

23 June 1842. Thurston

1734

Richard Dillon Ferrment Esq. 4 High Street Moorsbury

My dear Sir. Mr Palmer has sent me a letter for you which you will allow
to be accompanied with my best wishes and to yourself and to Mr Ferrment
and to Miss Jane. There is a whisper abroad in the Navy that
what they are going to leave town also. Who will then remain? The town
and myself both faithful to each other like hammer to the anvil. I assure you it
costs me dear to part with friends who greeted me with a heartfelt smile and
shook me by the hand with cordiality. Whenever I cross the Channel
sees - and I do it too often - a gloom lowers on my mind on reflection
that the house No 38 is empty and that I cannot call. I liked the
chat and the learned discussions of yourself and the hearty laugh
which so often was raised at my expense when I say that my
selves against ladies bordered on unkindness. I know not - but
there is a saying that what we like most we attack best.
I think it true to the letter in my case - for ladies have no
warmer admirer than myself. and I beg of Mr Ferrment
not to tell of the word of his triumphs over me in that
delicate subject. I hope that she has forgotten the purgatory
and all dreadful associates. But be it as it may I could not but
think of our discussions which we had in common - myself
Mr Ferrment and yourself when I read in one of the recent
numbers of the Athenaeum some strictures on a novel called
the Bishop's Daughter.

Do you recollect the text of Mr Palmer's sermon which he
preached at Windsor lately and which we were discussing
I mean thus you recollect that all powers are ordained of
God & would you believe that in the Bishop's daughter the
fair daughter holds to a Pole the same language as you
and Mr Ferrment did when I tried to defend Mr Palmer's
text. The sort of argument used by you is repeated in the
Bishop's daughter but as to the rest the unfortunate
Pole is represented by the charitable author to acquiesce
in the argument viz that Poland has according to the
text had no right to throw off the yoke of Russia
I wish the Bishop's daughter had addressed the question
to me and the Author inserted it in his book.

But find the Athenaeum and see it
I hope that the five couples of my friend Mr
Pole's good interpreter Mr Miss Jane's fingers and will
find at Miss Jane's fingers in England. I regret only that I cannot
be one of the letters. - Believe me
ever yours
L. R.

Richard Dutton, Esq. of the Admiralty
23 June 1745. London

My dear Sir, I have had the pleasure to receive your letter of the 17th inst. and am glad to hear that you are well. I have been thinking much of late of the manner in which the Admiralty is conducted, and of the necessity of some reformation. I have been particularly struck with the want of order and regularity in the accounts, and the want of a proper system of keeping the books. I have been thinking of writing you on this subject, but have been so busy that I have not had time to do so. I have, however, written a few lines to Mr. Dutton, who is now at the Admiralty, and I have been thinking of writing you again on this subject, but have been so busy that I have not had time to do so.

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4th August 1842. Thursday

1439

Mrs R. D. Tennant. Clarence place, Hampton Court.

Dear madam, you know my veneration for the Chinese and my warm defense of them whenever I am told that they are uncultivated barbarians and a childish people and so on. I look on them as on our forefathers and I am wont to say that they surpass us in everything - consequently they are not barbarians. The war waged against them I call unjust and sacrilegious. And you know my strong opinion that ultimately the Chinese will be the winners in that unprofitable game played by the English. You have heard of constant defeats of the Chinese but the victory was unproductive of as yet of any good to the English. The victory so easy!

Now I was glad to find in this day's papers that a skin with near Ningpo the Chinese - which they say is uncommon with them - killed and wounded as many as fifty English - that is to say more in one single battle than in all the previous combats fought in the last two years. It is a decided improvement which strengthens very much their friend's case. So much the better.

And you see I could not pass this fact unnoticed and without communicating it to you who were wont to laugh at my Chinese sympathies. Oh! if the Chinese knew that I am their friend they would have sent me at least some China and some cut of tea - I regret that I do not know the Chinese language or else I would have gone to the Celestial Empire and embraced all the celestial Ladies. a heavenly bliss! But no more of that.

On Monday last it was my good fortune to meet with three Ladies (none of them Chinese) Mrs Palmer, Miss Palmer, and Mrs Case, who were going to sit to dinner at Mrs Palmer's own house. I could not bear the idea of seeing the ladies unattended by a gentleman - and as I am the man of all work - I was soon made their man. Look at the list of dainties dispatched in good style (by my assistance chiefly). A nice and grandiose roast beef (of which I partook most) - some nice potatoes in their natural - so bewitching (which all, of course, fell to my lot) - a delicious rabbit (in which I largely shared) - some french beaut - then I left to the company (because I do not like them - and perhaps because they are french) - then paté de volaille of Chevet of Palais Royal - exquisite morsel - some salad - then splendid Champagne (de nos uterbo) - A delicious melon, gooseberry &c. And at last a drive to the bois de Boulogne where we were favoured with a song by Miss Ross.

If it continues so - it be repeated - then I am afraid I shall grow as warm to the bank of Mrs Palmer as I am to the whole Chinese Empire - At Mrs Palmer's house then will be celestial to me. Present my most celestial respects to Miss Jane & Mr Tennant and believe me ever sincerely yours
L. T.

