

Darling Family - Correspondence, 9 June 1832 – 23 Apr. 1836, 4 Sept. 1850

[Page 1]

Saturday June 9th.
1832.

My dear Eliza -

I have been out all day, but have not yet been able to get to the Colonial Office - I have just seen Lord Hill and Lord Fitzroy and am to dine with the former on the 20th, when I am to meet my Lord Godwich and a large Company. - I enclose a Letter which I received this Morning from Sir H. Taylor - and one from Isabella - I have just seen Condamine, looking very well - I should think my Brother William remained in France, until he saw how the proceedings in Paris were likely to terminate - The Revolutionary Movements might

[Page 2]

spread to Boulogne, where they probably had intended to leave some of their Children - I wish God Almighty had blessed me with more Strength at present, for I am assailed at all points - M^r. Bannister, has sent me a Notice of an Action at Law - M^r. Shelly, not satisfied with having attempted to assassinate me, has published a Statement full of falsehoods, which I shall not reply to - M^r. Baxter, is also accused and says he is determined to annihilate me for having seduced his Wife - How I pity You - What a profligate Husband You have got - I fancy Baxter was

[Page 3]

drunk, when he went to the Colonial Office on Wednesday - M^r. Hay says he was quite furious - And Robison has presented his Case for the House of Commons and worries them to death at the H Guards - I have really great occasion for a Cooling Draught, but I trust in God, they will all be soon put to rest - There will be an immediate app^t for Sydney - M^r. Busby is returning having received the Appointment of Resident at New Zealand, with a Salary of £500 a Year - Lucky [..?] - Now for you letter - Cornelius [...?] is quite enough for Fred. at present - and I am glad he is desirous of improving himself - Tell Syd. I am very glad that he is so good a Boy and hope he

[Page 4]

will take Aim to Continue so - I am on a Second floor, but as there is little chance of my getting away soon, I must remove to a more appropriate Lodging - There seems no means of avoiding the Expense - I rec^d. a letter Yesterday from Boissoir - They think of going to [..?] - I must write him tomorrow - I hope You have desired benefit from the Bath - I have not seen the Martin's yet, but dine with them on Monday. Love to all around You -
Ever Affl^y Yours
RD.

You had better prepare Your Letters for Sydney imm^{dly}. and make them up as a Parcel & forward them by the Coach - not the Mail -

[Page 5]

Ramsgate June 12th. 1832. -

The General's Letter, which I have enclosed, announcing M^r. Busby's departure has determined me to put up the Journals & all I can collect to send off to you all dearest ones, but I have not yet time to write to each individually, or to dear M^{rs}. Broughton or Lady Parry whom I should so much like to send affections - Grandmama & I have sent some Toys - & I have also requested Charles to add to Pacquet - "Jay's Morning Exercises" for William & Susan, & "Milner's Church History" for Henry & Sophy - The opinions of Luthers, in his controversy with Erasmus, are so exactly what I endeavoured to express as mine, dearest Susan that I should like you to read them, and I dare say dear Sophy will lend you the Book with much pleasure - Mama has nothing to add but love to all - Ever Your own

Eliza Darling -

[Page 6]

For,
Colonel Dumaresq
Sydney
Australia -

[Page 7]

Boulogne sur Mer Dec^m. 13th. 1832.

What delightful Weather, you have for your Journey dearest Mother, yet, I shall not feel quite comfortable till I hear you are arrived safe & well at the dear Cottage - The accompanying letters received this Morning will reach Cheltenham I should think as well as) yourself. - Edward's, as usual, is beautifully written, or rather expressed for the writing is as bad as ever) and altogether as happy as can be expected from one who has a Wife, three Children, & a few hundreds a Year, with a disposition & taste to spend thousands. Dear Fanny's trial, in regard to her little Elizabeth, I am very sorry for - I should think from all accounts the Case must be very similar to that of Marianne's dear little Augustus for Henry Butler told me, Elizabeth was a remarkably fine looking Child, if any thing too fat - I am afraid Edward does not sympathize with the Mother as he ought to do, about this little afflicted one, for he writes only of the beauty of Blanche & Amelia, - William & Susan I should say were perfectly happy - & nothing can be more delightful than the account of the whole S^{te}. Heliers Party. - You will be glad to hear that the

[Page 8]

General has a letter from M^r. Macleay of the 5th of July - He had heard from Susan only two or three days previous & they were all quite well at S^{te}. Heliers and "as happy" he adds "as people can be" - He gives the same account of Party Matters that William does - and says that M^{rs}. Bourke's Death which occurred a few days before the day fixed for the King's Birth Night Ball,

presented a most extraordinary assemblage at Gov^t. House. 500 persons were invited, amongst whom were M^r. & M^{rs}. Wentworth { I do not think he will come home now & Mr. Macleay does not mention there being a thought of it, he only mentions his name indeed as being invited to the Ball } - M^r. Hall & all his family - & some others, who must have been asked, I suppose, simply because they were radicals, for they had not ~~even~~ any pretensions to being in that Class of Society, which even in New South Wales, was considered necessary - It was thought people ought to be born & educated as gentlefolks, before they should be ~~were~~ admitted to Government House. M^r. Wentworth himself is a Barrister, educated at Oxford, might

[Page 9]

certainly have been asked, but his Wife, having lived with him for Years, has only recently become his Wife, & when we left, used to sit at a Stall selling Beef, in consequence of the very low price of Cattle, & M^r. Wentworth having so many thousands, he had set up a Butchers Shop - Times will shew certainly - & the Times are themselves so "out of joint", so radically bad - that it may possibly answer, more particularly as the really respectable people, who are now the dissatisfied party, cannot descend to the low tricks, & false hoods, the vulgar abuse & noisy clamour, which the others made.

Do not dearest Mother however mention this to any one, as coming from M^r. Macleay. It might be injurious to him, if it should be known and every thing is known somehow or other. The General has a letter from M^r. Condamine seeing every thing precisely in the same point of view we do - even Mr. Wentworth's arrival, he does not seem to fear, he says, he may give trouble, but he knows his accusations are all false, & would not therefore as a Lawyer think of trying any Law Suit. M^r. Stephens business, he also views exactly as we do. He

[Page 10a]

thinks so far from the General's wishing to avoid the thing - It would be the very best thing, that could happen his bringing an Action, as the General would be able to prove the truth of what he has stated - but that it is only a sort of bravado of M^r. S. - who wishes his friends to think, he is innocent, of course, & finds that the "Statement" has shaken his credit with them. - I am the more pleased with this opinion of Mr. Condamine's as it is exactly the reverse of the General's Brother Henry, from whom he received so disagreeable, & ill natured a letter yesterday, that I have no patience with him & can hardly keep my opinion of him to myself - Tho' I may as well, for I dare say the General saw all the ill nature as well as I did, & I should only increase irritation instead of "making peace" which I love to do - I do not know whether you will care for all this news, but I do not like to send my Paper without filling it, & nothing very interesting can have occurred as you may suppose, since yesterday. -

[Page 10b]

I have just had a Visit from Cap^t. & M^{rs}. Forth - They are rather a nice young Couple - She is pretty & gay & lively & rather ladylike - He is rather affected, & rather gentlemanlike, & not I should think very wise - They go in February, & offer to take Letters or Parcels or any thing - The Children are all out it being a delightful day - We expect Charles by the next Packet. I should like you to have seen him & had your opinion upon him & other matters - Ever your own fondly attached

Eliza Darling

December 17th. This Packet having been by mistake too late for Mr. Hamiltons last Bag, I have opened it again to put in Marianne's letter received yesterday, & to add - that I got yours from Dover this Morning - & now am only anxious for the next from Cheltenham.

As I have already began my Journal, in Marianne's fashion to be sent once a week, I leave all my remarks on her Letter &c for that - I shall only add - as you were anxious about her that dear Baby is quite herself again. - ED.

No Packet & no Charles yet - The Weather

[Page 10c]

ever since Friday last having been as boisterous & wet & dreary as ever -

London Acct. Twenty

M^{rs} Dumaresq
[..?] Cheltenham

I have before told you Marianne & Oliphant will always send small parcels.

