

Mr Urquhart to
my grand-Cornwall
father John M^d. 6th Jan^y 1866.

Dr Urquhart

CH 24

My venerable & esteemed friend

Your New-Year's day
memento was most welcome
and most gratifying to me.

I prize it as a record of your
venerable age, and as a rare
specimen of a vigor of mind
and power of hand still to
be found in a man who has
been spared to see his 93^d

New-Year. You naturally
enough look back to the begin-
ning of your years with the
associations & recollections
connected with it, and with
David of old, I can imagine
your prayer to be - "Remember,
O Lord,

1246
O Lord, thy tender mercies and
thy loving-kindnesses, for they
have been ever of old. Remember
not the sins of my youth, nor my
transgressions: according to thy
mercy remember thou me for thy
goodness's sake, O Lord! — You
glance at your deeds of kind-
ness to the Church and to my-
self, not, I am sure, in the spirit
of boasting, but with that
satisfaction which a good
man naturally experiences
in looking back on those deeds
which have not ceased to secure
his honest approbation. The
adherents of the Church will I
trust never forget the obligations
they owe you; and although

I unfeignedly feel my own
unworthiness of the exertions
made by yourself, & other dear
friends, — now, alas! departed
from us, in bringing me to
Cornwall, yet I can say in
truth that my endeavour has
ever been not to prove unworthy
of these exertions, — and that I
shall ever retain a grateful
recollection of the many
years of uninterrupted kind-
ness & friendship during
which we have lived together.
You may well feel gratified
at the tokens & expressions of
friendly regard which you
have been receiving from your
neighbours of all denomina-
tions with whom you have
lived so long, & among whom,

I verily believe, you will not leave
an enemy behind you.

You appropriately close with
an allusion to your death-bed,
from the fear of which, I thank
God to hear, you are relieved
through your trust in a cruci-
fied Saviour - blessed trust!
hold it fast, as the anchor of
your soul, and it will sustain
& comfort you as you pass through
the swellings of Jordan to the
promised rest. Should it be
my lot to survive you, & to meet
you on your death-bed, rely, my
dear friend, on my offices, of
Christian regard & affection as
a minister of Christ, and ac-
cept now of my own & my part-
ner's, fond regard & esteem, &
believe me ever truly yours

John W. Donald Esq
Tray's Creek.
H. W. Perkins

1253
the candle at both ends
having to lay out so much
to make the house comfortable
it is indeed much improved
and I would be glad if you
could feel well enough
to come to see it, after
Dr. Taylor's ~~case~~ is over.

I feel contempt for Elizabeth's
vacillating conduct, at 30
years of age, she should have
known better, may God
have mercy upon her
and upon her broken hearted
mother, who has ever been
dutiful to her relations -
fare well my dear friend, may
God prepare us, for our change

yours affectly ^{Wife of Chief Justice Reid}
Elizabeth Reid Park House 17th June

my dear friend, I am
very glad to hear from you
and acknowledge that I am
to blame, in not writing
to you sooner, you know
my dislike to writing and
will forgive me this time
my trip to England
was chequered with pain
and pleasure, Magdalens
family consisting of two Boys,
and two girls, are very
satisfactory, her good husband
most valuable, but poor
for his elevated position

Simons two Daughters
 are talented and charming,
 they have enough for comfort
 poor Miss Auldjo, is very
 unfortunate, no health,
 nor a well regulated mind
 John Auldjo out lawed, &
 will make no effort, to
 recover his position
 lost the Sunnaglass estate
 through careless indolence
 has Neil McGillivray
 gone to Scotland to follow
 up his good fortune?

