

B

CONFIDENTIAL
DESPATCH BOOK

Nov. 1844

Sept. 1861

OUTWARD

28

Commencement of
H. Garrison Rennie's
Confidential Correspondence. -

Government House
Stanley
3rd July 1848

Sir

I am desired by Earl Grey
in his despatch to me of the 3rd January
1848 to communicate the following
extracts from that despatch —

"You will therefore acquaint
Mr Moore that his continuance in the
office he holds in the Falkland Islands
will depend upon your report of his
future conduct."

"You will also inform Mr Moore
that I regard as satisfactory the ex-
planation transmitted in your Prede-
cessor's despatch No 42 of 17th Sept^r re-
specting the alleged exaction of an
exorbitant rate of payment for cer-
tain duties performed by him in
the case of the American vessel 'Galen'
wrecked off the Falkland Islands"

Shave &c
(Signed) George Rennie

The Hon^{ble}
Mr Moore

17
Government House
25th October 1878—

Sir

At ten o'clock this morning I requested an immediate interview with you at my office which was not complied with on your part until half past 11 o'clock and your explanation of the delay was that Mr. Hamilton had called on you which prevented your coming. Now I feel sure that on reflection you will see the impropriety of telling me that the public service which it is my duty to direct must wait for the conclusion of a casual visit paid to you during the hours of official business.

I have also to bring under your notice the circumstance of your clerk Mr. Luley sending requisitions and returns from your office direct to me without there being authorized by you to do so. I have to request therefore that you will instruct Mr. Luley that he is not to address me many business connected with your department, but that all communications must come direct to me from your office.

(Signed)

I have to
George Rennie
Governor

Yours
W. H. Moore

18
Government House
14th October 1848.

Sir

1. I regret to be under the necessity of again addressing you on the subject of your official duties respecting which it appears to me you must be under a wrong impression as to their nature. For I am indisposed to believe that what I complain of has been caused by a want of zeal or disposition on your part to promote the public service.

2. The Lords Commissioners of the Treasury direct that the Surveyor General shall superintend the construction of all public works in the colony, and that all disbursements required for the same shall be defrayed by him under the Treasurer. It would seem as a matter of course essential that the Surveyor General should be practically acquainted therefore with roads, bridges, buildings, &c, and capable of designing and making working plans and drawings for carrying into execution such works of that nature as the Governor may direct, and this in addition to the usual duties of field surveys. how you will

A. Bailey Esq:
Surveyor General -

recollect that during the passage to this place on board the *hantilis* I alluded more than once to the subject of the roads, buildings, drains, wells, &c, which I had reason to believe were absolutely required here but which you told me you had had no practice in constructing, and however much I felt disappointed that I could not rely on your professional services in matters which I conceived to be much more required than those of mere survey I was disposed to hope that (having myself had opportunities of observing the construction of most of that description of works which were likely to be required here for some years) if I could assist in planning or designing them I might rely on your zealous cooperation to carry them into effect.

3. In this I regret it is my duty to state to you that I have not observed that ready concurrence that I consider essentially important. I allude more particularly to the cases of the main drain above the settlement and the Border Magazine. In the former instance (as it appeared to me) a very unnecessary delay took place in your levelling and preparing the section, and although it is now nearly two months since they were reported to be ready, during which

time

time labourers have been going about
 the colony without work and others
 have left it, and moreover that I
 have on many occasions urged on
 you my desire to have the work pro-
 ceeded with, no commencement has
 been made. With regard to the latter
 having made a plan and design for
 it I requested you to give me your
 opinion and to state any objections
 which there might appear to you in
 my drawing, and I also asked you
 whether you had any other mode of
 construction to suggest for a work
 which is required to combine the strength
 and security necessary for the custody of
 so dangerous a composition as gunpowder.
 To the best of my recollection you expressed
 your approval in which I requested you
 to send for Gates the bricklayer and
 consult with him as to the practical
 details, thinking that he could probably
 offer some useful remarks to guide us.
 You were at this time aware that the job,
 in which the above mentioned bricklayer
 (being the only one in the colony) was
 employed at Govt. House, was nearly
 completed, and that it was most desirable
 that no time should be lost (the weather
 being then favourable) in providing a
 building