[Page 11]

Tuesday 15th February 1833. A week has past since I wrote last, yet have I not commenced my Weekly Journal, the fact is I have been writing very busily to get the General's Papers in readiness to leave, this, which, if the Packet sails, he proposes doing tomorrow - As he also proposes looking out for a future residence, we have been talking over the subject and the respective merits of London, Cheltenham, Leamington, Ramsgate, Dover, Clifton and a Country Place - have been often discussed - The result of all has been, that London, in the immediate Neighbourhood is decided by all Parties to be in every respect the most desireable, but from all our enqiries we fear, it will be, to live there comfortably and as we ought to live ~~there~~, too expensive - Every one that has been asked (which is ~~was~~ only two or three) fix two thousand a Year, as the least that would be required, exclusive of Education for the Children, without keeping any other Carriage than a Cabriolet, & one Horse. - Now the General's Income will be we are told, reduced six hundred a Year, by his Reg^t. being in Ireland instead of abroad - so that I do not think, if upon further enquiries we find this Sum will be required that we can live there - However the Plan is not abandoned, & every enquiry is to be made, before any other residence is fixed upon - The next Plan a Country Place - "Nash Court", which is within a Mile or two of M^{rs}. Hyde's - (dear Lady Ford's Caroline I believe, was soon given up - the General agreeing that the Country would neither suit him or the

[Page 12]

Children, as he has not a fortune sufficient to keep open House, the only way the Country is tolerable in his opinion. - Therefore, it was finally determined, that should the London residence be abandoned, the General will purchase a House in one or other of the before mentioned Watering Places. - After his Business shall be put in train, I think you may therefore expect him to pay you a visit at Cheltenham - Do not however dearest little Mother pretend to know anything of this till you

hear it from himself, but you may in the mean time be enquiring for a friend about Houses, to be sold, &c. - I have written to Marianne to make all the enquiries & give me all the information about Leamington & also to M^r. Kendall about Clifton - tho' I have explained fully to the General my objections to exposing the Children to such an Example - He thinks it however too far from London, but professes to have no fear on the other account - Dover he proposes staying a day at, & he has the name of several Houses to be let & sold & the address of a House Agent - Ramsgate we know about as the same Houses we heard of before, are still unsold - In the mean time we, I & the Children, are to remain here - so that our next move will I trust be our final one, and I shall at last be able to say, I have a "Home" - The General has calculated that if we can buy & furnish a

[Page 13]

House for 3000, or 3500 £ - that we should be living at a Rent of 70 or 80 £'s a Year, as that Sum in Exchequer Bills produces no more - And now having disposed of this subject: I must tell you an anecdote of the other House here, which I am sure will please you -

William would not get himself a great Coat, honestly, and as your own William would have done, alledging that he had not the Money & would therefore go without, In all the Frost & Snow he has therefore denied himself, but a few days since he came in, in a comfortable great Coat, looking as proud & as happy as possible - The Coat was the gift of his four daughters - out of the Christmas Box the General gave them - and Rosa says it was it was their own idea.

I do not think I have told you that Fred has gone back to M^r. Gibson's School, as we may possibly be detained here a Month or two, we also found there was frequently interruptions to the Masters attending privately one day - one was on Guards, another some other engagement, & then he got idle & got into some scrapes - it is better therefore as it is for the present - Wednesday 16th. - The General went this Morning by the Steam Packet at six O'Clock, so we have been up since past four, excepting that we went to Bed again for an Hour - Fred came Home for the occasion, & was up & went to the Packet with him. He has a fine, quiet, mild Day - He has taken your two pair of Stays & will send them you per Coach - the Pattern Pair I will bring with me - I have been so busy preparing for his departure, & could

[Page 14]

finish this Letter to send by Him, as I wished to give you a detailed account of all our Plans, - Our next occupation is to finish all, the Bags, Purses, Pincushions &c meant for the School of Industry to send by M^{rs}. Forth who leaves this in a few days for London & in about a Month for Sydney - As I hope, I have given you enough to think about, I need not regret not quite filling my

Paper - I do not suppose Parents & Grandmama's would even be satisfied with the likenesses of their Children, but tho' you do not appear to think Marianne's Groupe quite handsome enough still I wish I could have my Younger Ones, in a Groupe.

The Children send a thousand loves & kisses - Remember me affectionately to Uncle Peter- Ever your own

Eliza Darling -

Angleterre

For,
Mrs. Dumaresq
Cheltenham
England -

[Page 15]

Saturday February 16th. 1833.

I hope my dearest Mother, that no accident will have informed you, of our dear little Caroline's Illness, as I was so cautious in the letters I wrote to the General that I did not direct it myself, lest you should wish to know how we were & oblige the General either to tell a falsehood, or alarm you by mentioning the truth - Thank God, the dear Child is preserved to us, & has this day been able to move into the Drawing Room, & is now on the Sofa, chattering, & playing & amusing herself with all the various Toys &c. we have collected for her, as she used to do when with you. - D^r. Scott has been very attentive, but he acknowledged himself, that his attention was certainly increased from the extreme interest the Child herself excited - On Thursday Evening she appeared to have caught Cold, & was feverish - the next Morning she was no better but I hoped that a dose of Medicine, & keeping her in Bed would be all she would require - After the action of the

[Marginal note]

You laugh, as it does me now - You may suppose that I have thought of nothing but this Child, but now I shall again be anxious to hear where the General means to reside - I could not help thinking during Caroline's Illness, that for your own sake, I hoped not at Cheltenham - These Children would be, in spite of your not caring for Grand children - a source of uneasiness. -

[Page 16]

Medicine, she appeared better for an Hour or two - still she complained of the Pain in the back of her Head, & there was an appearance about her Eyes, of glassiness & heaviness, that alarmed me so much I thought I had better send for D^r. Scott - I had been giving her Jame's' Powders, which had relieved her so much, that the Servants wanted to persuade me she was so much better I need not send for any one - At about ten O'Clock I however resolved to send for him, not being able to bear my own apprehensions. He came and confirmed them all. - Her Head was he feared evidently affected, & he ordered without any loss of time 12 Leeches to the back of the Neck - but I need not detail all our anxieties, or the dear Child's sufferings - On Sunday was the Crisis - at least D^r. Scott was then most anxious & the Blister was applied to the Chest, but I was myself more miserable, about half past 4 O'Clock on Tuesday Morning - when I thought she was going into Convulsions - D^r. Scott, came immediately & watched her with me for about an Hour, & pronounced her decidedly better, the disease removed - & the tendency to Convulsions, occasioned only by

[Page 17]

Weakness. - from that Hour she has improved and has astonished the Doctor by her extraordinary Strength of Constitution - Mary heard him tell Rosa that he never had seen so beautiful a Child, "have you seen her stript ! I should not mind M^{rs}. Scott having twenty such," - Her patience, her sense & sweetness, would to give you any idea of it; require a hundred letters - but so perverse are we, that even her beauty, her forwardness, her sweetness, only added to my sorrow, & I thought she was too fair for Earth. -

Even my Bible failed to comfort me, for when I opened it, my Eye fell on the text "Suffer little Children to come unto me" but then I took myself to task, for I had presumptuously thought that I

loved him better than every thing, I could if it was his Will, resign them all to him - & I prayed - "Behold he prayeth" - is enough - the ministering Angel is sent - the faith is strengthened, & tho' even then I could not feel resigned to part with her I was no longer fearful or distressed - I thought of every instance of healing performed by our Saviour while on Earth; & felt he was just as much present as then, - I have been wonderfully well myself - & have

[Page 18]

been up night & day, without suffering from it at all - The last two Nights we have slept famously & I have gone to Bed about seven O'Clock - Mary has been a treasure - for six nights she never went to Bed, only slept occasionally on the sofa - & dear Baby, was so good & so well, that she remained with Louisa very happy - All the Servants behaved well - & you can I am sure believe that William & Rosa, were most affectionate & kind - They kept the two Boys altogether even to Sleep from Sunday to Yesterday - He was so miserable, he interested every one, wandering about, first up here, to know how she was, then to the Doctor's, then to some friend to tell how anxious he was. In my next, I will tell you, some thing of Mad^{me} Thribault which will make.....

[Marginal note]

God bless you dearest & best of Mothers -
I have not heard of any of you this long time. -

Ever your own
Eliza.

Angleterre

For,
Mrs. Dumaresq
Cheltenham

[Page 19]

28th February 1833 - Boulogne -

The Journals, which will be collected by all Parties & forwarded by this opportunity, dearest ones all, for as I wrote on the 1st of this Month, this must be a joint Letter, will give you such ample information on all our concerns, that it leaves me little to add, particularly as we have heard nothing of yours you or your Colony since we wrote last. - You will see that the General has bought a House in Lansdowne Terrace, new Houses I know nothing about, at Cheltenham, that he paid Marianne a visit at Leamington, that Economy is still the constant theme of thoughts, letters & discourse, tho' in looking over the Bible to find Texts to enforce the practice of sundry Virtues recommended to Cornelia in the "Diary" I could not find one in favor of Economy, but was obliged to take a worldly precept, Many I found in favor of "liberality, hospitality, being ready to distribute, it being more blessed to give than to receive" &c - but so it is, & thus the World & the Prince of this World infuses his poison - even under the name of prudence, proper consideration for our family &c. - So far the

[Page 20]

