

2 pages written 16 Feb 1871 by Robert Hart to Sir Donald McLean in Wellington

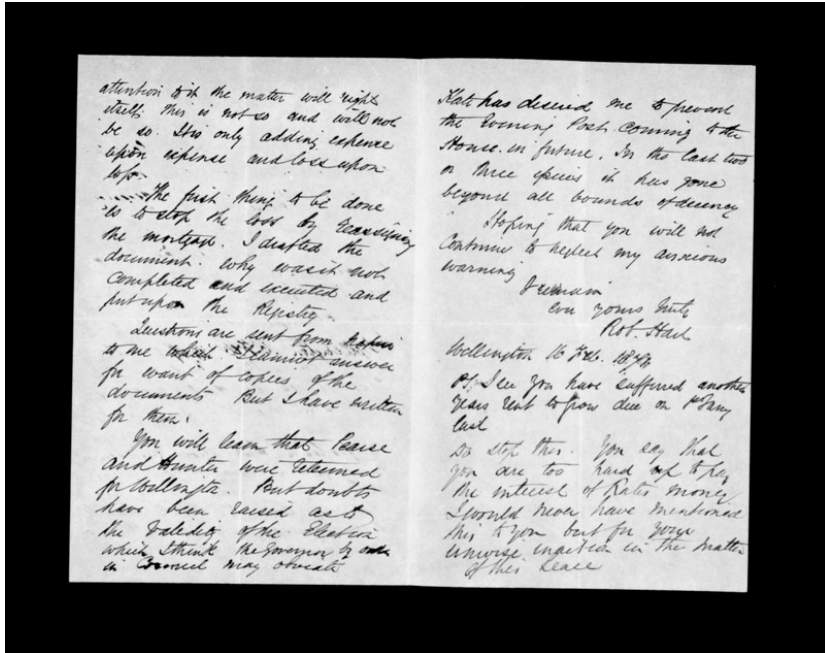
[4]
The Honble
Donald McLean
Defence Minister

2/1/86 (45)

Dear Donald

I wish I could wase you to a
sense of the need there is that you
should attend for a short time to
your own affairs. You cannot do
by agency what requires your own
attention and action. It was the
vain attempt at this which has
brought the present difficulties
upon you. But bad as the
case is it is daily getting worse.
It is six months since I should
urged you to surrender or resign
the foolish but most mischievous
mortgage. I warned you what
it was doing and would do.
But you seem to think that by
withdrawing your own attention
from it and bespeaking other

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attention to the matter will result
 with this is not so and will not
 be so. You only adding expense
 upon expense and loss upon
 loss.
 The first thing to be done
 is to stop the Gov by cancelling
 the mortgage. I drafted the
 document. Why wasn't it
 completed and executed and
 put upon the Register.
 Answers are sent from London
 to me which I cannot answer
 for want of copies of the
 documents. But I have written
 for them.
 You will learn that lease
 and Anata were returned
 for Ballantyne. But doubt to
 have been raised as to
 the validity of the title
 which I think the Governor is
 in favour may succeed.

Robt has decided me to prevent
 the recovery of the property to the
 House in future. In the last test
 a piece of paper is has gone
 beyond all bounds of decency
 Hoping that you will not
 believe to neglect my anxious
 warning.
 ever yours truly
 Robt. Hart
 Wellington. 16 Feb. 1871.
 P.S. See you have suffered another
 year rent to grow due on 15th day
 last.
 Do stop this. You say that
 you are too hard on it, but
 the interest of Rates money
 I would have mentioned
 this to you but for your
 Wholly unacted in the matter
 of this lease.