



very suggestive. The prospect of model Farms, Agricultural Colleges & native teachers & managers, taught by you cheers & warms one's heart.

Might I ask if any of the money=lenders, particularly those ~~in~~/from Bombay, (-I see a ~~large~~ proportion of Bombay men in your College) who have acquired large properties in land, have sent sons or relatives to your Farm & Agricultural College in Madras to learn how to improve these lands?

[end 10:678]

[These men have capital: the general excuse for the non=improvement of agriculture is: that the small cultivator has no capital]

All the Reports on 'indebtedness' I have ever seen vie in stating that the lands which have fallen into the money=lenders'

**f2**

hands so far from being improved by the monied men, are in the worst state of all - more rack rented - or cultivated by labourers, commonly the old proprietors, who are virtually slaves -

One would feel encouraged if **[10:678]** one heard that the sons of these new proprietors were learning to manage the acquired lands from you.

It is an encouragement to see the Parsees, - whose energy has been, I suppose, so conspicuous in commerce, - carrying that energy into 'land', & sending their young men to your Agricultural College. as well as the Brahmins.

If this process of agricultural education extends, if there could be Model Farms & native teachers & managers in every province, & these be widely imitated - much of the desperate condition of India might disappear.

It moves one to see how the accommodation in your College

is ~~neglected~~/restricted. Class Rooms & Lecture Rooms so bad. You say, that improved accommodation has been estimated for, & you 'hope' that 'before another year', it may have been 'provided'.

Might I ask if this has been done?

I have always greedily read all your 'Reports': especially ~~all~~ about manures - the wickedness of letting manure be used as fuel: - how to grow fodder crops for live stock &c. [I remember your saying, in a former Report, that 'we', i.e. the British Govt, or Govt of India, had not the shadow of an idea what was the *annual* loss from chronic starvation of cattle & yet that no country was so filled for fodder crops as India.]

**f3**

-2-

**[10:678-79]**

2. Your Reports, both on Madras  
& that terrible report on  
Coimbatore, throw so much light  
upon the state & ways of the  
people - by no means always  
a favourable one: I mean  
their tricks & their deceptions,  
but also their eagerness about  
the use of water &c: & the reasons  
for the failure of experiments -  
that I wish these could be  
better known to practical English  
men. Often these things  
ought to give one hope, - instead  
of the reverse - for they show that,  
if we knew the natives better  
& how to deal with them,  
experiments which seem to be  
failures might be made successes.  
Two failures often = a success.

Facts, personal narratives of  
individual natives with name  
& place - how I wish these  
could be brought into the  
popular literature of England,  
- then England would *discover*

India, instead of being, as  
now, certainly more ignorant  
of our own vast dependency than  
of Turkey. [Englishmen generally  
will not read Reports] the only  
Reports I ever saw which give  
these individual narratives or  
evidence with name & place  
were those on the Deccan  
'indebtedness'.

[end 10:679]

The 'Times' & 'Daily News' corres=  
pendents have discovered Cyprus.  
Why could not the Madras  
'Times' & the Madras 'Mail'  
send "special correspondents"  
to discover the interior, the  
agriculturists of India - writing  
in that lively manner which  
Englishmen will read?

There would not be that  
difficulty about the languages  
which prevents an English 'Special  
correspondent' from London being  
sent into the interior of India.  
O if an Indian Dickens would tell  
us something about the ryots!

[10:679]

**f4**

3. Might I ask what have been the after-consequences of the famine on the survivors?

has there been a *money=famine* following in the steps of the grain famine?

and what have been the steps taken to meet it, whether by employment on Public Works, advancing 'Takavi' for wells &c advances for seed, bullocks &c?

I feel, were I to go on, I should write a letter as long as a Report. But please consider me worthy, at least from deepest interest, of more of your bounties in the way of information.

4. Might I ask further: - are there in the Village Schools of the Madras Presy any *Manuals of Agriculture* to give simple information, in an interesting way, on common agricultural subjects?

[end 10:679]

O.I.O.C. Mss. Eur. B. 263 incomplete letter, ff5-8, pen {black-edged}

**f5**

Address  
10 South St.  
Park Lane. W.  
May 5/80

My dear Sir

I have only just received your kind note (being absent from London) & card for the Socy of Arts Lecture.

I am so very glad you are giving this Lecture: And I shall most eagerly look forward to reading it myself.

If there is anything that England wants to know about & knows *nothing* about, it is: Agriculture

[10:681]

in India. And when  
one thinks that we  
take 20 millions Land  
Revenue out of India's  
Agriculture & give  
nothing back, one  
almost wonders that  
there is not an universal  
Agrarian Mutiny. But  
the day cannot be far  
distant if we still  
continue doing nothing  
You have doubtless  
heard from Bombay  
Presidency what part  
of your scheme for  
Agricultural Education

**f6**

they have taken up -  
I had a long private  
letter about it: & should  
very much like to hear  
your opinion as to  
whether it will do any  
good -

But far more than  
this, do I hope that  
you will see some of  
the great Indian officials  
& the people at the  
India Office while  
you are in London.

I do trust that you  
are staying some time  
in London now.

Now is the time, when

there is a new Minister  
at the India Office  
& a new Viceroy is  
going out for them  
to learn of you.

[end 10:681]

I would not hurry  
away from London  
now, if I were you.

I telegraphed to you  
at Scarborough' this morning  
to ~~learn~~/send ~~me~~ your address  
in London to me at Seaton.

Please leave it also  
at the Society of Arts.

You will of course call  
at the India office -

f7

-2-

I do trust to see you:  
and shall come up  
to London on purpose -  
if I am able, IF  
you are going to stay  
over next week  
But far more important  
than that I should  
see you, (much as I  
desire it) - is: that  
the great Indian  
Authorities should see  
you.

Might I ask you  
to ~~send~~/leave your address in  
London,  
(besides sending it to me,)  
at/~~to~~ my brother-in-law's,  
Sir Harry Verney M.P.  
4 South St.  
Park Lane  
London W.

and to  
Henry Fawcett Esq M.P.  
51 The Lawn  
South Lambeth Road  
London S.W.

**f8**

I have been forced to  
 leave London again  
 for a little silence & rest  
 for the second time this  
 spring: & for the first  
 year for 27 years -  
 But I would come  
 back to London to see  
 you.

Pray believe me  
 ever your faithful servt  
 Florence Nightingale

W.R. Robertson Esq

{from f1}

Are there Model Farms **[10:681]**  
 not only for the culture of  
 valuable produce, but carried  
 on in such a way as to instruct  
 poor men with small or  
 moderate means how to  
 improve their agriculture  
 & make the best of what they  
 have, e.g. with regard to  
 the rotations of crops,  
 & the chemical laws on which  
 these are founded,  
 to manures - fodder crops for  
 cattle - the introduction of new  
 plants - deeper-ploughing with English ploughs  
 irrigation with relation to *manuring*? - how Are these taught? **[end 10:681]**  
I am really ashamed, if I were not  
 so intensely interested in your work,  
 to which all India & England owe such  
 a debt of gratitude, - to trouble you with  
 these questions. Pray believe me  
 ever your faithful servt Florence Nightingale  
 {printed address, 10, South Street,  
 upside down:} Park Lane. W.  
 Since I wrote this, but too late to look at before  
 this mail leaves, I have received the Annual  
 Report of the Agricultural Dept of Madras Presy  
 1879 F.N.

O.I.O.C. Mss. Eur. B. 263

**f9**

incomplete letter, ff9-14, pen

*Private* Dec 9 1881  
10, South Street, {printed address:}  
Park Lane. W.

My dear Sir

I have to thank you for  
your hopeful letter of Sept. 11,  
& to trust that you are still  
making good progress.

1. I feel so very anxious to  
know whether the proposed  
"test in Agriculture for the  
"Revenue Dept" is to be applied  
only to the Deputy Collectors,  
or whether it is to be required  
for all, the "Inspectors" &  
lower ranks of the Revenue  
Service who must have  
such much more direct &  
W.R. Robertson Esq

immediate influence with  
the Ryots. Are not the  
Inspectors rather a "bad lot",  
levying blackmail among  
the villages - & giving  
anything but careful returns  
of livestock &c?

[end 10:678]

2.

But above all how is  
your new Governor  
entering upon office  
with regard to Agriculture?  
And what are your financial  
prospects, now that the  
Decentralization scheme is,  
I suppose, taking effect?  
Is Agriculture getting its proper share?

[10:690-92]

**f10**

I was glad to hear that you had your Pound Fund & its accumulations, & your Imperial grant this year. But I hope the same command of money will continue under the Provincial arrangements -

3. Your buildings, I trust, are now complete.

4. But more important than ~~all~~ even these is the "establishment" of a number of Agricultural "classes in the High Schools" -

- your being able to provide masters for them - the Agricultural test for the examination of *all* future candidates for the Revenue Dept - & success being not merely a *paper* honour

but a means of promotion & *condition* of Advancement - Agriculture is NOT to be *optional*? as it has been.

5. *Have* they teachers yet from you in the ~~middle~~ & High Schools? Where do the Inspectors & lower Revenue Dept ranks obtain instruction - in order to pass their examination? And where do they pass it?

6. Your Stipendiary ships, I hope, are already in train. - I understood they were to be 30, 10 (for each Division) a year for 3 years. I trust you are satisfied with this.

**f11**

-2-

Very sorry indeed was I  
that you should be deprived  
of your two Assistants  
just at this critical time.  
But I trust Mr. Schiffmayer [?]  
is come back & that  
your native Assistant  
turns out well, & that  
you are in good health.

7. Mr. Buck, the new Head  
of the Agricultural Dept, ~~is~~  
should be helping you by  
this time. He is said to  
be an able man - And is  
the question of the  
trained Agricultural Officer  
& *Director* for each local  
Government settled?

I earnestly hope it is  
for *Madras*.

And what is Bombay  
doing for its Agricultural  
classes?

8. I have not yet received  
the List you were so good  
as to promise me of how  
each of your Graduates is  
employed. It is a great  
thing to have given so  
many good graduates to  
India. And I trust  
that not only will  
Agricultural proficiency  
be now the surest means  
& condition of advancement

**f12**

in the Revenue Service -  
but that, notwithstanding  
your former great difficulties owing  
to the cutting down of your  
stipendiary ships, you will  
will be able to supply  
Instructors to the new  
Agricultural classes -

May this great work  
prosper!

a.

You know I dare say that  
Sir Ashley Eden, urged by the  
supreme Govt, has sent home  
2 very good men - one a  
Bengalee Baboo, one a  
Mahomedan, to Cirencester  
for 2 years. Will they be able  
to instruct when they return

without further experience in India?

b.

Have you any thoughts about  
our giving the Civil ~~Servants~~/candidates -  
now passing their two years'  
course at Oxford & elsewhere  
for the *Indian Civil Service*

- some instruction in  
Agriculture & Forestry - &c  
before they leave England?  
Should you prefer a third  
year in England for this?  
or should you wish them  
rather to have a third year  
in India before they take  
up their posts - supposing  
there were an Agricultural

{printed address 10, South Street, Professorship &c  
upside down:} Park Lane. W.

at each Presidency capital?

**f13**

-3-

c.