Bible does go, it tells us, that he that provideth not for his own Household has denied the faith, and Solomon has many Precepts against Idleness, & I beleive he does say somewhere that a Wise Man will provide for his Children's Children, but then - where there is not a landed or large Property to leave - the best provision that can be made for them is a good Education, introducing them to good Society, & forming gentlemanly Habits & notions, & teaching them to provide for themselves. - However in excuse for the General, I must say, his own Household that is to say his Neices, & Brothers - are likely to require providing for. - There does not appear to be any prospect of his Brother Henry being employed, & as he has been living at the rate of nearly £1000 a Year on his Principal, which was the Sum for which he sold his Commission, & about £1000 left him by Lady Margaret; he has announced that in Six Months he will be penniless. - You will

[Page 21]

see also the anxiety we have been in about our precious Caroline & unite your Than[k]sgivings to mine that this lovely and dear Child has been mercifully preserved to us. - In a Box of Nick Knacks sent for the School of Industry you will find - or rather Miss Macleay will find & send you, - a Copy of "the Alhambra" from our dear little Mother, and, if Cap^t. Forth's Mother can as she told me send a Parcel to him free, another Son being in Talleyrand's Suité, as Secretary, I will send "M^{rs}. Trollope's Domestic Manners of the Americans", as it will amuse you all - What a horribly disgusting picture does she give of them, but tho' her Book is entertaining, I do not like her, many things are I should suppose exaggerated, & I cannot think she can be a religious woman according to my idea's of the word - No Person with really religious feelings could have described with the disgusting details she has, the "Camp Meeting" - the "Revival" &c - She could have lamented the fanaticism, & fatal consequences

[Page 22a]

that must ensue from it, without exposing the Cause of Religion itself to suffer from the ridicule which must attach to such a perversion of it. - In exposing Hypocrisy I fear we always {in a degree} betray the real Virtue also to contempt - Still it will amuse you, and I hope Australia will never be a second America. Cap^t. & M^{rs}. Forth - who take this, we have accidentally become acquainted with here - His Mother, has, like a Simpleton, married a second time, & more simple still, to a Frenchman, she is still here and is a very pleasing person. - She is naturally anxious that her Son should have as many Letters as possible. He has them from all the Members of the Government, & Gen^l. Bourke will know very well who he is. - He appeared from what I saw of him to be a Gentleman & his Wife {who is a Sister of M^{rs}. Swanston, who has lately joined her Husband at Van Dieman's Land, an amiable, pleasing young

[Page 22b]

Person - You may happen to see them, tho' I said you were now living in the "Wilds unknown to public View" & will be glad to see any one who has so lately seen us. - Cornelia, had intended writing by this opportunity, but she is still working hard at French - Music - &c. - She complains sadly, that the Ceilings & even the Sky is too low in these Northern Climes, & sighs still for the Southern Hemisphere, & its cloudless & June Atmosphere - She has suffered lately from Headaches, but I think the cause is chiefly want of exercise - for some time she was quite a Prisoner from Chilblains and latterly from the Wet & Stormy Weather - She will be quite well again I hope when at Cheltenham - walking before Breakfast, & living on Bays Hill. - Fred is still at

the same School & getting on very well with French - & I hope every thing, his Character is just the same - much that makes me fear for his own happiness, but more, that makes me hope every thing good & noble. -
They both

[Page 22c]

desire their affectionate & fondest remembrances to all at St. Heliers - & indeed the other two Boys also - Sydney does not forget his Engagement to Mousy. - Caroline is lovelier in our opinion than ever, - and has shewn the greatest sweetness & patience during her Illness, - Cornelia, is the very image of myself, & the merriest little thing you ever saw - Uncommonly Clever too of course !!!
God bless you all, dearest Henry & Sophy - William & Susan - Fitzroy, Mousy, Tinta & the little Stranger.

[Marginal note]

Ever you own fondly attached Sister - Eliza Darling -

Favored by Cap^t. Forth

For,
L^t. Colonel Dumaresq,
St. Heliers
New South Wales. -

[Page 23]

Hay Market
Decem^r. 9th.

My Dear Eliza -

I saw M^r. Herbert Jones this Morning, who explained the matter and it is as we had supposed - The Letter was a formal Comm^t. to both Parties that the business had been determined, leaving it to either to ascertain the particulars - The Rule or Course usually observed, he said prevented him making any Comm^t. to your Mother - He said in some Cases, the Decision was not satisfactory to either Party, th.. [...] made known, neither Party would pay the Expenses - He said his impression was, as Mr. Neville's Character was [...?..], that he would immediately take up the award -

[Page 24]

and he added, he did not know that he had not done so, as he had not enquired. I said I would go to M^r. Crowther's Office and ascertain, but I shall not do so just now as it will perhaps show too much anxiety and may induce M^r. Neville to keep back. I observed to M^r. Jones that I did not see Mr.N, had so much reason to ascertain the result as Your Mother - as he saved his Money in two ways, by making her no [.....?] and by keeping the £197 in his My opinion is, he will do nothing in the matter, but I will ascertain as soon as the trial is disposed of - Sir Robert and Lady Peel, arrived in Town at ten this Morning - Nothing can be yet determined,

[Page 25]

I have been running about all day and am very much fatigued. I have just seen M^r. Broughton for five Minutes - who leaves Town tomorrow - He begged I would say he sh^d. certainly recomm^d. Miss Wood not to go out at this Season - but if she was determined he would render her all the assistance in his power.

This is an Answer to your letter - I received the packet this Morn^g. - Had you opened the only Letter which you didnot open, You would have found Sir E. Parry was to be at Chel^m. to day and proposed dining with us - I regret to have missed him. [..?] Bell is now [...?] -

Ever most aff^y.
RD.

[Page 26]

M^{rs}. Darling
Lansdowne Terrace
Cheltenham.

Letter No. 8 - [Page 27]

Thursday
11th Decem^r. 1834.

My dear Eliza -

Robison has been Convicted and will be brought up for Judgement next Month, when he will probably be sent to Newgate - M^r. Frove, whom I have since seen, sent me a Note to say, the Chief Justice, Lord Denman, summed up very strongly, and the Jury delivered their Verdict, in about 3 Minutes, without leaving the Box - I have desired that two Copies of the Albion, may be sent to You & to Y^r. Mother - and Sir T. Ford - and others at Cheltenham - I hope the Report is a good one as a Reporter was specially employed - There is to be a few Lines

[Page 28]

as a Leader to draw attention to the Trial, otherwise, it might not be noticed. -
I have reviewed your Letter and am really sorry at having missed Sir Edward. I have sent one of the Papers to him - I can't think that Gen^l. Bourke has sent Home his resignation - Your Brother says nothing of William's having been robbed, even in his Letter of the 14th. June, a Month after Parry sailed. - I must write a to my Brother Wm. from whom I have received a Letter written under the strongest feelings in consequence of the state of his Children - Georgina appears to be in a very precarious state - Dr. Scott had

[Page 29]

had called in another Medical Man and was attending 3 and 4 times a day.
In haste - Love to the Children - Ever aff^y.

Ra. Darling.

I have got the Letters from Cap^t. Best and shall send them by another Officer - Lord Wynford is on his way to Bath - I have not been able to enquire about the Admissn^s. &c to day - but the Albion may give You some information - I have rec^d. a Letter of [?.] from Tobago - all quite well - Edmond 5 feet 11½ and Frederick, 5 feet 9½ - What isdo with them? -

I have just seen the Albion - The Article is not a good one and the Report is not what I expected - They of course find a good deal of difficulty being obliged to curtail the proceedings very much - Brough who was in Court, said

[Page 30]

[..?..] spoke as if he had been my personal friend and went at great length into the Case - You will discover several Mistakes in Sir I. Scarlett's Statement - D.

It will be civil to send the Paper to M^r Merry - M^{rs}. Parke & any particular friend -

M^{rs}. Darling -
Lansdowne Terrace -
Cheltenham -

[Page 31]

Saturday Afternoon
Dec^r. 13.

I am very glad my dear Eliza, that our friends are so much pleased at our Success - My Brother did not mention what particular description of Fever; but I suppose Typhus from his Account of it - In one part of his letter he appeared almost wild - I suspect from the Life he has led his Mind is not very Strong - I met Mr. Ross's Son to day, who has been over there and returned not long He says they all had Colds and [?..] but he did not understand their illnesses [were] serious - I take for granted his visit was previous to W^m. 's late Letters - I have not heard since I wrote You - No - I do not present the Address - It was sent up to Lord Ellenborough,

[Page 32]

to be presented by his Lord^p. - I apprehend Lord [Stanley's ?] declining to join the Ministry must occasion some embarrassment - It is however, well known that they have made every exertion to enlist the better part of the Whigs and if they will not join them, they must only endeavour to let the Public understand at once that they mean to pursue a Course of Reform. will have the effect of doing away This may not satisfy John which will be to be regretted as in that Case, the Elections will go against them - and a dissolution is I believe determined on. A few days will let us into the Secret - I

[Page 33]

can't say exactly when I shall return - sometime next Week - I think of seeing Lord Hill resp^d. my Brother, as if he does not get something, he will be a Constant drain on my finances - He now wonders where the Money is to come from to defray the Expenses of the Children's illness - and naturally - I have no doubt they are much involved - In accounting for the Debts he alluded to, he says Rosa was at great Expense for Maria's Education; but he forgets they have had £me since that time and recd. from M....

a Year from Mr. Laing for 4 Years the Money, which was considerable, and her claims {or rather her late husbands} in S^t. Domingo - I fancy they must have lived gentle as West India Proprietors at Tours & at Versailles. M^r. Herbert Jones called & left a Note to day, which I hoped was on Your Mother's business - but it was an Invitation to Dinner -

Ever Aff^{ly}. RD.