building in which the large quantity of gunpowder
 (now deposited) & the great danger of all the
 Government stores in the colony in a wooden
 building close to the principal warehouse)
 could be safely limited - and yet at the same
 I mentioned the subject to you more than once,
 three weeks (or nearly) elapsed, and the
 bricklayer was only then consulted as to my
 sending expressly for him when you ap-
 peared & he with me. Finding that no practi-
 cal difficulty existed & carrying out the plan
 I had made, I requested you to accompany
 me with the foreman of the Civil Workmen
 to the spot & he had previously chosen,
 and after stating on the ground for the
 foundations I desired that labourers should
 be set to work immediately to prepare
 for the bricklayer to commence. Not
 returning a half past 10 o'clock I met
 you going towards your office when I
 enquired if the work had been commenced
 to which you replied that you did not
 know. I expressed my surprise that you
 were not acquainted with the nature of the
 employment of the Workmen & late in
 the day and your answer was that it
 was not until the evening of each day
 that you had the description of work required
 of you by the Foreman -
 4. The responsibility of the direction
 and

and expenditure required for every public work in the Colony resting with the Governor, I feel it to be my duty to ascertain to the best of my power that every officer shall superintend & perform in an efficient manner the duties of his office, and I certainly cannot feel satisfied that any there can be any real superintendence of works if the impression I lie under as regards the manner you discharge your duty be correct - I can I omit stating that although seldom a day passes without my visiting the works in progress two or three times I hardly ever meet you superintending them. I would suggest for your guidance that you should arrange with the Indian on the previous evening the nature the nature of employment for the workmen next day, providing at the same time if practicable for some other occupation should the weather stop the outdoor labourers, and I will add that your own overlooking ought to be as frequent, late & early, as practicable.

5. I would also most seriously impress upon you the necessity for maintaining respect from, and that authority over the workmen which is essential to the due performance of yours

your duties, by avoiding all recriminatory observations or discussions that don't bear at all on their employment. In a thinly populated Colony such as this, where labour and capital are scarce, mere personal predilections must not be considered in giving work to perform. At the same time you may always rely on my support & repel any disposition to abuse, evade, or neglect, which may be proved against any persons employed in your department.

6. In the above remark I allude particularly to the case of C. Murray which I cannot admit to be one requiring that he should be excluded from all further Govt employment. Subsequently to the instructions I gave you not to make verbal contracts with him, I define them in writing as accurately as possible, if appears you made one with him for skinning the Road in front of the Barracks and in the performance of which you ~~discrepancy~~ ^{now do} conceive that your charges against him as to the execution of his contract on the Road, considering that he ultimately acquiesced in your demands, would from a just principle preclude him from being allowed to tender for future contracts. Murray is one of the few men in the Colony possessed of capital, and he seems to have the power of leading several workmen who prefer to serve under him rather than to labour on their own account.

account and until some evidence of a conclusive nature affecting his character is brought against him. I cannot consent to his being thrown out of work entirely as he has complained of frequently done, and being probably obliged to leave the Colony should the occasion be passed in —

7. The department which you have been appointed to superintend, is in the present condition of the Colony really the most important, considering the expenditure and the necessity for various steps to promote its prosperity and I cannot too strongly impress on you the necessity for your aiding me with zeal and industry in endeavoring to use to the best advantage the small means available for promoting the performance of what is required for the public service.

Grenville House

27th October 1849

8. — The above was written a fortnight since but not sent in consequence of my desire to avoid, if possible, placing on record any correspondence of an unsatisfactory nature with you. I regret however to find that the same apparent want of zeal in superintending the works which

which I have already referred to still continues and from the conversation I had with you this morning it appears to me that you do not clearly comprehend what the nature of your duties are constituted as the Govt. of this Colony is. Besides the duties of Governor, I am charged with those of Treasurer and Storekeeper which collectively make it absolutely necessary that no expenditure, whether of money or stores, shall be incurred without my direction & express sanction. It is therefore essential that previous to any work being undertaken, you should consult with me as to its propriety, and not commence it until you have my authority.

