

5 pages written 20 Apr 1862 by Sir Malcolm Fraser

21/1/79  
 The Hon. W. Whitaker  
 April 20<sup>th</sup> 1862

My dear Sir,  
 Many thanks for the trouble of your  
 kind office and expression of ideas for my future welfare  
 in your letter of the 7<sup>th</sup>. Unfortunately I did not get your  
 the paper, but the letter forwarded to me by Capt. Bishop  
 for two days. in the mean time I went to see Fitz and  
 he began to pump me to such an extent as to what  
 had to be done during my location here, whether it was for  
 a short or more lengthened period as he expressed it that  
 though perhaps injudiciously I felt that the most  
 common way to settle him would be to write him  
 a letter and have forwarded to you an official copy.  
 he evidently determined to get every thing he could  
 out of me and Zuber's and suggestions flowed so fast  
 from his oleaginous tongue that showed me that he  
 was a man who had the whip hand consequent to my  
 declining to take his verbal instructions he wrote to forward

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not to pay my salary except by his authority, but  
 considering that it was <sup>not</sup> at any rate till the 27<sup>th</sup> or within  
 4 days of the end of the month that he could assume  
 a didatorial position. ~~But~~ I consider that until  
 my resignation is accepted I am entitled to pay,  
 and had I ever placed myself under him I  
 should not my point. Had the grounds of my  
 resignation been lost in effect. Gaskin says  
 that it is evidently done in spite, which is the case.  
 I have in accord with your instructions seen  
 the Superintendent (the Deputy Ponds Purchase Commr)  
 relation to the heading over all the papers to, and  
 will do before the Mail leaves and put you a  
 accepted schedule. I have been in the Wairarapa  
 lately collecting my instruments and different  
 reports that were scattered. I presented Mr. Bidwell  
 with your note and panel she appeared much  
 pleased. and desired only to thank you most  
 kindly. Bidwell has just about 200 sheep  
 and a large portion of his penning by the late heavy

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floods which have quite destroyed the Road over  
 the Kaimata and washed away all the bridges  
 so it is quite impracticable to take a Cart into the  
 valley now, and it will require many months work  
 before it can be opened again. I see the  
 Assembly of agents for the 24<sup>th</sup> June at Wellington.  
 but time will show do doubt. Natives have been making  
 frequent applications in reference to different <sup>things</sup> but I  
 of course have declined to take any action except in  
 answering queries. I do not hear anything about  
 the probable settlement of Waitai Black but from hints  
 I have received I think it will be settled ultimately  
 amicably. I purpose going down South by the  
 Akaroa on the 15<sup>th</sup> May provided I hear from you  
 by the previous steamer, and perhaps you would  
 care to be specified to the Tah. Treasurers the date to  
 which my salary will be paid or difficulties may be  
 thrown in the way and in that case I should be  
 detained; which as the winter is rapidly approaching

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is not desirable. Any letter you could send for  
 your Southern friends would be acceptable. I have  
 sent by this mail some letters for England which  
 should do suit your convenience and would be very  
 glad to see you in the Old Country to which allow  
 me through you a very pleasant visit. I hope Douglas  
 is flourishing. He writes in rather a gloomy tone  
 with regard to his present. Why doesn't he cut them  
 for it is said that as long as the present party is  
 in power he has no chance. I send you the account  
 current balance and an a/c current for the £100.  
 And with kindest remembrances from  
 Mrs Fraser in which I most sincerely join  
 Believe me My dear Sir  
 Yours faithfully  
 Malcolm Fraser



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