[Page 34]

Club - I have opened my Letter to say that I have just been told by a Person who dined at S^t. James's Yesterday that Lord Hill informed His Majesty at dinner that I had gained my Cause who expressed much satisfaction at it -
D.

Brough has just come in and says the following Names are given in the Albion of this Evening, to be of the Ministry - M of Chambers - Sir E, Knatchball - Goulburn - Sir G. Murray - Sir H. Hardinge. with others whose Names he does not recollect - D.

Mrs. Darling
Lansdowne Terrace -
Cheltenham -

[Page 35]

Hay Market
16th Decem^r. 34

I am very sorry My dear Eliza, to hear You are again laid up with a Cold - but hope, tho' the Weather is not favorable, it will not any longer confine You to Your Room. - I consider M^{rs}. Godrall's invitation as at an end and M^{rs}. Parke's is out of the on account of Fred's Birth Day, tho' have liked to have met the Bishop obliged to M^{rs}. Parke for thinking of us. - I shall be at Home on Thursday, the same day as Sydney and Augustus -
I mean to go and enquire about Your Mother's business tomorrow - But if M^r Neville has not taken up the Award, I should recommend

[Page 36]

that nothing be done on it till I come back to Town, which I shall be obliged to do the first Week in the next Month - In answering M^r. H. Jones's Invitation to dinner, I observed, in an indifferent manner, that I was afraid, I was so much hurried that it would not be in my power to go City

and make the inquiry which I intended doing - If Neville does not take it up by the time I return to this - something must then be done - There is no Public News to day - I have forwarded the Books and Your Packet to New South Wales; but I have not received the Book You desired Wight to [..?]

Love to the Children - Ever Aff^y. Y^{rs}.
RD.

[Page 37]

PS. After writing my letter I went into the City as I shall have a good deal to do tomorrow - and saw M^r. Crowder, who told me M^r. Neville has not yet taken up the award - I said I came to Town ten days ago and M^{rs}. D. asked me to make the enquiry before I returned, which I intended on Thursday - There will be no it laying over for a Fortnight - I always saw, Your Mother's situation will oblige me to come forward - D.

My dear Edward

What shall we do next, it is very evident the General has not asked his solicitor's opinion on the subject. I am rather in spirits at Mr. Jones having invited Genl Darling to Dine with him, it looks as if he is quite satisfied with himself now tho' previous Eliza scorns the thought, as both parties are on honor, I cannot help thinking Nevill's friend has just given him a hint to take no notice of it,

[Page 38]

[?] as I ? did [?] think it was favourable to him. He would have been ready enough to get a peep at it – so now what is to be done next? Would my previous [?] give us the pleasure of his company to keep Fred's birth day. I can contrive a Bed for him. I am writing a Letter to him a complimentary Letter on his Greek but thought this invitation had better go through you as it may not suit your arrangements or intentions for him. Always and forever Yours and Marianne's most affectionate Mother

A. Dumaresq

Rev. R.E. Boissier
2 Waterloo Place
[?]

[Page 39]

Friday Morn^g.
10 O Clock.

I have just received the Parcel - and as it was determined at the Consultation {a mere Nonsense to charge more Fees} to leave the business in the hands of the Court, who will say when they can conveniently attend to it, I have taken my place for tomorrow having settled that I am not to come to Town again on this business whenever it may be proceeded in -
There will be a good opp^{ty}. for

[Page 40]

NS Wales next Week, if You have any thing to send - but You must be prompt -
Advise - dearest love -
RD.

I have seen the Mud Walls of old Salem –

[Page 41]

Thursday
Jan^y. 22^d.

My dear Eliza -

I have been in Court for three Hours and the decision is delayed, to enable me to give in Affidavits in reply to Robinson's. I have written to Condamine to come up immed. as if they are not submitted to the Court early next Week, the business cannot be determined until the end of April - I have received such a Letter from W^m. as has almost upset me - There is an open rupture between him & Rosa and God only knows how it will end. I wish of all things I had an opp^t. of talking the matter over with You - Worried as I am with my own business, I cannot give the attention to his, which it requires -

[Page 42]

I had to go into the City Yesterday to see M^r. Forbes - and Kendall went to M^r. Roberts as Co. Trustee - He says those Debts now at Boulogne, are 5000 francs ! and I have no doubt from the way he writes, they have been pressed - though Rosa assured M^r. Ross last Year when she was home, that tho' poor, they did not owe a farthing - He says the Bill, being protested has impaired him - people I suppose have got alarmed and have asked for payment - He wants to sell out and leave his family and go to America. - But as he knows they will not allow him to sell his Commⁿ. it is in fact another appeal to me - And what can he do? - if he did not make it he must go to Jail - And if I comply with all his demands I may go there - He says it is all Rosa's fault, who held the Purse and he never till lately, heard of the Bills, that are now

[Page 43]

coming in - I will send You his Letter after I have answered it, which I must do to night, as I shall be very much occupied with my own matters for a few days. - If I can get a [Trunk ?], I will return M^r. Tyler's Letter which I am very much pleased with - I am sorry to hear You all have Colds - we have not seen a flake of Snow here till last Night and then it melted as it fell - Pray buy a Knife for Sydney - not so expensive a one as Gus's - and tell dear Agnes, I will not forget her Chair - But see if one is not to be had at Chelⁿ. - You will of course give the Boys what Money You think necessary on my Account, when they return to School and tell them I am very sorry not to see them before they leave Home - to take Care & come back with a good Character - Best love to Cornelia and all around You - Ever most Aff^{ly}
RD.

I am sorry not to have received Your Letter for Charles, as I wrote to him Yesterday by the Packet - it

[Page 44]

It may not sail immedy. Kendall & Edw. go to C. tom^w. - I have not yet seen E. -

M^{rs}. Darling
7, LansdowneTerrace -
Cheltenham -

[Page 45]

Thursday
Feb^y. 5

My dear Eliza -

Condamine and I are still busy preparing my attack on Lord Abadcore, for [..?] - We hope to complete it this Evening and I must afterwards see various persons on the subject. - C, intends leaving this on Saturday next - I send You a Letter from W^m. which I have just received - He writes

[Page 46]

Histories by every Mail, to relieve his own Mind - and is not able to stir without me - In short, he has thrown himself on me in every respect - I dare say other Debts or Bills will come in - Love to the Children - Ever Aff^y
RD.

I believe I have rec^d. a Letter from You since I wrote last but I have not time to refer to it just now - Return the enclosed.

[Page 47]

57, Hay Market
22^d. April 35

Pray open the Left hand Drawer of my Writing Table {the side next the Fire place} and You will find M^r. Bannister's Book - See if You can find in it, the date of his leaving NSW. If it should not be mentioned in the Book, there is a packet of Papers in the opposite Drawer, marked Bannister's Case - look thro' them carefully - But I have no doubt the Book, will give the Dates. The "Laws Delay" has ruined the Cause - They have now procured Affidavits from every [Quarter?] - amongst the rest one from M^r.B. at Paris, who swears to matters respecting Judds, when I think he had left the Colony. Judds died towards the end of Novem^r. 1826 - and B. says, he was Att^y. Gen^l. till

the middle of October. It appears he has all along been in close and intimate Communication with Robison - M^r.

[page 48]

Stewart also, who first bro^t. Judds's business forward - Why have they held back until this moment? - These Affidavits might be rejected, but that would answer their purpose better than their being admitted - There is to be another Consultation to night with Pollack and Follett - tho' the business is put off and I shall not be surprised if it does not take place this Term - I had a long Conversation with M^r. Frove to day - He says he has now no Doubt, they will carry their point in the H of Commons and if so, the Expense of employing Counsel to plead there, will be "tremendous" -

I have not seen a paper or any one today, but M^r. Frove - But You will have the Standard of this Even^g. with this Letter - I also forward that of Yesterday, which came to me so late, that I could not send it to You by Yesterday's Mail - You will see there is an Arrival from

[Page 49]

Sydney to 19th October - but I have rec^d. no Letters - Look to the City Article - What an enormous increase of Revenue - Cha^s. Grant, co^d. not risk an Election and is to be made a Peer, so he will retain the Colonies. I am sadly in the dumps - M^r. Burney, will hardly persuade me I shall not be completely beggared. - I hope my dear Amelia is quite well again and that You are all able to enjoy this fine day - I met M^{rs}. Orr for a moment Yesterday at the H. Gds. looking pretty well and in good Spirits. - Love to all around
You - Ever Aff^y, RD.