I made a charming friend
 of your Nephew Sir John
 Campbell's widow, ^{wt.} 8. Children
 very promising scions,
 Mrs. Snodgrass also, very
 courteous and kind her
 only son, engaged in India
 Laura has a drunken
 husband, lives abroad
 with four daughters, Helen
 Spenser, has a lovely family,
 the General commands the
 troops at Alverstoke
 I could not visit Scotland,
 Mrs. Jaylors expected confinement
 prevented Hugh, coming for
 me - I found, that I was burning

1865

Jan 18th July 1853

Dear Sir

In my opinion the
 Delegates have done a good
 work. They forced the
 British Govt. to acknowledge
 the right of self the ownership
 of the F.B. Territory to the N.E.
 with the right to purchase
 it as soon as the Comrades
 have the means to do so. It
 is no doubt but they have con-
 siderable speculators in the
 Fur Trade will grasp at it
 They have laid the
 foundation of a mighty
 Empire in the confeder-
 ation is fully recognized
 They have laid the
 foundation of an inter-
 national conf. which the
 salvation of the country
 They have used the
 advantages of the opportunity they

They have shown
the necessity of both
books of defence as points
D appears to our regulations
in the event of a war

It is said that we
we have a long journey to
depend - To have one a long
both down to fall back upon
both our efforts which
are many our feet also &
to all only have walls &
making ruins to be
as in Hudsons are too that
a winter too long for any
money to expect conquest
builds are every effort
to hold on in the country
could stay effort to move to
any other quarters in
wintering ruins - I guess
they would not by a hard
time - Jack & Jack

CH211

Have been accomplished
& Hong yourself joyful
you were not there
Hong yourself better
the fight at ... &
you were not there
Sally

The Ottawa will be
opened & we will be
safe this will be our
main thing - I am the
in command the Lake

Hon. J. B. Macdonald

Office of Minister of Militia,

No. 476.

Quebec, 23rd February 1865

Sir I am directed by Lieutenant Sacké to acknowledge his receipt of your letter of the 18th instant, offering certain suggestions for the defence of the fort and for the transportation of material - for which he desires me to thank you, and to say they will receive his consideration when the subject comes up.

I have the honor to be

Sir

Your very obedient servant

J. G. VanSittout

John Mc Donald Esq

Grass Creek

Comwall C. B.

Office of Minister of Militia,

No. 539.....

Quebec, 25th March 1865

Sir: I am directed by Mr Etienne
 Paquet to acknowledge his receipt of
 your letter of the 15th instant, and to
 inform you that he has transferred
 it to the Hon. the Commissioner of
 Crown Lands, to whom the question
 involved in it, by the opening of
 communication to the fur best and
 worth best more properly belongs:
 and who will not fail to return your
 remarks in your son's favor.

I have the honor to be

Sir

Your obedient servant

J. G. VanSittout

John Macdonald Esq
 Cornwall

Fraser, Ruth Cornwall

21st March 1865

Dear Sir

In The Gazette of the 20th Inst
I see Some remarks regarding the North West
Territory. Without any preface, I wish
to convey to you my ideas on the several
points in argument, you may in the situation
you hold upon your Natural talents have
a word to say on the subject.

Was the Boundary between the
Canadas & the Hudsons Bay Territory left to
my decision, as I may say. I have seen
every bit of it. I would begin at the
Shirts of Belisle & follow the height of
land from that beginning to Gooseman Hook
in the Rocky Mountains where I have been.
When I first crossed the Mountains, I
would divide the Waters flowing
South & West, on the whole route - from
those falling Northward into Hudsons
Bay. I would add the whole East
waters by those Rivers & Lakes, Southward
to the Canadas. I would leave those
Regions watered Northward to the Hudsons
Bay Co: for hunting ground.

There is a Ridge dividing those
waters from the place of beginning to the
Munich. I would follow the east coast
of that Lake to the South end, then
ascend what we call the Tascabedon

To Lac Bombon (Sometimes called Cedar Lake), crossing that lake & entering the great Sasatchewan - following it till I left it for Cumberland Lake. To the North end of that lake to the right of land dividing the waters falling South into the Sasatchewan from those falling into the English River. To the Beaver River at its entrance into Lake La Crosse then across that River to Lac La Poudre. Then across Beaver La Poudre to St. Charles River & across that River to Jackson Halls House as I have said, this route I will ^{make} the division line between Canada & the Hudson's Bay hunting grounds. Within this Boundary line I may safely say that the soil is fit for cultivation. To the American Towns - including Red River &c.

