
enclosed. & let me  
know if you intend  
going to the Congress.  
I am sending you a copy of a  
paper on the subject  
referred to. I have  
said some time  
ago

I would go, but the  
fact<sup>is</sup> my ignorance of  
French & German  
make me dread going.  
to Berlin, particularly  
as I expect I should  
be put so much to  
the flat and so  
conscious of a position  
I don't aspire to  
and which history

a knowledge of either  
language would make  
me most uncomfortable  
as happy. I suppose  
Godwin will go. he  
would start the discussion  
if you don't go. but  
I do hope you will go.  
Send your Report  
to me & come on  
Saturday. yours v. s.  
W. A. Martinson

L. 38/8

18. Victoria St  
SW



27-11-91

Mac Gregor General  
Army medical & other  
Friends - York

My dear Longmore.

I should like to hear  
how you are getting on.  
It was very sorry to hear  
 lately that you had not  
been very well, but  
 hope sincerely that you  
 are quite well again.  
 I have been pretty busy  
 since my return from  
 leave and have always  
 some unpleasant work

of

some kind in hand, mine  
is a difficult <sup>task</sup> to  
drive.

I suppose  
you go occasionally to  
Netley. I must say that  
as that you have left  
it I cannot take the  
same interest in the  
place as I did, and I  
have a feeling it may  
be a wrong dec. that  
your departure takes  
away much of the ob-  
prestige of the school  
hospital. Where is Willie  
this winter? I hope you  
get good accounts of

him. I see a poor deal of  
Faulkner. I declined the other  
day to join the St. John's  
Ambulance Committee who  
have treated Faulkner most  
shamefully. With very kind  
regards to each & all of  
you.

Believe me  
Yours very sincerely  
W.A. MacLennan

Private

L 38/9



24 - 6 - 92

My dear Lord Rose

There is no doubt  
that Baekert if 65 or  
over will have to go.

I have heard nothing  
about it yet but I  
suppose the financial  
people will take action  
in the matter. I suppose  
he will get a pension.  
I should like to know the  
exact time he has been  
at Kettle & what  
salary he draws, &  
then

I can ascertain  
the pension he is entitled  
to. I will not have it  
till called upon by  
W.O. & if he has to go  
I will do all I can for  
him. He has been a most  
faithful hard working  
little fellow & well worthy  
of the highest pension  
they can give him.

How is poor Ritter?  
entre nous I have made  
up my mind to get a  
high class civilian  
Pathologist to succeed  
Ritter. I

cannot give it to Bruce  
& Welch being a D.S.C.  
makes it impossible for him.  
Pathology is now such a  
new science during the  
past few years that none  
of our Adm. Officers are up  
in it. I have a civilian  
civilian of the highest  
qualifications w. whom I am  
and hope to get the matter  
settled soon. Should I  
announce this at the next  
Senate meeting or should  
I have the appointment  
settled of S. of S. first &  
then tell Senate. I want  
to do the right thing  
towards

the Senate. Tugger had  
a motion recorded on the  
minutes of our last meeting  
that the Professorships  
should always be given to  
any Med Officer. I have  
taken good counsel & advice  
with Frank & others I think  
you will agree that I am  
doing right in getting a high  
class man well up in the  
last recent & advanced  
pathology of the day & that  
will do much credit to the  
school. With kindest  
regards to you all.

Yours very sincerely

W. A. MacLean

L. 38/10

31- 7- 91.

My dear Longmore -

I herewith return the  
order. I am very sorry  
I was unable to be  
present yesterday, but  
really it would have  
pained me so much that  
 bidding for farewell for  
the service would have  
caused me to break  
down. had I attempted  
to speak on the occasion  
It is most unfortunate

Ritten & MacLean being  
also absent. I shall call  
& see MacLean when I  
find out where he is.

With very kindest  
regards. Believe me  
Yours very sincerely.  
W. A. Mackintosh