[Page 50 blank]

[Page 51]

Thursday - 7th June -
½ past 5 O'Clock -

My dear Eliza,

I have just returned from calling on Isabella, who desires to be most kindly remembered to You - She looks the best tempered Creature living. I have seen M^{rs}. Davis this Morning, who looks better than ever - So she is not in Scotland, [...?] in Ireland. - It is impossible to be more kind than she was - Georgina, is not quite so beautiful as I expected, but still a very fine Girl - Charles says about

[Page 52]

as tall as Cornelia - I dine with them on Saturday - Old M^r. Davis called afterwards. He has written within the last two or three days to Sydney, and has mentioned our arrival to Your Brother - He says another Vessel will sail immed^{ly}. - Macdonald called here this Morning, after Breakfast - No

Person could be more kind - I had a long Conversation with him - and also, with M^r. Davis - Charles Cameron, has entered warmly into my Affairs and being a Lawyerlike Man, will be useful - But I have not yet been at the H.Guards or

[Page 53]

[..?] Street. - I was too unwell to leave the House Yesterday - I shall repeat my Pills to Night, with Castor Oil tomo^w. Morning - Copeopos - Salts not to be given to my dear Cornelia - nor to be taken by You or any of my Pets - The Chill which they occasion in the Stomach, have a tendency to ~~produce~~ Cholera - I had almost forgot to mention I had seen Lady Triggs - We all dine with her on Tuesday and she said she would ask the Martin's to meet me, who I shall call on tomorrow - Many thanks for Your Billet - But I can't reply to it, as

[Page 54]

as I was anxious to give you my News and the Bellman is reminding me that I should close my Letter. - Ever dearest Eliza, with Love to all around You, Aff^y Yours RD. -

P.S. Write at least Twice a Week - I shall get frantic, as often as I go down the Town - Pray attend to Freds Shoulders - I wish his Air to be improved - His face and his figure do not correspond - They are not in unison - His Black [?..] is I suppose only as a Travelling [Assoc..?] - D.

[Page 55]

Friday
June 26,
1835 -

My dear Eliza -

I have been so busy and it has been and is raining so heavily, that I have not yet been able to get to the HGuards for my Letters, tho' so anxious to hear what you thought of my Paper - I have made up a Parcel to go by the Magnet tomo^w. of 48 22 Copies of the Judgment. You need not enclose them; put a Wrapper round each directing them as follows -

M ^r . Henson - 1	Cap ^t . Colquilt - 1
Major Hammerton - 1	M ^r . Merry - 1
Ingleden Esq. - 1	Kendall
Rev ^d . Kinsey - 1	M ^r . Massey - 1
Sir Robt. N....?	Rev ^d . Hays - 1
Sir Fran ^s . Ford -	Cap Lloyd - 1
The Dowager	Col. Mums - 1
Mrs. Orr	Col. Lee - 1
Rev ^d . Geo Bonner - 1	4 for the Reading Rooms

[Page 56]

Rooms - that is Davis's - William's Library Saloon - and M^{rs}. Roberts - Kendall will take these and dispose of them - You can let the Dowager Lady Ford and Mrs. Orr, read Your's if they wish it - Only [...?] the [...?] of the Papers - I sent a Copy of the Judgment Yesterday to the [...?] Chronicle to be published with the exception of the Appendix as it would have made the Article too long - and I was obliged to pay 20 Guineas, down for it - When I came to look at the Paper this Morn^g. I found they had omitted the "Remark", which was the part I was of course most anxious about - and when Brough went about it, they laughed in his face - I was afraid Yesterday that R. had secured most of the Papers in his interest and

[Page 57]

and particularly the Reporters and Understrappers - One has no chance with such a Man - I believe he is not in close Confinement; but within he rules of the Marshalsea, which are pretty extensive no punishment at all - His Wife is gone out to NSW - He told her he Married her only to avoid Norfolk I^s. and she might now go to the D - I. - He is a fiend in human form - I hope Fred is with You - Mr. Broughton called this Morning and I gave him Your Letter - They will not go to C. He said his Mother was very ill & they supposed dying last Week. Oh how sick & tired of this incessant worry, I seem almost to have recovered my hand - thank God, I write with as much ease as ever, even before Breakf^t. when not long since I could not hold a pen -

Love to all - Ever Y^{rs}. RD.

[Page 58]

Mrs. Darling
Lansdowne Terrace -
Cheltenham -

[Page 59]

Friday Morn^g. July 31st.
My dear Amelia's Birth Day.

My dear Eliza -

They have carried the Committee notwithstanding Your prognosis - I can't get on without Your assistance and Boissier, would be very serviceable here for a little while - I hope he will be able to come up with You - I have no body just now to consult with or assist me but Brough - Apropos - send immed^{ly}. to Miss Agnes and ascertain where Condamine is. If he has left Lynmouth, write to him & request he will come up without loss of time, as his presence in Town is indispensable. - If he has not yet left that place, You need not write to him as I shall do so to day. - M^r. Frove is not of Town - but I must write to him to come up. The Debate did not conclude until 2 this Morn^g. the Majority 55 {being the T...?} to 47 - The Conservatives will not attend and many were tired out having

[Page 60]

been up till two O"Clock. the night before, and went away a Couple of Hours before the Debate closed. -

You must come here at first, as I have not time to look out for a better place just now. You must bring Giles and it may be as well to bring Dennison - He can be sent back if not required -

Look again over the Drawers next my Bed and see if there are any Papers likely to be useful - if so, pray bring them - and a Couple of Flannel Waistcoats and two pair of Cotton Drawers, which You will find in the 2^d or 3^d drawer, where my Linnen is kept. The Key is in the Centre Drawer of my Writing Table.

The Committee is to be named when the House meets at 5, to Day - and as [Mau.?] OConnell is to name them, they will no doubt be well selected -

I don't suppose they will proceed before Monday; but it is usual to do so immedi^{ly}.
I know

[Page 61]

not how to get on without Condamine; it will be impossible and I fear he will make difficulties about his Wife - He must come as a Witness.

You might get as far as Oxford tom^{rw}. Night and come on the next day, tho' Sunday - It is a matter unfortunately of great necessity -

I starved again Yesterday and was obliged to take Calomel in the Even^g. - I did not sleep or go to Bed till 3 this Morn^g., but had have not closed my Eyes, so You may have an idea, what a state I am in -

I had intended stopping my dear Boys for a Week - but they had now better go on Monday, tenderest Love to my dear Girls - and affectionate regards to Your Mother and Marianne - Ever dearest Eliza - Most aff^{ly} Y^{rs}.
RD.

Let me know as soon as You can what You determine on -

God bless my dearest Cornelia - I hope the future Commissions will be happier than this.

[Page 62a]

I post 2 Pamphlets, to make it the more like a parcel -

[Page 62b]

Friday
4 O"Clock
31st. July 1835.

My dear Eliza -

I hope this will arrive in time to prevent Your starting immediately - I find the Committee cannot proceed to business as soon as was supposed and thus I can therefore dispense with Your coming up to Town just now and shall be glad indeed, to save You the trouble and discomfort in this hot Weather -

[Page 62c]

I hope I am not deficient in fortitude - but pray observe the manner in which Spring Rice and O Connell manage to [..?] Gov^r. Bourke - in the Herald of this Morn^g. - How have I been used - But I conclude it is for some wise purpose - Ever most Aff^y. Y^{rs}. RD.

You are to understand by this, that I wrote to You this Morn^g. by the Magnet Coach - as a Parcel - The present is

[Page 62d]

the severest Mortification I ever met with - on the Eve too, of my dear Cornelia's Birth day - infact on this very day - D.

[Page 63]

Thursday. August 13th. 1835.