Having thus roughly defined the Boundary between Canada & the U.S. I must add that I think Lord Mansfield's argument very good.

I do not think that the Canadians could ever manage such an extensive & complicated an undertaking, it would form of itself a Kingdom & ought to be undertaken by the British Govt. as a separate Government supported by British capital with all the advantages & necessaries, its agricultural purposes. Its melting of ores &c. The route as I have already said to you by an improved Highway by Hudson's Bay - for all purposes - to & from

In the course of time it would become one of the great highways in the world. To the Pacific Ocean & I may add one of the richest. The distance from Hudson's Bay to Lac Winnipeg being so short a distance & then the difficulties to the Red River. Fort Dauphin River, & Sasatchewan being but little in the whole scale.

My first position is that they adding it to Canada would only make it a feeding affair, my second is that if undertaken by Great Britain it will soon become a vast Kingdom & if the U.S. Govt. should give it up totally - that there is space for the whole of the population of our free & Capital. There are water privileges, the soil is good, grain, iron, iron, abundance of fish. I believe very by nature for any of that in cattle - sheep, horses &c. & in the season is short for many times by Hudson's Bay. But where one than an acre or one thousand may.

By this scroll, if I could - give you some you an idea of facts I should be happy in giving it to you as a legacy to enable you to have a review in any circumstances which may take place.

I have the Honour to be Dear Sir your Obedt Servt
John A. Donaldson

P. 9

I consider that there would be
little required in the defensive way,
as the natives & half breeds would
on that part. No enemy could invade
their lands - a few hundreds of half
breeds might be however trained as
Home guards - as the natives themselves
have to their camps.

Now that you

of you reflect upon
all this - make it a subject of your
actions, I beg of you to take a clean
correct copy of it - & by no means
expose my design to others at present

At Fort William to a Post
of entry to the new Colony - & the route
from Fort William to Red River &
Lae Winnipeg partially improved

Company sent from before the
a party of them would go to the States - but
by Hudson Bay none -

The object would be by forming
a new Colony - to make it self existing
any thing within itself

The country between Lae
Superior & Lae Winnipeg is a poor rugged
country Land might be given gratis to
any one who would settle there - there
are good spots however

See Nat. Gazette 20th Dec.

1189

The Canadian boats,
 the Yankee - sent y
 an army of 50,000
 French men to land
 below at the Canadian
 to - man would
 join them, & that
 if you took at things
 as you ought - we
 want of Union, if we
 wish for peace all
 we can not offend
 ourselves amongst
 ourselves yours &c

John McDonald

J. J. McD

To Hon. J. S. Macdonald

East Oct. 28th
 1864

1864

My dear Sir

The hope that
 you will become a
 man of - & throw
 of the old - in which
 case you may yet
 become usefull to
 the country - in future
 In the new order
 of things, the same
 course would, or rather
 might, rather, as it
 did

any. The progress
of the country
we are out

It is time I think
the Government should
be making - I think
it is time to draw
the sword & prepare
ourselves for mortal
combat -

I would wish
that some one would
take up the cudgel
in defence of a
country interesting
to me

a country much
superior to what
the Canadians are
& that in your
Parliament, you
should be that one,
& all information
& laws in my
power you should
have. You will not
join La Hamme &
Dorion in their
endeavours to bring
on rebellion, surely
It would be of the
use

To Hon. Sargent

Mr. Wood

Oct 25th 1864

The nearest parts to Canada by which cavalry can act, are Red River & the Prairies of the Tascatawons, that is, about one third (perhaps) of that River from Lee Winnipeg to its sources. & to the American lines by Minnesota - Cavalry can act, our Boundary is about Pembina River South.

No Indians will attack any fortified position whether of Stone or Wood - if in the least effective.

No regular Military can be of any use in Red River against Indians. Its defence must be in Cavalry, & that of Half Breeds chiefly, as equal to the Indians themselves in their mode of warfare.