Could anything be done now Mr. Benson is in England about improved Agricultural implements for India? For instance he might go round to the great Agricultural Implement Manufacturers as Ipswich, Bedford & Leeds, & say *what* they could do for you in the way of ploughs - *what* Articles would *suit* you &c &c. These manufacturers would send out *specimens* to try out in ~~(illeg)~~/India. And of some things Mr. Benson might obtain *models*, such as of the steam plough

Have you, or would you recommend, at least for Bengal, Steam threshing Machines, for threshing rice, (like wheat)? One threshes as much in a day as 60 men.

Sugar Mills I understand are now manufactured in Bengal -

d.

The new Irrigation works projected (for Public Works) - are they satisfactory to you? And are you one of those who think that Indian Cotton with tillage *and* *WET cultivation* could be brought up to the standard of Egyptian & American cotton?

**f14**

Or are the wants of India  
 such that *where* she has  
 irrigation, she must  
 always grow *food*?  
 I hope your new Director  
 of Public Instruction  
 assists you. He is one, I  
 believe, who *would* take  
 up the Agricultural question eagerly.  
 I have had the pleasure of  
 seeing Mr. Benson for a  
 few minutes: but unhappily  
 he did not apprise me of  
 his coming beforehand. And I  
 could not see him for more,  
 being very much overworked  
 Now I have written you, I fear,  
 a very troublesome letter -  
 so full of questions. But you

{from f15}

will kindly pardon my great  
 interest. I very much hope  
 that your own prospects are  
 settled, as you & we would  
 wish. Pray believe me  
 with earnest good wishes for  
 your health & success to the  
 work, ever yours faithfully

[end 10:692]

Florence Nightingale

Do not let me forget to  
 thank you for your Question  
 papers of 1876.

F.N.

{printed address, upside down:} 10, South Street,  
 Park Lane. W.

OIOC, Mss Eur

17

O.I.O.C. Mss. Eur. B. 263 signed letter, ff15-16, pen

**f15**

*PRIVATE*

Feb 16 1882

10, South Street, {printed address:}  
Park Lane. W.

My dear Sir

One line to thank you  
for your letter of Dec 26 1881  
- for the copy of the Govt of  
India Resolution on the new  
Agricl Dept.

[10:696]

& for your important papers  
of Jan 16 & note & M.S.S.

I hope to make use of  
them. I wish everybody here  
were are alive as I am to the  
truth & importance of what  
you say. I entirely agree as  
to the purport of ~~your~~/this  
famous Resolution. But few had  
seen it here. I congratulate you on your  
Governor & still hope he  
will find a way out.

I shall be *VERY* anxious  
to know the result of Mr.  
Buck's visit to Madras.

Still you seem to be  
doing great things at the  
College.

May God speed the work  
This is only a line of acknowledgement  
I hope to write again

[end 10:696]

ever yrs ffully  
Florence Nightingale

**f16**

W.R. Robertson Esq

O.I.O.C. Mss. Eur. B. 263 signed letter, ff17-18, pen

**f17**

PRIVATE                      Jan 26/83  
10, South Street, {printed address:}  
Park Lane. W.

My dear Sir

God speed to your new                      **[10:701]**  
Agricultural Dept. - &  
though perhaps some  
disappointment is felt  
at the inevitable necessity  
of a Civilian head, yet  
possibly ~~you~~/even more good  
may be done, as I know  
you will strive to do it,  
by you as the skilled  
& trained Prime Minister  
than as the titular head.  
Just as in England the  
Sovereign reigns but does  
not govern: the Prime  
Minister governs but

does not reign.  
You will be sure to make  
it so -    **[end 10:701]**

Many thanks for your Reports -  
I have been rather                              **[10:701-02]**

uneasy at not hearing  
from you - & should  
be glad of a line, when  
you have time, to tell me  
how things are going on.

You have at all events  
a Governor anxious to give  
the Madras Agricul Dept  
the strongest support -  
& to bring you forward  
& make you a position  
which you could fill with

**f18**

pleasure - No other Province  
can say the same: not  
even the N.W.P. And it  
is universally said ~~in~~  
~~India~~ that only in Madras  
has agricultural work proper  
begun.

Mr. Buck has expressed  
his great admiration of  
you in Madras - And I  
trust that what we feared  
as to the bad effect of  
having the Revenue & Settlement  
Dept as the reformer in  
agriculture will be  
averted.

[end 10:702]

Good speed to you in  
all your ways -

I trust that the health  
of you & yours is good.

{from f19}

If Mr. Benson is with  
you, pray give him my kind  
regards, & thank him for  
sending me the Education  
pamphlets.

You were, I hope, satisfied  
that he had done some good  
to the cause in England.

How about agricultural  
machinery?

Hoping to hear from you  
soon, I will not write more  
now but am as ever

yours most faithfully

F. Nightingale

W.R. Robertson

O.I.O.C. Mss. Eur. B. 263 signed letter, ff19-21, pen

**f19**

Private Oct 31/84  
10, South Street, {printed address:}  
Park Lane. W.

My dear Sir

It is very long since I have heard of you, tho' this is my fault, not yours - or rather my misfortune - [I will not trouble you with the months I have spent this year either in being entirely laid up myself with illness, or in attending dangerous illness in my own family] But I have been ever thinking of your work. You have had an up-hill battle to fight, as all who know acknowledge. But how much good work ~~you~~ has been done by you, & is doing!

I would fain know how the present division of the all-important agricultural work succeeds - All ~~the~~ the training & teaching is, I understand, in your hands - a work enough for any ambition - & which we are sure you are doing nobly. But how does the farming go on which is not in your hands? - & how do the native deputies do their work? & how is Mr. Benson doing?

[10:702]

But as to the Agricultural classes in the Mofussil Schools, so essential I should be interested beyond measure to

**f20**

know how they prosper:

and have you carried the proposal for bringing Agriculture on the Syllabus of the tests for employment in the Revenue Department?

and do they now employ the College ~~Cunder-g~~/Graduates, whom you have trained, as Officers of the Revenue Department?

[end]

That must be so essential in a Dept which has solely to do with agricultural revenue -

and how does it answer to have the Agricultural Dept which is to improve & encourage agriculture attached to the Rent-fixing & Rent

Collecting Dept?

You belong now to the Educational Dept, I believe: & perhaps you prefer this -

Excuse me for asking questions only: but seeking information from you, which interests me so much, is the only part I *can* take.

It is much more understood in England now that *agriculturists* must be put ~~on~~/in an (Indian) *Agricultural* Dept: that Civil Service candidates for India should have some knowledge of agriculture given them here.

Also: how much might

**f21**

-2-

be done for India by the  
selection & improvement &  
distribution of seeds &c out  
there in a systematic  
manner by Govt.

Above all, how is your  
College going on? & have you  
started a lower or School  
Dept? I hope you are well &  
also Mrs. Robertson.

I have not received any  
Reports from you lately  
All information would be  
most welcome to me -

Good speed attend your work  
is the most earnest wish  
of ever your faithful servt

Florence Nightingale

W.R. Robertson Esq

O.I.O.C. Mss. Eur. B. 263 signed letter, ff22-23, pen

**f22**

PRIVATE

Jan 15/86

10, South Street, {printed address:}  
Park Lane. W.

My dear Sir

I was so very glad of your  
letter - & especially for the  
good news that a large  
scheme for Technical instruction  
is about to be instituted  
in which your College will  
hold so large a place. The  
(compulsory) course of Science  
instruction including Agriculture  
at your College for  
Schoolmasters is a grand  
thing. And I give you joy  
that one of your wishes  
has so marked a success  
W.R. Robertson Esq

[10:705-06]

Indeed there can be no doubt  
that, notwithstanding draw backs  
you are doing a great work  
for all India, whose  
great question is agriculture.

I should be so very glad  
to hear more about this  
scheme, & what progress is  
made - It seems such  
a great step in advance -

Many thanks for the  
interesting papers you  
enclose -

I should congratulate your  
Student Association for the  
Journal it produces.

[end 10:706]

**f23**

I am interrupted; but will  
still send this scrap, if only to  
wish you & your work all the  
best New Year's blessings  
& not put off to another mail  
my joy at this beginning  
of Technical Instruction  
Pray believe me  
yours faithfully  
Florence Nightingale

O.I.O.C. Mss. Eur. B. 263 signed letter, ff24-25, pen

**f24**

April 12/88

10, South Street, {printed address:}  
Park Lane. W.

My dear Sir

Many thanks for the 3  
Cards for the Meeting at the  
Society of Arts tomorrow -  
I am very glad it is to take  
place, & believe it will  
be very useful - And  
many thanks too for your  
kind offer of a visit. I  
am entirely now a prisoner  
to my couch in one room  
from illness. But if you  
will excuse this, & if you  
could come to me for a call  
of a

few minutes on Saturday  
at 5 or at 5.30,  
or, if not Saturday, on Sunday  
[it will be the first I have  
accepted] I would  
gladly see you; & perhaps  
I might ask you to write  
me a letter on "Instruction  
"in Agriculture", especially  
as it bears on the subject  
of promotion of petty  
native Revenue Inspectors,  
if I am not able to talk,  
~~or~~ & to receive your most  
valuable information *viva voce*.

**f25**

Hoping to hear from you  
as to your hour,  
pray believe me  
ever faithfully yours  
Florence Nightingale  
W.R. Robertson Esq

O.I.O.C. Mss. Eur. B. 263 signed letter, ff26-27, pen

**f26**

PRIVATE                      June 15/88  
10, South Street, {printed address:}  
Park Lane. W.

My dear Sir

How can I thank you  
enough for your valuable  
letter - for the Report you  
so kindly sent me with  
your own important paper  
in it, which Report I shall  
ask to be allowed to keep -

**[10:709]**

I am most unwillingly  
obliged to excuse myself for  
not having written from  
illness. But I have not  
been quite idle - I have  
submitted important points  
in your letter to those who  
might be able to further them

But progress is slow -

You are so good as to say  
that you would answer any  
further questions.

You told me - this is a point  
on which people are anxious -  
that the rules laid down by  
which there is to be no  
enhancement of assessment  
except upon intelligible principles  
have been eluded in Bombay  
& not at all followed in  
Madras.                      What are the  
particular points by which  
they contrive to set these  
rules, so essential to the

**f27**

Ryots' (or cultivators') improvements  
& welfare, at defiance?

Of course all improvements  
stand still when re=settlement  
is coming on, if this is the  
case -

Is the Survey & Settlement Dept,  
which it was supposed was to be  
disbanded, still in full force?

I will not write more now,  
but I will write again; when I  
have had your kind answer. **[end 10:709]**

ever faithfully yours  
Florence Nightingale

W.R. Robertson Esq

O.I.O.C. Mss. Eur. B. 263 signed letter, ff28-29, pen & pencil

**f28**

March 31/90

10, South Street, {printed address:}  
Park Lane. W.

My dear Sir

Never think, please, that  
I am not grateful for your  
kindness, tho' I am unable  
to answer promptly - I gave  
the 3 Cards you were so  
kind as to send me for  
your valuable Lecture, which  
I did ~~so~~ wish I could have  
heard myself. And I was  
so much obliged to you for  
sending me the Report of it

Alas! that you should not **[10:710]**  
be going to carry on your  
inestimable work in India -  
But I hope that you will

still instruct us in our Indian  
 agricultural duties here -  
 I trust that you think well  
 of what the Govts of India  
 have done - in having out  
 the Secy (or whatever he is  
 called) of the Agricultural Socy  
 for a year. The Govt of India  
 does so little for agriculture.