You ask me, my dear little Mother, when the Session is likely to end - in about a fortnight, I suppose, but there are rumors abroad - believed by those who hope it to be true, that the Ministry are to resign tomorrow - If the affair proceeds as it has began - the General must return again next Session as the Committee decided yesterday that they could not get through more than the subject of the land this Session - & they are going on now as if they wished to make it as long as possible - they adjourned till Monday instead of summoning him yesterday as they said they would - On Monday too - Sir H. Hardinge will be absent & Sir Aberney - who is obliged to attend George Hammerly's Funeral - which takes place that day - however I believe nothing is to be done. - the General is to attend them to hear what he is charged with; he is very much out of humor at the delay - which is certainly very troublesome in every sense of the word - D^f. Watt called yesterday

[Page 64]

looking very well - he promises to pay us a visit at Cheltenham - He enquired first after Augustus, who was a great pet of his - after him came Mr. Langa - looking very handsome & very much improved I think in manner - not so effeminate & dandy like - as he was when he first arrived in New Sth. Wales - He offered his Services to the General to come at any moment & begged he would still consider him, as one of his Officers - Lord Scarsdale, has left his Wife a nice little legacy - & as all his friends are Whigs, he does not mean to return to New Sth. Wales - He is going to apply for land tho' & has an order of credit on the Banks there, for two years to come - at 20 per cent - He brought me letter's from M^s. Macquarie and M^r. Hill which I enclose - & if it will not make the packet too large I will put up the little Tract also - He does not bring us any news later than we already have - having sailed the end of

[Page 65]

February - Will you my dear Cornelia - look carefully thro' every Paper in your Papa's drawers - putting them all back again properly in their places of course !! - for a letter signed Lamont - asking your Papa for a copy of his reply to M^r. Robinson's Statement & if you find it send it up - or any other Paper which appears to relate to any New South Wales business - I send you a letter from poor little "Maggie" which I think will please you. - it has been sent to the West Indies by mistake - Major Brough is going to try & assist me in getting out her Sister - tho' he has he says trying for sometime to get out a Soldier's Widow of his own Reg^t. who wishes to join her son there - without success. Will you learn for me Mrs. Henny Brown's address? - If every other mean should fail perhaps tho' Bombay is not Madrass - he might know of some one who would take her. What stuff I have written - making M^{rs}. B a he - but I mean her husband all the time - I am a little bewildered tho' - pouring over Papers -

[Page 66]

all day does not brighten the intellects - I went yesterday to execute Edward's commission about the Books - not that I am quite sure that I like to be employed for others in a matter of taste I fixed upon a plain but expensive binding tell him - 12 shillings a Vol - the same price as the highly ornamented one - I preferred the plain - it has rather broad raised bands and a line comme ceci [diagram] between each compartment - & yet it is the same price as the ~~guilt~~ gilt all down the back - the sides are both quite plain - neither stamp'd or embossed - the block being finished the portraits have been returned - but I visited afterwards as they are both close by - { tho' I made a mistake in saying we are opposite the University Club we are on the same side near the Hotel at the Top of the Street} the confusion Knowledge Society - Capt. Condamine takes in the "Gallery of Portraits" - a much cheaper thing than "Lodges" & there I saw a good many interesting countenances. While I was out M^{rs}. Gardiner called - I was sorry not to see her. -

[Page 67]

Saturday 15th. Aug^t. 1835

I must write a few lines to you - dearest Mother & my own Child, because you would not otherwise hear till Tuesday - which judging by my own feelings would appear to be a little "age" - I have not any thing to say unless the letters from you - which Dennison is gone to the Horse Guards for - give me any thing to reply to. - M^r. Kendall has tell him made his list even more in favor of the General than it is in reality - for Major Fancourt is an Enemy not a friend - tho' he is a Conservative - M^r Merry is nearer the Mark - & every one says it is very scandalous to allow the General's open accusers - D^r. Lushington, M^r. H.... M^r. Balwen & M^r. Dan O'Connell to sit also as his Judges - however his friends are not afraid for they say the evidence of this being unfair is so complete - that if they found things going against the General in the Committee, they will appeal to the House - Sir R..?.. Dorkin, M^r. Ord - who for the Hamilton's sake will be in favor of Papa tho' he is a Radical - I hope - & M^r. Tresfud [?]

[Page 68]

have been added to the Committee - & Lord Hanley & Howick withdrawn - they may be required as witnesses and at any rate would not attend - I am sorry to think my dear little Mother, you are already so dispirited as you were about Nevill & wishing already to know the worst - for there does not appear to be the least chance of there being an end to it, for two or three years to come if they go on as they have begun - so I hope you and Cornelia will go as often as you can to Church - It is in "the Sanctuary" that we find the greatest comfort against all the ills of this life. - Your account of my debt to you is I believe quite right & I hope I shall be able to discharge it as soon as we return - Kiss my precious Caroline a thousand times my dear Cornelia, for being so good - tell her I hope she will be & quite well by the time I return - I am going on with my Sunday Conversations for her -

[Page 69]

but miss her own intelligent questions & remarks - What I wrote last Sunday - is not so natural as the former part of the discourse - Tell Cornelia - I hope she too will have learned a great deal - & give Agnes a hundred kisses too for not crying - Thank you, dear love for your letter just arrived - Capt. Lamont's letter was worrying Papa for fear he should have lost it - as we suppose it is to that letter, John Bull alludes - in saying Papa should give explanations about it - He will not require any other Papers - at least not that we know of just yet - I am going out to return Lady Martin's - M^{rs}. Maclean's & M^{rs} Gardiner's Calls & am to see the Coliseum before I return as we really are at present idle !! I shall be so till after Papa has attended the Committee which he does at 12 O'Clock - I mention the Hour that you may remember it in Prayer - I must now get ready for my Visits - God bless you my Child - and may you my dear

[Page 70]

Mother be blessed as you have been a blessing - Give my affectionate love to Marianne & all her House - & all those who enquire after me - & whom I ought to remember -

Ever your own affectionate
Eliza Darling -

Do not forget if you see Mr. Yates to ask him when he returns to New South Wales - & also remember before I leave, in case I should forget, to collect all the Letters, Newspapers &c for our Australian Party - Send them in a Parcel by the Coach - so that I may receive them a day or two before I leave - I mention it now before I forget it again, which I am very likely to do -

[Page 71]

Tuesday - 18th August - 1835. -

My dear Cornelia -

Will you get a small Box, and put up all the Papers - printed or otherwise that you can find - in Papa's Dressing Table Drawers and the Table Drawers connected with New South Wales - the Mirror of Parliament of 1832 is wanted - I have received your welcome dear joint letter, my own Mother & Child - and have no doubt that your prayers offered up as mine were, will be in the end heard - As far as human Eye can see - nothing could have been worse than the proceedings of yesterday - but eventually even this, will turn I have no doubt into good, and much has been done since - & the General's friends are much more earnest

[Page 72]

and zealous in consequence - I see a fair way opening, and expect much good - Be earnest in prayer - like Jacob say "I will not let thee go except thou bless me" - I called yesterday on Miss Bonham - having received a hint from that most extraordinary man M^r. Ross - whose warm and anxious devotion to the General is enough to cover a multitude of faults. - She had told him it was my place to call, and he said the General has already neglected these things too much & is reaping the fruits, don't you do so - call upon her - it will do you more good than the Sermon you have just heard" - this was said on Sunday - so I called - she was very kind - they are living in Doctor Ainslie's house - & I felt a little moved, when I saw

[Page 73]

that beautiful likeness of the dear affectionate old Doctor looking upon me. - On my return I found your Papa & Capt. Condamine, both much agitated & overcome by the exceedingly dishonorable conduct of the O'Connells - {dont breathe a Word of this} & after they had taken a Mouthful to eat - they sallied out to consult Members & ask what was next to be done - At this moment Lady Colville & Lady Darvell came in - they were full of feeling - offered every assistance - Lady Darvell her two daughters as Secretaries - Lady Colville - her House her Carriage - told me to come to her when I liked - in short nothing could be kinder - I tell you this because one loves to think of such people - I afterwards wrote letters that may be I hope of much service - & went to Bed early to be prepared for to day - Sir H. Hardinge is returned & ~~your Papa's~~ the General's friends muster strong - I

[Page 74]

am now going to call on Lady Macdonald following up M^r. Ross's hint - who urged me not to neglect it - I shall call also on M^{rs} Beilby Thompson - if she is in London & plead my promise to Sophy to do so - as an excuse. - There is not much chance I think of my having time or even inclination to see Jerusalem - Do not think tho' my dear ones, that I am out of spirits I am not at all - on the contrary full of hope & joy in beleiving that I have laid help on one that is Mighty - May he be even with us all - Ever your

Eliza.

[Page 75]

Wednesday. 19th. Augt. 1835.

Thank you, my dearest best of Mother's for your letter of comfort & advice received by the Parcel this Morning - As I have a short time to myself, the General having gone to the Committee - I shall be able to write to you more fully than I have done - how matters stand.