A Standing Troop of bold Half Breeds is required & regularly kept in readiness - regularly paid, clothed, & mounted in Horses & accoutrements. The arms only required would be the Light Javelin, with Powder Horn & Hot Bag. Such as made in the country, also Sack & Bundle such as made in the country & used by the Indians, so that nothing is wanted as the Horses are never shot. To this Troop, the whole Colony would be required to be in readiness upon any emergency - a Light Dragoon Light Javelin force - with a few trained Land & Horses might be added, stationed at given points & have a Log Block House might be kept upon a scale that a small family might occupy it, as a ^{strong} ^{hold} ^{fast} ^{ward} & resort to in danger with

with such precautions any Settlement
 would be perfectly safe. & the
 expenses not very great. Including
 Keep for Man & Horse. There will
 be no other means than this for
 perfect safety. & this is a necessary
 measure, if life & property is taken
 into consideration. & without such a
 measure no Colony can be established
 The Colony of Red River is a key to
 the whole country, at least for
 some years.

In case of depredations,
 of any kind being committed. It will
 be necessary to retaliate upon the
 guilty Tribe. The whole Tribe being held
 answerable for any of its Members.
 I had in an effectual manner & as
 others could do it but half measures. in
 their own ways, of Horse only were
 stolen, reprisals would be made. of blood
 has shed, ample revenge would be
 taken. of booty was the object. The party
 would be kept out, the half measures
 in women & horses &c. & the whole
 camp pillaged in their own ways
 so, so half measures, if meant to
 be effective in preventing protection
 to be given. Regular Soldiers would be
 of no use. celerity would be required
 as in all cases wherefore

Wm. S. Adair
 J. S. Adair

Sept. 27th 1864

Dear Sir

I would not like you to
 be ignorant of those facts - in any shape
 or at any time, such may come before
 you or should you write upon
 the subject, which I think you
 ought to do, as they say. a strike in
 time saves nine. I consider from
 my knowledge of that country - that
 no time is to be lost, if we con-
 sider the safety of that Colony. The
 Hudson Bay Co. can do nothing &
 they will not embroil themselves
 in the matter. With the natives
 they stand in another light, with
 the Indians. They are there as merchants
 supplying their wants, & they require
 more wants. & they give protection
 in arms & ammunition, whereas the
 Colonists injure them by taking
 possession of their hunting grounds
 destroying the animals they require
 for subsistence, without any sufficient
 equivalent.


Write or make some one
 in your office write upon the
 subject, I will give any further
 information you or the person
 they want.

Yours &c
 Wm. S. Adair
 The Greenhorn is the paper you
 to insert anything beyond local matters
 it is not read beyond those countries
 yours &c Wm. S. Adair

P.S. - I see by the globe that the
 Red Man's Country is in danger
 I am well aware what the result
 may be. I am
 Yours
 J. M. W.

It may be too late to shut the
 stable door after the horse is
 stolen.

Mr Reid

My dear Sir  6th Jan^y 64

I owe you many thanks
for your kind sociable
communication of + mass events.
I wish I could write with such
facility, ^{then} you should have a
very long story, as it is, I must
be brief - but, to make up
I enclose you a letter from
our dear Madam Brackenbury
I will leave her to tell her own
Story. She is a cheerful happy
creature, in spite of her
sojourn in a godless land
her Boys are getting on
70 John the Son of Earth. Travely

always happy to hear from you
yours affectionately Elizabeth Reid

her pretty girls, are under
disadvantages in Spanish
society - I would rejoice to get
them to old England again
I grieve to ^{hear} of Col. Mordgoff's
early death! his mother's
only child! She has Laura
Campbell, and 4 Daughters
living with her at Southampton
She has some of Mr. Spencers
children also, during the
Generals command in India
I pray God to spare his life
in that horrid country, so
fatal to Europeans!

