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Arlington: London 1 Feb. 1870

My dear Chief Justice

Your letter of the 16. of last month has only reached me today, & as it is also a quiet day, I have little time to answer it - but as you will expect to receive my reply to the question you ask me, I will at least give you an outline, without troubling you -

I keep no copies of my letters, & I throw them into the fire 20 years ago, & living in entire ignorance of their contents, it would be indecent, to give you comment, with respect to the publication of them. I may have agreed to the conduct of other men in them, in confidence, to you; & my opinion may have been subsequently modified, by experience, & the knowledge of facts, which I had not at the time. But I have a great desire to aid you, in correcting any mistakes, or misapprehension, which may have been published in any quarter, with respect to your own conduct - & if you will allow me? Rose to look at them, & be it of my opinion, that I am as ready to destroy the falsies, as of his account of facts, in my possession.

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of others, engaged in the transaction to which they relate,
I have no objection to your publishing them. Or, if you can
wait to the return of a packet, if you will send me abstracts
of what they contain, I will give you any ~~undesirable~~
answer, on the subject -

I have not read the memoir of D. Mitchell to
which you refer - & if I did read it, my memory
is so imperfect with respect to the transaction of the
day, in which I am so remissly concerned, that I shall
not be able to give you, with any exact opinion
on them. I will show your letter to L. Clegg, & consult
him about the signature you wish for the Colonial office,
& will write to you hereafter on the subject.

Shall we ever meet again? my recollection of my
appointment last year, is so gratifying, that I still cherish
the wish, & about the intention, of repeating it. I have
resigned in the Highlands, & settled this year, till the
beginning of the present month, where I have been back with
me, a state of health, which I fear will be even worse, to
in the beginning, & position, of this long voyage. I die

not see your Minister, Mr. Galt. He gave me difficulty
in getting his money orders - How easy it is, to live on
travel money! - & not a victory, & though his life, since
the revolution - ! But the day of payment must come -
& the Govt. upon them, the more difficult task will fall -
like like the memory of their privileged forefathers, when
the poor English, that L. Mitchell biographer has
little save part of your administration - & especially
more justly. The intent of the debt payable in this
Country, will soon become a popular remittance, from
the resources of the Colony. They also like us,
with much regard however, my dear Chief Justice

most faithfully yours
Edward Clegg

Ch. Justice
Sir L.-H.-Lafontaine P.D.

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