Marianne is quite right in supposing that when I wrote something had occurred even to alarm me, but, I was exceedingly anxious to have your opinion in regard of my intefering with higher Authorities, without alarming you, & I was pressed for time having several letters of much consequence to write, I could think of no other way but that of saying what I did about going to the

Duke & His Majesty - I wanted your advice in short - I am as usual most thankful to find that in every thing it coincides with my own ideas on the subject - First in as regards it being the duty of the General himself to call upon His Majesty & every Secretary of State he has served under, & every Military

[Page 76]

Friend he has - and for as you may suppose every thing that is likely to occur is fully discussed by our little Private Committee's - M^r. Bonham, M^r Frove - Capt. Condamine - Major Brough - &c - & also with others, Members of the Committee - we had supposed it possible tho' not probable, {even bad as they are} the O'Connell's might behave as they have done - & I had long ago suggested to the General what I thought he ought to do -

Capt. Condamine, without my having said a Word to him, of course, on the subject, & not knowing what I had said, used precisely the same Arguments - We were both without success - but both irritated the General so much {I in private only} that I told him, if "my advice & suggestions were so received I had better return to my Children, by whom they were valued - & to whom they were useful - & that if he would not exert himself, for himself he should not complain of his friends not doing so, or expect them to do it. " However his warm hearted friend M^r. Ross - Capt. Condamine, Myself - & even poor Major Brough - all have

[Page 77]

come to the same determination, & curious enough they have each sought an opportunity to tell me so privately - & we all now agree - that the General is himself right - He has {unnecessarily we all agree} allowed himself to be so worried, so irritated, so bewildered that he is as he says, unfit for the thing & from his very irritable manner does harm rather than good - M^r. Ross says - "Time was when I would have quarrelled with him for what he says to me, but I can't be angry with him now" - "Any man but me" - says good natured Major Brough "would be angry - but I won't be angry M^{rs}. Darling" - "Any man but M^r. Bonham", said Capt. Condamine just now to me - "would have be offended with the General yesterday - but I perceived it & gave the Gen^l. a hint with he took - & every thing went on right". - In short, he said says himself upon my asking him, if I might as M^r. Ross says I may, be of use quietly behind the Scenes - whether he would approve of it - "I feel, if it was another persons business I might decide - but I am quite like

[Page 78a]

' a Child - If our friends think a thing ought to be done - do it, without consulting me" - If anything went wrong he would quite forget having told me this - It may be, still, tho' I hope not, necessary for me to act, but I am quite aware, my dearest Mother of the necessity of perfect secrecy - Such is the influence of the revolutionary party - even Majesty itself could not openly interfere - In regard to the Duke tell Edward he is quite right in his opinion - & we had already come to the same conclusion - D^r. Gordon had said the General ought to go to him - & the very same arguments were used to him to prove that he could not do any good - Every thing is now going on favorably - but, the O'Connells are so talented, so up to every trick, which the General's honorable friends are not - matters may again take a turn against them - & now my dear little Mother, I must say in defence of my own words which you bring up against me - say that no one, at that time, could have imagined such men as Hume & O'Connell, would have the power they have, & no honorable mind

[Page 78b]

could have imagined they could so use, or rather abuse it, as they have done". - And now - as I may not have an opportunity of doing so again I will tell you what my intentions are in case, the O'Connells prove too powerful, for the General's friends who are now in earnest doing all they can - Trusting in the Almighty arm, for health & strength of body & Mind, all a virtuous woman ought to do - I will do - My intention is to petition the Queen for a private Audience - herself to introduce me to His Majesty - All he can do, is to command His Ministers to support the General - & if he does so, the others must yeild. It was in hopes of this {that the Gov^t. must support the General & quarrel with the O'Connells} that a private Meeting was held at Sir Robert Peel's, & that he gave the advice he did to the General - I need not caution you, my dear Mother, & Cornelia as to the necessity of perfect secrecy with regard to all I tell you - for the General is just now an object of more importance than he ever thought he would be - the Ministry itself being at one time supposed

[Page 78c]

to be depending on it his business - I have already laid a train, by which, if necessary I mean to get to the Queen - but this is known to myself only, & poor zealous Major Brough - who was obliged to be in a degree informed because he took the letter for me - These are my present plans - if they fail, as you say - they can do no harm, & no one is the wiser for it. - If the General alone was concerned the matter would be easy enough - but the fact is - party is at the bottom of it - & it is in fact a sort of commencement of the revolution these people mean to effect - I would rather occupy a less conspicuous post I confess - The General is just now - the Bone thrown out, for the Dogs to pick at, to keep them from attacking themselves. - And now for your poor Man Cornelia - ask you Uncle to have the kindness to write a letter for [letter incomplete]

[Page 79]

Friday 21st. August 1835 -

Thank you, my own dearest Mother & Child, for your beautiful & comforting account of the Sermon - I must just write you one line to day, to say that your kind wish about their "cutting their own throats" - is likely to be fulfilled as far as present appearances go - but that all is proceeding very well - I am charmed with Sir H. Hardinge who was here twice yesterday - but tho' I say this - I am not forgetting the Sermon dearest ones - or thinking of trusting in Him. or any arm of flesh - or in any but Him who is, & thanks to you - my own Mother, always has been - my Rock & my Fortress - my Sheild & my Deliverer"

[Page 80]

I cannot write much to day, as I have been on the Bed most part of these two days, with my usual nervous Headache.

God bless you & be with you prays without ceasing

Your ever affectionate
Eliza Darling -

[Page 81]

Tuesday 25th Aug^t. 1835 -

I was angry with myself, dearest ones, for not having written to you yesterday - but Sir H. Hardinge keeps us all so hard at work - furnishing him with copies of despatches - Minutes of Council - Information on this point, & then again on another - that I literally was so tired, having written volumes, that tho' goodnatured Major Brough reminded me that I should still have time to write a few lines, I really could not exert myself to do so - I must not therefore allow another day to pass - tho' this has be ditto to yesterday, & myself, Major Brough & M^r. Viret have been writing all the Morning while Cap^t. Condamine, is also employed in another room preparing for his evidence. - Sir H. Hardinge told Major B. last Night that General Darling ought to think himself very happy in having people so devoted to him - for that we had done wonders - & I am

[Page 82]

sure he himself is the most wonderful man that ever lived - at twelve last Night - he was left still occupied - & the talent with which he is conducting the whole business is even confounding M^r. Dan O'Connell - & all the Lawyers - Add his name, my dear Mother and Children in your Prayers - I have told him we will do so, & that is the only reward we can ever give him - No Brother could do more than he is doing - He has left his Family, on purpose to come on this business, & tho' he had declared he was quite exhausted with the business of the Session, he has never for a moment relaxed his exertions, since he found the other Party were behaving so dishonorably. - I am very glad M^{rs}. Maclean's visit was a comfort to you,

[Page 83]

Every thing is I beleive going on very well - my only fear is that if it lasts much longer poor Capt. Condamine or the General himself will be quite knocked up - the evidence & exertions of Captain C are of the greatest importance. I am myself pretty well again - I have not sent off the letters yet to Australia but I have sent to know whether there is any immediate opportunity - If there is none, we must wait till the end of this matter, so you are quite right in sending me all you can, to add to the Journals &c. - Tell Marianne Miss Coxe is in London - I forgot to say we dined with Lady Colville on Saturday - & Lady Trigge wanted us to dine ~~there~~ with her to - day - & Lady Martin yesterday but we cannot possibly go out, while we have so much to do - it would be hard

[Page 84]

upon poor Sir Henry who is fagging so indefatigably - if we did not give him all the information he requires - God bless you all - dearest ones - Kiss my precious little one's for me - I do not know how it appears to you - but I seem to have been months away - & I could hardly persuade myself just now that to-day was only Tuesday -

Ever your own most affectionate
Eliza Darling -

[Page 85]

Thursday 27th August 1835 -

I am so very tired with writing, my precious Child that I (have) will only just tell you the reason why I send you only thirty pounds - Papa has no more in the House just now - He is writing an order to pay M^r. Nicholson - & has also sent a Note for you to put under Cover to Mess^{rs}. Griffith & Pruen - When the Bill - which Papa has not now, having given it back to M^r. Weeks, to made out properly, is sent in, you are to let me have it first to look at, so that will not require to be paid till I send you more Money. - It is said now that Tuesday week is the day the Parliament is to be prorogued - so we are here till then I suppose.

[Page 86]

Tell dear Aunt Marianne, that tho' I have read her Question's, I cannot answer them - you must content yourselves, to "burst in ignorance" till I return, when I will begin at the beginning and tell you all as it has happened - We are going on very well - but are incessantly occupied - Pray write to dear Fred - I have written twice but have no answer - I mean to go & see him on my way back - having been most affectionately invited to do so by M^{rs}. Birt & pay her a visit too - I hope you have had rain - I beleive there is no reason in the world for Papa not having written to M^r. K - but his not

[Page 87]

having time, or being able to do so - He complains sadly of what he has already to do - tho' he acknowledges it is little in comparison to what others are doing -

Ever you own most affectionate
Eliza Darling -

A thousand kisses to my dear ones -

Put Papa's Letter for Mess^{rs}. Pitt & Gardner, under a Cover before you send it - we have not done so because it will make the Packet too thick. -

[Page 88 blank]

[Page 89]

White Hall Place
1st. Sep^{er} 1835 -

My dear General

I have now the satisfaction to send you a Copy of the Report of the House of Commons on the three first Charges preferred against you, which were in substance,

Murder, or aggravated Manslaughter, Cruelty & Oppression - the garbling of Evidence & Official documents. -

Three Witnesses for the

[Page 90]

Complainant were heard & were all that were tendered to the Committee - It was unnecessary in the opinion of the Committee to call a single Witness for the Defence;
From the lips of your adversaries you are declared to be free from all blame & in the case investigated you have done nothing inconsistent with the duty of a public Functionary & the Honor of an Officer & a Gentleman. -

I congratulate you most sincerely on the result & I

[Page 91]

hope the honorable termination of this most anxious enquiry will be some consolation to you for the persecution you have suffered & from which the King's Ministers ought to have protected you or at any rate to have given you in the Committee their countenance & support. This has not been done - Truth has prevailed against fearful odds & I trust

[Page 92]

that the spirit of conscious innocence which enabled you to meet these shameful attacks with resolution & calmness, will enable you to obliterate the annoyances of the past, remembering only that a large circle of Your Brother Officers appreciate the public Services you have performed & respect and honor you as a Man.