My dear friend there is
much misery in the world
which you and I are exempt
from by our fortunate position
we cannot be too thankful
for such health, & comforts
as we enjoy - your young
people in Montreal, are well
at a Ball at Mrs. Molson's
Belmont Hall, last week -
I am now fortunately exempt
from such folly!
It is quite time to think ^{seriously}
of the uncertainty of all things
My thoughts often wander
to you, glad that you are
fully occupied, it makes
you more happy, farewell

CH 211

1851



My dear Uncle

I confess myself
 very much remiss
 in not thanking you
 ere this for your
 Photograph & kind
 letter. I have not
 been well or in
 good spirits for some
 time & I make
 myself so anxious
 for my 2 absent
 Sons. However God
 has willed my
 home to be far
 away from all



old friends, and
 where we are no
 new ones are made,
 but our dear children
 are all we could
 wish. My eldest son
 is Acting Lieutenant
 now in the Mediterranean
 & the younger working
 hard for Royal Artillery.
 My 2 girls pretty and
 gentle. I have seen
 in the paper the death
 of Lieut. Col. Mudgrafs
 Maria's only son. They
 will be terribly grieved.
 Mr. Mudgraf lives at
 Southampton and has

the charge of Mr. Spencer's
 Children, as General Spencer
 is in India and Laura
 Douglas who is a Widow
 has her 4 little girls
 living also with Maria,
 I have not heard from
 them for some time.
 Lady Campbell has her
 eldest son in a Regiment
 in India & one in the
 Navy. Your Picture was
 sent from Noel House
 to her as it was very
 like her late Husband
 Sir John Campbell.
 My dear Uncle if it is
 not asking too much
 of your memory, could
 you tell me to what
 family my dear Mother
 belonged, I do not ask
 you for a genealogical
 tree but as much as

1256

would give an advice
to my children.

Accept my dear Uncle
my best wishes

for a happy new

year & believe me

Yours affly. Ad. Niice

Megdalen Brackenberg

Vigo Ham

December 14th 1863

Dark House, 22^d March

1860-

My very dear friend,

CH211
I felt truly gratified
to see your handwriting
and find, by your style,
that Richard is himself again

I would beg to remind you
to be careful - winter is not
over yet, a relaps would
be dangerous - you must
wait to see, the Prince of Wales
that will be the great event
of the season - your friend
Mr. Roderic, will be Knighthood
Jcity, he has not better judgement,

The list of passengers by the ill-fated Hungarian, has arrived. Mr. Prykart, is not there - my only acquaintance, Mr. Wood whose loss is very melancholy. I was pleased to see Mr. Davis on his mission of affection and gratitude. - it speaks favorably, of his good feelings

The memento for your little grand child will make an interesting object in your place of rest - do you mean to rest there yourself. When this present scene, is over?

I am glad to hear you say - we should not fear to die. Let us believe in the Lord Jesus Christ - who can redeem us from all our errors, with His most precious blood, and place our faith in His gracious atonement, our old friends, all taking their departure George Forsyth of London guardian to Simons children is a great loss to them. Sir John Easthope their grandfather, still holds out, and Edward Ellise comes out this summer, if alive! Some old people have good courage mine is beginning, to give way,

our ~~children~~ ^{children} have all
been ill. Whooping Cough -
Annie Knapp had nearly
lost her little girl, of five
and we almost lost our
beautiful Baby of 18 months,
this has prevented my writing
to you sooner - so I hope
you will let me hear from
you soon - I have a good
letter from Donald McTavish -
He has now got seven sons
and four daughters living -
may they prove a blessing -
He says the oldest, helps him
well - they are in gods hands
who appoints our sphere of action
my love to dear Eliza, accepts
the same yourself Elizabeth Reid

Bark House,

2^d July

-60-

My Dear Mr. McDonald
 Mrs. Gaylor started with
 her three children, this
 morning to the sea side
 to recover them from the
 effects of Hooping Cough.
 I have promised to go with
 Mr. Gaylor the end of the month
 to bring them home again.
 I wish you could come to
 pay me a short visit, in the
 mean time, you surely

Can spare a few days -
from your farming operations
to see an old friend for
the last time most probably
I will have much pleasure
in driving you about, to see
old associations once more,
for I still retain my Horses
Come this week if possible
and we shall have a long
gossip, Mr. Taylor joins me
in kindest regards to you