I augur great things from  
 your 'farm' here -

[end 10:710]

I hope to be able to see you,  
 as you kindly propose, before  
 you leave Hampstead - you  
 tell me so much that is  
 deeply interesting.

**f29**

You kindly ask after me.  
 My health fails very much. And  
 I have not been off my sofa  
 all winter - And work &  
 anxieties & responsibilities  
 multiply as one grows old.

Pray believe me

ever yours sincerely

Florence Nightingale

W.R. Robertson Esq

I have found 7 Nos. of your [10:710]  
 admirable Saidapet Journal  
 of the "Agricultural Students  
 Association" - *which I trust*  
*continues* - It is so profitable  
 to young men to write *exactly*  
 But I hope that they will not

{from f30}

go mad about "bacilli" &  
"germs" & "bacteriology"  
which has been the 'fad' here  
~~And~~/But I think is passing away  
in its dangerous aspect - (Koch's)  
viz.

- that of considering the "germs"  
as the origin, not the  
product of disease, of which  
uncleanliness, bad drainage,  
bad water supply &c are **[end 10:710]**  
the origin -

I return these Nos. for  
I think they were those  
you asked for, with thanks

F.N.

ff30-32, May 7, 4 South Street, from Sir H. Verney, asking the addressee to  
dine and arranging a meeting with the Duke of Argyll

O.I.O.C. Mss Eur F234/32/1, paper copy, letter 1 signed letter, 4ff, pen

*Private*

January 26/83

10, South Street, {printed address:}  
Park Lane. W.

My dear Sir

I cannot thank you  
enough for your very great  
kindness in giving me  
such information on two  
subjects so near my heart:

[10:700-01]

- the Madras drainage &  
the Agricultural new Dept.

Your Dispatch with  
enclosures on the drainage  
of Madras to the India Office  
has been 'put forward.'

You are very angry with  
the Army Sanitary Commn:  
*as you well may:* (so they  
say themselves-)

We have now the whole

case - viz. the disease-case on  
one hand & your proposals  
on the other.

Your views are noble. Good  
speed to them!

And may Major Baring be able  
to give you the pecuniary  
Imperial help you so well  
deserve is my most  
fervent wish!

If I might dare to ask, it  
would be to know this -

May I write again about the Drainage Dispatch?

2. Is there anything feasible  
in establishing agricultural  
land banks, as they are  
making a beginning of in  
Bombay - &/or as Major Baring  
appears to advocate?

3. As to agricultural affairs,  
your name is blessed all  
over India. We hear  
constantly from high officials:

'The Madras Agricultural  
Department is flourishing.

'But *there* the Local Govt  
is liberal & gives it the  
strongest support.

'The only province *outside*  
*Madras*, wherein agricultural  
work proper has begun, is  
-----the N.W.P.'

&c &c &c

I wish the highest success  
to your new Agricul Director,  
& trust that he will fully  
respond to your instalment of

him in the post which,  
considering the circumstances  
of India, almost dwarfs  
every other, *not* of the  
highest class, in importance.

I know that Mr. Robertson  
will answer to your kindness  
& your expectation as  
second in command -

Thank you for telling  
me about that.

I am going to ask your  
leave to write again on  
both these subjects.

If I may, I send you  
my very best & deepest  
New year's wishes for 1883

-2-

*Private*

on all your wise & beneficent  
 plans for increasing the  
 wealth of Madras & your  
 kingdom - And may  
 1883 be a year of progress  
 to poor India. There  
 has never been such an  
 awakening to the interests  
 of the cultivators - in  
 Madras, in Bombay, in  
 Bengal, N.W.P. Punjab

Copy {there is a vertical line in the margin between the two X's}

**X** Of course the Devil's  
 advocate is busy.

So much the better

It is sleepiness we have  
 to dread, not the clash  
 of minds in a constitutional way.

"Her Majesty's opposition  
 is a great 'Institution' -

In every Institution I have  
 ever known, Hospitals not  
 excepted, we never can do  
 anything good, unless there  
 are two, or better still  
 three constitutional elements, keeping  
 each other up to the mark  
 & acting as a check on  
 one another **X**

This is the great difficulty  
 in the Army: we have it not.

We are just now having  
 a tremendous Committee  
 on the failures in Egypt,  
 Hospital, Sanitary & Transport  
 - not attacking men but  
 systems. But we are  
 a great deal too civil - not  
 in words but in action. We are

'fortiter in modo' but too  
 'suaviter in re'.

There is a deal of self-excusing.

But 'qui s'excuse, s'accuse.'

And 'je suis' not 'de l'avis  
 de Monsieur pour la  
 raison contraire' -  
 but 'pour la même raison,'  
 'de l'avis contraire'

But I am taking up your  
 time: too valuable for this.

I trust that India suits  
 the health of you & yours,  
 & pray believe me, with every  
 good wish & expectation of your highest success,  
 ever your faithful & grateful

servt

Florence Nightingale

[P. Turn over

H.E.

Rt. Honble M.E. Grant Duff

&c

&c

You are good enough to send  
 a kind message to the Verneys,  
 My sister I am sorry to say has  
 been seriously ill for 3 months; &  
 tho' they have been able to move  
 her to Claydon last week, she  
 is still quite a helpless Invalid.  
 The Buckingham people celebrate  
 Sir Harry's Jubilee next week,  
 when a Cabinet Minister or two  
 grace the occasion by much  
 speaking. He is 81, a most  
 wonderful man for his years  
 but still he is much aged by  
 my sister's illness -

We have had a busy & rather  
 disastrous winter.

[end 10:701]

F.N.

{printed address, 10, South Street,  
 upside down:} Park Lane. W.

O.I.O.C. Mss Eur F234/32/2, letter 2 signed letter, 4ff, pen

July 20/83

10, South Street, {printed address:}  
Park Lane. W.

My dear Sir

I cannot possibly thank  
you enough for your kind  
& most interesting letter  
received in April - nor  
for the invaluable Journal  
of your Tour which  
accompanied it - the  
native Memorials & Pictures,  
curious & encouraging, in which,  
you allowed me to make use  
of - the rest was 'private'

[10:849]

I am crammed full of  
Indian interests & questions  
which I want to ask your  
knowledge: but will spare

you this time. We trust  
that your wisdom &  
experience are able to  
approve of Lord Ripon's  
policy. You will have  
seen what a wild  
outcry, now happily subsiding,  
has been raised against it  
among our ignorance.

[end 10:849]

But I am now only  
troubling you, in order, if  
I may be so fortunate, to  
win your & Mrs. Grant Duff's  
help & protection in the  
Medical career of Mrs.

[10:727]

Scharlieb among the native women subjects of Her Majesty who number above a hundred millions. She sails for Madras on Tuesday. Her Medical career was, as you are aware, started by the Government of Madras.

Many & many an English lady, especially those on Medical Missions, comes to us, & asks us to put her in the way of 'picking up' enough (!! ) Nursing & Doctoring to be useful in India - And, on our remonstrating, they say:

'Something (of Doctoring) is better than nothing.'

Mrs. Scharlieb is quite of a different opinion: - nothing is good enough for India. She has with untiring genius & perseverance gone thro' 5 years' hard practical & theoretical Medical, Surgical, & Midwifery Education in England - (besides her previous Education in Madras)

Her success at the Examination has been triumphant. She goes out to India the first fully qualified Lady Doctor -

-2-

The case about Lady Doctoring  
is so entirely different  
in India, where the women  
*must* have women Doctors  
or *none*, from what it is  
in England, that we hope for your  
support.

But I believe Mrs. Scharlieb  
would meet with your  
support any how.

You know how native  
ladies follow the lead of  
Government House.

A word from yourself &  
Mrs. Grant Duff would  
give Mrs. Scharlieb a  
good start in her great  
career.

I earnestly hope that

her first dozen cases  
will not be hopeless cases,  
but cases which *can* be  
cured & which she *will*  
cure.

She has qualified herself  
to take every kind of case.

The Queen has seen her  
& expressed her sympathy  
with her, & sent a message  
of sympathy to Her Majesty's  
subjects, Mrs. Scharlieb's  
future Patients, native women.

I long to hear about the  
Madras Drainage & water supply

**[end 10:727]**

I shall honour myself  
& trouble you with  
writing again.

Pray believe me  
ever your faithful & grateful  
servt

Florence Nightingale

H.E.

the Right Honble M.E. Grant Duff  
&c &c

O.I.O.C. Mss Eur F234/32/3, letter 3 signed letter, 3ff, pen

Sept 6/87

10, South Street, {printed address:}  
Grosvenor Square. W.

Dear Lady Grant Duff

Thank you so very, very much [10:762]  
for sending me the little Nursing  
book, Pachai Ammal, for *native*  
homes, by Mr. Krishna machariar,  
of Madras.

If it is valuable, it is so very  
valuable that I am trying to get  
some one to read it in Tamil  
for me. Because it not only  
comprises Sick-Nursing & Sanitary  
knowledge for native homes,  
which is what we want,  
but appears to be a story  
intended to show how *widows*  
can lead useful & honourable

lives by being *trained* in Hospital  
as Sick Nurses.

And how I echo the universal  
feeling of the inestimable  
work you have done in  
Southern India, raising  
our poor sisters (& fellow  
subjects) there in every way,  
bodies & souls. Your work  
will live - Thank God for it!

Perhaps you *have* thought of  
recommending this little book,  
*if it is good*, to Lady Dufferin.

None but a native can write  
 for native homes - And all the  
 books written by natives that  
 I have seen (& could read)  
 were mere imitations of  
 English Sanitary books.

If Lady Dufferin would have  
 a book like this written  
 for each Presidency & each  
 Province by a competent  
 native & revised by  
 Anglo-Indian & translated  
 into the Vernaculars, would  
 not this be the best way of  
 gently striking at native  
 superstitions?

You know so much more than  
 I do - or than almost any one  
 May you continue your great  
 work!

I do trust that your health  
 is improving as we all  
 your respectful friends  
 desire & long for - Shall you  
 be obliged to go to Bournemouth

[end 10:762]

I cannot thank you enough  
 for sending me those  
 exquisite water-lilies  
 which lit up my room  
 with your kindness  
 after I had the pleasure,  
 the great pleasure of seeing

[10:762]

-2-

you -

I will not take up your  
 time with mentioning illness  
 & business which have  
 prevented me from  
 acknowledging your great  
 kindness sooner -

& with kind regards to  
 Sir Mountstuart Grant Duff  
 pray believe me  
 ever your devoted servant

[end 10:762]

Florence Nightingale  
 I will return "Pachai Ammal"

F.N.

O.I.O.C. Mss Eur F234/32/4, letter 4 signed letter, 3ff, pen

*Private*

Oct 3/84

10, South Street, {printed address:}  
Park Lane. W.

My dear Sir

I know not how to begin -  
You have been so good to me  
- I, with unabated interest  
in your gigantic land, your  
immense work, have been  
so unable to answer, as I  
ought - my loss, not yours.