With my best regards to M^{rs}. Darling, I am
My dear General,

Yours very truly
H. Hardinge -

[Page 93]

2^d. September
1835 -

Dearest Henry - William - Edward - Sophy - Susan & Fanny - I have this Morning sent off a large Packet of Journals which will give you an account of the progress of the anxieties of which this will give you the happy termination - The accompanying report - was read in the House last Night - and I have copied for your gratification the accompanying Note from that most

[Page 94]

noble fellow Sir H Hardinge - This day, being the King's last Lèvee this year, the General attended - & the King in a most gratifying manner, without word of notice ~~presented~~ made him a Knight Grand Cross of the Guelphic Order - & so ends this

[Page 95]

eventful history - I am going back as soon as possible to Cheltenham the Gen^l. stays to meet Lord Auckland before he sails for India - & to receive the congratulations of his friends. - I write in great haste. - God bless you -
Ever your own most affectionate
Eliza Darling.

[Page 97]

Hallgrove, Friday Morning 4th September 1835

I arrived here soon after two, dearest one, and a beautiful spot it is, M^{rs} Brit who is all kindness and affection, finding I was so early - & having only obtained leave for Frederick for to-day, proposed driving me there, through Bagshot Park - where I put down my name at M^{rs}. Brit's request, at the Duchess of Gloster's. - We then went to the College - & as Fred could no where be found - tho' several Boys, guessed he was gone to Bathe, which he appears to do whenever he can - while they were looking for him - Sir George Scovell shewed me over the College - and as Fred was not forthcoming kindly offered to bring him as far as the Park where he was going to dine - We therefore started - I called on Lady Harriett Paget - who was out - but I left my Card - & just as we

[Page 98]

going off - Fred ran with his Towel in his hand - looking remarkably well - We waited for him to get his Pass & returned here in time for Dinner - To day we are going to Windsor -

Friday - Well - we went to the Castle - & what do you think - not only saw the Castle but his Majesty too - & had a chat with him - What do you think of that - M^{rs}. Brit was not well & prevented going with me - a Lady who lives with her therefore was with us - M^{rs}. Brit told me I must put down my Name - & by mistake we went to a wrong door - the Footman who was remarkably polite - ~~said~~ having directed us where to go - said - Mam "his Majesty

[Page 99]

is just coming out - supposing I should like to see him" - His Pony Carriage was at the door so Fred said - let us go closer Mama - so we walked across the Square & had reached about the Middle when the King got into the Carriage - we stood still - & Fred saluted - upon which he stopped the Carriage & beckoned to him - attracted by his Uniform - Fred ran forward most readily

- Come here Youngster ... he said - So Fred went near - & saluted again - What is your Name ? - Darling - Whose Son are you? - Gen^l Darling's - Sir Ralph Darling's repeated his Majesty - You are at Sandhurst I see - B. 36 - Yes Sir - Who are you with? - My Mother - Upon this he called out - Lady Darling I am glad to see you - took his Hat off quite - asked me where I was - How long I staid &c -

[Page 100]

repeated how happy he had been to shew his approbation of you &c - I must conclude for Fred who takes this to put in the Post is obliged to go - God bless you

I start at seven tomorrow Morning

Ever your own
Eliza Darling

L^t.Gen^l Sir Ralph Darling. GCH
9 Suffolk Street
Pall Mall East
London. -

[Page 101]

Per

Captain Edward Dumaresq

With best regards -
All well at Cheltenham.

Ra Darling

9th Sept. 1835.

[Page 102 blank]

[Page 103]

Government House
15th January 1836

My dear Sir,

The Accompanying Pamphlet was received on Wednesday by my father from General Darling and he desires me to forward them to you with his Compliments

[Page 104]

He feels sincerely rejoiced at the General's success.

I suppose you have heard lately from your Brother at Port Stephens, where I last saw him about two or three months ago. I was happy to find him gradually recovering & regaining his former

[Page 105]

activity. We both of us promised to correspond but I have been so remiss as only to have written once to him. I hope you will do me the favor to remember me to him & M^{rs}. D. when you next write although I shall most decidedly not allow another

[Page 106]

opportunity to pass by without addressing him myself. Pray make my best respects to M^{rs}. Dumaresq whom I hope is quite well & allow me to be ever

Faithfully Yours
Fred^k McArthur

[Page 107]

London
23^d. April 1836.

My dear Dumaresq -

I am sorry that I have only time to say I have recd. Your Letter of the 15th of Sept. last, No.5. I came up to attend the Leveé & D^r. Room and return to Chel^m. the day after tomorrow - The Boissier's are here, with their poor dear Boys Peter & Teddy in a sad melancholy condition. The former joined them on their arrival in Town, when a dreadful State of Disease manifested itself which it is feared is Constitutional - and tho' his Life may be in no immediate danger, there is perhaps little chance of his

[Page 108]

perfect recovery; more especially when the Situation of his Brother is considered, who is now dear fellow with his Arm in a Sling and the Bones of his Hand exfoliating without any fracture or accident - The Cause of both is no doubt Consumptive -

We have all been ill too - the Scarlet fever, after three Months Visitation did not leave us till the beginning of March; when we went to Leamⁿ. to afford an opp^t. of purifying the House - and that I might consult Dr. Jephson - He has done me good and I have laid a foundation of material improvement

[Page 109]

in my Health - Fred came from Sandhurst just before we left Leamⁿ. having had the Measels and we had no sooner returned to Ch^m. than Cornelia who had had them on the passage out, was again attacked with them & laid up for a Fortnight. Her Sisters shewed no disposition to take them when I left Home. I was sorry to hear that Your Babes had suffered so much from the same disease - I have been obliged to withdraw Fred from the College - His time has been wholly lost and I am now satisfied, he has not suff^t. manliness of Character for a public School. He has too great an Attach^t. for Mamma's fondling & C..?

[Page 110]

I had gone to great Expense, having had the best Masters for him when at Home - but he was not able to go thro' the Examⁿ. which he ought to have passed on first going to the College, even after his return to it, after the first Half Year - He in fact lost his head - With all this, his Abilities are far above mediocrity - I am again looking out a school for him - So McLeay has resigned & Thomson is app^d. It is curious as M^{rs}. McLeay sent Eliza a long Letter on the 10th of Nov^r. that she did not mention it - I am nervous from the Course I am pursuing I can hardly write - Dear Eliza is thank God in the best health & walks as much as any one- Love to Sophy & the Babes - Ever Aff^y. RD.

[Page 111]

Hampton Lodge
4th. Sept^r. '50

My D^r. Eliza -

I wrote a few hurried lines to Sophy Yesterday on the receipt of Y^{rs}. of the 2^d. as to the 91 Bales, there could be no desire or intention to Cancel the fact of their arrival, as Mr. Perry shewed me the Invoice from Sydney, which stated that £1460 had been advanced on this Shipment; observing, " that, when the Expenses were paid, there would be little or nothing remain^g. for Mrs. D^{sq}." * - They were however, very remiss in

*You will recall my mention^g. this on my return from Town. -

[Page 112]

in not apprising Sophy of the arrival of this Wool - But if I mistake not, it was not to have gone into her New Agents hands, as it appeared by the Letters sent us, that if it were to do so, the Expense of Double Commission would be incurred - I mention this merely to show they c^d. have had no object in not apprising Sophy - I have a Letter from M^r. Perry this Morn^g. which shews the confused state they are in - He now speaks of their hav^g. sold not 85 Bales last Year, but 95, [...?] the 53 Bales; he says they were all bro^t. to Account - and that the Balance

[Page 113]

of Your Brother's Acc^t. is, as has been stated - they have nothing in hand. - I told you they have rec^d. 12 Bales by the Bolton from W^m. - on which £170 had been advanced - This is at the rate of only £14 instead of £16 a Bale; but then the quantity is small. I cannot pursue the subject as I am kept at my Desk every day till 4 or 5 O'Clock - I should tell you that I returned Mr. Perry's Letter and the Copy of Sophy's answer, to her Yesterday - I now enclose L^{dy}. [Gossin's?] answer and return M^{rs}. Brigg's and Sophy's Letters - I must not close without telling you that Bathurst has

[Page 114]

joined the Romish Church and resigned K...? !

Ever Aff^{ly} Y^{rs}.
RD.

[Transcribed by Jacqueline Lamprecht]