9. With respect to the dissatisfaction you expressed to me that your salary was only 300 per annum instead of 400 with the addition of free rations, I can only state that I have no knowledge whatever of your having been led to imagine that free rations should be issued to you when no other Government Officer receives them without paying their value - and should there be any mistake in the amount of your salary, I will rectify as soon as you can produce any proofs of its being the intention of Parliament to allow you 400 per annum. I have only to add that it is my sincere desire to carry on the public service of this Colony harmoniously with all classes - I look however

for

for the zealous cooperation of the Government
 which more particularly enable me to
 carry on with energy and efficiency the
 works essential for the advancement and
 prosperity of this portion of Her Majesty's
 dominions. —

I am &c

(Signed)

George Bennie
 Governor

A. Bailey Esq.
 Surveyor General
 Hawke

Confidential letters to W. B. Brewster

N^o 210, '58; his det B^k from fw: vol 5. p 186

N^o 108, '59; D S p. 339

N^o 181, '59; D D p. 414

*Confidential despatches to Secretary
of State.*

Despatches from fw. known to C. O. H. Vol 2 p 97 98

Circular.

Private.

Downing Street,

June 15, 1849.

Sir,

Having received from some of the Governors of Her Majesty's Colonies statements of the injury to the Public Service which has occasionally resulted from the communication to Parliament and the consequent publication of despatches and other documents received at this Office from the Governors, I think it expedient to call your attention to the fact that the increasing direction of public attention towards the affairs of the Colonies has lately led to very frequent and pressing applications from Members of Parliament for the communication to Parliament of the whole or portions of correspondences between the Secretary of State and the Governors, and it has often been found very difficult for the Secretary of State to judge at a distance, whether

Governor Anne

injury would or would not arise to the public interests of a Colony from the communication of the papers applied for; and still greater difficulty has been found in disentangling from papers of which the general substance may be communicated without inconvenience, those parts and passages which ought not to be published.

2. I advert to this subject for the purpose of requesting that the numbered series of your Public Despatches may contain within themselves full information on all matters of fact which Parliament may require to be made acquainted with, and that all matters which it may be inexpedient to publish at the time, upon grounds affecting the interests and welfare of the Colony, may be communicated in Confidential Despatches, which would thus be confined chiefly to matters of opinion and remarks.

3. It will by no means follow that all even of the ordinary Public Despatches should be laid before Parliament; on the contrary, there probably will be many which it will be inexpedient to publish, and the Secretary of State must exercise his judgment (as has always been the practice) in determining which are to be so considered, and their production consequently resisted; nor, on the other hand, is it to be understood that the publication of Confidential Despatches is never to take place; special

cases will arise when even these will have to be produced, and it is indispensable that the Secretary of State should retain his right of deciding when these exceptions are to be made from the general rule.

4. But it will tend greatly to facilitate the selection by the Secretary of State of the papers which may be laid before Parliament, if the Governors of Colonies will take care, not only that remarks and expressions of opinion which they would regard it as inconvenient to have published, shall be confined to Confidential Despatches, but also that the regular series of Despatches shall contain a full account of all important transactions within their respective Governments, so that when Parliament may call for information as to any of these transactions, a clear and connected view of what has taken place may be afforded by the numbered Despatches, without adding those that are Confidential. It is very much owing to a want of sufficient attention to this last point, that the practice of publishing Despatches marked as Confidential has of late years become more frequent than it should be. So many cases have occurred in which it has been found impracticable to present to Parliament information which has been called for in a form sufficiently complete without including Confidential Despatches amongst the number which have been so

presented, that the distinction between these and the
ordinary Despatches has by degrees been in a great
measure broken down.

I am,

Sir

Your most obedient Servant

Wm

School Monthly
1 October 1848

Sir,

I have the honor to inform
Your Excellency that I have this
day forwarded a letter tendering
my resignation as clerk of the
Church to the Rev. J. Moody,
a copy of which I beg leave to
forward here with, My motive for
so doing arises from the bad con-
- duct which that gentleman has
shown me for some time past know-
ing that without my doing so the church
service could not be quickly performed
owing to the present dissatisfaction
of the Colonial Chaplain.

His Excellency
Governor Pennic

Trusting it will meet your
Excellency's approbation.