I trust that Mrs. Scharlieb, [10:727-28]  
the Lady Doctor, has made the  
progress among native ladies  
that her own great industry  
& genius & full preparation  
for her profession - and the  
support of Government House  
should ensure her. Her

practice is large: of course  
among poor women  
from whom she will  
not take a fee almost  
beyond her strength. She  
greatly needs a qualified  
Lady Assistant from England.  
But till her *remunerated*  
practice is assured, or till  
she has some regular Government  
appointment, she can hardly  
venture upon sending for  
such an Assistant - She  
works on with unflagging  
spirit & great success.

All eagerness to know what you think of Lord Dufferin's appointment, I scarcely dare to ask you -

Your friend, Sir Louis Mallet, is much better in health, & preparing for some work in writing, we hope.

[end 10:728]

I think I may trouble you with a letter by next mail - My sister's & Sir Harry Verney's health have, I am sorry to say, been my great occupation this year - Sir Harry is well again. My poor work has suffered.

With intense good wishes for your work,  
pray believe me  
ever your faithful servt  
Florence Nightingale

H.E.

the Rt Honble M.E. Grant Duff

The horses are snorting for the fray & the battle which begins on the 23rd. You must not wish to be of them: with your stupendous work to do:

If Mr. Gladstone has made errors, it is because he is too constitutional. If Lord Ripon has committed mistakes, it is because he is too constitutional - is it not so?

F.N.

OIOC, Mss Eur

40

O.I.O.C. Mss Eur F234/32/5, letter 5 signed letter, 2ff, pen

Oct 31/84

10, South Street, {printed address:}  
Park Lane. W.

My dear Sir

I cannot thank you enough  
for your great kindness in  
sending me those two valuable  
papers of yours. What is "Confidential"  
shall be kept confidential.  
The 'Appendix' in which is  
your speech about Madras  
Drainage will be of much  
use. The other paper  
which shows your "close  
"watching of the wishes of  
"the ruled" is most important.

Your last pregnant words  
when you were so good as to  
come & see me were:

[10:704-05]

"India is a vast estate which  
we have to administer"  
And how grandly they have  
been acted out by you -  
May success attend your  
every step!

Pardon me for asking two  
questions, very near my heart:

Might I ask whether you  
have seen your way to carry  
out a proposal which I  
believe you entertained,  
to make agriculture one of  
the tests for employment

in the Revenue Department.

and 2. to give employment as Officers in the Revenue Dept to graduates whom you have trained in the Agricultural College?

I could overflow with questions: so interesting are they to me. But I must not abuse your great kindness. Pray believe me ever your faithful & grateful servt.

Florence Nightingale

It must make it very lively & pleasant to members of the House of Commons to have

a personal "row" in there every night: & "jackals", "badgers" & "bonnets" going/flying about as names (not by Irish but English spokesmen) of respectable experienced Members & Statesmen. But it does not conduce to either business or dignity. And it makes one's blood boil to see our Cabinet's time & brains & work wasted after this rowdy fashion. You have nobler work in India F.N. [end 10:705]  
H.E.  
the Rt Honble M.E. Grant Duff

O.I.O.C. Mss Eur F234/32/6, letter 6 signed letter, 2ff, pen

Nov 28/84

10, South Street, {printed address:}  
Park Lane. W.

My dear Sir

First of all, let me give  
Madras joy, which we all do  
with all our hearts, of the  
third anniversary of your  
wise & beneficent rule on  
November 5: (also the 30th  
anniversary of the Battle of Inkermann)

[10:185-86]

How can I thank you enough  
for your kind note - & for the  
valuable paper of the "requests"  
of the ruled, & of the answers  
of the ruler to each individual  
request - which I should  
have by heart by this time  
but that, unluckily for me, not

only I but what is much worse,  
my eyes are quite laid up ~~by~~/at  
this time. But it will not be  
many days before I have  
mastered it.

Yes: the Reports of which I  
see so many often remind me  
of our "Requisitions" at Scutari  
which whether they were  
answered or not, [& the negatives  
were in those first months in by  
far the larger majority,] were  
all filed as the *vouchers* for  
our supplies, where we have  
ourselves ~~seen~~/found them in the  
Purveyor's Officer.

You have done now, (I believe,

for the first time in history,  
as you say,) that which shows  
what the rulers *have* done  
~~to~~/in answer to what the people  
have said they wanted. May the  
people praise thee, O Governor!

[end 10:186]

The energetic Mrs. Scharlieb I  
can fancy giving her first  
lecture two hours after her  
appointment. We were so  
very glad of her appointment  
- glad & thankful.

[10:728]

The Verneys came up to South St.  
for the autumn session. But  
poor Sir Harry has scarcely  
been able to go down to the  
House except to pair. I have

given them your most kind  
message - which they, I am  
sure, reciprocate -

And will you excuse this  
petty scrawl on the plea of ~~my~~/the  
constant ever deepening interest  
in India's peasants -  
of your faithful ever loyal devoted  
servant

Florence Nightingale

[end 10:728]

H.E.

the Rt Honble M.E. Grant Duff

OIOC, Mss Eur

44

O.I.O.C. Mss Eur F234/32/9, letter 9 signed letter, 4ff, pen

*Private* Jan 23/85  
10, South Street, {printed address:}  
Park Lane. W.

My dear Sir

I never can thank you  
enough for your great kindness  
in writing on subjects so  
intensely interesting to me  
when your time is so  
precious for all the great  
work you are doing -

I am so glad that Lord  
Reay & Lord Dufferin  
are so acceptable to you.  
In answer to your kind  
question, Lord Reay has  
been so good as to  
come & see me - & is, I

believe, coming again before  
he leaves England.

With regard to Mrs. Scharlieb's  
work, we have to thank you  
for the kind promise I believe thro' Dr. Cornish, that,  
for the Caste & Gosha Women's  
Hospital which she wishes  
to start & which is so  
necessary, Government  
would provide her salary,  
that of a Lady Assistant,  
& drugs. This would  
leave that which would cost  
about Rs 200 a month - to  
be provided ~~for~~ by the native  
gentry of Madras - for a small  
Hospital of 20 beds -

[10:728-29]

But this part rather hangs fire.

It is so desirable to open this small Hospital at once that Mr. Ragoonalha Rao, the late Dewan of Indore, has offered to guarantee an income of Rs 100 a month for one year, if the other Rs 100 could be raised.

The very appointment of Mrs. Scharlieb to the Lectureship makes the little Hospital still more important, for there is no opportunity of giving her 'Female Students' any *clinical instruction*, which is hard on them, on her, & still more hard upon

their future Patients -

Mrs. Scharlieb could not have ~~out~~ a qualified Lady Assistant from England, which is a pressing need indeed, without offering her some certain prospect. A definite appointment of even Rs 150 a month would be sufficient, because Mrs. Scharlieb could add a sum to this.

A native gentleman has offered a suitable building.

Your protégée (Mrs. Scharlieb) is working hard & successfully & justifies your & Mrs. Grant Duff's kindness. She is happy & full of interest. But her morning

-2-

round is often one of 12 miles  
in scattered Madras - & she  
cannot attend to nearly all who  
need her care, unless those  
whose position would not  
forbid their entering a  
Hospital could be gathered  
into one place.

Pardon my writing this,  
for I know that Mrs. Grant  
Duff has been kindly  
interested in this part of the  
business which is so important  
to the poor native women.

Her great 'party' is  
delightful to hear of.  
There is no position like  
that of a Governor's lady

for a noble usefulness:  
because there is no class  
in Europe, I suppose like  
that of native ladies to  
whom her word is law.

I have written about Mrs.  
Scharlieb without her  
knowledge.

We are enveloped here in  
black frost & yellow fog.  
I do not mean that politics  
are, but I am not worthy  
to be your political correspondent

[end 10:729]

but am always  
your faithful & grateful servt  
Florence Nightingale

Rt Honble  
M.E. Grant Duff  
& &

OIOC, Mss Eur

47

O.I.O.C. Mss Eur F234/32/8, letter 8 signed letter, 3ff, pen & pencil

Please  
return

May 15/85

10, South Street, {printed address:}  
Park Lane. W.

My dear Sir

How true & noble a work  
you & Mrs. Grant Duff have  
done in establishing this  
Hospital for caste & gosha  
women, & in putting Mrs.  
Scharlieb, a woman fully  
trained & qualified not  
only in head & hands but  
in heart to give effect to  
these kind & wise intentions,  
generations after you will  
show. God bless you &  
Mrs. Grant Duff - & not for  
H.E.  
the Rt. Honble M.E. Grant Duff

[10:729-30]

this only but for all she has  
so wonderfully done in  
bringing the native ladies  
under good influences & her  
own. Those are 'good words'  
she said about our Almighty  
Father who is the God of the  
Christians & the Mussulmans  
& the Hindus - We so often  
forget that - And nothing  
can conduce so much to make  
the native women feel it  
as bringing real thorough  
Western medical practice in

the hands of a woman, who  
 thinks "nothing ~~too~~ good enough  
 "for native women", as she  
 said to me, to bear upon  
 them in their hour of pain  
 & sickness - May she go  
 on & prosper & train  
 others like her!

You have been so very kind  
 in giving me the most  
 valuable papers from time  
 to time upon your great  
 reforms. They have not  
 been wasted. And if I have  
 not troubled you with long

letters, ascribe it first not  
 to my forbearance but my  
 inability. I have been almost  
 entirely laid up: but this house  
 has been a rendez-vous for  
 our trained Nurses going  
 to & fro Souakim with  
 charges of severely wounded  
 from Souakim home - & also  
 for comforts to the men out  
 in Egypt & the Soudan.

The uppermost wish in  
 my heart now is: may this  
 hideous Russian imbroglio  
 not interfere with the course  
 of your beneficent reforms  
 in India - or cut off the  
 money supplies needed to carry

them out!

-2-

Sir Harry Verney is still as active as ever. The last of the members for Buckingham, he will cease to sit in the House, & Buckingham will cease to be a Parly Borough this year. He was asked to stand for North Bucks, but has declined. His eldest son is the Liberal candidate. What do you think of this

vast change in the Representation?

But at this moment no one thinks of it even here. Every one is absorbed in wars & rumors of wars - & in India, but not alas! in her administrative reforms. **[end 10:730]**

Pray believe me

ever your faithful & grateful servt.

Florence Nightingale

O.I.O.C. Mss Eur F234/32/7, letter 7 signed letter, 2ff, pen

Jan 1/85/6

10, South Street, {printed address:}

Park Lane. W.

My dear Madam

First let me wish you with all my heart & soul a *good* New Year, a happy New year, to you & to the "Victoria Caste Hospital" & to all your good works & influence among the native women & ladies - & send our heart-felt thanks for your admirable speech at the opening of the Hospital which must have touched them all.

**[10:740]**

How kind of you to write to me.

How we must rejoice that you have so won the native gentlemen as to make them so generous in their help. There is no greater step in civilization, I suppose, than this care of native gentlemen for their poorer sisters, and the increasing cultivation - increasing at least in the Presidency towns - of the ladies -

I think we may give you joy of Mrs. Scharlieb as we may indeed give *her* joy of Her Excellency's true excellence as the Chief of ~~the~~ women in the Presidency.

