



Buenos Ayres 20th Oct 1836 156

Sir G. E. H.

I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of your letter of 27th August, which, not having come to hand until after the departure of the Packet which brought it I could not give it an earlier answer. — You therein have been pleased to transcribe for my information & guidance the observation which occur concerning me in a dispatch from the Lord Commissioners of the Admiralty relative to the occupation of the Falkland Islands, namely, that "with regard to my claims, as his Majesty's Govt
" considers these Islands to be part of the Dominion of
" the British Crown, no claim of property on my part
" must be admitted, arising from a grant real or
" supposed of the B^{ty} Govt to me of the Island, or
" any claim of fishing or other Seigneurial right on to
" the possession of wild cattle or any other production
" of the Islands."

Referring to my letter of 16th June the contents of which I confirm, I see in the foregoing no final resolution regarding my claims & that in fact I can not expect ~~it~~, not having as yet even initiated them. — This is however not owing to any neglect of mine, it is solely attributable to the extent of my misfortunes. I conceive my claims to be apparently of such an intricate nature as will require me to go to England to attend personally to their initiation and prosecution, & as my pretensions will be far from exceeding what British law and equity can admit, I shall trust with confidence

to ~~the~~^a final favorable resolution of H. B. M's
Govt on the subject; but my reduced circumstances
are such that I have my hands full enough with
only attending to the procuring the means for the
subsistence of my family & am unable to incur
the additional expence of a voyage to England.
It was to obviate these difficulties that I tried
every means to obtain assistance for reestablishing
my private concerns on the East Falkland on
a productive footing, which at some time that
it would better my pecuniary circumstances, would
also improve my claims, in as far as it would
have enabled me to do a public service respecting
those Islands, a service which if not done
this summer may perhaps become totally
impracticable hereafter, which I could satisfactorily
demonstrate if it were not too long a subject
for a letter.

I have made this candid avowal of
my situation to avoid wrong interpretations
as to my motives in delaying the initiation of my
claims and for my having hitherto limited myself
to asking assistance for the reestablishment of my
private affairs there.

All this premised I respectfully beg
you to inform me, whether while those claims
remain in suspense I am to consider this last
communication I had the honour to receive from you
as an absolute prohibition to my men and horses
continuing to be employed in catching and domesticating

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cattle on my account as they have been heretofore
going without any other interruption than that
momentary one occasioned by the unfortunate
catastrophe of May 1833, or whether I can
meanwhile continue the business upon
any other principle than that "arising from
"a grant of the B. A. Grant" - An answer
thereon will greatly lessen the perplexities of
my situation and place me under an obligation
to you -

I have the honour to be with the
greatest respect Sir y. m. o. L. S.



25/12/20/36

Mr. G. E. M.

1/21/20/36

2/21/20/36