I have the honor to be
Your Excellency's
Most humble servant
W Barry Brown

School Master
5 October 1845

Revd Sir,

I beg to inform you that
I resign the office I have held
for the last 20 months as clerk
of the church

And now Sir you have achieved
this great object that has
never been a sinecure to me on
the contrary

It is almost useless for me
to waste Ink and Paper upon
one paid so enormous a sum
Per Annum for doing literally
nothing were it not that I think
it proper to inform you that my
reason for so doing is from my
being thoroughly surfeited with
your

J. L. Moody

your deceit and hypocrisy
you Sir have rendered your
clerk's office quite intolerable
nearly ever since I have held
it you Sir that would have
thrust me from that office
as well as the one I now hold
if you had had the power
but remember you are not the
Governor of these Islands you
are under the control of Govern-
ment. why do I descend to the
level of one that would be
guilty of any of the petty
meanings that you have had
recourse to in order to thrust me
from the office of Sexton and
now Clerk no doubt you have
done your best to take the school
from me also you are very change-
able and vacillating one day
you make a God of a man the

the next you annihilate him
and those that will not help
you do it. and Sir if I thought
I had ought to be grateful to
you for I should be most
happy to render my thanks. on
the contrary you have tried to
drive me from the Island and
when you found that half
argument mingled with your
usual compound Treachery was
of no avail you came to the
school and gave me your in-
solent abuse for four or five
hours at a stretch ordering me
to send the children home with-
out saying their Prayers I told
you then to foster the school
and church what was one of
your reply that you knelt
cried and prayed. away with

with such supineness and
let your life be an example
of excellence remember there
must first be the teacher be-
fore the preacher and I should
say that if it was only to hold
fast the knife that cuts your
daily food you ought to
go about doing good you
certainly preached sermons a
year and half ago on infidelity
and with a number of your
desperate efforts you repeated
some of them a few Sundays
ago but what is a few moments
rant I never could make head
or tail of what doctrines you
preached and what with
your boiling water to baptize
children in and burning the
bread and wine after the

the sacrament then the
marriage of the dead women
together with that long ora-
tion at the grave yard over
the drowned men and on the
Sunday before last did you
not preach your sermon in a
white gown and read prayers
without your orders on. any one
would have thought you were
a lay priest attached to the
Church of Rome and why
was this done because you
had lost the vestry key by
taking it to your house that
I should not enter the vestry

I will not talk about your
saying the clerks pay was £8 per
annum when I had my first
interview with you and how

how frequently you have
told me that the schoolm.
pay would be eight times
more on the arrival of Governor
Kennie at the same time
you knew no new Governor
would or could grant more
than had been granted
before but these opiates
were administered after you found
that your abuse made no
impression upon me money
is not my Idol. if I were to
commence now with the catalogue
of your tricks there would
be no end

William Berry Brown

Police Office

Stanley

21st October 1848.

Sir,

In reply to your Excellency's letter of yesterday I beg leave to inform you that about half past Ten ^AC that morning I received a note from Mr Longden, stating that you wished to see me on business at my earliest convenience. I was in the act of going immediately up to your Excellency when Doctor Hamblin came to visit my Wife, who has been extremely ill for the last three days - for about ten or fifteen minutes I remained speaking to him about Mr Moore's symptoms. when Mr Longden called in to say, your Excellency was waiting to see me and I then instantly accompanied him to your Excellency.

I was not aware that my Clerk Mr Levy had sent any returns or requisitions to your Excellency

Excellency, as I gave him no
instructions to do so. I desired
him previous to Copying the
rules of the Supreme Court to
apply to Mr Longden to know what
he he paid / permy a folio
of 90 words for Copying them.—
I have already informed Mr
Culy that Your Excellency wished
any Communications he might
have to make, to be sent thro'.
Me and shall take care in
future that they are so.—

I have the honor
to remain Sir

Your obt. Servt.

Wm. H. M. P. 2
277

To His Excellency
Governor Perrine

Stanley.

October 30th 1845.

Sir,

I have the honor
to acknowledge the receipt
of your Excellency's letter dated
the 14th & 27th inst. in which
I regret to perceive that
I have appeared to you deficient
in zeal & activity —

I can assure your Excellency
that so far from feeling
indifferent with respect to
my professional duties I have
always & will continue to be
desirous to forward your
views.

Yrs. Excellency
The Governor.

views to the best of my
ability - At the same
time Your Excellency must
be aware that with the
very indifferent workmen
in the Colony it is
impossible for the works
to proceed with the Expedition
that would be agreeable
to you & creditable to myself

I have the Honor to be

Yr
Yours Excellency most obedt Servt

Arthur Bayly

Reply of
to Lord Falkland
4th and 27th Oct
1821