May poor India have a truly blessed New Year still.

And will you accept me as ever your faithful servant and India's

Florence Nightingale

[end 10:740]

H.E.

Mrs. Grant Duff

OIOC, Mss Eur

51

O.I.O.C. Mss Eur F234/32/10, letter 10 signed letter, 5ff, pen

*Private* Jan 15/86  
10, South Street, {printed address:}  
Park Lane. W.

My dear Sir

I hailed your kind  
letter with the utmost  
interest - especially that  
part where you tell me of  
that large scheme which  
you are launching for the  
encouragement of Industrial  
& Technical Education - this  
is a matter of such vital  
importance for India -  
Attendance on a course of  
Science instruction including  
Agriculture no doubt will  
be ~~illeg~~/compulsory for some -  
H.E.  
Rt Honble M.E. Grant Duff

**[10:706-07]**

[I always remember your  
pregnant words upon India  
being a vast estate which  
we have to administer.]

This will indeed worthily  
celebrate your last year.

No doubt Civil Servants  
will come in for their share  
of the immense advantages  
which you are preparing.  
And it will be remembered  
that they should be allowed  
to pass in Agriculture or  
Technical Science, & should  
receive the same rewards

& increased allowances for  
it that they receive at  
present for passing in  
languages.

[It is a subject eagerly  
canvassed now at Oxford  
and at the India office -  
canvassed without much of  
the practical action following  
that should follow at the latter.]

But you will steal a  
march upon them. You will  
have the whole machinery with you  
there - & the power of applying  
such knowledge to the  
country. In England  
the knowledge can only be

obtained with difficulty  
& without any reference  
to India -

Oxford is however endeavouring  
to follow suit.

It would rejoice my soul  
if you were kind enough  
to order any part of your  
scheme that ~~it~~ would not  
be improperly made known  
to be sent me - It should  
be quite 'Private' if desired.

It does rejoice my soul  
that you think the taking  
away of so much of the

-2-

Provincial Income, owing  
to the war-scare - this  
was heart-rending last year  
- will not prevent much  
good being done this year -

[end 10:707]

Our very best New Year's  
wishes are for you & yours  
& for your "vast estate"  
that the highest New Year's  
blessings may be poured  
upon you all, without limit  
but that of Infinite Love,  
& Infinite Wisdom & Power  
- & upon Mrs. Grant Duff's  
noble works.

I say nothing of the  
extraordinary & critical state  
of public affairs here,  
especially as regards Ireland.  
You have better informants  
than I. The next two years  
will be specially interesting,  
but the next two months  
specially critical =

[10:707]

Sir Harry Verney & my  
sister are coming to London  
to-day. And I will give  
them your kind message.  
Sir Harry & Buckingham  
have gone out of the House  
of Commons together -  
Capt. Verney, the eldest son,

has won North Bucks by  
 a very large majority  
 without asking a single man  
 for his vote or spending a  
 single penny in getting one,  
 simply by holding (more than  
 a hundred) Meetings, generally  
 with his wife with him -  
 instructing & explaining to  
 the people - often in the  
 mud with his back to a wall  
 - or in a wagon with his  
 back to a tree by the light  
 of a single lantern, wife by  
 his side who has made  
 5600 & odd intimate friends  
 - or in a cowshed with the  
 toilworn rugged faces  
 looking over the stalls by the  
 'lantern dimly burning'.

Fred: Verney, the youngest sone,  
 pursued the same tactics, in  
 S.W. Kent, also with his wife,  
 but he was too late in the field,  
 & lost by a small majority in  
 a very heavy poll - Defeat means  
 victory, conducted in  
 such a way. Now the Election  
 is past & gone, one does  
 not want to use 'bad words'  
 about the squires & clergy  
 who closed all school-rooms -  
 to Liberal candidates -  
 The public houses were engaged  
 on the Conservative side - And  
 not even a Liberal *horse*  
 could obtain a shelter -

Success to the right in the  
 forthcoming struggle -  
 {printed address: 10, South Street,  
 upside down:} Park Lane. W.  
 ever your faithful servt  
 Florence Nightingale

[end 10:707]

O.I.O.C. Mss Eur F234/32/11 letter 11 signed letter, 2ff, pen

July 9/86

10, South Street, {printed address:}  
Park Lane. W.

My dear Sir

I cannot thank you enough  
for your kind note, or for the  
most interesting paper which  
accompanied it - or for the  
collection of Mrs. Grant Duff's  
speeches - This is indeed a  
fishery of pearls of great price  
I have seldom been so absorbed  
by any reading - with the  
simplicity of genius, things  
were put with such telling  
effect, so practically, yet  
with the inspiration of  
conviction - plain things put  
with enthusiasm - & secular

things with the sanction of the  
Almighty Father who is  
the God over all nations & races.

I read them with delight  
when I could read nothing else  
from illness -

They must have done  
immense good.

You see us here in all the  
tumult of an unparallel  
election; which has come not  
to bring peace on earth but  
a sword. Households are  
divided against themselves;  
sons against fathers -

It is like a train going by, &  
 boys shouting at it, & throwing  
 stones; scarcely more dignity  
 or conviction than that -

But by the time this reaches  
 you, it will have been an old  
 story - So I stop.

Success to your return - as  
 success to your administration.

You kindly ask after my sister  
 & brother-in-law, Sir Harry Verney.  
 She is very suffering; & Sir Harry  
 is wonderful as he is growing somewhat old. He is  
 Hartington-ian. His sons, one  
 of whom has stood & lost for  
 Bath, & the other, the eldest, ~~the~~  
 M.P. for North Bucks, is standing  
 again, are I will not say Gladston-ian,

but, as Mr. Gladstone had conceded  
 so much in his Irish bills,  
 desirous that he should be  
 tried again, which seems  
 little likely. Before you  
 receive this, it will be all  
 decided.

May I beg my grateful regards  
 to Mrs. Grant Duff, & beg  
 you to believe me  
 ever gratefully & faithfully  
 yours

Florence Nightingale

H.E.

the Rt Honble M.E. Grant Duff  
 &c &c

O.I.O.C. Mss Eur F234/32/12, letter 12 signed letter, 2ff, pen

June 3/87

10, South Street, {printed address:}  
Park Lane. W.

Dear Sir M.E. Grant Duff

My welcome home is not  
the less heart-felt for being  
tardy. I did not like to be  
intrusive.

Let me gratefully accept  
your kindness with all  
your other kindnesses in  
sending me most interesting  
papers & letters, including  
Lady Grant Duff's "Speeches"  
- and ask you if *Wednesday*

or *Thursday* next at 5.30  
would suit your convenience  
You are so kind as to offer  
to come & see me "any day  
"after Tuesday" (or to-day)  
& to tell me to appoint a  
time.

You will, I know, excuse an  
invalid.

If I do not hear from you,  
I will conclude that I  
may hope for the pleasure

of seeing you on *Wednesday*  
at 5.30

Pray believe me  
ever faithfully yours  
Florence Nightingale

O.I.O.C. Mss Eur F234/32/13, letter 13 signed letter, 2ff, pen, draft 45811

August 4/91  
10, South Street, {printed address:}  
Park Lane. W.

You have been so kind to me,  
dear Lady Grant Duff -  
and now I see your cards -

I should have liked to have **[10:770]**  
acknowledged your kindness,  
& above all to have seen you  
But my Doctor tells me  
that if I have any common  
sense left, I must leave  
London at once.

I would I could have  
heard how your Madras  
"Victoria" Hospl for Women  
is going on.

**[end 10:770]**  
**[10:365]**

Further, I am so glad that  
Sir Mountstuart Grant Duff  
is to preside at the Indian

Delegates' Conference - & to  
give an Address.

May I not commend to  
him thro' you the cause of  
*Village* Sanitation in India?  
We laboured for many years  
at the Bombay Village  
Sanitation Bill, before it  
became an Act; and now it  
is a "dead letter" because no  
proper funds have been  
allotted for it.

I ~~would~~/will venture to enclose  
an Extract from a letter  
to me from the Poona  
Sarvajanik Sabha, if I may,  
[Unluckily it is not just now  
at hand].

Still what we wanted first

was that the Villages should do what they *could* do *for themselves* - & that any 'patel' or headman whose village was remarkable for Sanitary improvement should receive a 'mark of honour'. [And this would cost but little.]

But if Sir Mountstuart saw well to take up this important branch of the subject, he would not need hints from me.

[end 10:265]

Goodbye, dear Lady Grant  
Duff - May I call myself  
ever yours sincerely  
Florence Nightingale

O.I.O.C. Mss Eur F234/32/14 letter 14 signed letter, 4ff, pen, draft 45811 f107

Poona Native Girls'  
High School July 5/92  
10, South Street, {printed address:}  
Park Lane. W.

Dear Lady Grant Duff

I hope that you have not quite forgotten me or your kindness to me.

[10:770-71]

Will that kindness forgive me if I ask you to be so very good as to read yourself the two printed papers I venture to enclose - one a Memorial to the Secretary of State for India, for which, if you approve it, we dare to hope for your signature & Sir Mountstuart Grant Duff's - the other, a statement of the case

There is no need to trouble  
                                  you with a long  
letter from me, since tho'  
I believe you have been  
more fortunate in Madras  
than they have been in  
Bombay Presidency, you  
will know ~~the~~/this case in an  
instant - that is,  
- the educational wants of  
the women of India -  
- the "Indian Ladies' Association"  
- the "Maharashtra" Female  
Education Society for the  
Deccan -  
- the successful efforts  
of the Chiefs & native ladies  
of rank to raise money -  
- and the result, the Girls'  
High School at Poona;

which had the good fortune  
to secure a mistress in  
Miss Hurford, whose  
genius for native girls, unflinching  
good sense & devotion, have  
done a wonderful work &  
given her a wonderful  
influence over the girls &  
their parents.

Little toddlers cling round  
her skirts. And girls in  
their teens who would be  
*mothers* but for Miss Hurford  
remain with her at their  
own request & their parents'.

She does much to make  
the British Raj popular.

She has gone thro' her  
troubles, like others, and  
successfully. But now

the greatest trouble of all has come. The Bombay Governmt had adopted this pioneer school, & made it a Governmt Institution, paying the salaries - the society doing a great deal for the Govt. too -

The Bombay Govt now wishes to make the School only a State-aided School. Will not this to the Indian mind appear as if the School had somehow forfeited the Govt's unqualified approval? and will it not seriously damage if not destroy a

-2-

School for which native gentlemen have done so much?

To show ~~the~~ its impression on the Oriental mind, Prince Damrong, brother of the King of Siam, & Minister of Public Instruction at Bangkok, when visiting Miss Hurford's School this year among other Institutions in India, said to us that it was the most "practical" School he had ever seen.

May it not truly be said that neither Sanitary reform nor any other Social reform will make much progress till the women, the mother & 'mothers-in-law' of India

are thus educated? for the  
women whom we scarcely  
ever see govern the men.

But you know more about  
it than us all.

It has been determined  
to memorialize the  
Secretary of State for  
India, as you see -

May we hope that you &  
Sir Mountstuart Grant Duff  
will give the memorial  
the great weight of your  
names?

