

w7/27

Darlington Main Island
1st August 1846.

My dear friend,

I have to acknowledge, with best thanks, the receipt of the Work Box and your accompanying note per favor of our friend Mr. Cairnduff.

The Box I am glad to inform you gives the utmost satisfaction and is deemed extremely handsome. I herewith enclose the sum of £2.10-0. being the amount of Messrs Stearns & Co. Bill, with which I see you are charged. Will you be kind enough to forward it and take the receipt.

Your kind offer to transmit, for me, the money to England, I shall most thankfully accept, as soon as I can make it convenient to do so, which I hope will be sufficiently early to be in time for the departure of the "Mayflower", as you may perhaps be forwarding advice to London by that vessel.

The removal to this Island of our mutual friends the Cairnduffs, has given me the greatest pleasure as we can now occasionally meet together, the

distance between the two stations being only about eight miles - I have already spent a day at Long point and Mr C. has in return visited Dardington.

We have prepared a letter to the Inspectors Messrs Crawford & Russell, relative to our disappointments and as these gentlemen are the leading Commissioners of Antoinville, I trust our appeal to them may not be altogether useless, but everything connected with these matters seems ~~to be~~ ^{to be} at present very unsettled in England.

I observe from the papers, that Lord Stanley had entered somewhat fully into the consideration of the proposed plans of Capt. Macconchie, and with nearly the whole of which he appears to disagree.

At this difference of opinion I cannot but express my sincere regret, and also for the delusion under which His Lordship is evidently laboring respecting the working of this system now in operation here. No man, in my humble opinion, was ever so fatally deceived as he seems to be about the success of his

instructions sent out in 1842. - And yet this ignorance seems most strange, when we consider the numerous representations which have reached home during the last fifteen months. But I anticipate that Dr. Hampden will, ere now, have placed the subject more faithfully before the Home Authorities, as I know he possesses abundant means of doing so, and if such facts as he was prepared to submit, are disregarded by the Government then I fear Probationism is indeed under powerful patronage and will require no ordinary demonstration of public opinion to shake its stability.

The London "Times" appears to have raised its influential voice in favor of the V.D.L. and petition and threatened an exposition of the errors of the present system of convict management. Such being done effectively will, I doubt not, do much towards hastening its doom, and convincing the British public that a better state of things must soon be adopted.

Mr. Cairdaff and I have have talked

over this subject, and it seems that so nearly alike have
been our respective views, that in his letters home he has
used the ^{words} ~~words~~ almost verbatim that I have used
in mine. But this does not surprise me, as I apprehend
the system merely requires to be seen, to convince any
unbiased, impartial persons that its principles and
results were proved ruinously fallacious.

We have had a visit from the R Catholic
Bishop, Watson, who made a minute inspection of our
Station, and with the whole of which he expressed him-
self much gratified, that is, so far as the exertions of the
Office are concerned. He is about proceeding to England
on important business, and seems to be collecting every
information connected with the system.

Mr Cairns has informed me of your kind
sympathy in behalf of my dear Mary Ann, and that they have offered
to take her to live with them for a short time. I cannot
sufficiently express the grateful sense I entertain of your good-
ness, which alleviates my distress of thought when summing
upon all that I have suffered. And I have great reason
to believe that he will be very well taken care of.

P.S. Please to let me hear from you
this letter by Cairns
1826