**[end 10:771]**

Pray believe me  
dear Lady Grant Duff  
ever yours sincerely  
Florence Nightingale

OIOC MSS Eur. A.110, paper copy, unsigned letter to Mary Carpenter, 1f, pen

Aug 3/66

35 South Street, {printed address:}  
Park Lane,  
London. W.

Dear Madam

I am so overwhelmed  
with business - that, -  
being also entirely a  
prisoner to my bed  
from incurable illness -  
I have not been able  
to answer your kind  
note of July 21 as yet.

**[9:562]**

I thank you much  
for your generous offer  
of doing anything for  
me in India - but  
Miss Carpenter

I will not trouble you -  
Your time is already  
too well filled .

I shall write to Sir John  
Lawrence (he is at  
Simlah, you know, till  
October or November)  
by this or next mail; -  
& on your account. You  
have probably already  
introductions to him -

But I enclose an  
envelope, which will  
serve as an additional  
one - (to connect you with  
what I shall write.)

**[end 9:562]**

MSS. Eur.A.119 signed letter, 2ff, pen

10 South St,  
Park Lane W.  
Oct 20/82

My dear Sir James Caird

If I have never thanked you for your most kind answer to my request for advice concerning Agricultural Education for a young cousin of mine, it has not been for want of appreciation of the goodness with which you placed your unrivalled knowledge at our service.

The youth in question is at this moment installed, in pursuance of your recommendation,

at Downton College under

Professor Wrightson - in lodgings in the village, because there was no vacancy IN the College - & attending the whole Course.

He was most anxious himself to go there, after he had read your letter, which I showed them. His father wrote to Mr. Wrightson: & as there was not a day to be lost, if he entered *this* Term, his mother, Mrs. Shore Smith,

accompanied him down  
& took lodgings for him.  
We earnestly hope for success.

I am almost equally  
interested in an Agricultural  
Education for the Indian  
Civil Service Candidates of  
Mr. Jowett, now Vice Chancellor,  
at Oxford: & we shall  
probably again seek you  
valued advice for Balliol  
College.

[10:699]

Your Agricultural review  
of the year,

in a letter to the "Times", was  
very encouraging: how I wish  
you would give us each year  
a sort of similar review  
of the *Indian* Agriculture of  
the year.

How thankful we must be  
that the War in Egypt is over.  
But now will come the  
Enquiries! Our Nurses  
are now concentrated at  
Alexandria, where there is  
a good deal of Fever among  
the men, Malta, & the "Carthage"  
Hospital Ship, in which good  
work has been done bringing home  
wounded. With kindest regards  
to Lady Caird, ever most faithfully yrs

[end 10:699]

Florence Nightingale

MSS Eur. A. 119 initialed letter, lf, pen, black edged paper

{arch: answered Oct 19/91}  
{printed address:} Oct 7/91

Telegraph,  
Steeple Claydon. Bucks.

Claydon House,  
Winslow,  
Bucks.

My dear Sir James Caird

How can we thank  
you enough for your great  
kindness in sending  
thro' Dr. Voelcker all the  
Reports that he has "issued  
"so far" to Mr. Morant  
at the Siamese Legation  
for Prince Damrong -  
& for the promise of  
sending the "main report"  
when issued -

Most of the great  
questions that the Prince  
asks will probably be

{page missing}

Might I ask if Dr. Voelcker's  
papers will answer e.g. the  
question whether when  
Irrigation brings Fever  
in India it is not  
owing to Irrigation *not*  
being combined with  
Drainage - to minor distributaries & embankments  
(railroads) &c having been made intercepting  
the natural drainage -  
~~as in~~/see the N.W. provinces -  
The Prince says that at  
present the rice-fields  
are the healthiest parts  
of Siam.

I will not trouble you to  
write to *me*. If you wish kindly  
to say anything, please say it  
to Mr. F. Verney

F.N.

MSS. Eur. A 151 signed letter, 4ff, pen, typed copy 45807 ff189-92, faint copy in Wellcome 9076

Private                    Nov 27/85  
10 South Street, {printed address:}  
Park Lane. W.

Dear Sir William Wedderburn

Many thanks for your Reports  
of the Bombay Asscn Meetings -  
for your kind letter, & for the  
(Private) Poona "Land Bank" paper -  
Success to the right.

[10:832-34]

But - our prospects are bad -  
You will have seen long & long  
before this reaches you how the  
Borough elections have gone.  
And you will know long & long  
before you read this what  
we do not yet know whether  
the County Elections have in  
any way retrieved our fortunes;  
which we yet hope.

We have lost, as to Indians, 'all along  
'the line': excepting dear old  
Mr. Bright who *is* India. But  
he will not work alone. Mr.  
Stagg is gone, & - & - & -

About Mr. Lalmohun Ghose's defeat,  
it is deeply to be regretted as  
being that of the first educated  
Hindoo we have had as a  
candidate - But not otherwise -  
It was well known, I believe  
to Mr. Bright himself, that,  
as soon as he was safely  
elected, he would play the  
game of the Zemindars -  
When I saw him, he appeared  
ignorant, with clap-trap phrases,

& nothing sound about him. He knew nothing, tho' he pretended to know, of what had been done in Bombay, & could have been convicted of ignorance, even by me.

But I carefully kept his secret.

There is a man here, Manmohun, his brother, worth 50 Lalmohuns. And his wife, whom I have also seen, might vie with a well educated English lady

Thanks for your introduction to Mr. ChandaNarkar whom I had a long talk with -

I believe their Meetings have been very successful throughout the country in attracting attention. We rather regretted that they had fallen so entirely into the hands of Mr. Digby, who has

lost his Election - & is no great loss to our cause - & who used them merely as his Electioneering agents -

Mr. Hume who brought me a letter from Mr. Ilbert was so good as to give me a good deal of his time. This "National Liberal" Union, if it keeps straight, seems altogether the matter of greatest interest that has happened in India, if it makes progress, perhaps for a century. We are watching the birth of a new nationality in the oldest civilization in the world. How critical will

-2-

be its first meeting at Poona - I bid it  
God speed with all my heart.

I could wish (but you know  
my opinion is worth nothing  
in this kind of *political policy*)  
- that it might not make  
personal attacks - that it  
might not, e.g. ask for the  
recall of Mr. Grant Duff -  
This will have no other effect  
than that of strengthening his  
position. His time will  
soon be 'out'. And it would  
be so much more dignified &  
*telling* if the new "National  
"Liberal" Union, especially in  
its first Session, would lay  
down principles, & not try  
to throw down men; ~~wh~~

Also: Might I say that  
the enormous harm which the  
"Times" has done us - by its  
Telegrams - has been done by  
publishing them on Monday,  
because it was enabled to have  
those long Telegrams by the Sunday  
wire - & during the Parly Session  
people will only read those  
long Telegrams on India on  
Monday, because there is no  
Ho. of Commons report on that  
day. I could wish that  
the "D. News" might publish  
*your* Telegrams on *Monday* TOO.  
[But again on a matter of  
tactics my opinion is worth  
nothing.]

Lord Randolph - the "Boy with  
the Drum" - is doing untold  
harm - literally untold - because  
the India Office is a 'secret Society'  
- by attacking Ld Ripon & Sir  
Evelyn Baring at the I.O. Council.  
(This is strictly *between you & me*)

I am afraid we have lost  
all chance of having Ld Ripon  
at the I.O. at least at present.  
It would have been a  
difficult matter to manage at  
the best. Now it looks as if  
it were impossible. *That*  
*wd* have been the best way  
to heal all our woes.  
But I trust in God and the  
Right - tho' I may not live  
to see it. Perhaps before you  
receive this, there may be better news.  
God grant there may!

Mr. Pedder lost his brother-in-  
law, killed in "suppressing that  
"fanatical outbreak at Broach"  
He is in great trouble - his  
wife can scarcely bear the shock.

Lord Reay, I hope, is indeed  
fulfilling our expectations -  
God bless you & your work.  
ever your faithfully

F. Nightingale

It is a pity that Sir H. Maine & the  
I.O. persist in refusing to raise the  
limit of age (among Indian C.S.  
candidates), on the ground that they  
have granted the "optional" 3rd year.  
About one in six, not more, has  
availed himself of the provision  
(at Oxford in the last two years.)  
But I will send you the figures.

I think, in recommending "Capt. Verney"  
as a "candidate to be supported", his  
younger brother, Mr. Fred Verney, was intended.  
Both are good. but it is the younger, who has written for  
India. [end 10:834]

MSS. Eur.A.192 signed letter, 2ff, pen

July 6/86

10 South Street, {printed address:}  
Park Lane. W.

Dear Sir

I consider it a privilege to enter into correspondence with you ~~of~~ whose good work in India which interests me so much it would be impertinent in me to praise. [Your letter to Lord Ripon on Education I have read again & again, & I caused a number of copies to be sent me from Madras.]

[10:742-43]

I thank you for "The way to Health" which seems to me exceedingly good - & for your "India's Needs" which I was just going to procure.

The request to give a "list" of "suitable easy English (Sanitary) tracts" &c., to be adapted for use in India has been made to me twice in the last twelve months from India. And I have sent over all I could recommend to India, but with the special warning that they *could not* be adapted to native or Indian circumstances - for reasons which I should like to submit to you. who know India so thoroughly - And at the same time I ventured

to suggest means by which  
suitable tracts could be  
written *in India* "for use  
"in India", which also I  
should like to submit to you -  
But I will delay no longer  
answering your note.

Could you let me know  
how long you are likely to  
remain in England, as I  
should much like to be  
allowed to seek information  
from you, who are so  
well qualified to give it  
upon Educational matters

in India, if you would be  
so kind.

I am a great Invalid & always  
overworked so that I must  
crave your indulgence

**[end 10:743]**

Pray believe me  
faithfully yours

Florence Nightingale

J. Murdoch Esq  
{on the bottom of the page, upside down}  
London June 29 1886

MSS. Eur.A.278 signed letter, 3ff, pen [catalogue says B278

Private April 30/89  
10 South Street, {printed address:}  
Park Lane. W.

My dear Sir

How long it is since I have **[10:216-17]**  
heard or written. How many  
questions I have to ask you -

1. What can you tell me  
about your health, which I  
trust gives now no uneasiness  
to your many friends, of whom  
I am one of the most earnest.

2. It was understood some  
little time ago that the S. of S.  
for India would be disposed  
to appoint a Commission at  
the I.O., *IF* the War Office  
did not re-appoint theirs  
(the Army Sany Comm:)

Might I ask if you have

heard from Sir J. Peile or  
otherwise anything about it?  
- or if you could learn from  
him?

3. What, if anything, have you  
heard from the Bombay Govt.  
in answer to your remonstrance?

It is well that you wrote it  
anyhow, if written with dignity.  
Governments do not usually  
make an amende - But the  
remonstrance having been  
received, the remonstrator  
can then, ~~interfere officially~~/if he choose,  
write to the S. of S. who can  
then interfere officially, which  
he could not do without.  
But perhaps all this is settled.

4. What do you hear from the Local Govt. Board about any employment? I am told that it is possible that in time the Co. Councils will give employment. And it could always be thrown up again.

5. What is the present state of our friend, Mr. Runchorelal Chotalal of Ahmedabad? It was impossible to have anything done then from home, as there was no plea for official interference. Did you ask (or advise to be asked) Mr. Runchorelal whether he could induce his Municipality to call in a good Engineer from

England? Would such an one take 5 p.c.? Because if he would, upon a work of which the expence would be ? £30000 or £40000, it would be hardly worth while, would it? to save "2½ p.c." by employing a less competent Bombay Govt Engineer.

I did not write again to Mr. R.C., because you did not advise me what to say. And I do not know the present state of things at Ahmedabad, which I hope to hear from you.

6. Has anything been done about reducing the number of the Bombay existing Deputy Sany Commrs by two, when they are too few already? I trust not.

This has been mentioned in the proper quarter, & Lord Dufferin's promise cited.

-2-

7. What possibility would there be of putting the Bombay Sany Dept under the Collectors, i.e. the? Revenue Dept, instead of the Judicial Dept? The Collectors would then take a pride in making the Sany Dept efficient, instead of its being attacked from outside?

But this is a matter in which Viceroys cannot interfere. I am sadly in arrears of information.

I should be so glad of any information from you. I regret that I have not written earlier, but ill & overworked & with much serious anxiety in our family, I have been always waiting to know something

definite before writing - & have had more time to be anxious about you & about all these things than to write about them -

God bless you -

I trust Mrs. Hewlett & your children are well. And has the event in your daughter's life been happily accomplished? Or is it soon to be?

ever sincerely yours

F. Nightingale

T.G. Hewlett Esq

&c &c

[end 10:218]

Marquess of Salisbury OIOC, now the Asia, Pacific and Africa Collections,  
British Library, paper copy

Marquess of Salisbury OIOC signed letter, 7ff, pen

Private                    July 17/66  
& *Confidential* 35 South Street, {printed address:}  
                                Park Lane,  
                                London. W.

Dear Lord Cranborne

                  Lord Stanley had the                    **[9:561-62]**  
kindness to advise me to  
write to you & to tell *me*  
that he would tell *you*  
that he had "advised" me  
"to write to" you as I "have  
"done to" him. This is  
my only excuse for what  
would otherwise be a  
very great impertinence -  
& what I fear may seem  
to you such even now -  
viz. my present application

to you on the India

                  Public Health question  
[I know I ought to begin,  
                  "Miss Nightingale presents  
                  her compliments to  
                  Lord Cranborne" - But  
                  the "third person" always  
                  becomes confused.]

Lord Stanley has probably  
scarcely had the time to  
tell you my long story  
I fear therefore I must  
introduce myself, by  
saying that my apology

for what you may (justly)  
consider an unwarrantable  
interference must be -  
the part I have taken  
in the Public Health of  
the Army in India for  
the last 8 years - having  
been in communication  
with Lord Stanley, Sir  
C. Wood & Lord de Grey  
about it - & being now  
in constant communication  
with Sir John Lawrence  
& others in India on  
the same subject -  
When Lord de Grey left  
office, Lord Stanley of

his own accord kindly  
asked whether he  
should "put" me "in  
direct communication"  
with you -

This is my general apology -  
My particular one is: -  
that by last mail I  
received some very  
pressing letters from  
India on the subject of  
the introduction of an  
efficient Public Health  
administration into India,  
which is after this wise -  
the spirit of the very  
general recommendations  
made by the R. Commission  
which reported in 1863

(presided over by Lord Stanley) has never been completely acted ~~to~~/up to -  
- there have been difficulties & clashings in consequence, a Minute, (of January 9, 1866) was sent home by Sir John Lawrence proposing to connect the Public Health Service with the Inspectorship of Prisons

- the proposal appears to have been made without due consideration of the importance & greatness of the duties - if it were carried out,

it would put an end, we believe, to any prospect of efficient progress  
[I think I am correct, in saying that Lord Stanley concurs in this view]

- Lord de Grey was deeply impressed with this defect in the scheme  
- he drew up a Minute, (just before he left Office,) in order to leave his views on record for you - setting forth generally the duties & asking for a re-consideration of the subject in India, before the organization was finally decided on - of the Public Health Service

I would now venture to ask your favourable consideration for this proposal, because, on the organization of a service adequate for the object, depends the entire future of the Public Health in India -

We commit ourselves into your hands - and **[end 9:562]**  
pray believe me  
your faithful servt  
Florence Nightingale

The

Viscount Cranborne M.P.

Marquess of Salisbury OIOC signed letter, 4ff, pencil

35 South St  
Park Lane W  
April 25/74

Dear Lord Salisbury

You cannot be so **[9:746]**  
penetrated with my  
impertinence as I am,  
and I know will be more  
ready to excuse me than  
I am myself, for asking  
you to glance over this  
little pamphlet which  
I have just printed.

One of my reasons is:

- your noble speech about the Indian Famine at the Lord Mayor's Meeting.
- another, of course, that we hail the reign at the I.O. of one who is a real workman & born ruler of men:
- a third that I have now been engaged for 15 years in Indian Sanitary administration: & that a great part of its official & private documents passes thro'

my hands.

The first part of my little book has grown out of this:

the second out of this dreadful famine -

With regard to the first part:

- *Mr. Plowden's* admirable annual Digests prepared at the I.O. (his Sanitary Blue Books) manage to place every year in small compass before Englishmen what otherwise most of them would know nothing at all about

With regard to the second part:

- the *Irrigation* facts:  
- there is no one but yourself who could, if you believe in them, turn by their means Death into Life for India.

**[end 9:746]**

Pray believe me  
ever your faithful servant  
Florence Nightingale

Marquess of Salisbury OIOC signed letter, 8ff, pen

*Irrigation Returns*    *Private*  
*India*                    35 South St  
                                  Park Lane W  
                                  Oct 5/75

Dear Lord Salisbury

In obedience to your most kind letter    **[9:755-56]**  
of May 10, I patiently waited for that  
Irrigation "Account" or Returns - which  
you said you were "trying to make out  
for Parliament"; "to which" you could "safely  
give official sanction"

Not having seen it appear, I did not like  
to assault you the moment Parlt was out  
nor do I now.

But your kindness & the extreme  
importance of the subject are compulsory  
Your willingness, some months ago, to  
take steps for securing accurate Irrigation  
Statistics from India & your just complaint  
that there were none: seem to show you  
as thinking that there is ample scope for  
asking for enquiry; & make the prayer  
of me (who have been up to my neck in  
India "Returns" for 16 years) less audacious

You ~~say~~/said that you ~~can~~/could not be satisfied  
with the present position of the question -  
And the Irrigation matter is one which  
cannot drop. Therefore

- I. 1. Might I ask you, would you send me  
such *Irrigation Returns* as you have doubtless  
already procured & "given official sanction" to,  
since May: I mean of course such as it  
would not be an impertinence to ask for?
2.            And - if you are not satisfied with what  
you have obtained, am I too daring in  
suggesting that now would be the time  
to give effect to your desire TO MAKE AN  
ENQUIRY such as shall secure *results* &  
*returns* which *can* be laid before Parliament  
& the public with confidence?

May I venture to say that the 5 points of difficulties mentioned in your kind letter of May as standing in the way of obtaining accurate Returns suggest the following questions which ~~is~~ are entirely based on your letter?

Pardon my troublesome:ness: & let me go on.

*Irrigation Enquiry'* Might not the enquiry be by a Commission?x

if that is the shortest & best way of getting at authenticated *facts*?

bearing in mind that what is wanted is: *not theory nor opinions, but facts & the results of actual experience*

that therefore no special or professional qualifications are required in the Inquirer, beyond the necessary to enable him to collect & present his facts: [great qualifications

indeed! +  
perfect independence &  
impartiality & freedom from bias,  
*as to prevailing or fashionable*

*theories*

x It has been suggested that the Commission might be of Sir Andrew Clarke; - & one good Civilian - ??

with industry & promptitude, so that the inquiry may not, (as some of its predecessors have - have they not? -) run on for years & official generations -

Might not the inquiry be easily made by means of *printed questions & Tables*?

[upon an *uniform* basis, of course: so as to secure *uniform* data, which can be compared & tabulated: As you ~~say~~/said, the great difficulty has been that hitherto *Returns have not ~~with~~ been comparable*]

- *each local Governmt & Administration* x collecting the replies, & returning them to the Commissioner.

Naturally, I suppose, the Commission will summarize the results: especially as regards

1) extent of capital invested a. by Government  
b. " Cultivators

Note: that the information is wanted from practical & regular cultivators: not from wild tribes: so that as a rule the Superintendents of Hill & Forest Tracts need not be asked for returns: need they?



Dear Lord Salisbury: I am sure that I need no apology with your kindness & genius & great interest (in a subject so vital to India that I should be impertinent if I were to doubt these). What I do need to make apology for is: not in asking for enquiry: - but perhaps in the length of these notes meant to help to show the direction inquiry should take, if it is desired to have real results & returns.

But these notes can easily be set aside: the enquiry I am sure you will not set aside; since evidence is necessary to w ~~for~~ *what is* the duty of the Govt in promoting irrigation

by great works? by small?  
by wells & Tanks? by great & small

Canals?

by private capital? by great national

grants & loans?

So many authorities are hopelessly at variance as to facts, & or the basis of any theory of Govt Duty:

[in writing this, I am not simply writing as a parrot, *if parrots* write; - -for I have laboured thro', & tried to tabulate, immense piles of (so-called) Indian Statistics myself:]

that Secretaries of State have almost come to look upon the question perhaps hopelessly too as a mere worrying puzzle: & it seems left to Lord Salisbury's genius victoriously to solve it & arrive at real definite results which Governments can act upon

Hope deferred makes my heart sick  
- what must the Indian cultivator's heart be? - - - & the famines? - - -

**[end 9:756]**

I will not {illeg illeg}  
your time with wordy apologies:  
but pray believe me  
dear Lord Salisbury  
ever your faithful servt  
Florence Nightingale

OIOC, Salisbury

85

{heading on newspaper clipping from the Illustrated London News, July 7, 1877}

The Marquis of Salisbury  
from his faithful servant

Florence Nightingale  
7/7/77

Mss Eur F86/27 Temple, corr from Hart to FN for Temple, plus notes of FN,  
written right half of page in a column

pencil

administration of relief  
by village headmen  
Inasmuch as the village  
officers represent the most  
ancient & the most useful  
institution throughout  
India, & have necessarily  
a complete knowledge of  
every family in the village,  
I am strongly of opinion  
that village relief should  
be carried out through  
them. they are hereditary  
officers, long accustomed  
to perform duties more  
or less cognate to famine  
relief, & as a rule they  
have no motive to do  
otherwise than right.  
I am sure therefore that  
reliance can be placed  
on the village headmen &  
village accountants for  
this duty/  
*provided always*  
that they are strictly  
supervised by Europeans  
or well qualified natives.  
This supervision is required,  
not so much for the prevention

OIOC Mss Eur F86/27, paper copy

signed letter, 7ff, pen {in another hand:} illeg 30/10 Her specific questions can easily be ansd.

{in another hand:} answer them & send copy of my last speech at Medical School Poona & mention all my travels &c &c in Afghanistan RT} 28/11

Oct 9/79

10, South Street, {printed address:}  
Park Lane. W.

Dear Sir

I have to thank Sir Richard Temple & you for so many to me priceless papers that I scarcely know where to begin. Would you kindly present my thanks to His Excellency - for two minutes on the commencement of agricultural scientific education: a subject of the keenest interest to me.

**[10:526-28]**

There is scarcely anything which hangs over one as a blacker cloud than the dread that 'retrenchment' may fall on these kinds of beneficent

schemes for which the Government of Bombay has done & is doing so much

II.

Then I have to thank His Excellency for the 'Village Conservancy' Rules; my old love.

1. These Village Rules apply chiefly to new villages, & seem to be very good. I look with eagerness to the promise of supplementary rules which will doubtless apply to existing villages. So much requires to be done; & some things can be so easily done, such as ventilating the huts, & if the manufacture of glazed pipes of pottery ware could but be generally introduced in India would not the question of

drainage & sewerage in country towns & villages be more easily solved? the largest part of Sanitary improvement could be done by the people themselves, if they were but taught how.

The first words of the "Village Conservancy" Rules are:

I When a site has been carefully selected,"

But should the selection of site be left without any direction about it? [Probably these directions however will appear afterwards.]

Here is a case we have at present at the Army Sanitary Commission here, which deals with Indian as well as home Sanitary questions:

Cholera breaks out in a village. The Chief Commissioner says it is the last place he would have expected Cholera in, as it is a perfectly new village, inhabited by better

class people. But the Civil Surgeon tells us that when he went to inspect it, he had to wade ankle deep through foul smelling putrid mud up to the doors.

We ventured to make this comment on it: if the site had been looked at in wet weather, & the sub soil water level ascertained, the village would probably not have been placed there.

No doubt all these essentials as to sites will be mentioned in the "Supplementary Rules". As a whole the present Rules are as to principles excellent.

3. [At our Sanitary Commission what{? edge of page missing} we often prefer doing is: to select cases out of the Reports & to show

-2-

how to deal with them. In this way a great body of experience is gained in time.

In India where it appears as if the great difficulty were: - to transfer the book-knowledge ~~illeg~~/you give the people into their daily practice - the natives ~~people~~ so easily acquiring anything by rote & so hardly altering any thing of their customs, might not some similar compilation be desirable?]

4. Sir Richard Temple has had in view, I believe, to make the Health Department in Bombay a kind of normal school where natives should be trained, so as to supply the country with skilled inspectors. But these, I suppose,

would be chiefly for municipalities, towns, & cantonments.

5. His Excellency also intends does he not? to issue under the authority of the Government a Sanitary 'Primer' or Manual to be taught in Primary Schools Probably it is already done It is a great thing for the Governor to put his 'imprimatur' on the necessity of teaching the subject of health, & to make a beginning in giving his Primary Schools a really presentable School book on Sanitary work.

[I beg that you will excuse & put down to the limits of a letter, which I must not make too long, a pell=mell style of cramming=in points which interest me so deeply.]

III. Would you kindly present my most particular thanks to Sir Richard Temple for his great goodness in sending me, & to yourself for forwarding these following valuable papers:

the M. S. statement of Takavi advances for the purchase of seed, cattle &c granted during 1877-8 for the whole Presidency:

and

the M.S. statement of cultivated land held by money-lenders & cultivators respectively in certain villages of the Ahmednagar & Sholapur Collectorates (received from H.H. the Nizam's Govt. in the year of transfer, the year of introduction of our Civil Law, & in the last year.

I am particularly obliged to His Excellency for these: for I am afraid it has given some trouble to compile them.

And, after all, they ~~will~~/~~may~~ serve for me to trouble Sir Richard Temple with a fresh question.

In the first place, does the name of each holder of land, recorded in the Village books, show whether he *is* a money-lender or not? - next, in the Deccan especially, is it not very uncommon for a money lender to get land, of which he is really proprietor, transferred to his name?

[This is a very good thing, because the turn of fortune *may*, - & ~~not~~/but unfrequently, does, it is said - make the cultivator again master of his land. And, if it stands still in his name, ~~it~~/this must be a much easier process.]



Asia, Pacific and Africa Collections, Dufferin papers, Eur Mss fol 130-24,  
No. 228 printed text [9:924-29]

10, South Street  
Park Lane, W.  
4 November 1886

*Private and Confidential*

Dear Lord Dufferin

May I avail myself of your kind leave to write to you on what seems a very pressing matter. And may I claim credit for not having troubled you before, even about pressing matters, knowing the enormous weight of responsibility and work which rests upon you?

My "matter" is that the Finance Committee is said to be threatening our sanitary commissionerships, to abolish them or rather to amalgamate them with the surgeon-generalships (this at least as far as regards Bombay). In some respects our best authorities think that the latter proposal, the amalgamation of the sanitary office with that of the surgeon-general, the worse of the two.

As to Bombay, it was stated on high sanitary authorities--what we, here, concur in--that in very, "very rare instances would the surgeon-general be fit to be sanitary commissioner, that any such amalgamation would be fatal to the Sanitary Department." It would be manifestly unjust to the deputy sanitary commissioners who have had held out to them by the secretary of state for India repeated hopes that the sanitary commissioners would be chosen from their ranks.

"If this proposition is carried into effect," it was added, good-bye to all hopes of sanitary reform in India. Sanitation is a speciality; ordinary medical men are all contagionists and would advise quarantine and such things. And not one has studied the question of sanitary construction of buildings, etc. <id = hc>

The Finance Committee appeals, anxious to reduce the deputy sanitary commissioners' salaries, so that it will be impossible to retain good men in the department. All this is most unsettling and does great harm, as it takes all life out of men.

So far as to Bombay.

But it is not only for saving our sanitary commissioners that we wish to plead, it is because we need a sanitary executive as advised in the royal commission "on the sanitary state of the Indian Army," of which Sidney Herbert and Lord Derby were presidents and which reported in 1863.

Where are we now in sanitary work (after twenty-three years)? Disease and death-reporting have done their work, but practical proceedings on the results have still to be taken. They have been taken in the British and native armies, and are being taken in the jails. But in these cases the means of execution and of carrying out improvements existed on the spot, and death rates in all these cases have gone down (in European troops to one sixth). There has been some improvement in the general cities' death rates. Some with more or less effective work show best. But generally the cities show want of intelligent execution of measures. The results show mainly what *might* be done.

The country population, living in some 3/4 of a million of villages--



India finances are at this moment an enormous difficulty. But this is a thing which could be done with so little money--only a little organization. And think of the money saved, the productiveness of the population restored. In fever districts the people are half alive and the next generation deteriorates from the present.

It is an exaggeration to say that, next to the protection of life and property from criminals, is the protection of life and property from epidemics--if indeed it ought not as a department of government to take the lead. For is it not doubtful if, since the world began, criminals have destroyed more life and property on the earth than are destroyed year after year in India annually by preventible epidemics?

People must *live* in order to plough. They must live and be in health in order to work. It seems strange that thirty years after Sidney Herbert began his great sanitary operations in the army and in India, and after the immense reduction in death rates in some directions (not by medicine but by sanitary work), such propositions as these about the sanitary commissionerships should be possible, and by way of economy!! The saving of money is surely as conspicuous, is it not? as the saving of life by sanitary measures.

But we humbly look to Lord Dufferin to do vast good and signalize his government by initiating real sanitary works, as Lady Dufferin is doing in forwarding sanitary education.

The sanitary commissioners have shown statistically that, for nearly 200 millions of our fellow subjects, nothing of much consequence has been done and that India suffers enormous death and property losses from epidemics. But the executive is wanting and the real function of the present sanitary commissioners is to tell us how many people die of preventible diseases. Better it would be if the government would discuss whether a sanitary executive might not be, to do the administrative and executive engineering work on steadily ascertained sanitary lines. The recommendation of the royal commission was this course: to examine local causes, prescribe local remedies, institute the necessary local means of execution and keep a firm hold over the work. (In Bombay presidency an able sanitary engineering officer has been appointed for the towns.) These are the duties of the sanitary engineer and sanitary officer properly so called. No medical officer that we know of has any competence for such duties, <id = hd> and they can only be discharged economically by trained and experienced officers.

Would not the change advised of uniting or amalgamating the two offices, *medical* and *sanitary*, be the first step downwards to nonentity? The step downwards being that there would be no necessary sanitary knowledge among the successive principal medical officers appointed, <id = he> and there would be no continuity of sanitary knowledge. Every new man would have to learn not only sanitary work, but its peculiarities in his district. And then all the while but little money is being saved, while the people would be swept away. There would be an increase of epidemics among the troops. And every life lost costs India £100. The only effect would be to put it into the surgeon-general's hands and *do nothing*.

But would not the effect upon the natives be that of our not deeming to care about sanitary improvement after all among themselves? Ought not sanitary commissioner to be, as e.g., Mr Hewlett and Dr [H.W.] Belew

[Punjab] are, missionaries or prophets of sanitation to the natives, propagandists, teachers or preachers of sanitary knowledge? And, where such are, the people who used to think the most destructive epidemic was fate or the fault of the goddess of smallpox or the "mother" of something else, now think it is *our* fault. And what an improvement that is!

Local agencies must be provided by which the work may be done! And a few competent sanitary engineering officers to superintend and inspect on all local works and measures required for towns and villages, in communication with the sanitary officer. But probably 90 percent of the total sanitary work required for India lies in the villages and this work ought to be done directly or indirectly by the people themselves. (Village rules for Bombay presidency are being, or are to be, issued under Lord Reay's authority.)

In the cities the matter is not proceeding so well, and Madras after twenty years' work returned in 1884 a death rate of 50 per 1000. Up to the present time then, only the statistical reporting work has been attended to. Can any method be devised in India whereby the two necessities can be met without material increase of cost?

In the present state of things the giving up these sanitary officers is really giving up the sanitary executive, because we should not have the instruments with which to work it. Are there not great political objections in the natives' discontent if what affects *them* is the thing cut down, if cheese-paring by governments of things which appear to do the natives directly some good, while the army, the great expense, is left untouched or increased, is carried on? if it is thought worthwhile, for the sake of some very small reduction, to destroy works the people are very much interested in? Is not public opinion becoming a greatly increased power, not to be disregarded? At home a much greater interest is taken in India than formerly.

Sanitary things in India can never be carried out without a sanitary executive all over India. That sounds like large sums. But large sums in a great country, are they not small sums really? Small indeed compared with the vast loss of life and productiveness which takes place year after year, which the natives themselves begin to see might be prevented by very simple measures and may be clearly traced to the absence of a proper sanitary executive to deal with, above all, *village* problems.

I can make no excuse for this long and tiresome letter, except by not lengthening it with my excuses. Pardon me and let me be, dear Lord Dufferin,

ever your excellency's faithful servant, wishing a Godspeed to all your measures for the people

Florence Nightingale

Eur Mss E349/12, letter

10 South St.

Park Lane, W.

June 11 1887

Dear Sir George Campbell

How kind of you to remember me and how long it is since I have seen you.

I had already received your admirable little book for the Cobden Club and read it with the utmost interest, and given away the book to edify others. Your "British Empire" I mean.

I received your kind little present with the utmost gratitude. In this indeed "Much in Little [illeg]" India in the past which of course interests me most. But all is interesting.

I missed Mr Mackenzie when he was in England. As he is the person who could, I suppose, tell me more than anyone else of the working of the Bengal Tenancy Act I was the more sorry.